



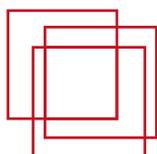
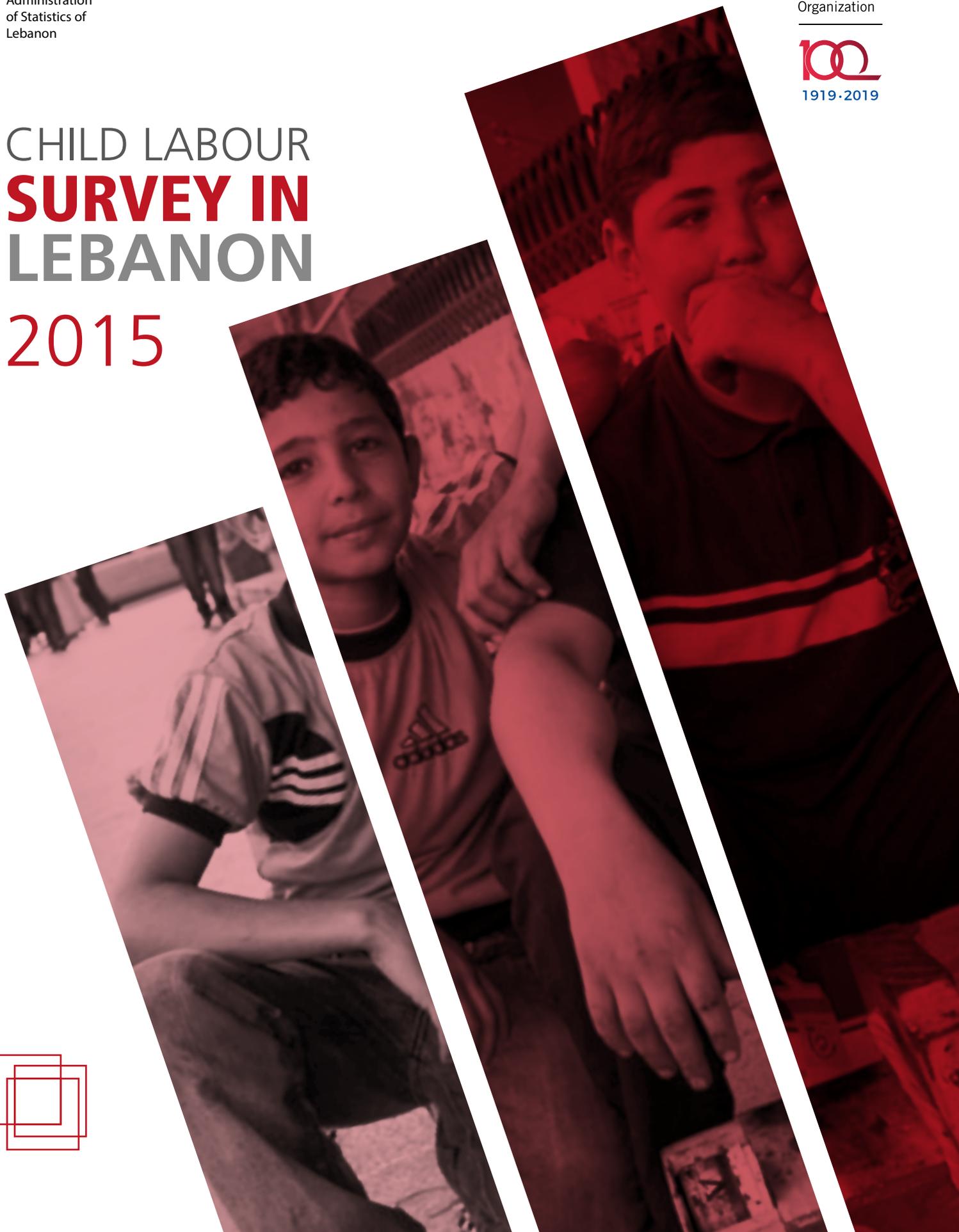
Central
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CHILD LABOUR **SURVEY IN** LEBANON 2015



CHILD LABOUR
SURVEY IN
LEBANON
2015

Central Administration of Statistics of Lebanon
Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work Branch (FUNDAMENTALS)
International Labour Organization (ILO)

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Preface

The Child Labour Survey (CLS) provides the first specialised survey on child labour conducted by the Central Administration of Statistics (CAS) in Lebanon, completed with the financial and technical support of the International Labour Organization (ILO).

The survey provides an overview of the demographic and economic situation in Lebanon in addition to the child labour situation, including elements such as the different types of activities performed by children, the different types of economic and non-economic activities engaged in, and details of schooling and education.

The survey methodology targeted households with at least one child aged 5 years or above among all residents – regardless of nationality – living across the whole of Lebanon, with the exception of the Palestinian refugee camps.

Authors of the report were acting Head of National Accounts Department, Ms. Najwa Yaacoub; Math-Statistician, Ms. Maysaa Daher; Sociologist, Ms. Lara Badre; and Math-Statistician, Mr. Ali Hamieh. The survey was conducted with the assistance of ILO consultants, Mr. Bijoy Raychaudhuri, and Mr. Ralph Hussmanns who provided valuable advice on survey sampling, methodology, report structure and contents. The final report was reviewed by Mr. Bijoy Raychaudhuri and the ILO Regional Labour Statistician for Arab States, Mr. Nader Keyrouz.

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Abbreviations

CAS	Central Administration of Statistics (of Lebanon)
CLS	Child Labour Survey
DOL	Department of Labour
EAs	Enumeration Areas
FSU	First Stage Units
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
HBS	Household Budget Survey
HLCS	Household Living Conditions Survey
ICSE-93	International Classification of Status in Employment
ILO	International Labour Organization
IPEC	International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (of ILO)
ISCO	International Standard Classification of Occupations.
ISIC	International Standard Industrial Classification.
LFS	Labour Force Survey
MICS3	Multiple Indicators Cluster Survey, 2009
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
PPS	Probability Proportional to Size
PSU	Primary Sampling Units
SIMPOC	Statistical Information and Monitoring Programme on Child Labour (of ILO)
SNA	System of National Accounts
SPSS	Statistical Package for the Social Sciences
SSU	Second Stage Units
UN	United Nations
UNCRC	United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UHS	Unpaid household services
USU	Ultimate Sampling Units
WPR	Worker-population ratio

Key Findings of the Child Labour Survey 2015 in Lebanon

(Based on households with children aged 5-17 years)

	Characteristics	Total ¹
1	General figures	
	A. Child population	
	Total children (5-17 years)	919,068
	<i>Age groups – According to ILO classification</i>	
	5-11 years	495,284
	12-14 years	217,526
	15-17 years	206,258
	<i>Age groups – According to national legislation</i>	
	5-11 years	495,284
	12-13 years	141,091
	14-17 years	282,693
	B. Gender	
	Boys	482,204
	Girls	436,864
	C. Current activity status	
	Non-working children	885,594
	Working children	33,474
	D. Involvement in household chores	
	Involved in household chores	399,766
	Not involved in household chores	518,936
	Not specified	(*)
2	Activity status of children aged 5-17 years	
	A. School attendance	
	<i>School attendance of non-working children</i>	885,594
	Attending school	816,912
	Not attending school	68,681
	<i>School attendance of working children</i>	33,474
	Attending school	8191
	Not attending school	25283

¹ Refer to section 3.6 for the survey limitations.

Characteristics	Total ¹
B. Working children	
<i>Age groups- According to ILO classification</i>	
5-11 years	(*)
12-14 years	9,558
15-17 years	22,334
<i>Age groups-According to national legislation</i>	
5-11 years	(*)
12-13 years	(5,080)
14-17 years	26,812
C. Children in child labour	
Total population	30,892
<i>Age groups-According to ILO classification</i>	
5-11 years	(*)
12-14 years	9,443
15-17 years	19,866
<i>Age groups-According to national legislation</i>	
5-11 years	(*)
12-13 years	(4,965)
14-17 years	24,344
B. Children in hazardous child labour	
In hazardous work	26,420
In hazardous UHS	(*)
Not in hazardous work	(*)
C. Distribution of children in hazardous child labour by type of hazardous work	
Hazardous activity/industry	(*)
Hazardous occupations	11,149
Long hours (43 hours or more per week in non-hazardous activity or occupation)	8,348
Hazardous work conditions (informed by survey questionnaire)	(3,678)
3 Involvement in household chores	
Total population of children involved in household chores	399,766
<i>Number of hours devoted per week</i>	
1 to 7 hours	323,906
8 to 14 hours	53,234
15 to 21 hours	14,915
More than 22 hours	(7,710)
6 Distribution of working children by characteristics	
A. Distribution by 1-digit industry sector	
Total population (excluding UHS)	30,296
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	(*)
Manufacturing	(5,782)
Construction	(*)
Wholesale and retail trade; restaurants, hotels	12,601
Services & sales	(5,802)

Characteristics	Total ¹
B. Distribution by number of weekly working hours	
Total (excluding UHS)	30,296
1-21 hours	(4,173)
22-42 hours	8,428
43 and more hours	17,214
Not specified (residual)	(*)
C. Distribution by main occupations	
Service and sales workers	9,272
Craft and related trades workers	10,571
Elementary occupations	(7,982)
Others (residual)	(*)
D. Distribution by main reason for working	
Help the family	15,549
Schooling not useful or not interesting	(8,834)
Other	(*)

Notes:

1. Estimate for hazardous child labour in unpaid household services (UHS) based on "long hours in household chores" are shown in the table, despite the number of such cases being captured in the sample (just 19). This figure is presented separately. Although such cases are treated as child labour (and thus given a status of "work" in this report); they were not included in the System of National Accounts (SNA) definition of "work" at the time the survey was conducted.
2. (*) the sample size was very small (less than 25 cases); no reliable estimates could be generated.
3. (n.n) the sample size was between 25 and 50 cases.

Executive summary

The Child Labour Survey in Lebanon (CLS) was conducted in 2015 to collect detailed information on children's participation in work and other relevant data. The survey was designed to cover the entire territory of Lebanon, with the exception of the Palestinian refugee camps. The actual survey coverage was in line with regular household surveys, in that it does not include street working children. Due to resources and budgetary limitations for conducting the survey, the CLS covered only households with at least one child aged 5 years and over. As it is a household-based survey, children living in institutional housing were excluded from its scope.² Only those living in residential dwellings used as primary residence or as dwellings for guardians (concierges) – irrespective of their nationality – were covered by the survey.³ Like all other household surveys conducted by the Central Administration for Statistics (CAS) of Lebanon, the CLS excluded persons living in Palestinian refugee camps.⁴ The survey also excluded persons not living in regular dwellings of non-institutional households.

The CLS relies on the sampling frame provided by the 2004 Census of Buildings, Dwellings and Establishments (2004 CBDE). This sampling frame was updated partially in 2014 for the purpose of the survey.⁵ Additionally, of the 505 *ilots* identified for sampling, at a rate of maximum 12 households per *ilot*, 80 *ilots* could not be accessed for updating, due to security considerations and resistance from the local inhabitants. Of the remaining 425 targeted *ilots*, fieldworkers were unable to carry out detailed survey in 6 *ilots*, thus reducing the actual sample size of the CLS to 419 *ilots*. Across another 9 of the selected *ilots*, the households for detailed survey were selected by random walk. A sample of 4,541 households was initially selected of which 659 households should not have been selected because they were either without children or were empty, which leaves an effective sample of households within the scope of the survey of 3,882, of which 2,772 households responded.

2 A group of unrelated persons who live in an institution and take their meals from a common kitchen is called an Institutional Household, examples of which are boarding houses, hostels, rescue homes, jails, orphanages, etc.

3 Available information in 2014 suggests that the majority of Syrian displaced people live in residential dwellings. They would hence be covered in the CLS if they are selected as part of the sample.

4 Palestinian refugee camps and refugee families might be expected to have higher prevalence of child labour in relation to the rest of the country.

5 Since 2004, many indicators reveal that significant changes occurred, in terms of new constructions (e.g. cumulative evolution of construction permits), demolitions or changes in use (primary, secondary, residential, businesses, etc.), in addition to relatively significant internal population movements. Thus, the selection of the primary sampling unit (enumeration areas, or "*ilots*") might not have been adequately representative of the reality a decade later (starting 2014 which was the survey planning and implementation period). For example, regions that witnessed rapid urbanization since 2004 would have been under-represented in the Lebanon CLS 2015 sample.

The interviewed households consisted of 14,568 persons, of which 5,666 were children aged 5-17 years. Of these 5,666 children, only 209 children were reported as working. Due to the above mentioned survey limitations, in particular the sample size, the national estimates should be interpreted with caution. However, the survey presents important information about child labour in Lebanon and provide the basis for future research on this issue.

The key findings of the CLS for the target population of children in the areas covered by the survey from households with at least one child aged 5 years and over are provided below.

Disclaimer

Lebanon chose to use, for international comparison purposes, the ILO age groups used for its global estimates. This will allow comparing national statistics with regional and international statistics. However, provided that minimum age for admission to employment in Lebanon is 14, the Annex provides all child labour and hazardous work estimates for the age groups 5-11 years, 12-13 years, and 14-17 years.

General population and characteristics

- In Lebanon, there are approximately 919,000 children aged 5-17 years. Of them, 3.6% are working. The majority of children reside in two-parent households, mostly male-headed.
- The average *worker-population ratio* (WPR) in Lebanon for children aged 5-17 years is 3.6%.
- About two-thirds of all working children are in the 15-17 years age group.

School attendance

- The survey results indicate that 90% of children aged 5-17 years attend school.
- School attendance is highest among the 5-11 years group and lowest in the 15-17 years group.
- The percentage of girls attending school is marginally higher than that of boys.

Household chores

- Children share household activities along with other family members, quite often in addition to their studies. Close to a half of the children surveyed are involved in household chores. A much higher percentage of girls is involved in household chores compare to boys.
- The percentage of girls involved in household chores (48%) is much higher than that boys (39%), with around 43.5% of all children surveyed having been involved in household chores.

Characteristics of working children

- By economic sector, a little more than a third (37.9 %) of working children are in the *trade sector* and another third (38.5%) in both *manufacturing* and *services sector* together.
- About two-fifth (39.7%) of the working children are occupied⁶ as *craft and related trade workers*. About 27.6% are *service and sales workers*.
- 76.4% of all working children have *employee* status.
- On average, working children spend 48 hours per week in working activity. Those aged 15-17 years work for a higher period of 50 hours per week.
- In the *trade sector*, boys have much longer working hours than girls, at 54 hours a week.

