



▶ Nigeria Child Labour Survey 2022



▶ **Nigeria Child Labour
Survey 2022**

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► Preface

Child labour is a global issue requiring grave attention due to its attendant effect on the physical, social, cognitive, moral and educational development of the child. It is the engagement of children in any work that is essentially exploitative and injurious. It presents a formidable challenge in many societies due to its negative impact on the natural development of the children. Africa, especially Nigeria, being the most populous country on the continent with over 200 million people and is greatly affected by the scourge. The current global statistics shows that 160 million children, nearly 1 in 10 worldwide are engaged in child labour. It is a global menace that has proven to potentially hinder the development of children, leading to a lifelong physical and psychological damage, and keeping the children out of school, thereby perpetuating poverty across generations. Also, according to the ILO convention 1930 (No. 29), forced labour refers to "all work or service which is exacted from any person under the menace of any penalty and for which the said person has not offered himself voluntarily". It is a situation in which individuals are coerced to work through the use of violence or intimidation, without their freedom of choice or informed consent. It is estimated that about 25 million adult and children are in forced labour, including in global supply chains.

To address these challenges, Nigeria has ratified all the ILO conventions that are key and instrumental to the elimination of child labour and forced labour by the ratification of the ILO convention 138 on the minimum age for work, 182 on the worst forms of child labour, conventions 29 and 105 on the abolition of forced labour. In line with the conventions, section 34 of the 1999 constitution of the federal republic of Nigeria as amended, prohibits forced and compulsory labour which has also define penalty fees, fines, imprisonment, or a combination of these sanctions for any employer found guilty. Nigeria has reviewed and validated the National Policy on child labour and forced labour, the National Action Plan for the Elimination of Child Labour for an implementation period of five (5) years (2021-2025) and the List of Hazardous Child Labour, to provide the necessary policy and regulatory framework towards the elimination of child labour. In line with the international labour standards, Nigeria has reviewed and validated the Labour standard bill to mainstream child labour and forced labour, with special consideration on the adoption of 15 years as the minimum age for work for children within the minimum working age.

Nigeria envisions child labour and forced labour as multifaceted and cross cutting in nature and adopted a multi-sectoral approach in her national response to eliminate the menace. Nigeria is a pathfinder country of Alliance 8.7 of the Sustainable Development Goals, committed to take immediate and effective measures to eradicate child labour, forced labour and human trafficking, and secure the prohibition and the elimination of the worst forms of child labour, including recruitment and use of child soldiers, and by 2025 end child labour in all its forms. Consequently, the child labour and forced labour survey was conducted in April 2022, that is, twenty -two (22) years after the 1st survey was conducted. The purpose of the survey is to improve information on forced labour and child labour through data collection which will serve as a guide and a reference for the pursuit of policy actions and interventions in the elimination

of child labour and forced labour in Nigeria. Nigeria, through the Ministry of Labour and Employment, in collaboration with the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) and the International Labour Organization (ILO), through the ACCEL Africa Project (accelerating action for the elimination of child labour and MAP16 Project, conducted the Child Labour and forced labour survey across the 36 states of the Federation and the FCT, to assess the prevalence of child labour and forced labour among the children and adult population respectively, and promote policies aimed at reducing child labour and forced labour, protecting the vulnerable and supporting victims, and contribute to Nigeria's commitment to Sustainable Development Goal Target 8.7 to eradicate child labour and forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking, and secure the prohibition and elimination of child labour.

Against this background, the survey generated valid and reliable data on forced labour and child labour for the development of effective interventions and the provision of important tools to design, implement and monitor effective policies and programmes to eradicate child labour and forced labour in Nigeria by 2025.



Rt. Hon. Barr. Nkeiruka Onyejeocha PHD, OON

Honourable Minister of State

Federal Ministry of Labour and Employment

Nigeria

► Acknowledgement

The success of the Nigeria Child Labour and Forced Labour Survey 2022 would not have been possible without the commitment and contribution of various individuals and organizations who actively participated in the development of this document.

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Profound gratitude goes to the International Labour Organization (ILO) for its technical and financial support, through the Accelerating action for the elimination of child labour in supply chains in Africa (ACCEL Africa) project and the Measurement, awareness-raising and policy engagement to accelerate action against child labour and forced labour (MAP16) project; and to the Government of the Netherlands and the United States Department of Labor (USDOL) for funding the ACCEL Africa and MAP16 projects, respectively, through which this survey report was designed and produced. The NBS sincerely appreciates the coordinating support of the Director of the ILO Country Office for Nigeria, Dr Vanessa Phala.

Finally, the Nigeria Child Labour Survey report was successfully developed through coordinating leadership provided by the Director of Demography and Household Statistics Department of NBS, Alhaji Mohammed Musa, who spearheaded the working group comprising staff of the NBS, the Federal Ministry of Labour and Employment, the ACCEL Africa/ILO team led by Dr. Agatha Kolawole, and the Research and Evaluation Unit (ILO FUNDAMENTALS). The tremendous and immense effort in the entire process of bringing this Nigeria Child Labour Survey 2022 report to fruition is highly appreciated.

It is the hope of the NBS that the information contained in this report will be a useful reference for the pursuit of effective policy actions towards the elimination of child labour and forced labour in Nigeria.

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► Abbreviations and acronyms

ACCEL Africa	ILO's "Accelerating action for the elimination of child labour in supply chains in Africa" project
CAPI	Computer-assisted personal interviewing
EA	Enumeration area
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
FCT	Federal Capital Territory (Nigeria)
FUNDAMENTALS	ILO's Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work Branch
GDP	Gross domestic product
M&E	Monitoring and evaluation
MAP16	ILO's "Measurement, awareness-raising and policy engagement to accelerate action against child labour and forced labour" project
NAP	National Action Plan (for the Elimination of Child Labour)
NBS	National Bureau of Statistics (Nigeria)
NCFLS	Nigeria Child Labour and Forced Labour Survey
NGO	Non-governmental organization
NISH	National Integrated Survey of Households
SAP	State Action Plan (for the Elimination of Child Labour)
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SOM	Smuggling of migrants
TIP	Trafficking in persons
UN	United Nations
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund

► Executive summary

This report aims to assess the prevalence of child labour in Nigeria and analyse the interaction between child labour, schooling and children's well-being. Using data collected by the National Bureau of Statistics in collaboration with the ILO and the Federal Ministry of Labour and Employment of Nigeria in the Nigeria Child Labour and Forced Labour Survey (NCFLS) 2022, this report also examines the patterns of child employment, the conditions of this employment and the key household characteristics that may contribute to child employment and child labour.

More than 62.9 million children 5 to 17 years old live in Nigeria, representing 30.3 per cent of the population. The NCFLS data was collected from a nationally representative sample of 16,418 households. The survey shows that more children live in rural areas than urban areas: 62.4 per cent (39,252,721) reside in rural areas compared to 37.6 per cent (23,647,758) in urban areas.

The current survey allowed for the classification of children 5 to 17 years old into four mutually exclusive categories: children who are exclusively working, children who are exclusively in school, children who are working and in school, and children who neither work nor go to school. The survey indicates that among the 5–14 age group, 42.3 per cent are full time students who are not engaged in any form of economic activity, 35.3 per cent are in school and working simultaneously, and 11.2 per cent are working only. Among the 15–17 age group, a larger proportion of children are working only, at 21.9 per cent of the population of that age. Furthermore, only 24.7 per cent are exclusively in school and 45.3 per cent are working and in school.

Since one of the survey's main objectives is to measure child labour, it is important to understand the legislative structure surrounding child labour in Nigeria. In the country, the Child Rights Act (2003) prohibits children in the 5–11 age group from engaging in any economic activity but allows children 12 to 14 years olds to engage in light work, while those in the 15–17 age group

are allowed to be involved in economic activities that are not hazardous.

The survey shows that 24,673,485 children 5 to 17 years old (39.2 per cent) are in child labour; of children in child labour, 60.8 per cent (14,990,674) are in the 5–11 age group, 20.8 per cent (5,132,574) are in the 12–14 age group and 18.4 per cent (4,550,237) are in the 15–17 age group (table A.7). A slight percentage difference can be seen in the prevalence of child labour between males (39.6 per cent) and females (38.8 per cent). The disparity between children residing in rural and urban areas is high; while 44.8 per cent of children in rural areas are involved in child labour, 30.0 per cent of children in urban areas are involved in child labour.

Substantial differences are evident by age group in children's involvement in economic activity, child labour and hazardous work. Overall, of children 5 to 17 years old, 50.5 per cent (31,756,302 children) are engaged in economic activity, 39.2 per cent (24,673,485) are involved in child labour and 22.9 per cent (14,390,353) are involved in hazardous work. For the 5–11 age group, 40.7 per cent (14,990,674) are in economic activity and, therefore, the same number and percentage of children of that age are in child labour as children under the age of 11 cannot work,¹ and 15.8 per cent (5,824,667) are in hazardous work. For children in the 12–14 age group, 61.9 per cent (8,583,312) are in economic activity, 37.0 per cent (5,132,574) are in child labour and 29.0 per cent (4,015,447) are in hazardous work. Among the children in the 15–17 age group, 67.1 per cent (8,182,316) are in economic activity and 37.3 per cent (4,550,237) are in child labour since, for this age group, only children that are in hazardous work are considered as being in child labour. Therefore, 37.3 per cent (4,550,237) also represents the percentage of 15- to 17-year-olds in hazardous work.

The involvement in economic activity of children in child labour can be broken down into three distinct non-mutually exclusive forms of work:

¹ According to the national legislation, any child below the age of 12 in any economic activity is in child labour. Therefore, the number of children 5 to 11 years old in economic activity equals child labour.

employment, own-use production and unpaid trainee work. Of the children in child labour, 24.2 per cent are in employment, 93.8 per cent are involved in own-use production and 11.3 per cent are involved in unpaid trainee work.

Focusing on children in child labour who are in the form of work qualified as employment allows an analysis of their involvement in child labour by the branch of economic activity in which they are employed (agriculture, industry or services). Most of the children 5 to 17 years old in child labour who are in employment work in the agriculture sector (56.8 per cent). Of the remaining children in employment and child labour, 25.8 per cent are

employed in the service sector and 17.4 per cent are employed in the industry sector.

This survey also provides information on how school attendance interacts with child labour. The results show that school attendance is negatively affected by child labour. A total of 81.4 per cent of children 6 to 14 years old not in child labour attend school, while this figure falls to 75.1 per cent for children in child labour.

A final important facet of the survey is the information it provides on the instance of injury among children in child labour. Of these children, 16.3 per cent have experienced an injury in the workplace. This reveals that many children experience direct harm from their involvement in child labour.

