

LATIN AMERICA: PROGRESS AND CHALLENGES IN ACHIEVING TARGET 8.7 OF THE SDG

MAPPING OF THE PROBLEM OF CHILD LABOR IN ALL OF ITS FORMS

Mapping is done by the entities participating in the Global March in the Latin American region and by the two sub-regional coordinators: Central America and South America.



The Global March is a global network of civil society organizations and trade and teachers' unions that work together to prevent and eradicate every form of child labor, slavery and trafficking, ensuring that every child and adolescent has access to a free, inclusive, equitable education.

ORGANIZATIONS PARTICIPATING IN THE GLOBAL MARCH IN LATIN AMERICA

CENTRAL AMERICA

DNI COSTA RICA
(Sub-regional Coordinator)
CEIPA - Guatemala
DNI/EEMPATA - Guatemala COIPRODEN -
Honduras
RIA - El Salvador
LA CULMECA - Nicaragua
CESESMA - Nicaragua
IDEMI - Panama

SOUTH AMERICA

CESIP
(Sub-regional Coordinator)
CTERA - Argentina
CePaDeHu - Argentina
FNPETI - Brazil
Corporación OPCIÓN - Chile
ONG PAICABÍ - Chile
Fundación DEQUENI - Paraguay
Fundación MUNDO MEJOR - Colombia

Summary Document prepared by Isaac Ruiz Sánchez, CESIP and Virginia Murillo Herrera, DNI Costa Rica, based on sub-regional mapping of the Global March produced by DNI Costa Rica and CESIP, with the participation of focal points in each country, 2019. Reviewed by María José Murillo, Karin van Wijk (DNI Costa Rica) and Ana Vásquez Gardini (CESIP).



With support from:

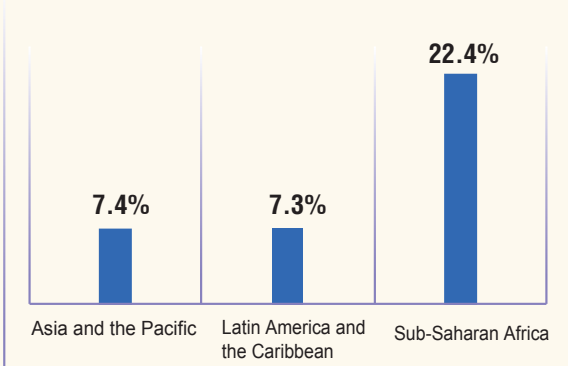


Iniciativa Regional
América Latina y el Caribe
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THE LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN REGION IN THE GLOBAL CONTEXT, PROGRESS AND CHALLENGES

Worldwide, the Latin American and Caribbean Region has achieved the best sustained results in reducing child labor, in comparison with the world's other developing regions. Among them, it has the highest possibility of achieving Target 8.7 by 2025. However, it currently shows deceleration



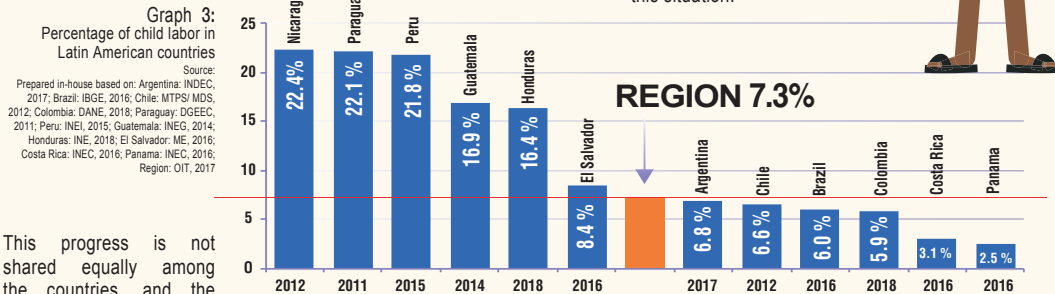
Graph 1: Percentage of children and adolescents 5-17 years of age involved in child labor, by region, 2016.