Child labour and hazardous work

- Of the estimated 919,000 children in Lebanon, 3.3% are in child labour and 0.3% are working, but not as child labour.
- The occurrence of child labour is highest in the 15-17 years age group. Boys are overrepresented among children in child labour vis-à-vis girls.
- More than a third of children in child labour are concentrated in the sector of trade. They are mainly active as *craft and related trade workers* and *elementary occupations*. About 40% of boys in child labour work as *craft and related trade workers*.
- Over two-thirds of children in child labour work as employees. For the children aged 15-17 years, this number increases to 71%.
- The percentage of employees is higher among boys in child labour than girls in child labour.
- Most of the children in child labour work outside their houses. Among the children aged 15-17 years, 98% work outside their houses.
- Children in child labour work for an average of 49 hours per week.
- Children in child labour engaged in *trading and related activities* worked for an average of 54 hours per week.
- For the children in child labour aged 15-17 years, 72% are employed in some form of hazardous work.
- The percentages of children in child labour and hazardous child labour are the highest among the children aged 15-17 years.

Educational characteristics

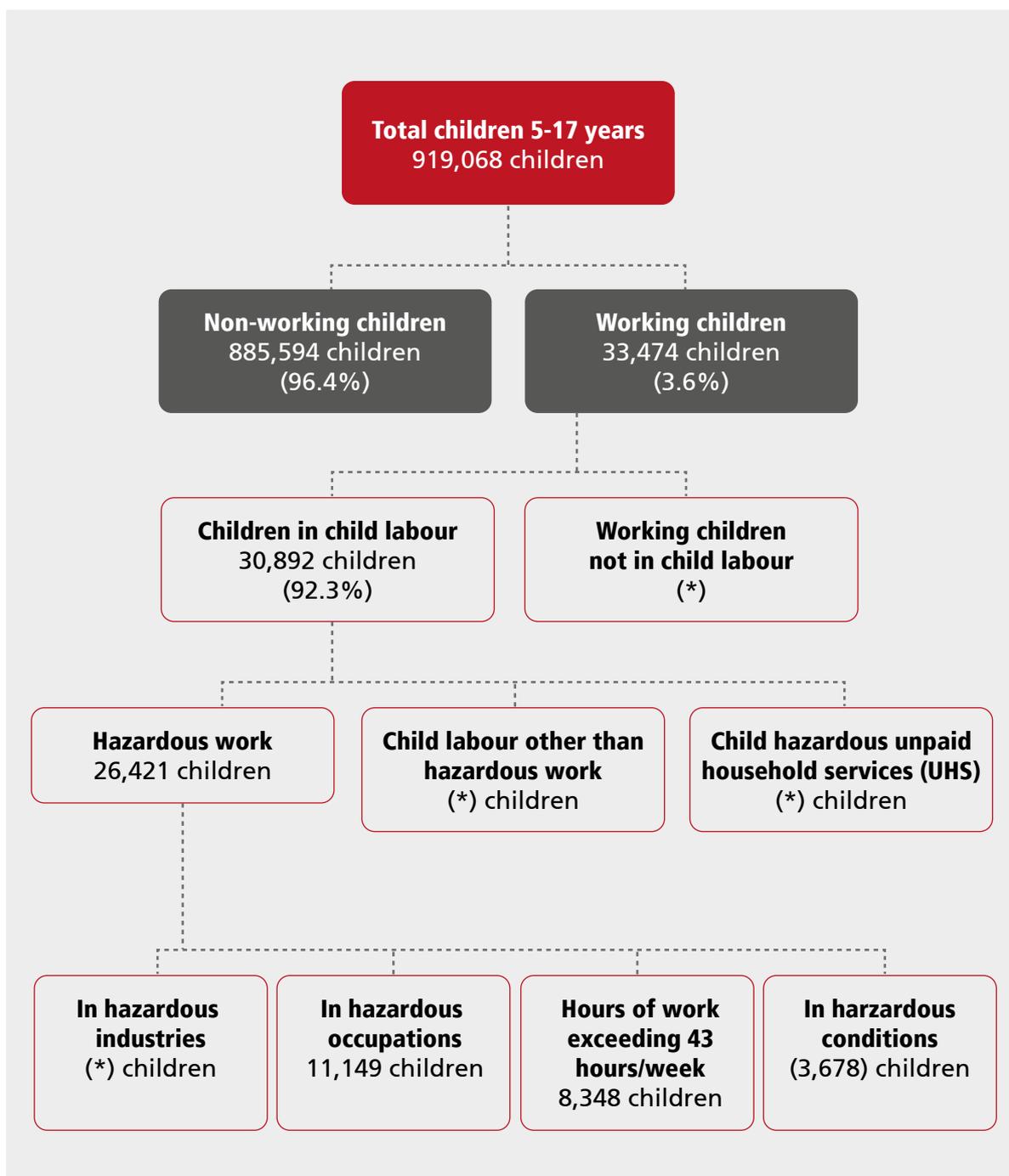
- The general importance of education in Lebanon is evident as some 90% of children of all age groups are attending school.
- Children in child labour who do not attend schools put in more weekly hours of work than children in child labour who do attend school.
- A larger percentage of working children do not complete their education, compared to non-working children.

⁶ Based on the International Standard Classification of Occupation (ISCO- 08) of the ILO.

Other relevant characteristics

- Over one-half of children in child labour worked to provide economic support to their households. Another one-third worked because they either did not find attending school useful for their future, they were not interested in school, or it was difficult for them to attend school.

Figure 1. Distribution of the child population in households with children aged 5+ years in Lebanon, 5-17 years



Chapter 1

Introduction

1.1 Survey background

This report presents the results of the CLS conducted by the Central Administration of Statistics (CAS), Lebanon, during 2015. This recent years have seen the Lebanese government adopting a number of regulatory measures to protect children's rights and prevent them from the worst forms of child labour. The CAS is mandated to provide information to the Government – among other official statistics – on the labour market (including on child labour) to support the design of policies that combat child labour in Lebanon.

Accordingly, the Lebanon study of 2015 aims to provide statistical information on child labour for guiding actions and policies against child labour. The CAS was supported by the International Labour Office (ILO), under the project GLO/11/11/USA, through the *Statistical Information and Monitoring Program on Child Labour* (SIMPOC) of the International Program on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC). The target age of children surveyed was 5 to 17 years (that is, below 18 years).

The CLS – one of the main vehicles of data collection on child labour – essentially provides a household-based survey aimed at collecting a variety of information on the phenomenon of child labour. Such information includes its prevalence and distribution, forms, economic sectors of work as well as its conditions, characteristics and consequences. The term *child labour* reflects the engagement of children in prohibited work and more generally in types of work to be eliminated as socially and morally undesirable, in keeping with the standards set by national legislations, the ILO Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138), and the Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182). Like every household-based surveys, the CLS does not cover people living on streets/parks, or in institutions.

Accordingly, the CLS 2015 collected detailed and updated data on child labour and working children. While the survey covered the entire territory of Lebanon, there were some limitations to the survey. These are discussed at length in Chapter 3.

This report provides an analysis of the survey findings, which are related to children activities, especially the size, composition and nature of working children population in general, and child labour population in particular, for the target population of children in the areas covered by the

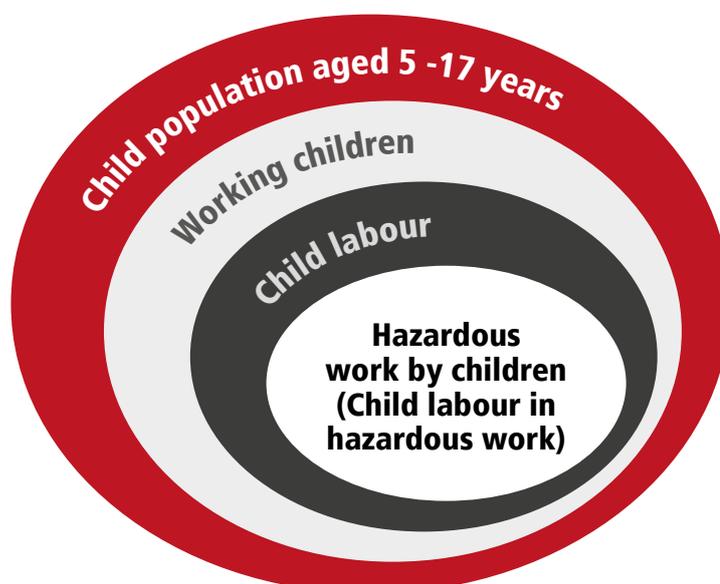
survey. This chapter provides the background information on the CLS 2015 along with its scope and objectives. An outline of the structure of the report is provided at the end of this chapter.

1.2 Child labour in perspective

Child labour has long been recognised as a violation of children's fundamental rights. It is also regarded as an important barrier to national development, as it negatively impacts human resource development, and magnifies the risk of turning a country's assets into potential liabilities. As per the ILO *Global Estimates on Child Labour 2016*, there were 152 million children in child labour globally, of whom 114 million were aged 5-14 years. Factors that usually draw the children to work for pay or profit are the absence of educational opportunity, lingering poverty, lack of social protection and presence of social discrimination. Often poor employment prospects serve as disincentives to attending schools and prompt children to join the labour market at an early age.

"Child labour" is defined as working activities that deprive children of their childhood, their potential and their dignity, and activities which are harmful to their physical and mental development. It interferes with proper schooling by depriving them of the opportunity to attend school, obliging them to leave school prematurely, or requiring them to combine school attendance and extremely long and heavy hours of work. This includes work that is physically, psychologically, socially or morally dangerous and harmful to children (and denoted as "child labour in hazardous work"). The underlying international guidelines on identifying child labour are contained in *ILO Convention No. 138* and *ILO Convention No. 182*. The schematic presentation of child labour statistics in this report is as shown below⁷.

Figure 2. Working children, child labour and hazardous work



⁷ Report III-Child labour statistics-18th International Conference Of Labour Statisticians, 2008. www.ilo.org/global/statistics-and-databases/meetings-and-events/international-conference-of-labour-statisticians/WCMS_099577/lang-en/index.htm.

Lebanon has ratified the ILO Convention No. 182. The Decree No. 8987 on the worst form of child labour specifies activities that could be harmful to children, and has indicated two distinct lists of work-related activities.

1.3 Objectives of the Lebanon CLS 2015

Action against child labour at the national level in Lebanon started officially in 2000, when the Government of Lebanon signed the first Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the International Program on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC) of the International Labour Organization (ILO).⁸ Other Memoranda of Understanding followed, the most recent being a MoU signed in 2010 for enhancing national capacities to tackle the worst forms of child labour in Lebanon. These have formed the bases of several technical cooperation programs aiming to eliminate child labour in Lebanon. These programs have focussed efforts, both in the national policy and legislative fields and at the grass-roots level through direct action, and gave rise to a number of significant initiatives.

The objective of the Lebanon CLS 2015 is to collect exploratory information on the population aged 5-17 years, disaggregated by age, sex, industrial sector and socio-economic category, as well as to estimate the number of working children and compile national-level statistics relating to their employment characteristics. These are expected to be useful to the government in its attempt to eliminate child labour in Lebanon. To attain its objective, the survey questionnaire contained the sections below:

- Household composition and characteristics;
- Literacy, formal education including vocational education, and other training attended;
- Current employment, including as paid employees and self-employed, and the characteristics of the main work;
- Job search and availability to work;
- Occupational injuries and hazards at work, and
- Unpaid household services (household chores).

1.4 Contents of the Lebanon CLS report

The current report on child labour in Lebanon contains an analysis of data collected by the survey, particularly on the topics relating to current employment. The report provides a brief discussion on how the survey was conducted, including the methodology and definitions used, and most importantly, a detailed commentary on the survey results relating to child labour. It is divided as follow:

- Chapter 1 is the present introduction.
- Chapter 2 presents a contextual backdrop against which the features of child labour in Lebanon are discussed in the latter chapters.
- Chapter 3 provides a detailed discussion on the survey methodology, including technical details regarding data collection and data processing.

8 IPEC in Lebanon: its History, Present and Future. (www.clu.gov.lb/english/pdf/ipec-summary.pdf).

- Chapter 4 specifies the conceptual framework on child labour and its adaptation into statistical measurement by indicators. Along with definitions and concepts of the terms used for the survey, this chapter also lays down the exact procedure of identifying child labour.

-

The next chapters present the main findings of the survey relating to child labour.

- Chapter 5 provides the survey findings regarding the different types of activities performed by children, including economic and non-economic activities as well as schooling.
- Chapter 6 traces the recent trends of key characteristics of the work performed by children. It also consists of an attempt at detecting correlates that determine the incidence of child labour.
- Chapter 7 narrows the focus of analysis to child labour and engagement in hazardous work, which constitutes one of the main themes of the present report. This chapter consists of an analysis of the survey findings on size, composition and variation in respect to its correlates of the child labour workforce.
- Chapter 8 analyses the educational characteristics of working children.
- Chapter 9 highlights some contextual variables relating to socio-economic characteristics of the households in which children reside.

Chapter 2

National context

2.1 Demographic structure

In the absence of a population census, Lebanon relies on household surveys to estimate its resident population. A household living condition survey conducted in 2012 estimated the total resident population of Lebanon at around 3.78 million people. The population of children aged 5-17 years amounted to 756.000 children (20% of the population in total), and the dependency ratio is 48.5.⁹ The distribution of the population according to gender is slightly in favour of women with a gender parity of 1.1. The gender parity for the age group 5-17 years is 0.91 and for the age group 18-64 years, 1.2. This reflects the high level of migration to other countries of males of working age, compared to females, in Lebanon.

Table 1. Distribution of residents in Lebanon by sex and age (according to the household living conditions survey, 2012)

	Total population		Male		Female	
	Number (thousand)	%	Number (thousand)	%	Number (thousand)	%
Total	3779.9	100	1798.8	100	1981.1	100
0-4 years	250.6	6.6	126.5	7.0	124.0	6.3
5-17 years	756.2	20.0	395.4	22.0	360.8	18.2
18-64 years	2351.0	62.2	1065.1	59.2	1285.9	64.9
65+ years	422.2	11.2	211.8	11.8	210.3	10.6

Source: Household Living Conditions Survey 2012, CAS.

⁹ The dependency ratio relates the number of children (0-14 years) and older persons (65 years or over) to the working age population (15-64 years old).

2.2 Economic and labour market characteristics of the country

Lebanon is a small middle-income country with a nominal GDP of 74,560 billion LBP (around 50 billion USD). In the 2000's, Lebanon registered a high GDP growth rate, reaching 7%. After the onset of the Syrian crisis and despite the inflow of Syrians displaced persons to Lebanon – representing around one third of the Lebanese resident population¹⁰– the economy of Lebanon witnessed a decline of its economic growth, reaching the low levels of 2.0 and 0.8% in 2014 and 2015 respectively.