At a glance

ILO child labour conventions



ILO Convention No. 138 (Minimum age)

► Minimum age for entry in employment **15** years

► Light work provision  (12-14 years)

Ratification status



Ratified, (October 2, 2002)



Convention No. 182 (Worst forms)

► Hazardous list 

Ratification status





Ratified, (October 2, 2002)

Child labour situation

Economic activity

50.5%

of children are in economic activity

 Male (50.7%)
 Female (50.2%)

Urban (41.8%) 
Rural (55.7%) 


▶ **31,756,302**
children are in economic activity

Child labour

39.2%

of children are in child labour

 Male (39.6%)
 Female (38.8%)



Urban (30.0%) 
Rural (44.8%) 


▶ **24,673,485**
children are in child labour

Hazardous work

22.9%

of children are in hazardous work

 Male (23.1%)
 Female (22.7%)

Urban (16.3%) 
Rural (26.8%) 

▶ **14,390,353**
children are in hazardous work



▶ 1

► Introduction

This report assesses the magnitude of the child work and child labour phenomena in Nigeria and the extent of their interaction with schooling and child well-being based on the results of the Nigeria Child Labour and Forced Labour Survey (NCFLS) 2022. The report also examines the characteristics of child work, child labour and hazardous work, such as forms of work, branch of economic activity, status in employment and time intensity, by key individual and household background variables, such as age group and sex. The NCFLS was conducted by the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) with technical and financial assistance from the ILO through two undertakings: the Accelerating action for the elimination of child labour in supply chains in Africa (ACCEL Africa) project, and the Measurement, awareness-raising and policy engagement to accelerate action against child labour and forced labour (MAP16) project, funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands and the United States Department of Labor, respectively.

The overall objective of the NCFLS is to generate quantitative data on Nigeria's labour market and children's activities in the country, including schooling and economic and non-economic activities.

The NCFLS's specific objectives are:

- to collect information on the scale, characteristics, nature and causes of child labour in Nigeria, and to determine the conditions of work and their effects on the health, education and development of children;
- to provide solid, quantitative information critical to plan actions against child labour in Nigeria with, against this background, this report's dissemination and presentation to the Government, employers' and workers' organizations, international partners,

non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and the general public to enhance the knowledge and understanding required to promote a sustainable, multidisciplinary campaign against child labour;

- to contribute to monitoring the child labour phenomenon by establishing a quantitative information system (database) on child labour that will be updated on a regular basis as new information becomes available through additional surveys and administrative records;
- to provide a comprehensive analysis of the state of children working in Nigeria by identifying priority groups and patterns and analysing working conditions and their effects on children in order to produce input for the development of policies and action programmes for the elimination of child labour;
- to integrate Nigeria's data into the ILO's child labour database.

This report comprises 11 chapters including information on the context in Nigeria (Chapter 2), the definition of child labour, and national legal frameworks and laws the Government has adopted to protect children in the country (Chapter 3) and child labour prevalence (Chapter 4). It also summarizes household and community factors associated with child labour (Chapter 5), the characteristics of child labour (Chapter 6), the amount of time children spend engaged in child labour (Chapter 7), child labour's impact on schooling (Chapter 8), its impact on health (Chapter 9), children's involvement in household chores (Chapter 10), and the national priorities to eliminate child labour (Chapter 11). Survey findings are outlined in Annex 1 and the survey methodology is described in Annex 2.



▶ 2

► National context

The Federal Republic of Nigeria is a country in West Africa. It is situated between the Sahel to the north and the Gulf of Guinea to the south in the Atlantic Ocean. It covers an area of 923,769 square kilometres (356,669 square miles) and has a population of over 216 million people. As the largest economy in Africa, Nigeria has significant potential and an important role to play in the economic revival of the entire African continent.

In the last 20 years, Nigeria's economic growth has been mostly positive, peaking at 15.3 per cent in 2002, with periods of mild recession in 2016 (-1.6 per cent) and 2020 (-1.8 per cent).² The country's poverty rate is high with 40.1 per cent of the population living below the national poverty line (table 1).³ There are large regional differences in the distribution of poverty. 76.3 per cent of the population of people living below the \$1.90 a day poverty line lives in the northern parts of Nigeria and 84.6 per cent of the same population live in rural areas.⁴ Human capital underdevelopment is also prevalent in these high-poverty regions, signalling a connection between poor education, poor health access and poverty.

According to the African Development Bank Group, "Nigeria's economy grew by 3.6 per cent in 2021 from a 1.8 per cent contraction in 2020, underpinned on the supply side by a 4.4 per cent expansion in the non-oil sector against an 8.3 per cent contraction in the oil sector; non-oil growth was driven by agriculture (2.1 per cent) and services (5.6 per cent). On the demand side, public and private consumption were contributors to GDP [gross domestic product] growth. Per capita

income grew by 1.0 per cent in 2021. The fiscal deficit narrowed to 4.8 per cent of GDP in 2021 from 5.4 per cent in 2020, due to a modest uptick in revenues, and was financed by borrowing."⁵ Public debt amounted to \$95.8 billion in 2021, or approximately 22.5 per cent of GDP.⁶

In August 2020, the labour force survey under COVID-19 conducted by Nigeria's NBS, responsible for providing "reliable and timely information" to the government and policymakers, indicated an unemployment rate in Nigeria of 27.1 per cent in the second quarter of 2020 compared to 23.1 per cent in the third quarter of 2018.⁷ According to this source, the unemployment rate increased to 33.3 per cent in the fourth quarter of 2020. The unemployment rate among rural dwellers was 34.5 per cent, while that of urban dwellers was 31.3 per cent. Unemployment among the young population (15- to 34-year olds) was 33.3 per cent.

In 2022, the Nigeria Human Development Index was 0.548 positioning the country within the lower-middle range on a global scale.⁸ Nigeria has the highest number of youngsters in the world out of formal schooling (at least 10.2 million at the primary level), although formal primary education is officially free and compulsory.⁹ The Federal Government has acknowledged the grim situation and has pledged to increase annual domestic education expenditure by 50 per cent by 2023 and by 100 per cent by 2025. This increase will amount to 7.2 per cent of the national budget allocation, although the common international benchmark on education spending is 15–20 per cent of national budgets.

2 The World Bank, *GDP growth (annual %) – Nigeria*, 2024.

3 World Bank Group, *Nigeria: Poverty & Equity Brief – Africa Western & Central*, 2021.

4 World Bank Group, *Nigeria: Poverty & Equity Brief – Africa Western & Central*, 2021.

5 African Development Bank Group, "[Nigeria Economic Outlook](#)".

6 African Development Bank, "[Country Notes: Nigeria](#)".

7 Nigeria, National Bureau of Statistics, *Labor Force Statistics: Unemployment and Underemployment Report, Abridged Labour Force Survey under COVID-19*, August 2020.

8 United Nations Development Programme, *Human Development Report 2023/2024*, 2024

9 United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), *Education opportunities for Out-of-School Children (OOSC)*, 2022.

► Table 1. Nigeria population, poverty ratio and economic data, by reference year

		Data	Reference year	Source
Population	Total	216 million	2022	Nigeria Population Commission
	Population growth	2.62%	2020	World Bank
	Urban population	37.23% of total	2020	World Bank
	Population aged 17 years or less	30.3% of total	2020	World Bank
	Population aged 14 years or less	24.5% of total	2020	World Bank
	Age dependency ratio	86% of working age population	2020	World Bank
Poverty and inequality	Poverty headcount ratio at national poverty line	40.1% of population	2018/19	World Bank and NBS Nigerian Living Standards Survey 2021
Economy	GDP per capita	US\$2,065.75	2021	World Bank
	GDP per capita annual growth rate	1.2%	2021	World Bank, World Economics
	Inflation rate and trends	17%	2021	NBS
	Unemployment rate (adult and young people above minimum working age, male and female)	33.3%	2020	
	Life expectancy at birth (male and female)	53 years	2020	World Bank

Source: Ministry of Labour and Employment and ILO compilation.

2.1 Characteristics of the child population

Among children aged 5 to 17 years old, 58.6 per cent are in the 5–11 age group, 22.0 per cent are in the 12–14 age group, and nearly one fifth (19.4 per cent) are in the 15–17 age group (see table A.6). The child population is concentrated mostly in rural areas (table 2): more children live in rural (62.4 per cent) than urban areas (37.6 per cent). Furthermore, the largest percentage of the child population (29.5 per cent) lives in the North–West region of the country (see also table A.1).

2.2 Child activity status of children in the 5–14 age group

Before examining the child labour situation, it is useful to look at the overall activity status of children and, in particular, at the interaction between children's work and schooling. The child population can be divided into four mutually exclusive activity groups: children working only, children attending school only, children combining school and work, and children in neither activity. Table 3 shows that 77.6 per cent of children in the 5–14 age group attend school: this figure includes children attending school only (42.3 per cent) and

► Table 2. Characteristics of the child population (number of children, by age group, sex, residence, region and household income quintile)

Individual background variables	No. of 5-11 years old	% 5-11 years old	No. of 12-14 years old	% 12-14 years old	No. of 15-17 years old	% 15-17 years old	No. of 5-17 years old	% 5-17 years old	
Sex	Male	18 736 618	50.9	7 017 375	50.6	6 290 216	51.5	32 044 209	50.9
	Female	18 095 943	49.1	6 848 148	49.4	5 912 179	48.5	30 856 270	49.1
Residence	Urban	13 476 983	36.6	5 318 270	38.4	4 852 506	39.8	23 647 758	37.6
	Rural	23 355 579	63.4	8 547 254	61.6	7 349 889	60.2	39 252 721	62.4
Region	North-Central	5 372 305	14.6	1 902 189	13.7	1 728 647	14.2	9 003 142	14.3
	North-East	5 529 483	15.0	1 921 404	13.9	1 597 101	13.1	9 047 989	14.4
	North-West	11 041 083	30.0	3 935 268	28.4	3 550 835	29.1	18 527 186	29.5
	South-East	3 413 024	9.3	1 370 970	9.9	1 241 300	10.2	6 025 294	9.6
	South-South	4 844 937	13.2	2 056 469	14.8	1 647 063	13.5	8 548 469	13.6
	South-West	6 631 729	18.0	2 679 222	19.3	2 437 449	20.0	11 748 400	18.7
Income quintile	Lowest	7 619 486	20.7	2 565 516	18.5	1 998 646	16.4	12 183 648	19.4
	2	7 310 386	19.8	2 619 957	18.9	2 299 768	18.8	12 230 110	19.4
	3	6 416 654	17.4	2 430 016	17.5	2 195 181	18.0	11 041 851	17.6
	4	7 313 652	19.9	3 052 902	22.0	2 615 091	21.4	12 981 645	20.6
	Highest	8 172 384	22.2	3 197 133	23.1	3 093 709	25.4	14 463 226	23.0
Total	36 832 561	100.0	13 865 523	100.0	12 202 395	100.0	62 900 479	100.0	

Source: Calculations are based on the Nigeria Child Labour and Forced Labour Survey 2022.

children working and in school (35.3 per cent). A total of 46.5 per cent (23,184,430) of children in the 5–14 age group are working: about one in ten children are exclusively working, while almost four in ten are combining work and school. A total of 11.2 per cent of children are neither at work nor in school, so not in either activity.