Source: Global estimates of child labor: Results and trends 2012-2016. International Labour Organization (ILO), Geneva, 2017.

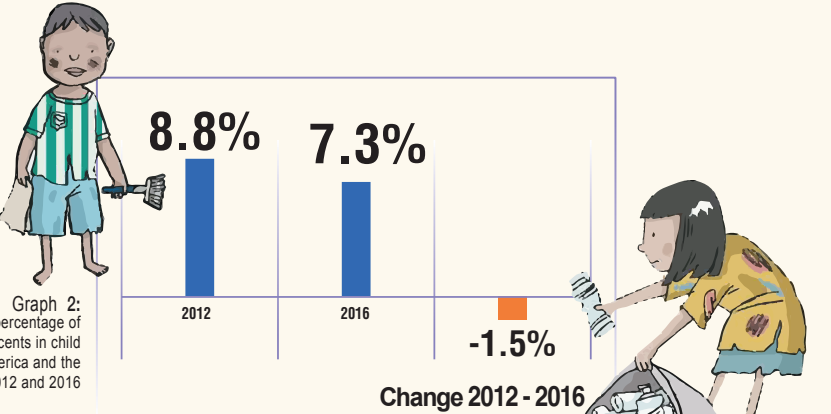


In Latin America and the Caribbean, child labor decreased by 1.5%, from 2012 to 2016, going from 8.8% to 7.3%, decreasing to 10.5 million children and adolescents in the age group from 5 to 17, which means that 2 million got out of this situation.

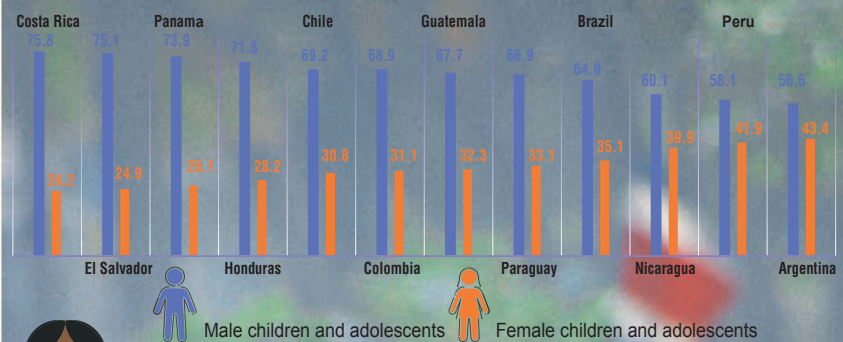
It is the one with the lowest child labor rate, at 7.3%, while the rates in Sub-Saharan Africa and Asia and the Pacific, with 2.4% and 7.4% respectively, exceed that of our region



This progress is not shared equally among the countries, and the estimates for recent years show a worrying slowdown in the reduction of child labor in the region. Therefore, if the efforts made so far are not redoubled in a sustained manner, it will not be possible to achieve the goal of eradicating child labor in all of its forms by 2025

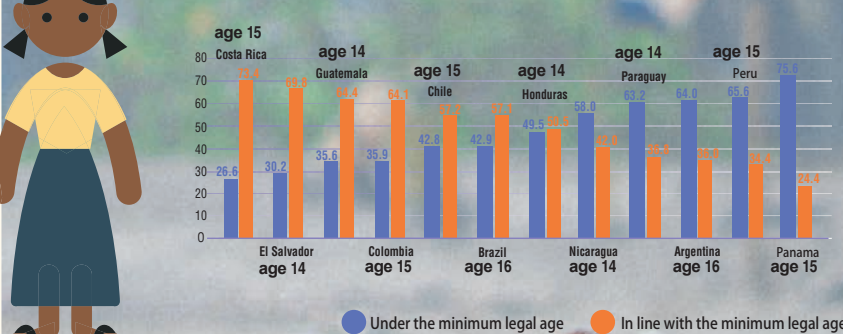


Graph 2: Reduction in the percentage of children and adolescents in child labor in Latin America and the Caribbean, 2012 and 2016