Table 2. Macroeconomic indicators, 2012-2014

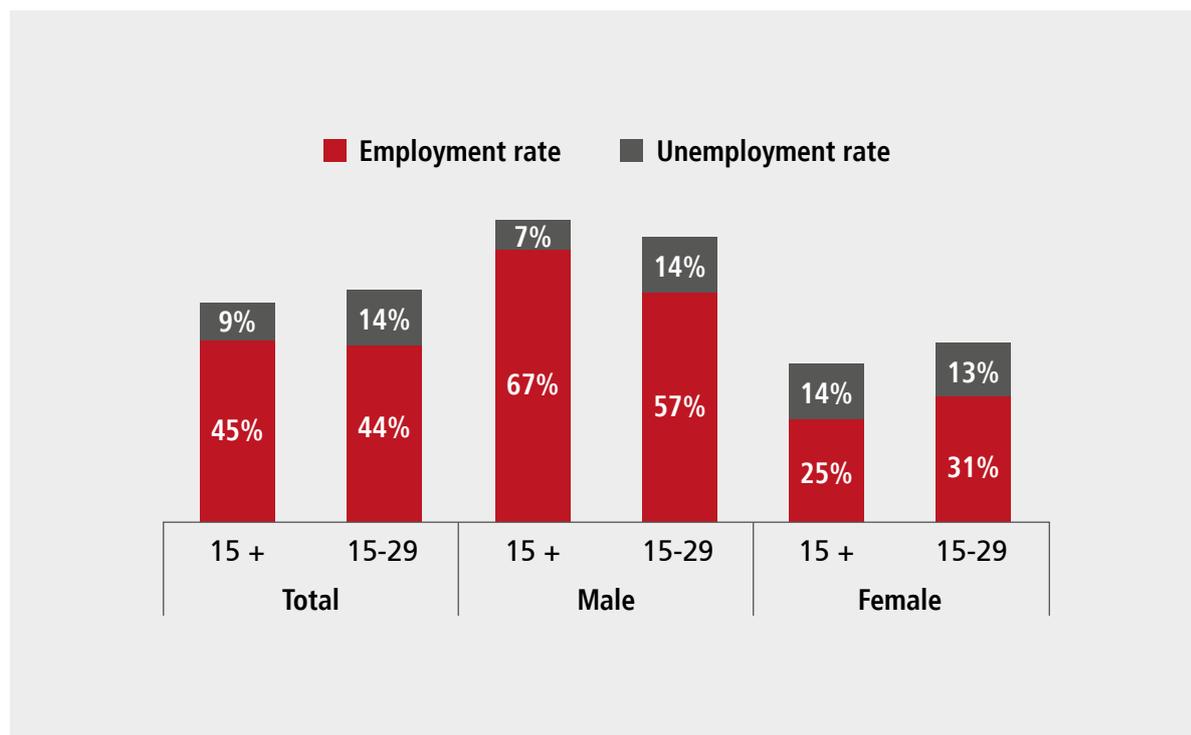
	2012	2013	2014	2015
Nominal GDP (billion LBP)	66,132	69,366	72,109	74,560
Nominal GDP (million USD)	43.9	46.0	47.8	49.5
Real GDP growth (annual percentage growth)	2.8	2.6	2.0	0.8
Real GDP growth as against 2012 (percentage growth)		0.21	0.12	0.09
US dollar exchange rate (period average)	1507.5	1507.5	1507.5	1507.5

Source: National Accounts, CAS

2.3 Labour market

In 2012, the unemployment rate of the 15+ population was 9 percent and employment rate around 45 percent, according to the Household Living Conditions survey 2012. To a large extent, males are more involved in the labour market than women, where only 25 percent of women aged 15+ are employed compared to 67 percent for males. In the same line, the female unemployment rate is twice the male one, reaching 14% percent. Youth population aged 15-29 years suffers from high unemployment rate (14%) and similar employment rate as the total population (44%). However, the youth unemployment rate is merely the same (13%) regardless of the gender. The access to the labour market for youth is still favourable for males compared to females. The employment rate for males (57%) is around twice the female one for the same age group. We also found that employment rate of young males is lower than the one of males aged 15+. In the same time, we find that youth unemployment rate for males is twice the one of the 15+ male population. As for females, the employment and unemployment rates are similar regardless of the age groups.

¹⁰ The estimated number of Syrian displaced persons is 1.5 million in Lebanon. (www.un.org.lb/library/assets/LCRP%20Short%20version-015625.pdf).

Figure 3. Employment and unemployment rate by sex and age

Source: Household Living Conditions Survey 2012, CAS.

Regarding the status in employment, it is noted that about 70% of Lebanon workers are employees, followed by own account workers, including self-employed people, who are approximately 20%. Employers are the other large share of Lebanese workers at about 8%.

Table 3. Distribution of employed population by work status, 2012, 15+ years

Work status	Percentage
Total	100.0%
Employer / partner	7.8%
Own account worker	19.9%
Employee (monthly wage)	60.9%
Employee (weekly, daily wage or paid on the basis of productivity)	9.8%
Family worker (unpaid)	1.2%
Trainee, apprentice	(0.4%)

Source: Household Living Conditions Survey 2012, CAS.

2.4 Child labour situation

The Government has committed itself to combat child labour by ratifying the Convention on the Rights of the Child in 1991 and the ILO Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182), in 2001, as well as pledging the National Action Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour by 2016, launched in 2013.¹¹ Yet, despite the Government's efforts, child labour remains an issue with the large influx of Syrian displaced persons, 54% of whom are under 18 years of age. Among them, some 50% do not attend school and are therefore at risk of working.¹²

Households with children aged 5-17 years represents 40.5% of the total 950.300 households in Lebanon. The survey covers these households.

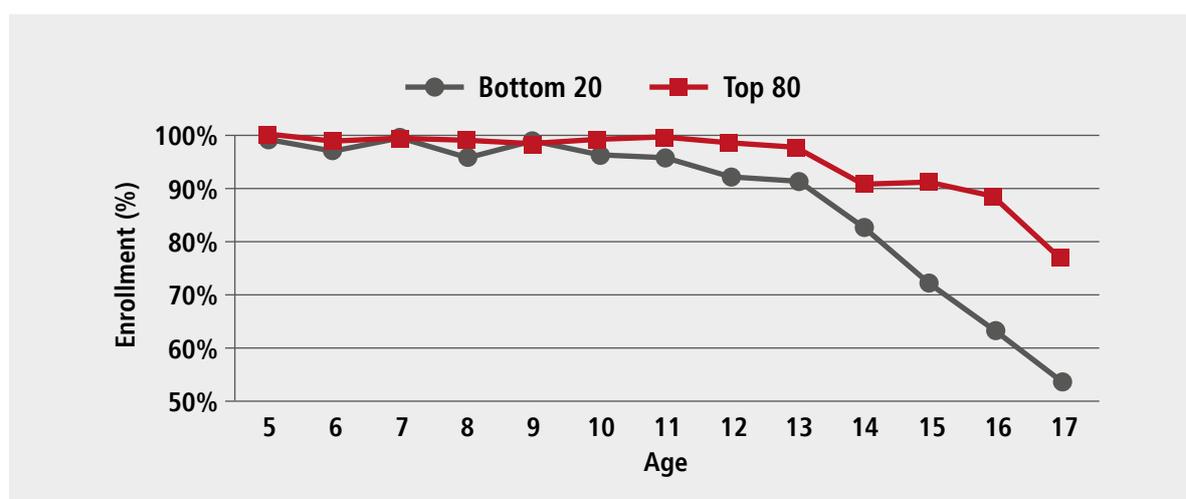
Table 4. Distribution of households by number of children, 2012

Households	Number (thousand)	%
Total	950.3	100
Without children	565.0	59.5
With children	385.3	40.5

Source: Household Living Conditions Survey 2012, CAS.

Child labour is usually studied alongside the school attendance status of children. The Household Living Conditions Survey 2012 showed that school attendance rate of children aged 5-17 years was 92.4%, with a rate higher for girls (95.1%) than for boys (90.0%). Figure 4 illustrates the sharp fall in the school enrolment rate of children aged 12+ years from poorer families. This can be explained by the family welfare conditions that push children to leave school early and engage in work to supplement family income.

Figure 4. School enrolment by age and family welfare situation



Source: Household Living Conditions Survey 2012, CAS.

11 ILO, National Action Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour in Lebanon by 2016. Beirut, Lebanon.

12 Lebanon Crisis Response plan -2017-2020 (www.un.org.lb/library/assets/LCRP%20Short%20version-015625.pdf).

Chapter 3

Survey methodology

The CLS was carried out in Lebanon by the CAS with the technical support of the ILO. It is a household-based survey. This chapter provides a brief summary of the methodology used.

The first three sections of the chapter describe:

- The scope and coverage of the survey,
- The modular design of the questionnaire, and
- The sample design.

The latter sections provide the main features of:

- The field data collection exercise;
- Pre-test and field work;
- Data processing;
- Response rates and weights adjustments; and
- Lessons learned and limitations of the survey.

3.1 Scope and coverage of the survey

The survey covered the entire territory of Lebanon, except the Palestinian refugee camps. Because the main objective of the survey is to produce estimates of indicators relating to child labour at the national level, all the six governorates are covered in the sample.

The survey aimed at collecting detailed work-related information on population aged 5-17 years (henceforth, referred to as "child population aged 5-17 years") in the labour market: participation rate, population size, population composition and character of the workforce, and unemployment/ seeking work. The survey was also designed to collect data on working children, including the forms of work, hours worked, conditions at the work place, and their educational status. The limited size of the sample, however, does not permit generation of reliable estimates for all these characteristics at the national level, let alone disaggregated by gender and major child age groups.

Target population

The target population for the survey consists of all current members of non-institutional or conventional households. Members of a household could only be those who are residents of Lebanon as per the System of National Accounts (SNA) 2008, i.e. those who live or intend to live in Lebanon for more than a year. Thus, the following are included in the coverage of the survey:

- ♦ Foreign nationals who are usual residents in Lebanon (who have lived in Lebanon or intend to live in Lebanon for more than 12 months);
- ♦ Members of the household who are temporarily abroad for less than six months, for any reason.

However, among those treated as residents, according to the mentioned above criteria, the following are, by survey design, excluded from the target population:

- ♦ Members of households residing in open space, roadside shelter, under a bridge etc., more or less regularly in the same place.
- ♦ Prisoners in jails and indoor patients of hospitals, nursing homes, etc., if they were not residing in their respective households during the past 12 months.
- ♦ Convicted prisoners undergoing sentence.
- ♦ Floating population, i.e. persons without any normal residence.
- ♦ Barracks of military and para-military forces.
- ♦ Residents of orphanages, rescue homes, monasteries, nunneries and vagrant houses.

In addition to the exclusion of Palestinian refugee's camps, the survey coverage was also restricted by operational constraints, as explained in section 3.4. By adopting a household-based survey, people living in institutional households were excluded from the scope of the present survey.¹³ Only the population living in residential dwellings used as primary residence or as dwellings for guardians (concierges), irrespective of their nationality, is covered by the survey.

For the survey, a sample of households was drawn from the target population and the questionnaire was canvassed for the members of non-institutional households. Thus, the present study on child labour covers only the children residing in non-institutional households.

¹³ A group of unrelated persons who live in an institution and take their meals from a common kitchen is called an Institutional Household. Examples of Institutional Households are boarding houses, messes, hostels, hotels, rescue homes, jails, orphanages, etc.

3.2 Survey questionnaire

The main objective of the CLS was to collect and analyse information on children's work, education and involvement in domestic chores in their own households. The survey was envisaged to provide detailed information on child workers. Consequently, the survey questions were designed in order to capture working conditions, including different kinds of hazardous work.

To fulfil the objectives of the survey, the questionnaire was drawn to collect data on the following topics:

- Household composition and characteristics of household members;
- Literacy, formal education including vocational education, and other training attended in the previous year;
- Current employment, including as paid employees and self-employed, and the characteristics of the main and secondary job(s) or business;
- Job search and availability to work;
- Employment in the previous year;
- Occupational injuries and hazards in the previous year;
- Production of food and other goods for consumption or use by the household.

The main survey questionnaire consists of seven modules. There are as follows:

- Module I. Household composition and demographic characteristics
- Module II. Literacy and education
- Module III. Employment & unemployment
- Module IV. Children's education module
- Module V. Household chores
- Module VI. Children's employment
- Module VII. Health and safety issues about working children

3.3 Sampling design and implementation

Broad Sample design: In the absence of a population census in Lebanon, the survey relies on the latest sampling frame provided by the 2004 Census of Buildings, Dwellings and Establishments (2004 CBDE). To conduct the 2004 CBDE, the whole territory of Lebanon was divided in 15,970 enumeration areas (*ilots*). Among these, 14,214 *ilots* were inhabited in 2004. These inhabited *ilots* constituted the area sample frame for the CLS.¹⁴ The CLS used these *ilots* as the first stage units (FSUs) or Primary Sampling Units (PSUs) and households within the selected *ilots* as the Second Stage Units (SSUs) or Ultimate Sampling Units (USUs).

¹⁴ For household surveys conducted by the CAS, the list of 14,214 inhabited *ilots* is usually used as the sampling frame for selection of the first-stage units.

Sample size: Considering the cost and time available for the survey, a SSU theoretical sample size of 5,050 households was regarded as sufficient to generate the required estimates at the national level only. While designing the survey, it was known that there were considerable differences among the governorates/regions in respect of the prevalence of child labour, taking into account the latest child labour estimates of 2009.¹⁵ However, the available resources were not sufficient to attempt measuring the inter-governorate differences in child-labour-related parameters with the desired level of precision. With about 10 households to be surveyed from each selected *ilot*, the number of *ilots* to be selected was fixed at 505. When drawing the sample, it appeared that several *ilots* had less than 10 primary residential unit, the sample ended up having 4,541 households of which 659 households should not have been selected because they were either without children or were empty, which leaves an effective sample of households within the scope of the survey of 3,882 households of which 2,772 households responded.

Selection of FSUs: Since the objective of the CLS was to provide estimates at the national level, the sample of *ilots* was required to be allocated *proportionally* among the various geographical areas of Lebanon. Thus, the *ilots* were selected by using a systematic probability proportional to size design (PPS systematic), after having arranged the *ilots* according to the governorates. The size variable used for selection was the number of households in an *ilot*, as enumerated in the 2004 CBDE.

Formation and selection of segments: With a view of controlling the workload mainly at the stage of listing of households, the large *ilots* (with 150 dwellings or more) were divided into two or more segments. The updating of the list of dwellings was carried out in one of the randomly selected segments. The survey was carried out in this same randomly selected segment.