Significant differences exist by area of residence. Children in rural areas are more likely than children in urban areas to be working exclusively or to be not working or attending school, and they are less likely to be in school only (see table A.2). A total of 15.5 per cent of children in the 5–14 age group in rural areas are exclusively

working compared to only 3.8 per cent in urban areas. In urban areas, children are more likely to be attending school: nine out of ten children in urban areas are attending school (whereas in rural areas, fewer than seven out of ten children attend school). Furthermore, in urban areas, 57.6 per cent of children in the 5–14 age group attend school unencumbered by work responsibilities (whereas only 33.2 per cent in rural areas attend school exclusively).

Regional disaggregation shows a higher rate of out-of-school children in the northern region than in the south. The proportion of 5- to 14-year olds not in school in the North–East region is 47.5 per

► Table 3. Child activity status of children in the 5–14 age group (% of child activity, by sex, residence and region)

Individual background variables		Mutually exclusive activity categories				(a)&(c) Total working	(b)&(c) Total in school	(a)&(d) Total out of school
		(a) Only working	(b) Only schooling	(c) Working and schooling	(d) Neither activity			
Sex	Male	11.7	42.3	34.9	11.1	46.6	77.2	22.9
	Female	10.56	42.4	35.7	11.4	46.3	78.1	21.9
Residence	Urban	3.81	57.6	33.2	5.5	37.0	90.7	9.3
	Rural	15.5	33.2	36.6	14.7	52.1	69.8	30.2
Region	North-Central	10.5	41.8	40.1	7.7	50.6	81.8	18.2
	North-East	27.9	23.3	29.3	19.6	57.1	52.5	47.5
	North-West	15.8	37.2	25.5	21.6	41.2	62.6	37.4
	South-East	1.3	39.1	58.1	1.5	59.4	97.2	2.8
	South-South	3.3	48.3	46.3	2.1	49.6	94.6	5.4
	South-West	1.4	63.3	33.0	2.3	34.4	96.3	3.7
Total 5-14		11.2	42.3	35.3	11.2	46.5	77.6	22.4

Source: Calculations are based on the Nigeria Child Labour and Forced Labour Survey 2022.

cent, in the North–West 37.4 per cent and in the North–Central region 18.2 per cent. This indicator is lowest in the South–East region (2.8 per cent) followed by 3.7 per cent in the South–West and 5.4 per cent in the South–South region (see also table A.3).

Children’s involvement in work and school by gender is similar, although female children are slightly more likely to be in school than their male counterparts (78.1 per cent for girls versus 77.2 per cent for boys).

2.3 Child activity status of children in the 15–17 age group

Table 4 and table A.4 disaggregate children in the 15–17 age group by activity status. Of 15- to 17-year-olds, 45.3 per cent (5,202,409) are

engaged in work and school activities simultaneously. A total of 8.1 per cent (925,733) are neither working nor in school, and 21.9 per cent (2,517,448) are working exclusively.

A look at gender differences shows that 47.1 per cent of males and 43.4 per cent of females are simultaneously working and in school. While girls in the 5–14 age group are slightly more likely to attend school, gender differences in education increase with age; in the 15–17 age group, 67.8 per cent of girls attend school compared to 72.1 per cent of boys, although boys are also slightly more likely to be working than girls.

The survey results by area of residence indicate little difference between the urban and rural areas in terms of the percentage of 15- to 17-year-olds who are both working and attending school. A comparison of the percentage of children

► Table 4. Child activity status of children in the 15–17 age group (% of child activity, by sex, residence and region)

Background characteristics		Mutually exclusive activity categories				(a)&(c) Total working	(b)&(c) Total in school	(a)&(d) Total out of school
		(a) Only working	(b) Only schooling	(c) Working and schooling	(d) Neither activity			
Sex	Male	20.7	25.1	47.1	7.2	67.8	72.1	27.9
	Female	23.3	24.4	43.4	9.0	66.7	67.8	32.2
Residence	Urban	14.5	34.7	45.4	5.5	59.9	80.1	20.0
	Rural	26.8	18.2	45.3	9.8	72.0	63.4	36.6
Region	North-Central	21.9	23.2	51.4	3.6	73.2	74.5	25.5
	North-East	34.3	17.5	37.4	10.9	71.6	54.8	45.2
	North-West	30.5	22.5	30.4	16.6	60.9	52.9	47.1
	South-East	9.1	18.8	69.1	3.1	78.1	87.8	12.2
	South-South	14.6	24.9	57.0	3.5	71.7	81.9	18.1
	South-West	11.6	37.5	48.9	2.0	60.6	86.4	13.6
Total 15-17		21.9	24.7	45.3	8.1	67.2	70.0	30.0

Source: Calculations are based on the Nigeria Child Labour and Forced Labour Survey 2022.

attending school in the 5–14 and 15–17 age groups reveals that school attendance reduces with age, particularly in urban areas. Children in the 15–17 age group are more likely to be in school in urban than in rural areas (80.1 per cent in urban areas versus 63.4 per cent in rural areas).

Disaggregating by states, table A.5 reveals that Abia has the largest percentage of 15- to 17-year-olds who are working (93.0 per cent), followed closely by Cross River (92.3 per cent). Additionally, Kebbi and Katsina stand out as the states with the highest rates of children in the 15–17 age group who are out of school, with 65.7 per cent and 65.6 per cent, respectively.



► Child labour definitions and measurement

The term “child labour” as defined by the ILO is work that deprives children (a person under the age of 18) of their childhood, their potential and dignity, and that is harmful to their physical and mental development. The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989) is a legally binding international agreement setting out the civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights of every child, regardless of their race, religion or abilities. The United Nations (UN) Convention as well as the ILO Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138), and Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182), set clear boundaries for child labour and provide the legal grounds for international, regional and national actions against it. These international conventions provide the basis for member states to pursue national policies designed to ensure the effective abolition of child labour and to adopt a minimum age for employment at a level consistent with the physical and mental development of young persons.

In accordance with the global conventions, the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the child (AHG/ST.4 REV.I), the African Union Ten Year Action Plan to Eradicate Child Labour, Forced Labour, Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery, the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Child Policy, the ECOWAS Regional Action Plan for the Elimination of Child Labour and Forced Labour in West Africa (2021) as well

as the Strategic Framework for Strengthening National Child Protection Systems to Prevent and Respond to Violence, Abuse and Exploitation against Children in West Africa and its implementation guidelines clearly set out the actions required to achieve Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) target 8.7 in the region.

In response to the guidelines prescribed in international legal standards relating to the rights of children, the Federal Government of Nigeria has ratified several UN and ILO Conventions, including the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989) and ILO Conventions Nos 138 and 182. The Government has also adopted the regional frameworks (table 5) and enacted a number of laws to protect children in Nigeria, including in the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, as amended; the Child Rights Act (2003); the Labour Act (2004); the Criminal Code Act (2004); the Penal Code (1959); the Violence Against Persons (Prohibition) Act (2015); the Cybercrime (Prohibition, Prevention, etc.) Act (2015); and the Trafficking in Persons (Prohibition) Law Enforcement and Administration Act (2015), among others, which cover various aspects of protection for children, such as child labour, forced labour, child prostitution, child marriage/betrothal, child pornography, child trafficking and sex-related offenses.

► Table 5. National Legal frameworks and some relevant provisions.

RELEVANT SECTIONS	PROVISION
Law: 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria	
Section 17. (3) (a-h) Exploitation of Children and young person	Government policies must ensure that - a. Citizens have equal opportunity to adequate means of livelihood, and suitable employment, b. Conditions at work are just and humane, with provision for leisure, social, religious, and cultural life, c. The health, safety, and welfare of people in employment are not endangered or abused, d. There are adequate medical and health facilities for all persons, e. There is equal pay for equal work without any discrimination, f. Children and young persons are protected from ALL forms of exploitation, and from moral and material neglect. g. Public assistance is provided in all deserving cases. h. The evolution and promotion of family life is encouraged.
Law: Criminal Code Act (2004)	
Section 223 Procuration	Procuring a girl under the age of 18 to have unlawful carnal connection with any other person(s), to become a common prostitute or to reside in a brothel in Nigeria or elsewhere is an offence punishable by two years' imprisonment.
Section 340. Endangering life or health of apprentices or servants	Endangering the life or health of apprentices or servants under the age of 16 is a felony (serious offence/crime) liable to imprisonment for three years.
Section 341 Abandoning or exposing children to harm	Unlawful abandonment or exposure of a child under the age of 7, in a manner that causes any grievous harm, is a felony (serious offence/crime) liable to imprisonment for five years without the option of a fine.
Law: Child Rights Act (2003)	
Section 28. Forced or exploitative labour of a child	(1) No child shall be- a. subjected to any form of forced or exploitative labour; b. employed to work in any capacity except where a family member engages him/her in light agricultural, horticultural or domestic work; c. required to lift, carry or move any heavy thing that can likely affect his/her physical, mental, spiritual, moral, or social development; d. employed as domestic help outside his/her own home or family environment. (2) No child shall be employed or work in an industrial undertaking, except work done in technical schools or similar institutions. (3) Any person who is found guilty of these offenses is liable to a fine or imprisonment for five years, or both. This applies to companies and their officials.
Law: Labour Act (2004)	
Section 49 Contracts of apprenticeship	Any child between the ages of 12 and 16 can sign a contract of apprenticeship with the consent of his/her parent or guardian and with the approval of a labour officer. The contract must be for the purpose of systematically acquiring a skill, or domestic training for not more than five years. Any person aged 16 or above may choose an apprenticeship by himself/herself for not more than five years.
Section 53. Offences	(1) It is an offence to remove an apprentice between the ages of 12 and 16 from Nigeria without the written approval of the Minister. Any person who is found guilty of this offence is liable to a fine or imprisonment for one year, or both.