Graph 5: Child labor, by sex, in Latin American countries (%)

Source: Prepared in-house based on: Argentina: INDEC, 2017; Brazil: IBGE, 2016; Chile: MTPS/ MDS, 2012; Colombia: DANE, 2018; Paraguay: DGEEC, 2011; Peru: INEI, 2015; Guatemala: INEG, 2014; Honduras: INE, 2018; El Salvador: ME, 2016; Nicaragua: IND, 2012; Costa Rica: INEC, 2016; Panama: INEC, 2016.



Graph 6: Child labor, by age, in Latin American countries (%)

Source: Prepared in-house based on data from: Argentina: INDEC, 2017; Brazil: IBGE, 2016; Chile: MTPS/ MDS, 2012; Colombia: DANE, 2018; Paraguay: DGEEC, 2011; Peru: INEI, 2015.



Photo: Martín Villalta Quirós / DNI Costa Rica.

CHILD LABOR IN THE REGION

Source: Global estimates of child labor: Results and trends 2012-2016 International Labour Organization (ILO), Geneva, 2017.

Images taken from infographic: Communication team/Global March Secretariat

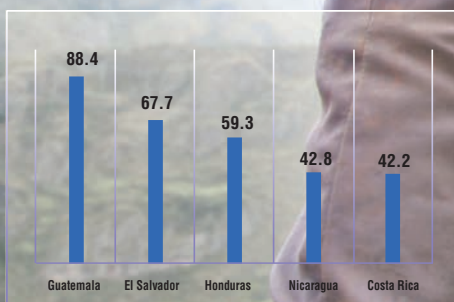
CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS WORKING IN SOME PHASE OF THE SUPPLY CHAIN

This is a matter that has not been explored or acknowledged to a great extent. Nearly all of the countries in the region examined in the Regional Mapping, with the exception of Chile, have gathered information indicating the presence of children and adolescents working in the supply chains of different sectors, mainly agriculture, but also mining, fisheries, manufacturing and commerce.

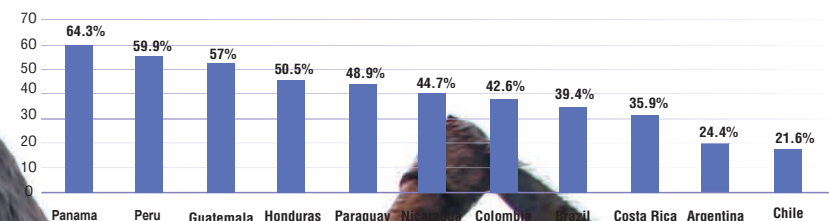
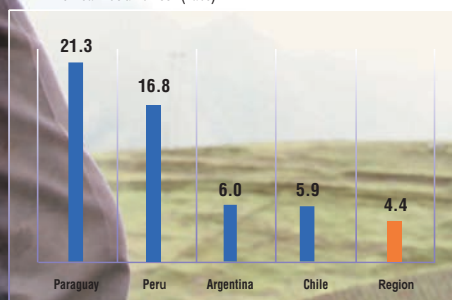
CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS WORKING UNDER EXPLOITATIVE AND HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS

Hazardous work performed by children and adolescents from **5 to 17 years of age** represents the greatest proportion of child labor in the region. The child labor rate is **7.3%**, of which **4.4%** corresponds to hazardous work, according to the ILO.

Graph 8:
Hazardous work in Central American countries, as a % of child labor.



Graph 9:
Hazardous work in South American countries (rate).