Preparation of sampling frame at the second stage: For preparing sampling frame of households, all households in the selected *ilots*, or its selected segment in case of larger Enumeration Areas (EAs), were listed by door-to-door inquiry. While listing the households within an *ilot*, or its selected segment, information was collected on whether the household had a member in the age group 5-17 years. For the CLS, the list of all households with at least one child aged 5-17 years constituted the frame for selection of households from a selected *ilot* or its selected segment.

Selection of households: Households were selected by circular systematic sampling algorithm with equal probability from a sampled FSU or from a selected segment of a sampled FSU in case of segment formation.

¹⁵ The MICS 2009 had revealed considerable differences among the governorates in respect of the prevalence of child labour.

3.4 Training of interviewers and supervisors, and field work

Training of interviewers and supervisors: A three-days training was carried out in November 2014 by the CAS. About 37 fieldworkers (enumerators and supervisors) attended the training, in addition to CAS staff. Concepts, definitions, use of maps and data collection procedures were explained to all interviewers (enumerators) and supervisors. A clear description of tasks and responsibilities and reporting mechanism, based on the TORs for each position, were also presented and explained to all fieldworkers. In general, a number of interviewers worked under one supervisor.

Field work: Field work was conducted in 2015. Of the allocated 505 *ilots*, 80 could not be approached, owing to security conditions and resistance from the local inhabitants. Out of the remaining 425 selected *ilots*, field staff could not carry out detailed survey in 6 households, hereby reducing the actual sample size of the FSUs to 419. In another 9 selected *ilots*, the field staff could not update the list of dwellings and households. In these 9 *ilots*, the households for detailed survey were selected by random walk.

3.5 Data processing

Data entry was done by the CAS, using data entry forms developed in-house with the Oracle program. Pre-data entry coding of answers, such as industry and occupation of working children, and post-data entry scrutiny and validation checks were done by the staff of the CAS. A number of rounds of manual and computer-aided verification and scrutiny were undertaken at the validation stage to make the data set consistent. Statistical tabulation was prepared using SPSS.

3.6 Quality of estimates

The quality of survey estimates depends on the survey coverage, the sample design adopted for the survey and the response rates. Inadequacies of the frame and unit non-responses are compensated by adjusting the design-based weights, which is often done to benchmark them to external population figures. For the present survey, in the absence of dependable population figures, such as those that are obtained from population census, the weight adjustments were carried out to compensate for the unit non-responses only.

Non-response: Non-response in sample survey introduces bias in the survey estimates. Unit non-response, at different stages of a survey is usually taken care of by making adjustments of design-based weights. But, as the adjustments are based on certain assumption about the non-responding units, they introduce bias in the survey estimates. In the present survey, the unit non-response at both *ilot* updating stage and household survey stage, is exceptionally high owing to trying field conditions faced by the enumerators.

Updating list of dwellings in sampled ilots: Owing to security problems, in 80 out of the selected 505 *ilots*, carrying out updating operation was just not possible. The *ilots* in which the update could not be carried out were not clustered in a few specific areas, but were spread out all over the country.

Non-cooperation households in updated ilots: Apart from the 80 *ilots* in which updating could not be taken up, there were six more *ilots* where the households refused to participate in the survey or were not available. Thus, in effect there were 86 non-responding *ilots* at the primary stage of sampling.

Unit non-response at the ultimate stage: The non-response rate of sampled households, the ultimate stage sampling units, was remarkably high. The enumerators were repeatedly confronted with non-cooperation and refusal in carrying out the survey. As shown in Table 5, the non-response rate was 30%. *Non response was around 40% in Beirut and Mount-Lebanon and 20% in North and Bekaa and 10% in South and Nabatieh.* For more than half of them, the main reason for these non-responses was the refusal of the household to participate in the survey. Among the other reasons, it can be quoted absence of all household members and empty residence.

Due to the above mentioned survey limitations, in particular the sample size, the national estimates should be interpreted with caution. However, the survey results present important information about child labour in Lebanon and provide the basis for future research on this issue.

Table 5. Non-response at ultimate stage sampling units (households)

Responding households	2,772
Non responding households (refusal & absence)	1,110
Effective sample	3,882
Households/addresses outside the scope of the survey	
Sampled households with no child	420
Empty /others	239
Total initial sample	4,541

Item non-response rate

In the CLS 2015, the sample consisted of 2,772 households with 14,568 people, of which 5,666 were children aged 5-17 years. Of these, 209 were reported to be working. Non-response rates for important items on working children are presented in Table 6.

Table 6. Item non-response rates of important items for working children in the sample

Item	Number of non-response	Non-response rate (%)
School attendance status of working children	2	1.0
Economic activity (industry) – all workers	7	3.3
Working children	0	0.0
Occupation – all workers	4	1.9
Employment status of working children	0	0.0
Location of work of working children	0	0.0
Weekly hours of work of working children	3	1.4

The non-response rates on these items do not seem to have affected the estimates to any significant degree. In particular, the non-response rates for the correlates of working children are insignificantly low. Item non-response rates in CLS, in general, varies from 0.0% to about 15%. For the items relating to working children, however, the non-response rates are rather low, varying from 0.0% to 3.3%. In the discussion of the characteristics of working children in the following chapters, the estimated aggregates are all based on the reported cases only. Some adjustments have been attempted in a few cases for the percentage distributions.

Limited number of identified working children

The limited number of identified working children (209) in the sample does not allow for a detailed and cross-classified study of the related characteristics. In many of the individual cells of disaggregated data, and in some cases marginal totals, in cross-classified tables, are too small to permit production of reliable estimates. For example, in the present survey, across a sample size of 20 to 50 persons, the estimates of proportions are expected to have a relative standard error (RSE) of 20% to 30%, while those based on a sample size of less than 20 are expected to have an RSE of more than 30%. Thus, in the statistical tables included in the report, the estimates based on a sample size of less than 20 are not presented at all. In most of these cases, the estimate can be taken to be close to zero. For the estimates based of a sample of size 20 to 50, however, the estimates are shown in the table, but are kept in parentheses to alert the readers of their lack of precision.

Chapter 4

Concepts and definitions

This chapter discusses briefly the concepts and definitions applied in the analysis of the CLS data in terms of the international labour standards, the relevant national labour legislation in the context of the population below 18 years of age, and the key definitions and concepts derived from these legal definitions. The first section deals with the concept of child labour as it is relevant for Lebanon and the related international labour standards.

4.1 Child labour law in Lebanon and international standards

The Lebanese laws regarding working children and child labour are based on the definition of "child" adopted by the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). For the purpose of civil obligations and contracts, a child is any person who has not yet reached the age of 18.¹⁶

Child labour law in Lebanon: The employment law in Lebanon basically divides the children into two categories - those under 14 years and those between 14 and 18 years. The law categorically prohibits employment of children who have not completed 13 years and requires a medical certificate proving that a child above 13 is fit for the job she/he is hired to perform. In certain types of work deemed harmful or detrimental, the law prohibits employing any child under the age of 16 years. Furthermore, in addition to other restrictions, the Labour Code states that no child shall be employed for more than six hours per day and he shall be given at least one hour rest whenever the total working hours exceed four per day.¹⁷

International labour standards: The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) recognizes the child's right to be protected from economic exploitation and from performing any work that is likely to be hazardous or to interfere with the child's education, or to be harmful to the child's health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development.

ILO Convention No. 138 contains standards to set the age at which children can legally be employed or work. It calls on Member States to set a general minimum age for admission to work (not lower than the end of compulsory education, and generally at least 15 years of age)

¹⁶ Law Number 422 of 2002 (Protection of at-Risk Children or Children Violating the Law), art. 1.
¹⁷ Labour Code of 1946, as amended, art. 22. & art. 23.

and a higher minimum age of not less than 18 years for employment or work which by its nature or the circumstances in which it is carried out is likely to jeopardize the health, safety or morals of young persons, usually referred to as hazardous work. *The law 536 (1996) increased the minimum working age from 8 to 14 in the labour code of 1946* in line with Convention No. 138. Noting that Lebanon ratified the Convention No. 138 in 2003.

The Convention does allow for some flexibility:

- *Minimum age*: Countries with less developed economic or educational infrastructure may set the minimum age at 14 years.
- *Light work*: Countries may permit the employment or work of persons aged between 13 and 15 years if it is (a) not likely to be harmful to their health or development; and (b) not such as to prejudice their attendance at school, their participation in vocational orientation or training programmes. The lower age limit for light work can be 12 years for developing countries.

ILO Convention No. 182 (Article 3), ratified by Lebanon in 2003, emphasizes the urgent need for shifting the focus of action to elimination of the worst forms of child labour which comprise:

- (a) all forms of slavery, and practices similar to slavery, include debt bondage and forced labour, and use of children in armed conflict;
- (b) use, procuring or offering of a child for prostitution, pornography, etc.;
- (c) use, procurement or offering of a child for illicit activities, particularly trafficking in drugs; and
- (d) work that is likely to harm the health, safety, or morals of children.

ILO Recommendation No. 190 provides more detailed guidance to countries to define hazardous work within their own borders. Together, these Conventions provide the limits to fix the national legal boundaries for child labour and the legal basis for national and international action against it.

4.2 Concepts and definitions commonly used in labour force surveys

This section gives a description of the concepts and definitions adopted for the CLS. They have been adopted according to the system of National Accounts followed in Lebanon as well as the frame of reference and conceptual basis for classifying children's activities as follows from the ILO's conventions on child labour (Nos. 138 and 182).

Household: A household is defined as a person or group of persons who live together in the same house or compound, who share the same housekeeping arrangements and who are catered for as one unit. Members of a household are not necessarily related to each other either by blood or marriage. Conversely, members who live together in the same house or compound and are related by blood or marriage do not necessarily belong to the same household. In order to be considered a household member, a person must reside with the other household members

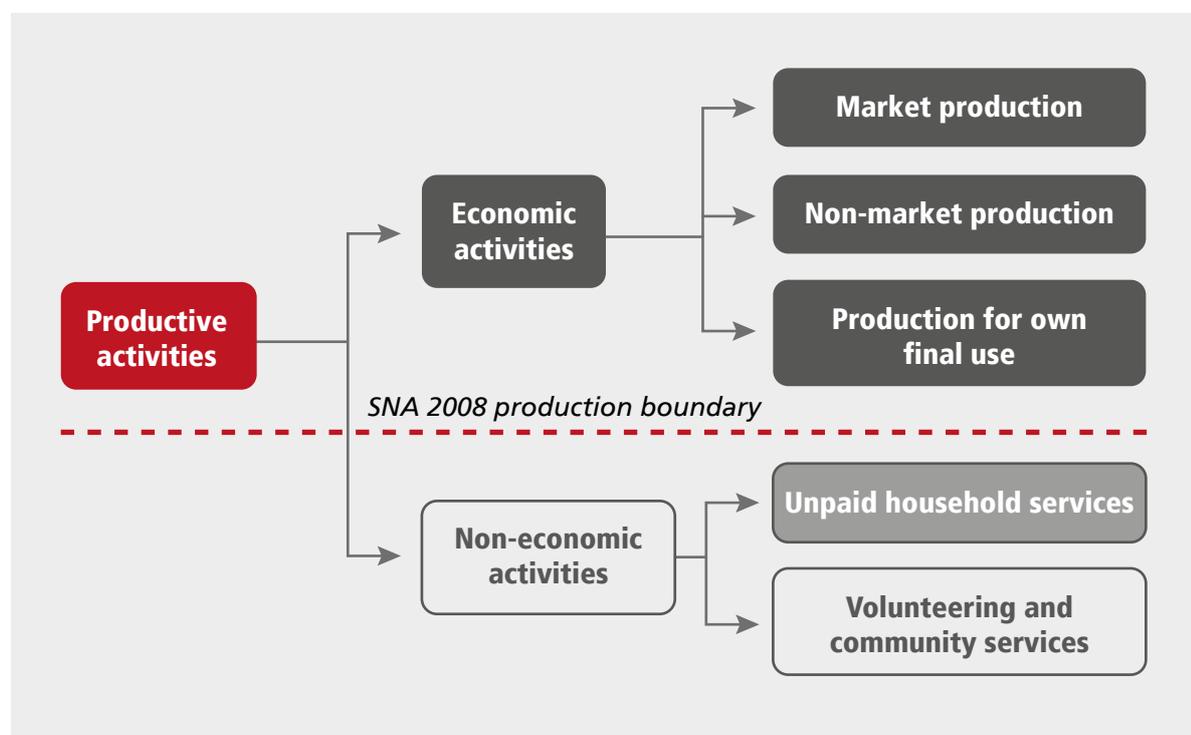
in the dwelling for six months or more during last 12 months and must not be a member of any other household.¹⁸

Since the institutional households were excluded from the coverage of the survey, barracks of military and para-military forces, orphanages, and vagrant houses were not treated as households.

Head of household: The head of the household is an adult who usually takes over the usually the responsibility of the household. The head of the household has to be a member of the household and thus must be residing in the household.

Work: Work comprises any activity performed by people of any sex and age to produce goods or to provide services for use by others or for their own use. It is defined irrespective of its formal or informal character or the legality of the activity. However, it excludes activities that do not fall in the general production boundary of the SNA 2008 (as indicated in Figure 5), such as begging and stealing, self-care (e.g. personal grooming and hygiene) and activities that cannot be performed by another person on one's own behalf (e.g. sleeping, learning and activities for own recreation). However, the treatment of unpaid household services as non-economic activities has received considerable attention in the debate concerning child labour. Household chores in the own home are sometimes realised under such conditions that they could harm the children's health, safety or morals. In the Lebanon CLS report, therefore, such activities beyond a set threshold are considered as "work" for children aged 5-17 years when defining child labour.

Figure 5. Classification of activities according to the SNA 2008¹⁹



¹⁸ In the System of National Accounts 2008 (SNA 2008), an individual is treated as a resident of a country if the household in which she/he is a member is located in the economic territory of the country and has an intention of continuing to stay in the country indefinitely or for a long period of time. Thus, a period of at least six month's stay in a household is set as the rule for determining household membership of an individual who has lived in more than one household during the last 12 months to avoid duplication and omission.

¹⁹ Report III-Child Labour Statistics, 18th ICLS-2008 (www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---stat/documents/meetingdocument/wcms_099577.pdf).

Employment: In the Lebanon CLS, employment is defined as at least one hour of work, during a reference period of seven days prior to the data collection, in any activity to produce goods or provide services for the market, namely:

- Employed persons “at work”, i.e. who worked in a job for at least one hour;
- Employed persons “not at work” due to temporary absence from a job, or to working-time arrangements (such as shift work, etc.).

In the CLS 2015 report, the engagement of children aged 5-14 years in unpaid household services for 28 hours or more per week, and that of children aged 15-17 years for 43 hours or more per week is considered as “at work”.