RELEVANT SECTIONS	PROVISION
Section 59. Prohibited child work	<p>(1) No child shall-</p> <p>a. be employed or work in any capacity except where a family member engages him/her in light agricultural, horticultural or domestic work;</p> <p>b. be required to engage in work that may be harmful or injurious.</p> <p>(2) Children under the age of 15 should not be employed in industrial work, except for work done in technical schools or similar institutions.</p> <p>(3) Children under the age of 14, except for those in domestic service, may be employed only on a daily wage, on a day-to-day basis, as long as he/she returns to his parent's or guardian's house each night.</p> <p>(4) Any child under the age of 16 who is employed must be able to return to his/her place of residence daily, except with the approval of a labour officer or by a written contract.</p> <p>(5) Children under the age of 16 should not be employed to work underground, on machines or on public holidays.</p> <p>(6) A young person shall not be engaged in employment injurious to his/her health, or dangerous or immoral.</p> <p>(7) An employer of a young person under the age of 16 must discontinue the employment upon either oral or written notice that such engagement is against the wishes of the parent or guardian of that child.</p> <p>(8) A child under the age of 16 in employment shall not be required to work for more than four consecutive hours or for more than eight hours in one day.</p>
Section 60. Night work	A child shall not be employed to do night work, unless he/she is over the age of 16 and the work by reason of its nature is required to be carried out day and night, or in cases of emergency.
Section 61. Child labour in shipping	Young persons under the age of 15 shall not be employed in a ship, except for the purpose of schooling or training and under the supervision of a public officer or family member(s), and with a certificate signed by a medical practitioner.
Section 62. Register of young persons	A register of young persons in an industrial undertaking must be kept by his/her employer with detailed information about the young persons in that organization, which must be produced for inspection by labour officers.
Section 65. Minister's regulations	The Minister in charge of labour affairs may make any regulations concerning the employment of women and young persons as domestic servants.
Law: Trafficking in Persons (Prohibition) Law Enforcement and Administration Act (2015)	
Section 13. Child trafficking can be established whether the "means"(a) of trafficking is present or not	The act of recruiting, transporting, transferring, receiving or harbouring a person who is under the age of 18 for the purpose of exploitation shows that trafficking has taken place and attracts a fine and two years' imprisonment.
Consent of a child victim of trafficking is not a defence	The victim's "consent" is not a defence to trafficking in persons. It does not matter whether a victim is in agreement or approved of the act, as long as force, fraud, deception and other means of trafficking were used. And if the victim is a child, consent is absolutely immaterial. No one can truly give his/her consent to be exploited.
Section 15. Procurement for prostitution, cross-border sexual exploitation and bestiality	Any person who moves children [persons under the age of 18] from one place to another for illicit intercourse, or keeps, detains or harbours a person for prostitution or other sexual exploitation with people or animals is liable on conviction to imprisonment for five years and a fine of 500,000 naira.
Section 16. Recruiting children for sexual exploitation	Any person who recruits children [persons under the age of 18] for prostitution or sexual exploitation anywhere is liable on conviction to imprisonment for not less than seven years and a fine of at least 1 million naira.

Note: (a) The "means" of trafficking: the "means" used by traffickers include threats, force, abduction, fraud, deception, giving and receiving bribes or other benefits to obtain the consent of a person having control over another person, or through the abuse of a position of power or position of vulnerability.
Source: ILO compilation.

The National Policy on Child Labour and its National Action Plan (NAP) for the Elimination of Child Labour 2021–25 is the national response to combating child labour in Nigeria and is aligned with the African Union and ECOWAS Regional Action Plans. It reflects the Government's determination and political will to take decisive action against child labour by providing the legal framework and the enabling environment for the elimination of child labour and its worst forms.

The National Policy on Child Labour defines child labour as work that harms children's well-being and hinders their education, development and future livelihoods. The policy is complementary to all existing policies, laws and regulations on matters relating to children, especially at work. The legal framework for this policy document is in consonance with relevant national policies, national laws and international conventions. In addition, the goal of the NAP for the Elimination of Child Labour is to provide a road map for accelerating action towards achieving the elimination of the worst forms of child labour by 2025 and child labour in its entirety by 2030.

Based on national legislation and national statistical practices, and with reference to international legal and statistical standards concerning child labour, children in child labour in this report consist of the following groups:

- ▶ Children in the 5–14 age group engaged in the production of goods for their own final use (own-use production work); work performed for others in exchange for pay or profit (employment work); or unpaid trainee work.
- ▶ Children in the 12–14 age group engaged in the production of goods for their own final use; work performed for others in exchange for pay or profit; or unpaid trainee work, except those in permissible light work. Light work includes economic activities performed for less than 14 hours per week in non-hazardous conditions.
- ▶ Children in the 15–17 age group who work in industries and occupations designated as hazardous, or who work for long hours (43 hours or more per week), or at night in industries and occupations not designated as hazardous.





▶ 4

► Child labour prevalence

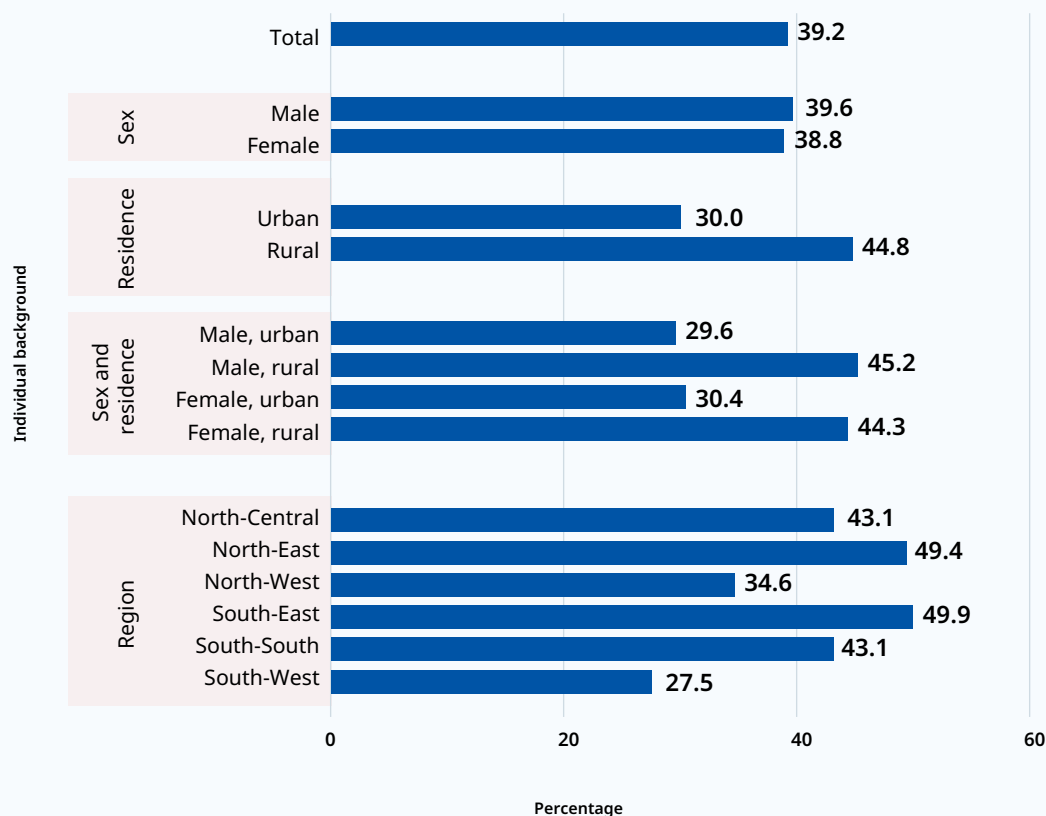
Of all children 5 to 17 years old in Nigeria, 50.5 per cent (31,756,302) are engaged in economic activity with little variation between boy and girls (see table A.8). However, not all children involved in economic activity are in child labour. As shown in table 6 and Figure 2, 39.2 per cent (24,673,485) of children are in child labour and more than 14 million are involved in hazardous work (22.9 per cent of children 5 to 17 years old). Among those in child labour, more than 20.1 million are young children in the 5–14 age group and over 4.5 million are older children in the 15–17 age group (table 6). This finding is crucial as it demonstrates that a main driver of child labour in Nigeria

is children starting to work too early. Children's involvement in child labour is similar by sex, with male children (39.6 per cent) slightly more likely to be involved in child labour than female children (38.8 per cent).

As seen in Figure 1, the incidence of child labour is higher in rural areas at any age; 44.8 per cent of children 5 to 17 years old are in child labour in rural areas (17,523,426 children), whereas child labour in urban areas stands at 30.0 per cent (7,081,651 children).

Hazardous work is also more frequent in rural areas (see table A.9): more than 10.5 million

► Figure 1. Child labour prevalence (% of children 5 to 17 years old in child labour, by sex, residence and region)



Source: Calculations are based on the Nigeria Child Labour and Forced Labour Survey 2022.

children 5 to 17 years old in rural areas are in hazardous work (26.8 per cent of children), whereas in urban areas almost 4 million children are in hazardous work (16.3 per cent). A focus on hazardous work by age makes clear that older children are more likely to be engaged in such work, as 37.3 per cent of children in the 15–17 age group are involved in hazardous work compared to 29.0 per cent of children in the 12–14 age group and 15.8 per cent in the 5–11 age group (see table A.9).

An analysis across regions (table 6 and table A.9) shows that the North–West geopolitical zone has the highest number of children in child labour

(6,407,102) and in hazardous work (3,266,728). However, in terms of the percentage of children in child labour and hazardous work, the South–East region has the highest prevalence of children involved in child labour and hazardous work, 49.9 per cent and 32.2 per cent, respectively.

Across Nigeria's states, Cross River state recorded the highest percentage of children in child labour with 67.4 per cent, followed by Yobe state with 62.6 per cent (see table A.10). The lowest prevalence was recorded in Lagos state with 8.9 per cent among children 5 to 17 years old.