Child labor in agriculture accounts for 52% of all child labor in the region, which, in absolute terms, totals:

5,500,000

Photo: Archive / CESIP



Graph 7:
Child labor in agriculture, in Latin American countries (%)

Source: Prepared in-house based on:
Argentina: INDEC, 2017;
Brazil: IBGE, 2016; Chile: MTPS/ MDS, 2012;
Colombia: DANE, 2018;
Paraguay: DGEEC, 2011;
Peru: INEI, 2015;
Guatemala: INEG, 2014;
Honduras: INE, 2018; El Salvador: ME, 2016;
Nicaragua: INID, 2012;
Costa Rica: INEC, 2016;
Panama: INEC, 2016.

Source: Prepared in-house based on: Argentina: INDEC, 2017; Chile: MTPS/ MDS, 2012; Paraguay: DGEEC, 2011; Peru: INEI, 2015; Guatemala: INEG, 2014; Honduras: INE, 2018; El Salvador: ME, 2016; Nicaragua: INID, 2012; Costa Rica: INEC, 2016.



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A REGION ON THE MOVE

At the regional level

The Latin America and the Caribbean Free of Child Labour Regional Initiative is an innovative intergovernmental cooperation mechanism involving 30 countries. Its main purpose is for the region to meet Target 8.7 of the SDG, ending every form of child labor by 2025. The ILO serves as the Technical Secretariat of the initiative and, in each country, the focal points are the Ministries of Labor through the directorates in charge of dealing with child labor.

In each country

All the countries studied in the region ratified the main international treaty on the rights of children and adolescents, the International Convention on the Rights of the Child, in 1990. They have also ratified the fundamental ILO conventions on child labor: **No. 138** on minimum age of employment and **No. 182** on the worst forms of child labor.

They have developed national legislation, that, in some cases, is based on the Constitution. The civil and penal codes or general labor laws establish administrative or penal sanctions, as applicable. All the countries have approved codes on children and adolescents or laws that recognize the rights of children and adolescents in a comprehensive manner, taking the Holistic Protection Doctrine as a framework, and also have extensive legislation applicable specifically to child and adolescent labor.

Chile, Paraguay and Peru have approved national strategies on the prevention and eradication of child labor; Argentina and Brazil have national plans for the prevention and eradication of child labor and the protection of adolescents who work; and

Colombia has a ten-year public policy for the same purpose.

In Central America, the six countries examined approved roadmaps that define the national strategic framework for meeting the established targets for the elimination of child labor and its worst forms.

All of the countries have national commissions or committees on the prevention and eradication of child labor and the protection of adolescents who work.

POLICIES AND ACTIONS TO DEAL WITH THE **WFCL**



Photo: Archive / CESIP

THAT CONSTITUTE CRIMES

The countries have established policies and have approved national plans to combat human trafficking and slavery, including children and adolescents. They have created institutions to prevent and prosecute crimes related to the exploitation of people.

CHALLENGES AND RECOMMENDATIONS RELATED TO MEETING TARGET 8.7

- Political will and allocation of public budget.
- Better and more effective public policies on the prevention and eradication of child labor, especially in rural areas.
- Strengthen inclusion in education.
- Intersectoral articulation and territorialization of public policy.
- Greater awareness-raising.
- Improvement in policies for adolescents.
- Better information and monitoring systems.
- Improve services for victims of the worst forms of child labor.

Central America

Of the total number of working children and adolescents from 5 to 17 years of age, 3 countries in the subregion show over 50% doing hazardous work.

Led by Guatemala with 88.4%, followed by El Salvador with 67.7% and Honduras close behind with 59.3%.

Costa Rica and Nicaragua show figures under 50%, with Costa Rica at 42.82% and Nicaragua at 3.6%.

South America

In every country, the percentage of hazardous work is above the regional average, which is 4.4%.

Led by Paraguay with 21.2%, followed by Peru with 16.8%, Argentina with 6.0% and Chile with 5.9%.

There is no information available for Brazil or Colombia.