Unemployment/Seeking work: It is defined as all people that were not in employment or were carrying out activities to seek employment during a specified recent period and who were currently available to take up employment if given a job opportunity, where:

- “not in employment” is assessed with respect to the short reference period (7 days prior to the data collection) for the measurement of employment;
- “seek employment” refers to any activity carried out, during a specified recent period including the previous month, for the purpose of finding a job or setting up a business or agricultural undertaking;
- “currently available” serves as a test of readiness to start a job in the present, assessed with respect to a short reference period, say two weeks, comprising that used to measure employment.

Labour force: The sum of persons who are either in employment or in unemployment (seeking work) as defined above constitute the labour force.

Out of the labour force: Persons outside the labour force are those of working age who were neither in employment nor in unemployment in the reference period.

Own-use producers of goods: Refers to all persons of working age who, during a short reference period, performed “any activity” to produce goods intended mainly for their own final use, by their household or by family members living in other households. “Any activity” refers to work performed in the various activities listed below and for a cumulative total of at least one hour.

Production of goods: Following activities are included in “production of goods”:

- producing and/or processing for storage agricultural, fishing, hunting and gathering products;
- collecting and/or processing for storage mining and forestry products, including firewood and other fuels;
- fetching water from natural and other sources;
- manufacturing household goods (such as furniture, textiles, clothing, footwear, pottery or other durables, including boats and canoes);
- building, effecting major repairs to one’s own dwelling, farm buildings, etc.

- In agriculture, it includes fishing, hunting or gathering of food & firewood, intended mainly for own consumption, a part or surplus may nevertheless be sold or bartered.

Children involved in household chores: Refers to all children aged 5-17 years who, during a short reference period (7 days prior to the data collection) were engaged in any unpaid activity to provide services for their household or family, such as preparing and serving meals; mending, washing and ironing clothes; shopping; caring for siblings and sick/disabled household members; cleaning and maintaining the household dwelling; repairing household durables; and transporting household members and their goods. In the Lebanon CLS 2015, the engagement in “household tasks” is not included in the estimates of “working children”, unless it is 28 hours or more for children aged 5-14 years, or 43 hours or more for children aged 15-17 years.

Job: A job is defined as a set of tasks and duties which are carried out by, or can be assigned to, one person from a single economic unit. A person may have one or more jobs in the short reference period.

Occupation: It refers to the kind of work done by the person in a specific job, irrespective of his or her status in employment (employee or self-employed) and of the kind of goods or services produced by the establishment where the person works (industry). The International Standard Classification of Occupations (ISCO) is used for analytical purposes in the CLS. Lebanon has adopted the ISCO-08.

Industry: “Industry” refers to the type of economic activity carried out by the establishment, business or organization where the person holds a job, including own account enterprises, and the type of economic activity refers to the main goods and services produced or provided to other units or persons. The International Standard Industrial Classification (ISIC) provides the guidelines and for the CLS, the ISIC- Revision 3.1 was used.²⁰

4.3 Key concepts and definitions for child labour surveys

Child: In accordance with the ILO Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182), and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, a child is defined as an individual under the age of 18 years. For the CLS, the target population for measuring child labour was all persons aged 5-17 years, where age is measured as the number of completed years at the child’s last birthday as described in the resolution concerning statistics of child labour in the 18th ICLS.²¹

Child Labour: The term “child labour” reflects the engagement of children in prohibited work and, more generally, in types of work to be eliminated as socially and morally undesirable as guided by national legislation, the ILO Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138), and the ILO Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182), as well as their respective supplementing Recommendations (Nos. 146 and 190).

²⁰ The latest version is of ISIC is ISIC-Revision 4. It should be noted that an establishment may produce or provide a number of goods and services which do not belong to the same activity code as per ISIC. In such cases, the activity which produces the maximum value of output was considered for industrial classification.

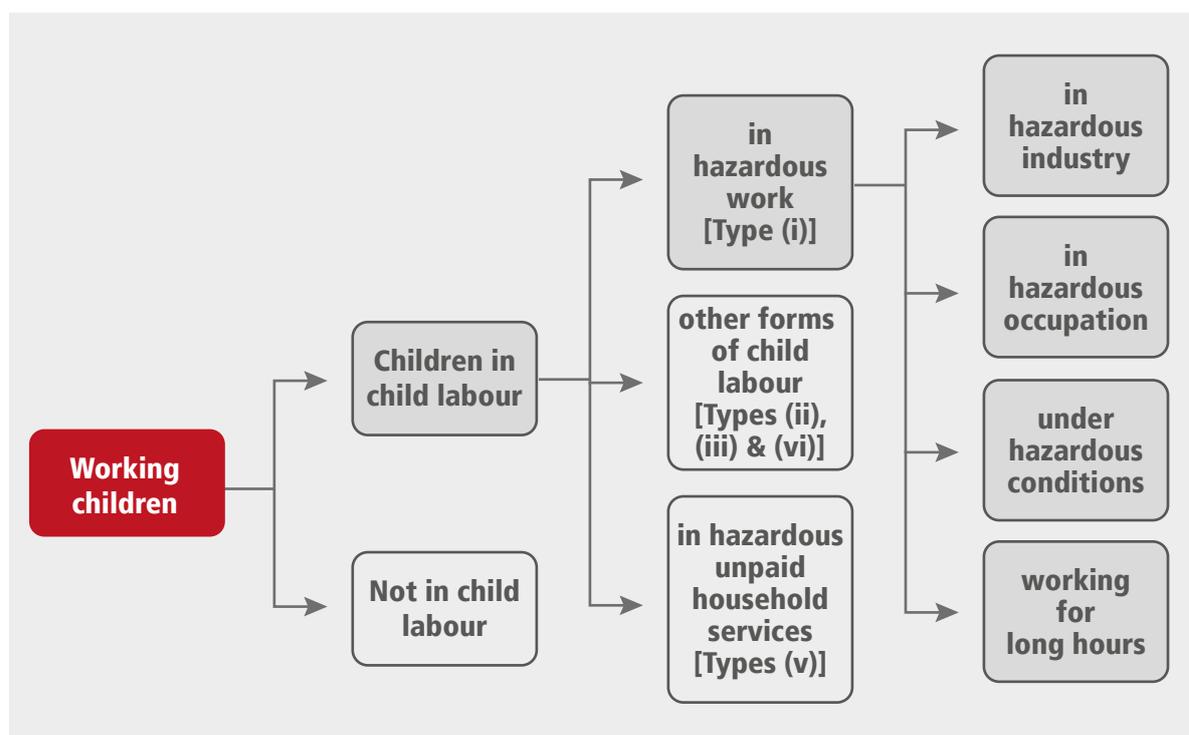
²¹ Report II-Child Labour Statistics, 18th ICLS-2008, paragraphs 8 and 9 (www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---stat/documents/normativeinstrument/wcms_112458.pdf).

For the purpose of statistical measurement, children engaged in child labour include all persons aged 5-17 years who, during a specified time period, were engaged in one or more of the following categories of activities:²²

- worst forms of child labour;
- employment below the minimum age; and
- hazardous unpaid household services.

The coverage of child labour described below is presented in Figure 6. The shaded area are child labour activities. The Council of Minister of Lebanon endorsed Decree No. 8987 in September 2012 that provides a regulatory framework of preventive measures to guard the children against the worst forms of child labour and of protective measures against occupational hazards.²³ The decree clearly specifies the age criteria and a list of hazardous work for Lebanon, in the context of child labour. The definition adopted for the CLS 2015 covers the whole spectrum of child labour as proclaimed in the decree.

Figure 6. Classification of working children in the CLS 2015



²² Report II-Child Labour Statistics, 18th ICLS-2008 paragraph 15 (www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---stat/documents/normativeinstrument/wcms_112458.pdf).

²³ Ministry of Labour and ILO (2015): *Guide to Decree 8987 on Worst Forms of Child Labour*.

Worst forms of child labour: In accordance with Article 3 of the ILO Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention (No. 182),²⁴ the worst forms of child labour comprise:

- a. all forms of slavery or practices similar to slavery, such as the sale and trafficking of children, debt bondage and serfdom, as well as forced or compulsory labour, including forced or compulsory recruitment of children for use in armed conflict;
- b. the use, procuring or offering of a child for prostitution, for the production of pornography or for pornographic performances;
- c. the use, procuring or offering of a child for illicit activities, in particular for the production and trafficking of drugs as defined in relevant international treaties; and
- d. work which, by its nature or the circumstances in which it is carried out, is likely to harm the health, safety or morals of children. ("*hazardous work*")

The survey covered only the last type, i.e. type (d), among the above mentioned four types of worst forms of child labour. This type is referred as "*hazardous work*". Information on the other worst forms of child labour other than hazardous work (also called at times "*unconditional forms of child labour*"), i.e. types (a) to (c), is an especially important and challenging component of a national statistical program on child labour. However, with standard household-based survey methodologies such as the CLS, it is not possible to capture these forms of child labour, as households may be reluctant to report the involvement of their children in them, even when they are aware of this involvement. Thus, the estimates of child labour presented in this report exclude the worst forms of types (a) to (c).

Definition of child labour adopted for this report: For the purpose of statistical measurement, children engaged in child labour include all persons aged 5-17 years who, during the reference week, were in one or more of the following categories:

- i. Children aged 5-17 years engaged in hazardous work (including hazardous industries, occupations and conditions) for pay or profit for at least 1 hour per week;
- ii. Children aged 5-11 years engaged in employment for at least 1 hour per week;
- iii. Children aged 12-14 years engaged in employment for 14 hours or more per week;
- iv. Children aged 15-17 years engaged in employment for 43 hours or more a week;
- v. Children aged 5-17 years engaged in hazardous unpaid household services (UHS) as previously defined.

The remaining working children are not reckoned as child labour in this report and are labelled "*working children other than child labour*".

Hazardous work: For the CLS, the types of work considered as hazardous consists of four broad group as follows:

- work in hazardous industries;
- work in hazardous occupations;

²⁴ www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=NORMLEXPUB:12100:0::NO:12100:P12100_INSTRUMENT_ID:312327:NO.

- work in other hazardous work conditions²⁵ (unhealthy work environment, unsafe equipment or heavy loads, dangerous work location, and exposure to abuse etc.), and
- work for long hours.

The time threshold considered to be long hours of work for children was set at 43 hours a week. All those engaged in work for pay or profit for 43 hours or more in the reference week are considered as children in hazardous child labour.

The definitions of hazardous industries, occupations and conditions adopted for the CLS analysis are as defined by the Ministry of Labour of Lebanon in the Decree No. 8987 of 2012.²⁶

Other forms of child labour: Child labour includes any work that is performed by a child who is below the *minimum age* specified for that kind of work, and which is thus likely to impede the child's education and full development.

Hazardous unpaid household services (UHS): Children not working for pay or profit but involved in household chores for long hours are considered to be in hazardous unpaid household services (UHS). The household chores considered for this purpose are (i) shopping for the household, (ii) repairing of household equipment, (iii) cooking, (iv) cleaning utensils / house, (v) washing clothes, (vi) caring for children / old / sick, and (vii) other household tasks. For the CLS, the threshold limits of "long hours" for children aged 5-14 years is 28 hours and that for children aged 15-17 years is 43 hours.

Children seeking work

Many children who are not engaged in any economic activity may want to work and be available for work, if offered. For the purpose of child statistics, such children should be referred as "children seeking work".

These children are an important issue to obtain a complete overview of the potential population of child workers and child labours in a country. As data on this group is collected, a simple and brief description of the group's main characteristics is included in the report, providing the picture of a group that is at risk of child labour.

25 For determining hazardous work conditions of children at the national level, the following criteria are taken into account:

- work which exposes children to physical, psychological or sexual abuse;
- work underground, under water, at dangerous heights or in confined spaces;
- work with dangerous machinery, equipment and tools, or which involves the manual handling or transport of heavy loads;
- work in an unhealthy environment which may, for example, expose children to hazardous substances, agents or processes, or to temperatures, noise levels, or vibrations damaging to their health;
- work under particularly difficult conditions such as work for long hours or during the night or work where the child is unreasonably confined to the premises of the employer.

26 www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---arabstates/---ro-beirut/documents/publication/wcms_443274.pdf.

Chapter 5

The main characteristics of activities carried out by children

This chapter discusses the Lebanon CLS findings on the size, structure, and characteristics of children engaged in economic activity. It provides information on the conditions of the children engaged in economic activity, including their current status of attendance in school, the number of hours worked per day, their status in employment, the amount of household chores they are involved in and how they combine these activities.

The Decree No. 8987 of 2012, issued by the Government of Lebanon, establishes the prohibition of employment of minors under the age of 18 in work that may harm their health, safety or morals. The minimum age of entry to employment in the country is 14 years.²⁷

In keeping with the international practice of child labour studies, the child population for this report is classified into the following three age categories: 5-11 years, 12-14 years and 15-17 years.

It is important to note that the findings in this report refer only to the population of households in Lebanon having children aged 5 years and above, since the survey target population was children aged 5-17 years and the sample was selected from households having at least one child aged 5 years and above.

5.1 Children in economic activity

According to the results, 3.6% of total children aged 5-17 years from households with children aged 5+ were working during the week preceding the survey. The estimated employment rate for boys is 5.8%, and for girls 1.3%. According to age distribution, this rate is 4.4% for children aged 12-14 years and 10.8% for children aged 15-17 years years.

²⁷ Lebanese employment law, ministry of labour, Lebanon.

Table 7. Distribution of children that worked in the 7 days prior to the survey, by sex and age, 5-17 years

	Total children	Working children (Number)	Working children (%)
Total	919,068	33,474	3.6
Age Groups			
5-11	495,284	(*)	(*)
12-14	217,526	9,558	4.4
15-17	206,258	22,334	10.8
Sex			
Boy	482,204	27,837	5.8
Girl	436,864	(5,637)	(1.3)
(*) : Number less than 25 cases (n.n) : Number between 25 and less than 50 cases			

5.2 Characteristics of children's activities

This section deals with the surveyed children involvement in three specific activities: school, household chores and work. Children activity involvement is classified by using a non-overlapping combination of these activities as in Tables 8 and 10.

The majority of children aged 5-17 years (88.9%) among households with children aged 5+ are focused on school attendance and do not involve themselves in any other activity. A good proportion (7.5%) are neither working nor attending school ("idle" children). A minority of children are exclusively working and a marginal proportion combined working and attending school.

Table 8. Distribution of children by activity status, 5-17 years

Children aged 5-17 by activity status		
Total	919,068	100%
Working only	25,283	2.8%
Attending school only	816,913	88.9%
Working and attending school	8,191	0.9%
Neither working nor attending school	68,681	7.5%

The majority of children only working (72.0%) are aged 15-17 years and around 86.9% of them are boys. The same trend appears for children both working and attending school, where 50.4% of children in this category are aged 15-17 years and 71.5% of them are boys.