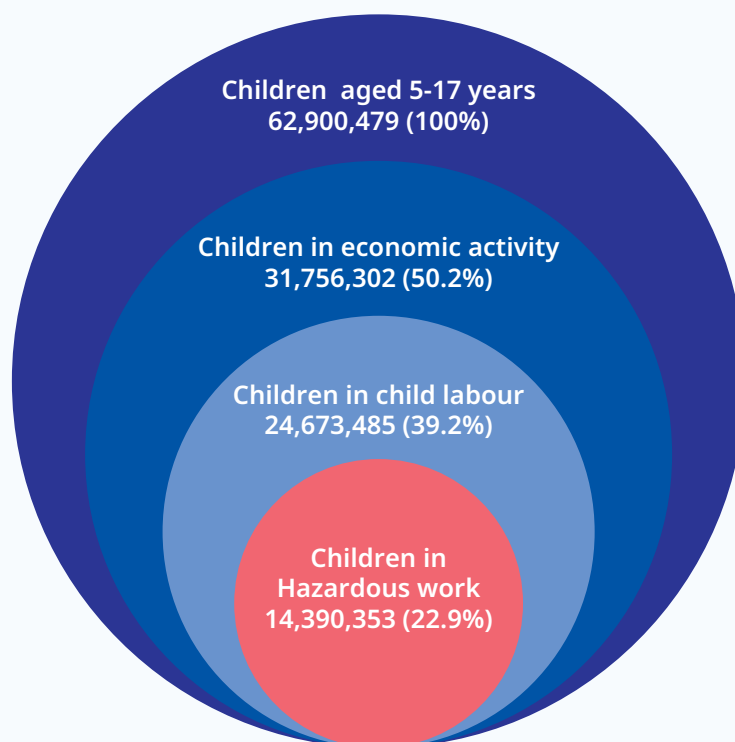
► Table 6. Children in child labour (% and number, by age group, sex, residence and region)

Individual background variables		5–11 age group		12–14 age group		Total 5–14 age group		15–17 age group		Total 5–17 age group	
		%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number
Total		40.7	14 990 674	37.0	5 132 574	39.7	20 123 248	37.3	4 550 237	39.2	24 673 485
Sex	Male	41.2	7 726 113	37.2	2 610 529	40.1	10 336 642	37.4	2 353 021	39.6	12 689 663
	Female	40.1	7 264 561	36.8	2 522 045	39.2	9 786 606	37.2	2 197 216	38.8	11 983 822
Residence	Urban	30.7	4 135 450	27.5	1 441 428	29.8	5 576 878	31.0	1 504 773	30.0	7 081 651
	Rural	46.5	10 855 225	42.9	3 629 160	45.5	14 484 385	41.4	3 039 041	44.8	17 523 426
Sex and residence	Male, urban	30.6	1 996 146	25.6	650 364	29.2	2 646 510	31.3	750 326	29.6	3 396 836
	Male, rural	46.9	5 729 967	43.8	1 960 165	46.2	7 690 132	41.2	1 602 695	45.2	9 292 827
	Femal, urban	30.8	2 139 304	29.2	802 230	30.3	2 951 554	30.7	754 447	30.4	3 706 001
	Femal, rural	46.0	5 125 257	42.0	1 675 463	44.9	6 835 052	41.7	1 442 769	44.3	8 277 821

Individual background variables		5-11 age group		12-14 age group		Total 5-14 age group		15-17 age group		Total 5-17 age group	
		%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number
Region	North-Central	44.2	2 375 186	40.0	761 352	43.1	3 136 537	43.3	748 039	43.1	3 884 576
	North-East	52.5	2 904 718	46.4	890 971	50.9	3 795 689	42.0	671 119	49.4	4 466 808
	North-West	37.2	4 103 046	33.3	1 311 367	36.2	5 414 412	28.0	992 690	34.6	6 407 102
	South-East	49.2	1 679 430	50.7	695 416	49.6	2 374 846	50.7	629 823	49.9	3 004 669
	South-South	43.1	2 086 674	41.6	854 874	42.6	2 941 548	45.0	741 225	43.1	3 682 773
	South-West	27.8	1 841 621	23.1	618 595	26.4	2 460 217	31.5	767 342	27.5	3 227 559

Source: Calculations are based on the Nigeria Child Labour and Forced Labour Survey 2022.

► Figure 2. Prevalence of children's work categories (% and number of children 5 to 17 years old in economic activity, child labour and hazardous work)



Source: Calculations are based on the Nigeria Child Labour and Forced Labour Survey 2022.



▶ 5

► Household and community factors correlated with child labour

This chapter looks at certain household and community factors that are correlated with child labour. Correlating child labour prevalence with the characteristics of children's households and the communities where they live can be useful to gain initial insight into the factors driving child labour and thus into possible targets for policy responses. Correlation is not causation, however,

and caution should be exercised in drawing policy conclusions on the basis of correlations alone.

Table 7 presents some of the household and community factors collected in the NCFLS and outlines research and theory about their relevance to child labour.

► Table 7. Key household and community factors and their relevance to child labour

Household and community background factors	Relevance to child labour
<i>Education level of household head</i>	Child labour in many contexts is strongly negatively correlated with the education level of the household head. A possible explanation is that better educated parents have greater knowledge of the benefits of education and/or are in a better position to help their children exploit the earning potential acquired through education.
<i>Household composition</i>	Children from households with more children are typically more likely to be in child labour, presumably because larger households have more dependent members to support. The presence of more prime-age adults in the household has the opposite effect, reducing the likelihood of children's employment. The effect of elderly household members can vary – old age pensions can help to ease household resource constraints and dependency on child labour, but the opposite can occur in cases in which old age pensions are not available.
<i>Household income poverty</i>	Child labour is typically much more common among children from low-income and/or poor households. This result points to the fact that socio-economically vulnerable households are more likely to have to resort to child labour to meet their basic needs. The poverty-child labour link is also mutually reinforcing. Children whose education is denied or impeded by child labour enter adulthood lacking the skills needed for decent work, leaving them more at risk of poverty as a result.
<i>Employment status of household head</i>	The employment status of the household head can be another important indicator of socio-economic vulnerability. Heads of households who are unemployed or who are outside the labour market altogether are more likely to be in situations of socio-economic vulnerability and, concomitantly, to have to resort to their children's labour as a result.
<i>Contractual status of employed household head</i>	The contractual status of employed household heads likewise is linked to household socio-economic vulnerability. The lack of a written contract is often suggestive of precarious work in the informal economy, while written contracts are more likely to be associated with more stable jobs in the formal economy.
<i>Household indebtedness</i>	Households can be forced to turn to child labour to pay their debts; in extreme circumstances, household debt can be associated with debt bondage involving children.
<i>Exposure to shocks</i>	Households experiencing individual shocks (for example, catastrophic illness or injury, job loss) or collective shocks (for example, natural disasters, food-price spikes, economic shocks) are more likely to resort to child labour as a means of buffering the shock's adverse impact. This is especially the case in households already in situations of socio-economic vulnerability, which are pushed below the subsistence floor as a result of a shock.

Household and community background factors	Relevance to child labour
<i>Proximity to primary and secondary schools</i>	A shorter distance to school reduces the direct and indirect cost of travel to attend school, making schooling more attractive as an alternative to child labour. Parents may be especially reluctant to allow their daughters to travel long distances to school, for cultural reasons as well as cost considerations, and thus school proximity can be a particularly important determinant of girls' schooling and work. Research also suggests that the presence of a secondary school in a community can play a role in parents' decisions about children's schooling and work earlier in the education cycle; parents may be less willing to invest in their children's primary schooling when there is no opportunity for their children to proceed to secondary schooling, where the returns on their investment in their children's education in the form of better job prospects begin to be realized.
<i>Access to basic services</i>	Access to basic services can be an important determinant of child labour, in large part because it influences the value of children's time outside the classroom. In contexts where access to basic services, such as water, electricity and gas networks, is limited, children may have to shoulder a greater burden of tasks such as carrying water and fetching fuelwood.

Source: ILO compilation.

An examination of the survey results on child labour by household wealth reveals that children from households in the lowest wealth quintile are more likely to be exposed to child labour (45.0 per cent) than children from households in the highest wealth quintile (25.7 per cent), as shown in Figure 3a, with no substantial differences between males and females (see table A.11). Of note is that households in the bottom three wealth quintiles have a similar prevalence of child labour (45.0 per cent for the lowest quintile, 43.8 for the second and 45.5 per cent for the third) and it is not until the fourth and fifth wealth quintiles that the figures start to improve, to a 39.3 per cent incidence of child labour in the fourth quintile and 25.7 per cent in the highest quintile.

Another characteristic that can influence child labour outcomes is the sex of the household head (Figure 3b). Children from female headed households are more likely to be involved in child labour

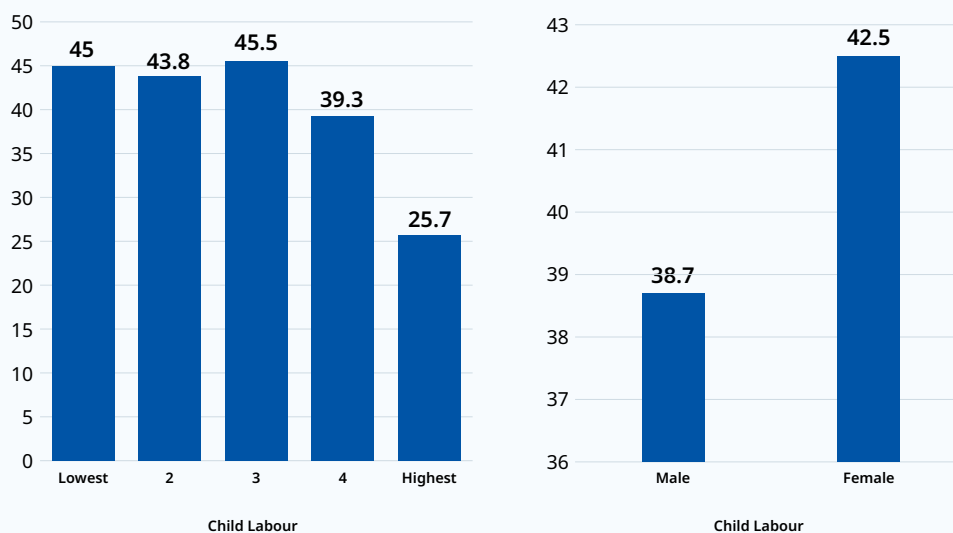
(42.5 per cent) than from male headed households (38.7 per cent). This phenomenon could be due to certain factors correlated with the sex of the household head, such as their education level and employment status.

Figure 4 shows the negative relationship between involvement in child labour and the education level of the household head. While 28.4 per cent of children 5 to 17 years old whose household head attained tertiary education are in child labour, 43.2 per cent of children whose household heads received a primary education or none at all are involved in child labour. Notably, boys with the highest rate of child labour are those who live in households in which the head has a lower-secondary education, whereas the highest rate of child labour for girls occurs in households in which the head has only primary education or no education (see table A.11).

► **Figure 3. Child labour and household characteristics (% of children 5 to 17 years old in child labour, by household wealth quintile and sex of household head)**

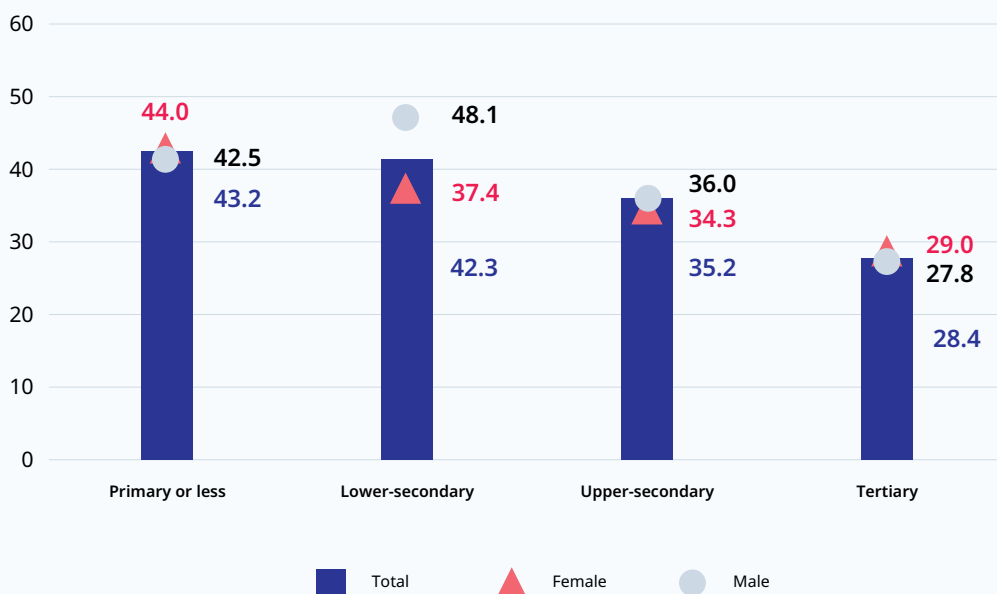
(a) Household wealth quintile

(b) Sex of household head



Source: Calculations are based on the Nigeria Child Labour and Forced Labour Survey 2022.

► **Figure 4. Child labour and household head characteristics (% of children 5 to 17 years old in child labour, by sex and education level of household head)**



Source: Calculations are based on the Nigeria Child Labour and Forced Labour Survey 2022.



▶ 6

► Characteristics of child labour

This chapter delineates child labour in more detail by looking at children's involvement in child labour by forms of work. A focus is also placed on employed children's branch of economic activity and status in employment.

6.1 Child labour and forms of work

Disaggregating the economic activity in which children in child labour are involved by form of work can help better understand child labour. In line with the latest international measurement standards,¹⁰ forms of work include own-use production of goods,¹¹ employment work¹² and unpaid trainee work.¹³ Each child in child labour is involved in at least one of these three forms of work if not more than one. It should be noted that collecting firewood and fetching water are both activities included as own-use production.

Table 8 indicates that in Nigeria, of children 5 to 17 years old in child labour, 93.8 per cent are working in own-use production, 24.2 per cent are in employment and 11.3 per cent are in unpaid trainee work. Own-use production work is the most prevalent form of work across the age groups and other background variables. Younger children in child labour (in the 5–14 age group) are more likely than their older counterparts to be involved in own-use production of goods (95.3 per cent versus 87.0 per cent). However, children in child labour in the 15–17 age group are more likely to be found in employment (43.5 per cent) or unpaid trainee work (20.0 per cent) than children in the 5–14 age group (19.9 per cent in employment and 9.3 per cent in unpaid trainee work).

Looking at both sexes, female children in child labour are more likely than males to be engaged in own-use production work (94.7 per cent versus 92.9 per cent), whereas male children in child labour are more likely to be found in employment (27.1 per cent of boys compared to 21.2 per cent of girls) and in unpaid trainee work (12.0 per cent of boys compared to 10.5 per cent of girls). As mentioned, own-use production work is most common regardless of the area of residence, but it is more common in rural areas where 95.7 per cent of children in child labour are involved in this form of work versus 89.0 per cent in urban areas. Children involved in child labour in rural areas are also more likely to be in employment work than children in child labour in urban areas (25.9 per cent versus 20.1 per cent). In urban areas, children in child labour are more likely to be involved in unpaid trainee work than their rural counterparts (17.8 per cent versus 8.6 per cent, respectively).

6.2 Child labour in employment

Of children involved in the form of work of employment (24.2 per cent of children in child labour), it is possible to further break down employment into categories based on the branch of economic activity (agriculture, industry and services) or the status in employment (contributing family worker, employee, own-account worker or other). This section looks at the characteristics of child labour for children who are in employment based on these two subcategories.

10 ILO, *Am the 18th ICLS Resolution concerning statistics of child labour in line with the 19th ICLS Resolution concerning statistics of work, employment and labour underutilization*, ICLS/20/2018/Room document 13 (2018).

11 ILO, *Amending the 18th ICLS Resolution*, p. 12. Persons in own-use production of goods are all persons of working age who, during a short reference period, performed any activity to produce goods for their own final use for a cumulative total of at least one hour. "For own final use" is interpreted as production where the intended destination of the output is *mainly* for own final use (in the form of capital formation, or final consumption by household members, or by family members living in other households).

12 ILO, *Amending the 18th ICLS Resolution*, p. 6. Persons in employment are defined as all those above a specified age who, during a short reference period, were engaged in any activity to produce goods or provide services for pay or profit.

13 ILO, *Amending the 18th ICLS Resolution*, p. 9. Persons in unpaid trainee work are defined as all those of working age who, during a short reference period, performed any unpaid activity to produce goods or provide services for others, in order to acquire workplace experience or skills in a trade or profession.

► **Table 8. Child labour and status at work (% distribution of children in child labour, by status at work, age, sex and residence)**

Children's background variables			Form of work(a)		
			Own-use production	Employment	Unpaid trainee
5-14 age group	Sex	Male	94.8	22.0	9.7
		Female	95.8	17.7	8.9
	Residence	Urban	91.9	15.4	13.2
		Rural	96.6	21.6	7.8
	Total		95.3	19.9	9.3
15-17 age group	Sex	Male	84.2	49.7	21.9
		Female	89.9	36.7	18.0
	Residence	Urban	78.4	37.4	35.0
		Rural	91.2	46.5	12.6
	Total		87.0	43.5	20.0
Total 5-17 age group	Sex	Male	92.9	27.1	12.0
		Female	94.7	21.2	10.5
	Residence	Urban	89.0	20.1	17.8
		Rural	95.7	25.9	8.6
	Total		93.8	24.2	11.3

Note: (a) Work in economic activities can be disaggregated into distinct forms of work; the forms of work that can be quantified based on the survey data include own-use production of goods, employment, and unpaid trainee work. More information is available in ILO, Amending the 18th ICLS Resolution concerning statistics of child labour in line with the 19th ICLS Resolution concerning statistics of work, employment and labour underutilization, ICLS/20/2018/Room document 13 (2018).

Source: Calculations are based on the Nigeria Child Labour and Forced Labour Survey 2022.

6.2.1 Branch of economic activity

Employed children in child labour can be classified by branch of economic activity. Following the International Standard Industrial Classification (ISIC, Rev 4), which is used to classify economic activity in most national statistical systems, the results show that the most common branch of economic activity for employed children 5 to 17 years old involved in child labour is the agriculture sector (56.8 per cent of children), followed by the service sector (25.8 per cent) and industry (17.4 per cent) (see table A.12).

Children's involvement in agriculture is particularly high for employed young children in the 5-14 age group in child labour, at 61.4 per cent compared to 48.4 per cent of children in the 15-17 age group. Involvement in the service and

industry sectors increases with age: 27.7 per cent of employed children in the 15-17 age group in child labour work in the service sector and 23.9 in industry.

Figure 5 shows that, while most male and female employed children in child labour are concentrated in agriculture, girls (34.1 per cent) are more likely than boys (19.8 per cent) to be found in the service sector. More boys work in the agriculture sector than girls (62.0 per cent versus 49.6 per cent). Engagement in industry is similar by gender (16.3 per cent of girls and 18.2 per cent of boys).

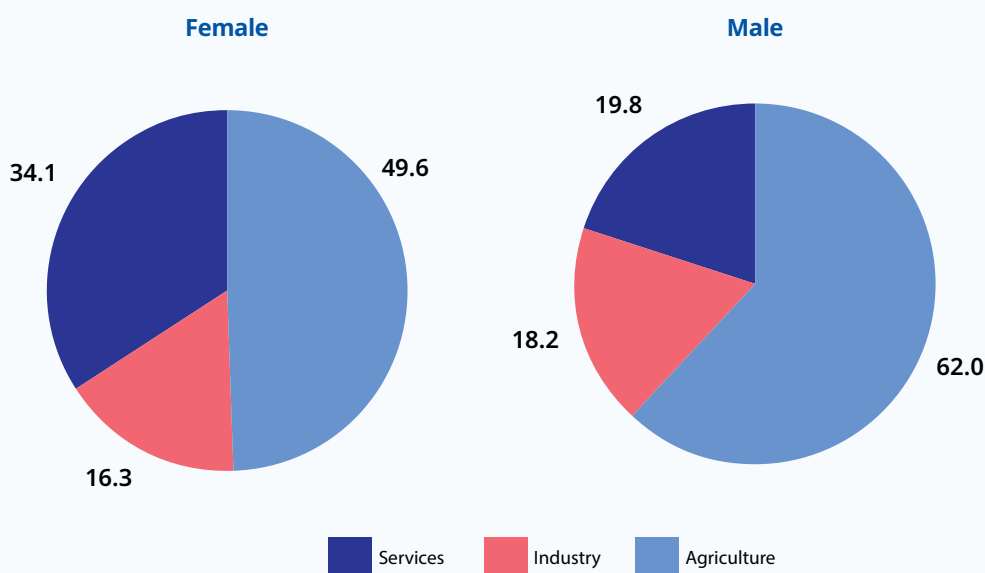
6.2.2 Status in employment

Employed children in child labour can also be classified by status in employment. The distinct categories are contributing family worker,

► Figure 5. Child labour and branch of economic activity (% of children 5 to 17 years old in child labour and employment, by branch of economic activity and sex)

(a) Female children

(b) Male children



Source: Calculations are based on the Nigeria Child Labour and Forced Labour Survey 2022.

own-account worker, employee or other, where other comprises apprentices/interns and children helping family members in their job. Contributing family work is work to assist any member of the household in any business or farming activity that generates income. Children in own-account work are self-employed, that is they have personal business or farming activities that generate income, while employees are children in child labour who work for pay for someone who is not a member of the household.

Considering the status in employment of children in child labour 5 to 17 years old, almost half are contributing family workers (41.5 per cent) and more than a fourth are in child labour as employees (25.8 per cent); children in own-account work represents the lowest share of those in child

labour and employment at 14.3 per cent (see table A.13).

While children involved in contributing family work represent the majority of children in child labour and employment at any age, young employed children in child labour (in the 5–14 age group) are more likely to be contributing family workers (46.5 per cent) than their older peers in the 15–17 age group (32.5 per cent). Employed 15- to 17-year-olds are more likely to be in child labour as employees (30.8 per cent) and own-account workers (17.3 per cent) than the younger 5- to 14-year-olds (23.0 per cent and 12.6 per cent, respectively).