Approximately 68,700 children aged 5-17 years are neither working nor attending school. 40.9% of them are aged 5-11 years, 20% 12-14 years and 39.7% 15-17 years. The distribution by gender of these children is almost equivalent.

Table 9. Distribution of children by activity status, age and sex, 5-17 years

	Working only		Attending school only		Both working and attending school		Neither working nor attending school	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Age								
Total	25,283	100	816,913	100	8191	100%	68,681	100
5-11 years	(*)	(*)	466,011	57.0	(*)	(*)	27,691	40.3
12-14 years	(6,582)	(26.0)	194,253	23.8	(*)	(*)	13,715	20.0
15-17 years	18,209	72.0	156,649	19.2	(4,124)	(50.4%)	27,275	39.7
Sex								
Boys	21,977	86.9	418,152	51.2	(5,860)	(71.5%)	36,215	52.7
Girls	(*)	(*)	398,761	48.8	(*)	(*)	32,466	47.3
(*) : Number less than 25 cases (n.n) : Number between 25 and less than 50 cases								

5.3 Children involved in household chores and services

This section presents the findings concerning the involvement of children in household chores. Involvement of children in household chores may have an adverse impact on schooling and their grooming, but also has an ingrained voluntary aspect in it. However, the estimates do not have bearing on whether or not the household chores are of a hazardous nature. The issue of counting those engaged in unpaid household services of a hazardous nature as children in child labour will also be addressed later in this report.

The percentage of girls involved in household chores (48%) is much higher than that of boys (39%), with around 43.5% of all children surveyed involved in household chores. In all the three age groups, girls are uniformly more involved than boys in household chores. Some 65.8% of girls in the 15-17 age group are involved in household chores – the highest proportion for any age group. It is worth noting that the spread between girls and boys involvement tripled between the first and the last age group, 5.9% for the 5-11 age group to 14.8% for the 15-17 age group. This leads to conclude that from the gender perspective, the disparity in participation in household chores between sexes and for all age groups is confirmed.

Table 10. Distribution of children involved in household chores by sex and age, 5-17 years

Age	Total			Boys			Girls		
	Total population (thousand)	Involvement in household chores (thousand)	(%)	Total population (thousand)	Involvement in household chores (thousand)	(%)	Total population (thousand)	Involvement in household chores (thousand)	(%)
Total	919.1	399.8	43.5	482.2	190.2	39.4	436.9	209.6	48.0
5-11 years	495.3	157.1	31.7	257.2	74.3	28.9	238.1	82.8	34.8
12-14 years	217.5	123.1	56.6	115.7	60.2	52.0	101.8	62.9	61.8
15-17 years	206.3	119.6	58.0	109.2	55.7	51.0	97.0	63.9	65.8

Among children involved in household chores, 81% are working up to seven hours per week. In this hour bracket boys are more involved in work with (87.9%) compared to girls (74.8%). The highest involvement for this working hour category is for children aged between 5 and 11 (90%). With increasing working hours, the percentage of involved children in household chores decreases. In the same time, girls become more involved than boys – some 9.7% for boys compared to 16.6% for girls, for working hours between 8 and 14. For more than 15 working hours per week, girls continue to be involved in household chores contrary to boys.

Table 11. Distribution of children involved in household chores by number of hours devoted per week, sex and age, 5-17 years

	Total	Hours devoted							
		1 to 7		8 to 14		15 to 21		More than 22	
		Number	% (row)	Number	% (row)	Number	% (row)	Number	% (row)
Total	399,766	323,906	81.0	53,234	13.3	14,915	3.7	(7,710)	(1.9)
Age									
5-11 years	157,088	141,451	90.0	12,174	7.8	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)
12-14 years	123,122	97,560	79.2	18,369	14.9	(5,028)	(4.1)	(*)	(*)
15-17 years	119,555	84,895	71.0	22,691	19.0	(7,456)	(6.2)	(4,513)	(3.8)
Sex									
Boys	190,212	167,110	87.9	18,534	9.7	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)
Girls	209,554	156,796	74.8	34,700	16.6	11,792	5.6	(6,266)	(3.0)
(*) : Number less than 25 cases (n.n) : Number between 25 and less than 50 cases									

Chapter 6

Characteristics of working children

A working child is not necessarily in child labour. Nevertheless, it is essential to have a comprehensive view of the characteristics and conditions of the working children so as to set the study of child labour in its proper perspective. In particular, knowledge of the size, composition and nature of working children and their economic activities is a prerequisite for gauging prevalence of child labour. This chapter examines the nature of children's employment in terms of the industry of employment, occupation and status in employment, working hours, and other characteristics of their work.

As mentioned earlier, "working children" comprise all children aged 5-17 years engaged in an economic production leading to production of goods and services for use by others or for own use. However, all working children are not children in child labour.

For statistical measurement purposes, children in child labour are defined as all children aged 5-17 years who during the specified time period were engaged in one or more of the following activities:

- a. Worst forms of child labour other than hazardous work;
- b. Hazardous work, and
- c. Other forms of child labour.²⁸

The estimates of children in hazardous unpaid household services (hazardous UHS), which for purposes of this report, are included in the child labour measurement framework for engaging in hazardous work, are presented separately. This would help in obtaining estimates of workers according to the SNA framework and classifications, as unpaid household services does not fall within the SNA production boundary.

As clarified in previous chapters, it is important to note that they refer only to the population of households in Lebanon having at least one child aged 5 years and above.

²⁸ Work that is performed by a child who is below the *minimum age* specified for that kind of work, and which is thus likely to impede the child's education and full development.

6.1 Working children by activity type

The Classification of Types of Economic Activities has been accepted as a basis for the classification of the economic activity major groups, which allows data to be comparable. This section describes the industry where working boys and girls are exercising in order to identify industries where children can most often be found to be working, and where possible, the differences between participation of boys and girls and, by their age groups.

Many industries were not reported by the sampled households and thus industries with no reporting children activity have been dropped from the following table presentations.

Table 12. Distribution of working children by industry, 5-17 years

Industry	Number	%
Total	30,296	100
Agriculture	(*)	9.5(**)
Manufacture industry	(5,782)	(19.1)
Construction	(*)	10.7(**)
Trade	12,601	41.6
Services	(5,802)	(19.2)
(*) : Number less than 25 cases (**) to use with cautious because number is less than 25 cases. (n.n) : Number between 25 and less than 50 cases		

A little over two-fifth (41%) of the working children are employed in "Trade", another one-fifth in "Manufacturing" and "Services"²⁹ (each about 19%). For "Construction" and "Agriculture" sample sizes are too small to present reliable estimates. The top three branches of economic activity put together absorb 80% of all working children.

Age disaggregated data reveals that two-thirds of the working children are aged 15-17 years. Gender distribution of working children is unbalanced. Boys constitute 83% of working children.

6.2 Employment of children by occupation

Survey results relating to the tasks or occupations performed by children at work are presented in this section. The estimates presented in Table 13 shows the distribution of working children by major occupation categories.

Major employment occupations in Lebanon are craft and related trades (35%), elementary occupations (26%), and service and sales workers (31%). The estimates for some occupations lack reliability because of the small samples size.

²⁹ The sector services includes sections from K to Q from the ISIC classification. Version 3.1.

Table 13. Distribution of working children by occupation, 5-17 years

Occupation	Number	%
Total	30,296	100
Service and sales workers	9,272	30.6
Craft and related trades workers	10,571	34.9
Elementary occupations	(7,982)	(26.3)
Other	(*)	(*)
(*) : Number less than 25 cases (n.n) : Number between 25 and less than 50 cases		

6.3 Working children by status in employment

This section focuses on the employment status of children of the three broad age groups. The status in employment represents the type of contract which a person has with other persons or organisations when performing a particular job. The International Classification of Status of Employment (ICSE-93) consists of six main categories, ie. employees, employers, own-account workers, cooperative members, contributing family workers and not classifiable. Among working children, employers are very rare. Thus, the categories of employers and own-account workers are merged into one category – self-employed.

In Lebanon, 75% of working children are employees and 17% are unpaid family workers (Table 14). Reliable estimates for the self-employed category could not be generated as the sample sizes were too small. The majority of both boys and girls at work have the status of employees.

Table 14. Distribution of working children by status in employment, 5-17 years

Status in current employment	Number	%
Total	30,296	100
Employee	22,902	75.6
Employer or own account worker	(*)	(*)
Unpaid family worker	(5,195)	(17.1)
Excluding the unpaid household services (UHS) (*) : Number less than 25 cases (n.n) : Number between 25 and less than 50 cases		

6.4 Working children by number of hours worked per week

In the analysis of the characteristics of the work performed by children, the intensity of their work is of special interest, as it can be considered as an important proxy for the potential harmfulness of work. Long hours of work are likely to mean less time available for children for school and leisure, and also adversely affect their health.

Table 15. Distribution of working children by number of hours worked per week, 5-17 years, and median number of hours worked

Total hours worked	Number	%
Total	30,296	100.0
1 to 21	(4,173)	(13.8)
22 to 42	8,428	27.8
More than 42	17,214	56.8
Not specified	(*)	(*)
Median number of hours worked per week: 48		
(*) : Number less than 25 cases (n.n) : Number between 25 and less than 50 cases		

The weekly hours of work indicator refers to the hours worked during the 7 days prior to the survey at the main job or at all jobs. In the case that a child is considered to be working but was temporarily absent from work during the last 7 days due to illness, holidays or for other reasons, hours of work are defined (only for those children) in terms of usual weekly hours of work.

Children engaged in their current industries of employment in Lebanon indicate work for a median time of 48 hours per week which indicates a tough schedule of 8 hours per day in a 6-day week (Table 15).

6.5 Working children by type of work

Working children can be classified in two mutually exclusive subcategories: children in child labour and working children not in child labour. The following chapter presents the issue of child labour. Regarding working children not in child labour, the results showed the total of this category 2,582³⁰ children aged 12-17 years.

30 Less than 25 cases.

Chapter 7

Child labour and hazardous work

This chapter focuses on children in child labour, reflecting their engagement in prohibited and hazardous activities, or more generally, in types of work to be eliminated as socially and morally undesirable. The definitions and measurement of child labour and hazardous work adopted for the analysis of the survey data were provided earlier in the report (see Chapter 4, Section 3).

Lebanon has ratified the ILO Convention No. 182 on the Worst Forms of Child Labour (C182). Countries that ratify C182 are obliged to determine hazardous work “by national laws or regulations or by the competent authority, after consultation with the organizations of employers and workers concerned, taking into consideration relevant international standards.” The Decree No. 8987 on worst form of child labour specifies activities that could be harmful to children, and has indicated two distinct lists of work-related activities. The first is the list of totally prohibited works and activities that are forbidden for those below 18 years of age. The second is the list of activities that are not altogether forbidden but is permitted to be taken up by children not below 16 years. The definitions of child labour and hazardous work adopted for the survey, while adhering to the standards and guidelines of ILO Conventions C138 and C182, are also in close correspondence with the provisions contained in Decree No. 8987.³¹

It should be noted that the methodology followed in the Lebanon CLS 2015 deployed house-to-house enquiry at the residence of the child workers and responses were recorded based on what the respondents – children themselves or their family members – reported. No further checks at the worksite were conducted to verify these responses. Therefore, it is not possible to assert with certainty the actual hazardous conditions prevailing in the workplaces.

7.1 Child labour

In line with the categorization of child labour set out in Chapter 4, child labour can be grouped in mutually exclusive categories according to the type and conditions of their work. This categorisation provides a distribution of child labour in which children are counted only once, even if they perform multiple risks, and is based on the ILO’s conceptual framework for identifying

³¹ As defined by the Lebanese ministry of labour. www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---arabstates/---ro-beirut/documents/publication/wcms_443274.pdf

child labour and hazardous child labour. Table 16 presents the Lebanon CLS 2015 estimates of child labour and hazardous child labour, decomposed into the categories recognised in the framework.

As the worst forms of child labour other than hazardous work are not captured by household-based child labour surveys, this component of child labour is not included in the estimates of child labour. Accordingly, child labour classification process for statistical measurement includes:

Hazardous work: includes:

- work in designated hazardous industries (namely, mining and quarrying, and construction) by children aged 5-17 years;
- work in designated hazardous occupations;
- work for long hours (43 hours or more per week);
- work under hazardous conditions;
- hazardous unpaid household services.

Child labour other than hazardous work:

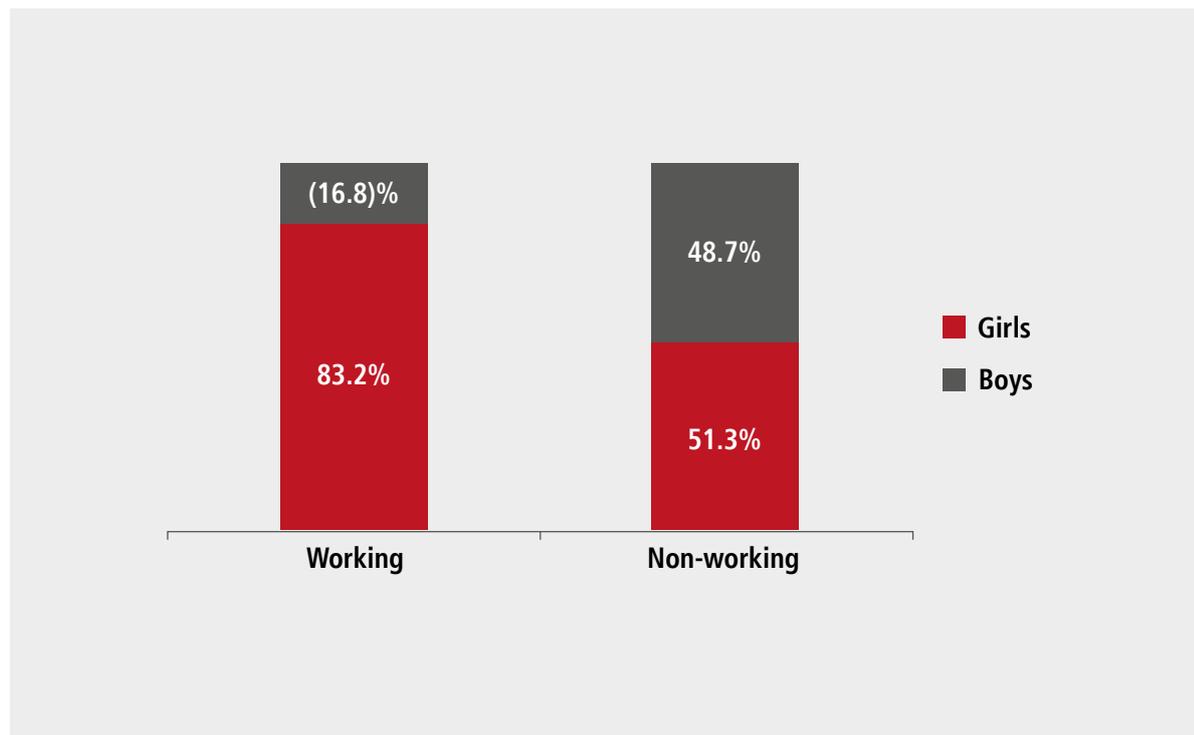
- All children aged 5-11 years who are not in hazardous work, and
- All children aged 12-14 years who are not in hazardous work and work for 14 hours or more (that is, are not in light work).