In addition, as presented in Figure 6, female children 5 to 17 years old work more as a contributing family worker (46.5 per cent) than their

male counterpart (37.8 per cent). Employed male children in child labour are more likely to be an employee than their female peers (27.2 per cent versus 24.0 per cent). The percentage difference between male and female children involved in own-account work is small (15.1 per cent for girls and 13.7 per cent for boys). A greater proportion of female children in the 5–14 age group (52.1 per cent) work as a contributing family worker than

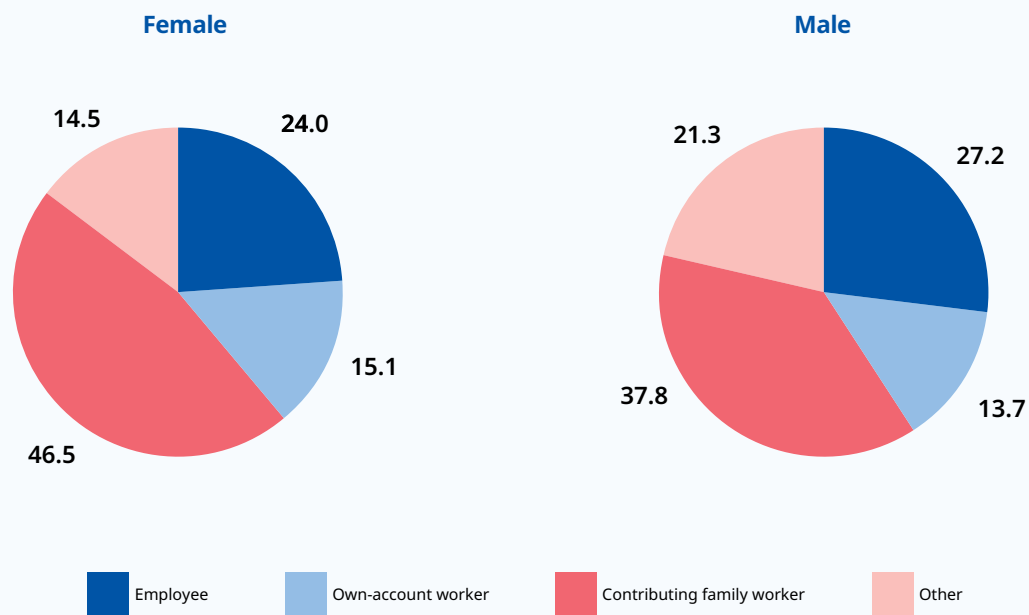
male children (42.3 per cent) (see table A.13). Male work status as an employee is also notable at 25.1 per cent in the 5–14 age group compared to 20.2 per cent for females.

Focusing on area of residence, children in child labour and employment work more as a contributing family worker in rural areas (44.7 per cent) than in urban areas (33.0 per cent) (see table A.13).

► **Figure 6. Child labour and status in employment (% of children 5 to 17 years old in child labour and employment, by status in employment and sex)**

(a) Female children

(b) Male children



Source: Calculations are based on the Nigeria Child Labour and Forced Labour Survey 2022.





▶ 7

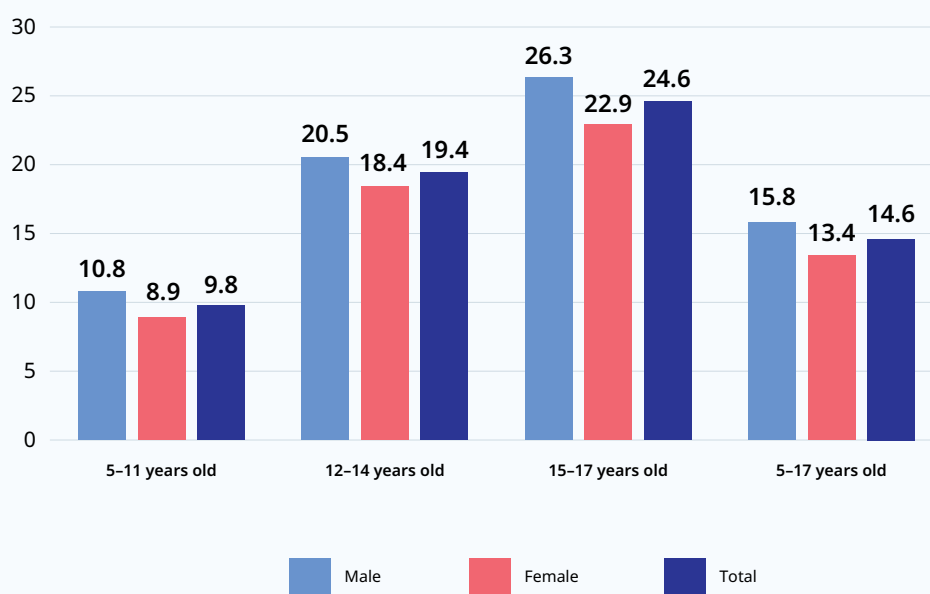
► Time intensity of child labour

This chapter reports on the amount of time children spend in child labour, specifically on the average weekly hours spent engaged in economic activities.

On average, children in child labour spend 14.6 hours per week at work (Figure 7). The time intensity of work increases progressively with age, from 9.8 weekly hours in the 5–11 age group in child labour, and 19.4 average weekly hours in the 12–14 age group, to 24.6 weekly hours in the 15–17 age group. A look at the working hours of children in child labour by sex shows that boys work on average 2.4 hours more than girls (15.8 hours per week versus 13.4 hours per week).

An examination of working hours by area of residence (table 9) reveals that children in child labour who live in rural areas work on average 2.3 more hours per week than those in urban areas (15.3 hours versus 13.0 hours). The difference is starker among younger children in the 5–11 age group where children in child labour in urban areas work on average 7.0 hours per week, while in rural areas these children work on average 11.0 hours per week. Regarding children in the 15–17 age group in child labour, however, those who live in urban areas work more hours on average than those in rural areas. A focus on the different states shows large variation in the average number of working

► **Figure 7. Time intensity of child labour (average weekly working hours of children 5 to 17 years old in child labour, by age group and sex)**



Source: Calculations are based on the Nigeria Child Labour and Forced Labour Survey 2022.

► **Table 9. Time intensity of child labour (average weekly working hours of children 5 to 17 years old in child labour, by age group, sex and residence)**

Individual background variables		Working hours by age group			
		5–11 years old	12–14 years old	15–17 years old	Total 5–17 years old
Sex	Male	10.8	20.5	26.3	15.8
	Female	8.9	18.4	22.9	13.4
Residence	Urban	7.0	16.3	25.8	13.0
	Rural	11.0	20.7	24.0	15.3
Sex and residence	Male, urban	7.4	15.9	29.9	14.3
	Male, rural	12.0	22.1	24.5	16.4
	Female, urban	6.5	16.6	21.5	11.7
	Female, rural	9.9	19.2	23.6	14.2
Total		9.8	19.4	24.6	14.6

Source: Calculations are based on the Nigeria Child Labour and Forced Labour Survey 2022.

hours of children in child labour (see table A.15). Lagos and Nasarawa are the states with the longest average working hours of children 5 to 17 years old in child labour, averaging 25.6 and 24.3 hours per week, respectively.

It is also possible to look at the differences in average weekly hours worked by children in child labour by the form of work in which they are involved (table 10). Children in child labour who are in the form of work qualified as employment work the most hours, with an average of 16.3 hours per week. Of note is that older children in the employment form of work, those in the 15–17 age group, work a much higher average number of hours (22.2 hours per week) than children in the 5–14 age group (an average of 13.4 hours per week). Children in child labour involved in unpaid trainee work spend on average 13.9 hours per week in that work, while children in child labour

involved in own-use production spend on average 8.9 hours in that activity per week.

For children in child labour involved in the form of work qualified as employment, important differences in the time they spend working by branch of economic activity and status in employment can be observed (see table A.14). While employed children in child labour in industry spend an average of 23.2 hours per week working in employment, in the service sector they work 22.5 hours and in the agriculture sector 18.9 hours. Differences are also apparent in the average number of hours these children spend working per week by status in employment. While employed children in child labour who are employees and own-account workers spend an average of 23.4 and 25.6 hours in employment per week, respectively, children in the other category and those employed as contributing family workers spend an average of 18.5 and 18.0 hours weekly, respectively.

► Table 10: Time intensity of child labour by form of work (average weekly working hours of children 5 to 17 years old in each form of work, by sex, age group and residence)

Form of work	Sex		Age group		Residence		Total
	Male	Female	5-14 years old	15-17 years old	Urban	Rural	
Employment	16.7	15.9	13.4	22.2	19.1	15.5	16.3
Own-use production	9.4	8.3	8.1	12.7	6.3	9.8	8.9
Unpaid trainee work	15.0	12.6	10.3	20.7	17.1	11.0	13.9

Source: Calculations are based on the Nigeria Child Labour and Forced Labour Survey 2022.



▶ 8

► Child labour and schooling

Child labour affects both the ability to attend school and the prospects of benefiting from schooling; children who spend many hours in child labour may not be able to attend school or take full advantage of the time they are in class. This chapter presents the survey findings in relation to how child labour impacts schooling.

8.1 Child labour and school attendance

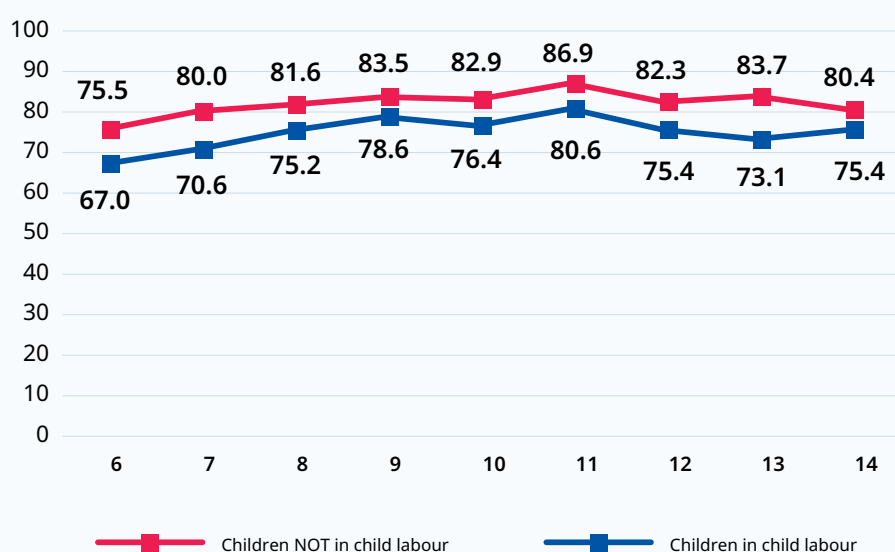
The relationship between child labour and children's education cannot be over emphasized. The survey results show a significant difference in the school attendance rate of children in child labour and those not in child labour (Figure 8). A total of 81.4 per cent of children 6 to 14 years old not engaged in child labour attend school, while school

attendance falls to 75.1 per cent for children in that age group in child labour (see table A.16).