The majority (66.7%) of working children among households with children aged 5+ are aged 15-17 years, followed by children aged 12-14 years. The survey results indicate the quasi inexistence of working children under age 11.

Table 16. Distribution of children by working status, age and sex, 5-17 years

	Working children		Non-working children	
	Number	%	Number	%
Total	33,474	100	885,594	100
Age				
5-11 years	(*)	(*)	493,702	55.7
12-14 years	9,558	28.6	207,968	23.5
15-17 years	22,334	66.7	183,924	20.8
Sex				
Boys	27,837	83.2	454,366	51.3
Girls	(5,637)	(16.8)	431,227	48.7
(*) : Number less than 25 cases (n.n) : Number between 25 and less than 50 cases				

Gender disparity of working children is biased towards boy's involvement in work. Around 83% of working children are boys compared to 17% for girls.

Figure 7. Distribution of children by working status and sex, 5-17 years

(n.n) : Number between 25 and less than 50 cases

7.2 Major child labour characteristics

This section offers a general picture on the extent of child labour in the country and examines number and percentage of children in child labour, working children not in child labour and non-working children by sex and age. Information regarding the prevalence of child labour clarifies the magnitude of the problem, and its disaggregated dimensions by gender and age groups.

Overall, a small proportion (3.4%) of the children in Lebanon are found to be working as children in child labour (Table 17). Another 0.3% are working but are not in child labour. The majority (96%) are not working.

Table 17. Distribution of children by working and child labour status, sex and age, 5-17 years

	Total children population	Non-working children		Working children				
		Number	% of total pop.	Total		Children in child labour		
				Number	% of total pop.	Number	% of total pop.	% of working children
Total	919,068	885,594	96.4	33,474	3.6	30,892	3.4	92.3
Age								
5-11 years	495,284	493,702	99.7	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)
12-14 years	217,526	207,968	95.6	9,558	4.4	9,443	4.3	98.8
15-17 years	206,258	183,924	89.2	22,334	10.8	19,866	9.6	89.0
Sex								
Boys	482,204	454,366	94.2	27,837	5.8	26,133	5.4	93.9
Girls	436,864	431,227	98.7	(5,637)	(1.3)	(4,759)	(1.1)	(84.4)
(*) : Number less than 25 cases (n.n) : Number between 25 and less than 50 cases								

The survey results reveal a near absence of child labour in the age group 5-11 years in the survey population. In the age group 15-17 years, however, it is as high as almost 10% and in age group 12-14 years, it is 4%. As for gender differences, wide variation is observed in the prevalence of child labour: among boys, over 5% are engaged in child labour, while among the girls, it is 1%. Still wider variations emerge when the estimates are disaggregated by age. It must, however, be noted that the estimates presented in parenthesis are based on too small sample sizes and are not considered reliable enough.

In general, 92.3% of working children are in child labour. This indicator includes a marginal number of children aged 5-11, 98.8% of those ages 12-14, and 89.0% of those aged 15 to 17. The conclusion that emerges is that once a child below 18 years-old among 5+ aged child households starts working, he or she is most likely to undertake a type of work prohibited by national legislation and/or international conventions. The probability of being in child labour is slightly higher for working boys compared to working girls (93.9% vs. 84.4%).

When examining the survey results, it was important to determine exactly in what type of economic activity and occupation were involved children in child labour. The majority of children in Lebanon are working as employees (approximately 76%, Table 18). Most of the remaining (17%) are unpaid family workers. Here too, sample sizes are too small for other indicators.

Table 18. Distribution of children in child labour by status in employment, 5-17 years

Status in current employment	Number	%
Total	27,713	100
Employee	21,021	75.9
Unpaid family worker	(4,676)	(16.9)
Own account worker & employer	(*)	(*)
Excluding the unpaid household services (UHS) (*): Number less than 25 cases (n.n): Number between 25 and less than 50 cases		

More than 40% of children in child labour work in trade, about 20.9% in manufacturing, 16% in services and 11.7% in construction (Table 19). For the rest of the industries, the sample size is too small to make reliable observations. For the same reason, variations, if any, disaggregated data by age and gender could not be obtained.

Table 19. Distribution of children in child labour by industry, 5-17 years

Industry	Number	%
Total	27,713	100
Agriculture	(*)	(*)
Manufacture industry	(5,782)	(20.9)
Construction	(*)	(*)
Trade	11,455	41.3
Services	(4,492)	(16.2)
Excluding the unpaid household services (UHS) (*): Number less than 25 cases (n.n): Number between 25 and less than 50 cases		

Table 20. Distribution of children in child labour by occupation, 5-17 years

Occupation	Number	%
Total	27,713	100
Service and sales workers	(7,425)	(26.8)
Craft and related trades workers	10,571	38.1
Elementary occupations	(7,868)	(28.4)
Other	(*)	(*)
Excluding the unpaid household services (UHS) (*): Number less than 25 cases (n.n): Number between 25 and less than 50 cases		

The occupations that children in child labour in Lebanon are mostly found into are craft and related trade work (38%) (Table 20). Elementary occupations (28%) and service and sales workers (27%) are the other main occupations. Variations over sex and age groups could not be discussed as the relative sample sizes were small and estimates with a reasonable degree of reliability are not possible.

Table 21. Median number of hours worked per week by children in child labour by industry, 5-17 years

Industry	Median number of hours worked per week
Total	49.0
Agriculture	(*)
Manufacture industry	(48.0)
Construction	(40.0)
Trade	54.0
Services	(48.0)
Excluding the unpaid household services (UHS)	
(*) : Number less than 25 cases	
(n.n) : Number between 25 and less than 50 cases	

On average, children in child labour from Lebanon work 48 hours per week, which means children are working more than eight hours per day (Table 21). In the trade sector, they work for 54 hours per week, while in manufacturing, the median amount of hours worked per week is 48 and in construction is 40. Children aged 15-17 years work for an even longer average period of time of 60 hours.

7.3 Hazardous work by children

This section examines the working conditions of children aged 5-17 years engaged in hazardous work. It gives an overview of the characteristics and conditions of hazardous work performed by children by taking a closer look at the nature of work as measured by employment sector, occupation and working hours.

It may be noted that the distribution of children in hazardous work by industry includes not only children in designated hazardous industries but also in other industries where they might be performing hazardous work due to the tasks performed (occupation), the long hours or other hazardous work conditions. The same applies to the distribution of children in hazardous work by occupation and hours of work.

The hazardous conditions in which children in child labour in Lebanon have to work can be classified by three main categories: hazardous occupations, hazardous industry and hazardous work conditions (including long hours as revealed by responses in the questionnaire).

In general, most of working children (86.7%) are working in non-hazardous conditions. The sample sizes are too small for other indicators, such as disaggregation by age groups and gender.

Table 22. Distribution of children in child labour by hazardous working conditions, 5-17 years

Children in child labour	Number	%
Total	27,713	100
Not hazardous conditions	24,036	86.7
Hazardous conditions	(3,678)	(13.3)
Excluding children in hazardous unpaid household services (UHS)		
(n.n) : Number between 25 and less than 50 cases		

Chapter 8

Educational characteristics

Education is a key element to prevent child labour, as children with no access to quality education may have no other option than to enter the labour market. On the other hand, child labour is one of the main obstacles to education, since children who are working full time cannot go to school and the academic achievement of children who combine work and school is often compromised.

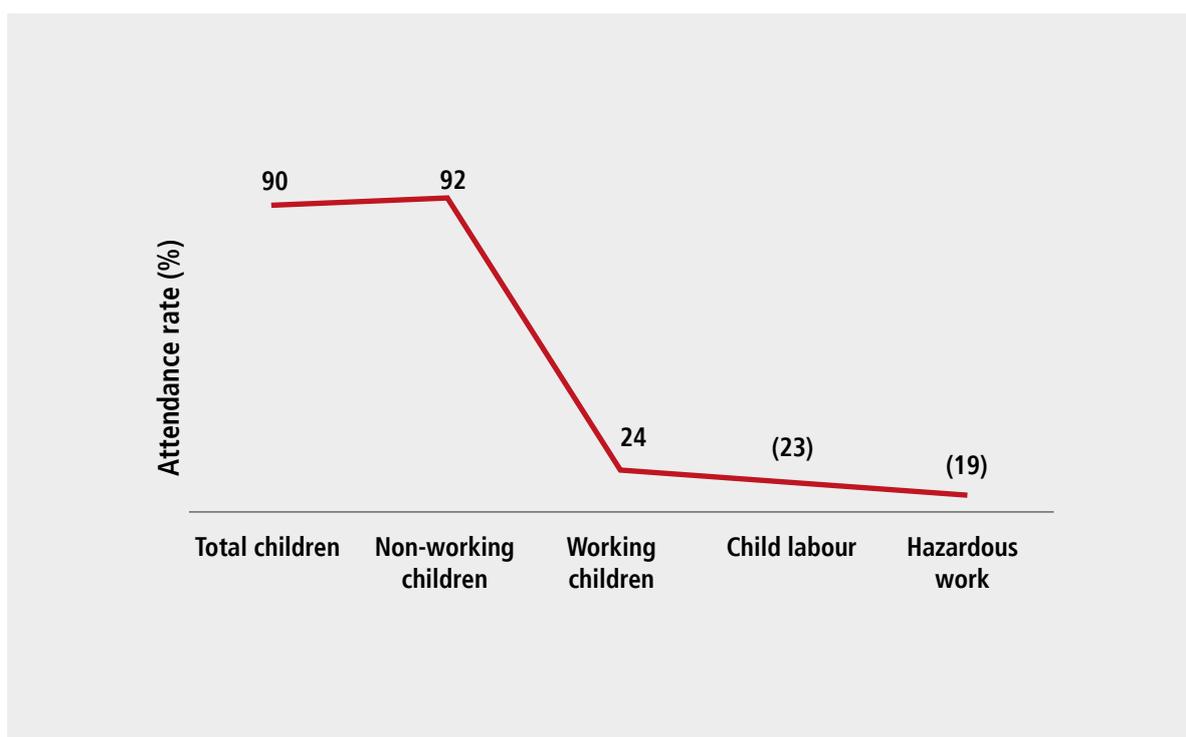
In order to realise an in-depth analysis, estimates are required on issues including school enrolment and out-of-school children (both, never attended and drop-outs), which this chapter provides. However, owing to inadequacy of sample size, no reliable estimate on the special challenges faced by working students such as grade reached / age distortions, repetition rates and attendance regularity could be generated and included.

8.1 Children's school attendance and working status

School attendance³² or enrolment rates reflect, to some extent, the engagement of children in what ideally should be their main activity. This section provides estimates on school enrolment for non-working children, children in child labour, and working children not in child labour.

The survey revealed the high school / preschool attendance rate (90%) estimated among surveyed children aged 5-17 years from households with children aged 5+ – irrespective of their working status. Depending on the working status, attendance rates drops dramatically, from 92% for non-working children to 24 % for working children. Attendance rate remained low for children in child labour and children in hazardous work with 23% and 19% respectively.

³² The compulsory age for education in Lebanon according to the ministry of education is 6 years. www.higher-edu.gov.lb/arabic/Guides/Other-Guides/Educ_Sys.pdf.

Figure 8. School attendance rate of children by working status, 5-17 years

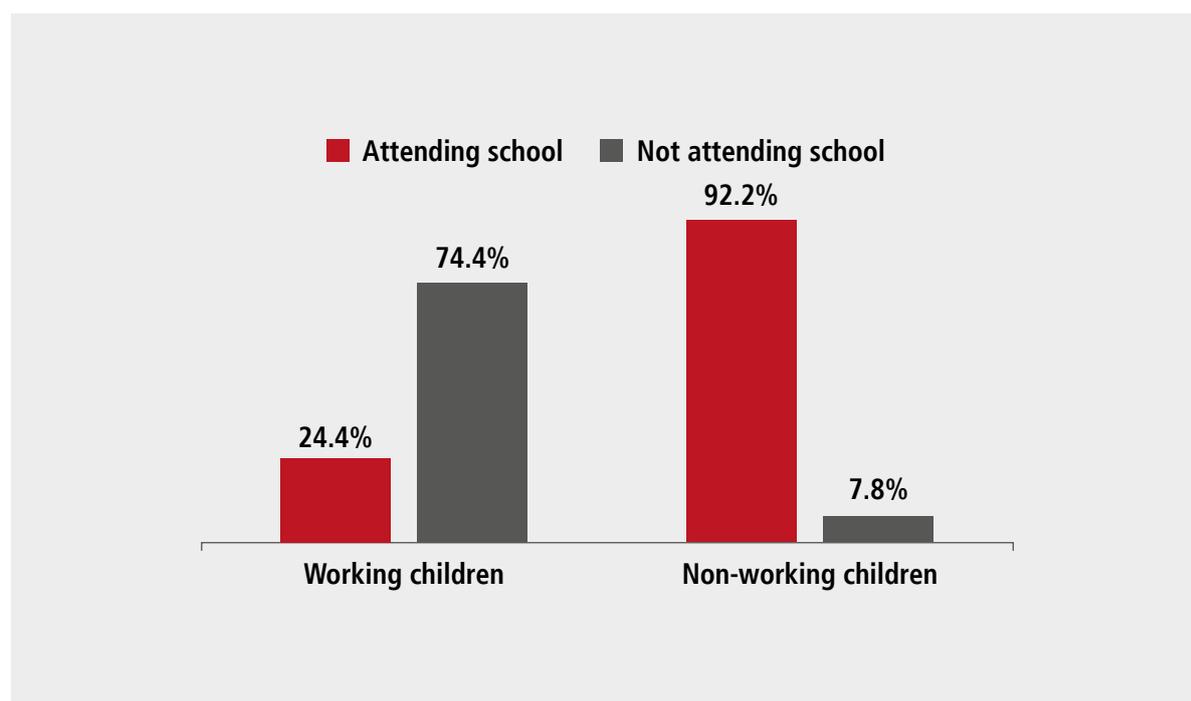
(n.n) : Number between 25 and less than 50 cases

Working children have a higher involvement in household chores than their non-working counterparts (59.4% and 42.9% respectively).

Table 23. Distribution of children by working status, school attendance and involvement in household chores, 5-17 years

	Involvement in household chores					
	Working children			Non-working children		
	Involved	Not involved	Total	Involved	Not involved	Total
Total	59.4%	39.6%	100%	42.9%	57.1%	100%
Attending school	(81.2%)	(*)	100%	42.6%	57.4%	100%
Not attending school	53.0%	47.0%	100%	46.6%	53.4%	100%
Not specified	-	-	(*)	-	-	(*)

(*) : Number less than 25 cases
(n.n) : Number between 25 and less than 50 cases

Figure 9. Distribution of children by working status and school attendance, 5-17 years

In terms of working status of children, the school attendance rate pattern was quite different. Data show obvious relationship between school attendance rate and employment of children. Thus, non-working children (5-17 years) have a higher attendance rate than their working counterparts (92.2% vs. 24.4%), while 74.4% of working children and 7.8% of non-working children are not attending school.

Table 24 shows data on median hours of work per week performed by children in child labour attending and not attending schools. Children in child labour, put in 48 median hours of work per week. Those not attending schools work slightly more than those attending (50 median hours per week).

Table 24. Distribution of the median number of hours worked per week by working children, by school attendance, 5-17 years

Attended any educational institute at any time during the year (2014-2015)	Median number of hours worked per week
Total	48.0
Attending school	(21.0)
Not attending school	50.0

(*) : Number less than 25 cases
(n.n) : Number between 25 and less than 50 cases

A median number of 6 hours worked per week is devoted to household chores by children from households with children aged 5+. This number increases by one hour with the age group: 5 hours on average for the age group 5-11 years to 7 hours for the age group 15-17 years. Boys tend to be performed on average less hours in household chores than girls (5.0 vs 7.0 hours).

School attendance seems to be a factor contributing to the reduction of the number of working hours, especially for girls. The median number of hours of household chores increases from 5.0 for girls attending school to 14.0 for girls not attending school, and increases from 5.0 to 7.0 for boys, respectively.

Table 25. Distribution of the median number of hours per week devoted to household chores by children, by school attendance, sex and age, 5-17 years

	Total	Attended any educational institute at any time during the school year (2014-2015)	
		Attending school	Not attending school
Total	6.0	5.0	7.0
Age			
5-11 years	5.0	4.0	(7.0)
12-14 years	6.0	5.0	9.0
15-17 years	7.0	6.0	(*)
Boys			
Total	5.0	5.0	7.0
5-11 years	5.0	5.0	7.0
12-14 years	4.0	4.0	(7.0)
15-17 years	7.0	6.0	7.0
Girls			
Total	7.0	5.0	14.0
5-11 years	4.0	4.0	(*)
12-14 years	7.0	7.0	(14.0)
15-17 years	7.0	6.0	14.0
(*) : Number less than 25 cases (n.n) : Number between 25 and less than 50 cases			

8.2 Children in child labour and attending school

Among working children, 85.7% are children in child labour and attending school. The median hour of household chores for this category of children is 50.0 hours per week. The median number of hours drops to 21.0 hours in case we take attending school into consideration for all age groups.

Table 26. Distribution of children attending school by child labour status, 5-17 years

Working children	Number	%
Total	8,191	100
Children in child labour	(7,018)	(85.7)
Not children in child labour	(*)	(*)
(*) : Number less than 25 cases (n.n) : Number between 25 and less than 50 cases		

Table 27. Distribution of the median number of hours worked per week by children in child labour, by school attendance, 5-17 years

Children in child labour	Median number of hours worked per week
Total	49.0
Attending school	(21.0)
Not attending school	50.0
(*) : Number less than 25 cases (n.n) : Number between 25 and less than 50 cases	

Chapter 9

Other characteristics for working children and children in child labour

Previous chapters in this report on the survey findings have dealt mainly with activities performed by children and their educational particulars. This chapter covers two additional important aspects related to working children. Initially, the information on key socio-economic characteristics of the households with working children is examined, based on the data on household characteristics collected in the survey. Subsequently, the reasons for working and the contribution to the household income by working children are discussed.

9.1 Socio-economic characteristics

Housing conditions, level of living and solvency of the households undeniably have a bearing on the upbringing of the children, their educational attainment and participation in economic activities, whether at an early age or later in their life. The household characteristics examined in this section, thus, relate to those that are potential factors for inducing engagement in economic activities for pay or profit at an early age.

First, to gain an insight into the extent to which the households let their children work for pay or profit or in hazardous household services, the households' structure are presented in Table 28 which indicates that the majority of working children among 5+ aged households are living in two parent families.

Table 28. Distribution of working children by household structure, 5-17 years

Household Structure	Total working children		Children in child labour	
	Number	%	Number	%
Total	33,474	100	30,892	100
Children living in two-parent families	27,234	81.4	24,777	80.2
Children living in single parent families	(5,354)	(16.0)	(5,265)	(17.0)
Children not living with their parents	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)

(*) : Number less than 25 cases
(n.n) : Number between 25 and less than 50 cases

Objectively, a correlation was observed between the employment of children and the parents' level of education. The more the parents were educated, the less the children were likely to be involved in employment. While 63.4% of working children had parents with primary school level of education, this indicator drops to 17.8% for children whose parents have a secondary school education.

Table 29. Distribution of children by working status and highest level of schooling achieved by their parents, 5-17 years

	Non-working children		Working children		Children in child labour	
	Number	% (column)	Number	% (column)	Number	% (column)
Total	885,594	100	33,474	100	30,892	100
Highest level of schooling achieved by their parents						
No school	35,763	4.0	(5,074)	(15.2)	(4,917)	(15.9)
Primary school	377,731	42.7	21,226	63.4	20,115	65.1
Secondary school	231,401	26.1	(5,948)	(17.8)	(5,099)	(16.5)
Above secondary school	240,699	27.2	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)
(*) : Number less than 25 cases (n.n) : Number between 25 and less than 50 cases						

In the Lebanon CLS 2015, data on 9 different reasons for letting children work were collected. They were grouped into 3 different classes to ensure that the results presented here are based on adequate sample observations. The grouping is done as follows:

"Economic support to household" includes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ supplement family income ◆ repaying family debt ◆ helping household enterprise
"Attending school not preferred":	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ schooling not for use in future ◆ not interested in schooling and ◆ learn skills
"Other":	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ school too far or no school ◆ cannot afford school ◆ others

More than one-half of children in child labour work to provide economic support to their households, about one-third work because they do not prefer attending schools. In the 15-17 years age group, more than 57% are working to support their households. The data for other age groups, with reasons for work in some cells, are not discussed here: either the data collected were based on small sample sizes or samples were unrepresented during survey implementation.

Table 30. Distribution of working children by reported reason of parent or guardian for letting the child work, 5-17 years

Reason for letting the child work	Total working children		Children in child labour	
	Number	%	Number	%
Total	29,930	100	27,348	100
Help the family	17,094	57.1	15,549	56.9
Schooling unuseful or not interesting	(9,267)	(31.0)	(8,834)	(32.3)
Other	(3,570)	(11.9)	(*)	(*)

Except domestic workers and children in hazardous unpaid household services (UHS)
 (*) : Number less than 25 cases
 (n.n.) : Number between 25 and less than 50 cases

For both working children and children in child labour, almost two-thirds contribute all or part of their income to their household, and a little over one-third of them do not contribute their income to their households (Table 30)

Table 31. Distribution of working children that earn an income by contribution to the household income, 5-17 years

Contribution to the household income	Total working children		Children in child labour	
	Number	%	Number	%
Total	29,930	100	27,348	100
Contribute all or part of their income to the household	18,373	61.4	17,484	63.9
Do not contribute their income to the household	11,557	38.6	9,864	36.1

Except domestic workers and children in hazardous Unpaid Household Services (UHS)
 (*) : Number less than 25 cases
 (n.n.) : Number between 25 and less than 50 cases

Children in child labour among households with children aged 5+ often live in large families with an average family size of 6.7 persons (Table 32). The average number of children in the household is almost the same as the average number of adults, hovering around 3.3 people. The average dependency ratio is nearly equal to 1 for the age groups 5-9 years and 10-14 years and witnesses a sharp drop to 0.6 people for the 15-17 years age group.

Table 32. Characteristics of households with children in child labour by age, 5-17 years

Characteristics	
Average family size	
Total	6.7
5-9 years	7.3
10-14 years	6.7
15-17 years	6.8
Average number of children in the household	
Total	3.4
5-9 years	4.2
10-14 years	3.9
15-17 years	3.4
Average number of adults in the household	
Total	3.2
5-9 years	3.1
10-14 years	2.9
15-17 years	3.4
Average dependency ratio	
Total	0.7
5-9 years	0.9
10-14 years	1.0
15-17 years	0.6

Annex

Table A1. Distribution of children in child labour and hazardous work by age, 5-17 years

Characteristics	Total
1 Child population	
Total (5-17 years)	919,068
5-11 years	495,284
12-13 years	141,091
14-17 years	282,693
2 Current activity status of children	
Total working children	33,474
5-11 years	(*)
12-13 years	(5,080)
14-17 years	26,812
Children in child labour	30,892
5-11 years	(*)
12-13 years	(4,965)
14-7 years	24,344
(*) : Number less than 25 cases (n.n) : Number between 25 and less than 50 cases	

Table A2. Distribution of working children (in the 7 days prior to the survey) by sex and age, 5-17 years

		Total children population	Working children (in the previous 7 days)	
			Number	%
Total		919,068	33,474	3.6
Age	5-11 years	495,284	(*)	(*)
	12-13 years	141,091	(50,80)	(3.6)
	14-17 years	282,693	26,812	9.5
Sex	Boys	482,204	27,837	5.8
	Girls	436,864	(56,37)	(1.3)

(*) : Number less than 25 cases
(n.n) : Number between 25 and less than 50 cases

Table A3. Distribution of children by activity status, sex and age, 5-17 years

		Working only		Attending school only		Both working and attending school		Neither working nor attending school	
		Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Total		25,283	100	816,913	100	8191	100	68,681	100
Age	5-11 years	(*)	(*)	466,011	57.0	(*)	(*)	27,691	40.3
	12-13 years	(*)	(*)	126,783	15.5	(*)	(*)	9,228	13.4
	14-17 years	21,319	84.3	224,119	27.4	(5,494)	(67.1)	31,762	46.2
Sex	Boys	21,977	86.9	418,152	51.2	(5,860)	(71.5)	36,215	52.7
	Girls	(*)	(*)	398,761	48.8	(*)	(*)	32,466	47.3

(*) : Number less than 25 cases
(n.n) : Number between 25 and less than 50 cases

Table A4. Distribution of children involved in household chores by sex and age, 5-17 years

Age	Total			Boys			Girls		
	Total population (thousand)	Children involved in household chores (thousand)	(%)	Total population (thousand)	Children involved in household chores (thousand)	(%)	Total population (thousand)	Children involved in household chores (thousand)	(%)
Total	919.1	399.8	43.5	482.2	190.2	39.4	436.9	209.6	48.0
5-11 years	495.3	157.1	31.7	257.2	74.3	28.9	238.1	82.8	34.8
12-13 years	141.1	76.4	54.2	75.4	35.8	47.4	65.7	40.7	61.9
14-17 years	282.7	166.3	58.8	149.6	80.2	53.6	133.1	86.1	64.7

Table A5. Distribution of children involved in household chores by number of hours worked per week, sex and age, 5-17 years (number)

		Number of hours worked per week				
		Total	1 to 7	8 to 14	15 to 21	More than 22
Total		399,766	323,906	53,234	14,915	(7,710)
Age	5-11 years	157,088	141,451	12,174	(*)	(*)
	12-13 years	76,420	61,487	10,296	(*)	(*)
	14-17 years	166,258	120,968	30,764	(8,999)	(5,528)
Sex	Boys	190,212	167,110	18,534	(*)	(*)
	Girls	209,554	156,796	34,700	11,792	(6,266)

(*) : Number less than 25 cases
(n.n) : Number between 25 and less than 50 cases

Table A6. Distribution of children involved in household chores by number of hours worked per week, sex and age, 5-17 years (percentage)

		Number of hours worked per week				
		Total	1 to 7 % (row)	8 to 14 % (row)	15 to 21 % (row)	More than 22 % (row)
Total		399,766	81.0	13.3	3.7	(1.9)
Age	5-11 years	157,088	90.0	7.8	(*)	(*)
	12-13 years	76,420	80.5	13.5	(*)	(*)
	14-17 years	166,258	72.8	18.5	(5.4)	(3.3)
Sex	Boys	190,212	87.9	9.7	(*)	(*)
	Girls	209,554	74.8	16.6	5.6	(3.0)

(*) : Number less than 25 cases
(n.n) : Number between 25 and less than 50 cases

Table A7. Distribution of children by working status, sex and age, 5-17 years

		Working children		Non-working children	
		Number	%	Number	%
Total		33,474	100.0	885,594	100.0
Age	5-11 years	(*)	4.7	493,702	55.7
	12-13 years	(5,080)	(15.2)	136,011	15.4
	14-17 years	26,812	80.1	255,881	28.9
Sex	Boys	27,837	83.2	454,366	51.3
	Girls	(5,637)	(16.8)	431,227	48.7

(*) : Number less than 25 cases
(n.n) : Number between 25 and less than 50 cases

Table A8. Distribution of children by child labour status, sex and age, 5-17 years

		Total population (Number)	Total working children (Number)	Children in child labour		
				(Number)	Proportion of total population (%)	Proportion of total working children (%)
Total		919,068	33,474	30,892	3.4	92.3
Age	5-11 years	495,284	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)
	12-13 years	141,091	(5,080)	(4,965)	(3.5)	(97.7)
	14-17 years	282,693	26,812	24,344	8.6	90.8
Sex	Boys	482,204	27,837	26,133	5.4	93.9
	Girls	436,864	(5,637)	(4,759)	(1.1)	(84.4)

(*) : Number less than 25 cases
(n.n) : Number between 25 and less than 50 cases

Table A9. Distribution of the median number of hours devoted to household chores per week by school attendance, sex and age, 5-17 years

			Median number of hours of household chores devoted per week		
			Total	Children attending school	Children not attending school
Total			6.0	5.0	7.0
Age	5-11 years		5.0	4.0	(7.0)
	12-13 years		5.0	4.0	(14.0)
	14-17 years		7.0	6.0	7.0
Sex	Boys	(total)	5.0	5.0	7.0
		5-11 years	5.0	5.0	(*)
		12-13 years	3.0	3.0	(*)
		14-17 years	7.0	6.0	7.0
	Girls	(total)	7.0	5.0	14.0
		5-11 years	4.0	4.0	(*)
		12-13 years	7.0	6.0	(*)
		14-17 years	7.0	7.0	14.0

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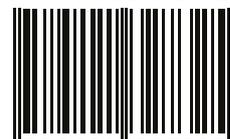
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