This situation is common for both male and female children in the country. A total of 81.5 per cent of girls 6 to 14 years old not in child labour attend school, while 76.0 per cent of those in child labour attend school. For male children, the gap is slightly larger, where 81.2 per cent of boys out of child labour attend school, while only 74.3 of those in child labour attend school.

The school attendance gap between children in child labour and those not in child labour is of a similar magnitude in urban and rural areas, but children in rural areas are much less likely to attend school in general (see table A.16). A total of 88.9 per cent of children 6 to 14 years old in child labour who live in urban areas attend school, whereas only 69.7 per cent for the same population living in rural areas attend school.

► Figure 8. Child labour and school attendance (% of children 6 to 14 years old attending school, by child labour status and age)



Source: Calculations are based on the Nigeria Child Labour and Forced Labour Survey 2022.

It is also possible to analyse school attendance based on the form of work in which children in child labour are involved (see table A.17). A total of 69.6 per cent of children 6 to 14 years old who are in employment attend school, whereas the totals for children in own-use production and unpaid trainee work rise to 75.1 per cent and 78.2 per cent, respectively. This is important to note as it indicates that employment as a form of work has the most detrimental effect on children's school attendance.

Children in child labour who are in the form of work qualified as employment have the lowest school attendance of children in all other forms of work. An analysis of the school attendance of children in employment by branch of economic activity is informative; it shows that children 6 to 14 years old in child labour with employment in agriculture have the lowest school attendance as 60.7 per cent of these children go to school, while 74.8 per cent of the children employed in services and 76.3 per cent of those in industry attend school (see table A.18).

8.2 School attendance and child labour time intensity

The results further reveal that not only the state of being in child labour is related to school attendance, but the time spent engaged in child labour also influences school attendance. The findings clearly indicate that the number of hours children spend working affects their ability to attend school. While 80.3 per cent of children 6 to 14 years old in child labour who work 1 to 7 hours per week in economic activities attend school, the percentage of children attending school reduces to 75.1 per cent for children who spend between 8 and 14 hours a week in economic activities weekly, 72.0 per cent for children who work 15 to

21 hours, and 69.9 per cent for children who work 22 hours or more (see table A.19).

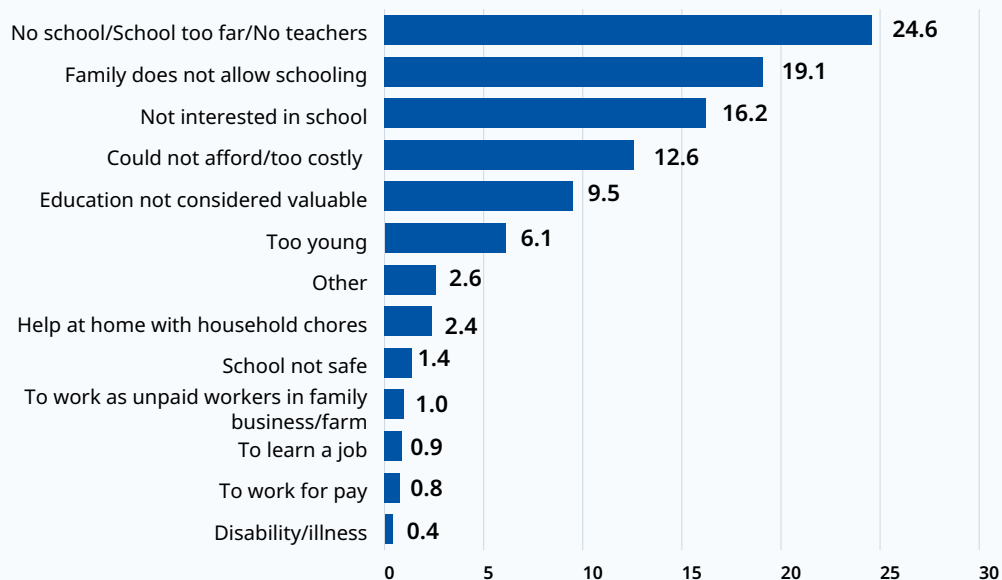
8.3 Main reasons for never or not currently attending school

The survey also provides information on the reasons children have never attended school or are not currently in school. Common reasons for never attending school among children 6 to 14 years old in child labour point to the lack of access to quality and affordable education, with 24.6 per cent of children reporting that there are no schools, the school is too far or there are no teachers, and 12.6 per cent of children indicating that school is too costly (Figure 9). Differences exist between female and male children; the most common reason for girls 6 to 14 years old in child labour to have never attended school is that the family does not allow it, the case for 22.3 per cent of families (see table A.20).

Children in child labour in rural areas are more likely to have never attended school than in urban areas due to a lack of schools in the community. A total of 26.5 per cent of children 6 to 14 years old in child labour in rural areas never attended school because of the lack of school in the community compared to only 7.1 per cent in urban areas. For children in urban areas in child labour, the most cited reason for never attending school is that schooling is too costly (28.2 per cent).

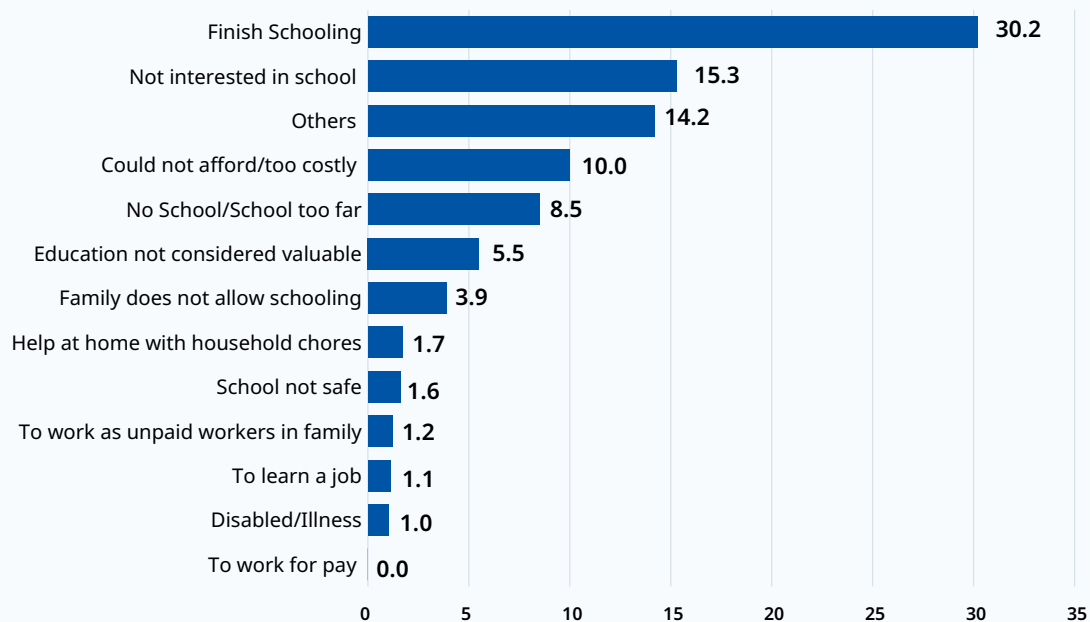
The reasons for children 6 to 14 years old not currently attending school although they attended in the past can be analysed. Of the children in child labour not currently attending school, 30.2 per cent report that they finished school, 15.3 per cent report they are not interested in school, 10.0 per cent report it is too costly or they cannot afford it, and 8.5 per cent report that no school exists, it is too far or there are no teachers (Figure 10 and table A.21).

► **Figure 9. Reason for never attending school (% of children 6 to 14 years old in child labour who never attended school, by main reason)**



Source: Calculations are based on the Nigeria Child Labour and Forced Labour Survey 2022.

► **Figure 10. Reason for not currently attending school (% of children 6 to 14 years old in child labour who do not currently attend school, by main reason)**



Source: Calculations are based on the Nigeria Child Labour and Forced Labour Survey 2022.



► Child labour and health

This chapter looks at how child labour can jeopardize children's health and safety. The health and safety dimensions of children's work lie at the heart of international legal standards relating to child labour and can provide critical information concerning the industries, occupations and working conditions that should be included in national definitions of hazardous work and that should be prioritized in policy responses to child labour. The Nigeria Child Labour Survey undertaken in Nigeria provides information on the *exposure* to health and safety risks in the workplace and on child labour's *impacts* on health and safety.

9.1 Exposure to workplace health and safety risks

The involvement of children in child labour exposes them to hazards and risks of injury or illness that cause harm.

Children 5 to 17 years old who are in child labour are generally exposed to hazards and risks. As shown in Figure 11, the most common hazard or risk affecting 36.0 per cent of children in child labour relates to using sharp tools, such as axes, knives and machetes, followed by carrying heavy loads (relevant for 22.6 per cent of children; for boys 24.0 per cent and for girls 21.2 per cent), and working long hours in the hot sun, affecting 11.8 per cent of children (see also tables A.21 to A.25). Overall, 53.3 per cent of children in child labour are exposed to at least one workplace hazard, with male and female children almost equally exposed (53.3 per cent of boys and 53.2 per cent of girls) (see table A.22). However, children in child labour living in rural areas are more likely to be exposed to at least one workplace hazard (55.4 per cent) than those living in urban areas (48.1 per cent). Notably, 89.7 per cent of children in the 15–17 age group in child labour are exposed to at least one workplace hazard compared to 45.0 per cent of children in the 5–14 age group.

9.2 Work-related impacts on health and safety

Children 5 to 17 years old engaged in child labour can experience certain injuries and illnesses that jeopardize their health and safety. A total of 16.3 per cent of children in child labour have experienced at least one injury at work (see table A.27). As presented in Figure 12, the most frequent work-related injuries of children in child labour are bad bruises, deep cuts and injury from falling. As many as 6.1 per cent of children 5 to 17 years old in child labour (nearly 1.5 million children) were badly bruised on at least one occasion and 6.0 per cent (also about 1.5 million) had a deep cut.

Older children in child labour are more likely than their younger peers to harm themselves at work: 25.4 per cent of children in the 15–17 age group in child labour experienced at least one injury at work compared to 14.3 per cent of those in the 5–14 age group (see table A.27). Of children in the 15–17 age group, 10.8 per cent have suffered from a bad bruise and 10.9 per cent from a deep or long cut, whereas a smaller percentage of younger children have experienced these injuries (5.1 per cent and 4.9 per cent, respectively) (see tables A.27 and A.28).

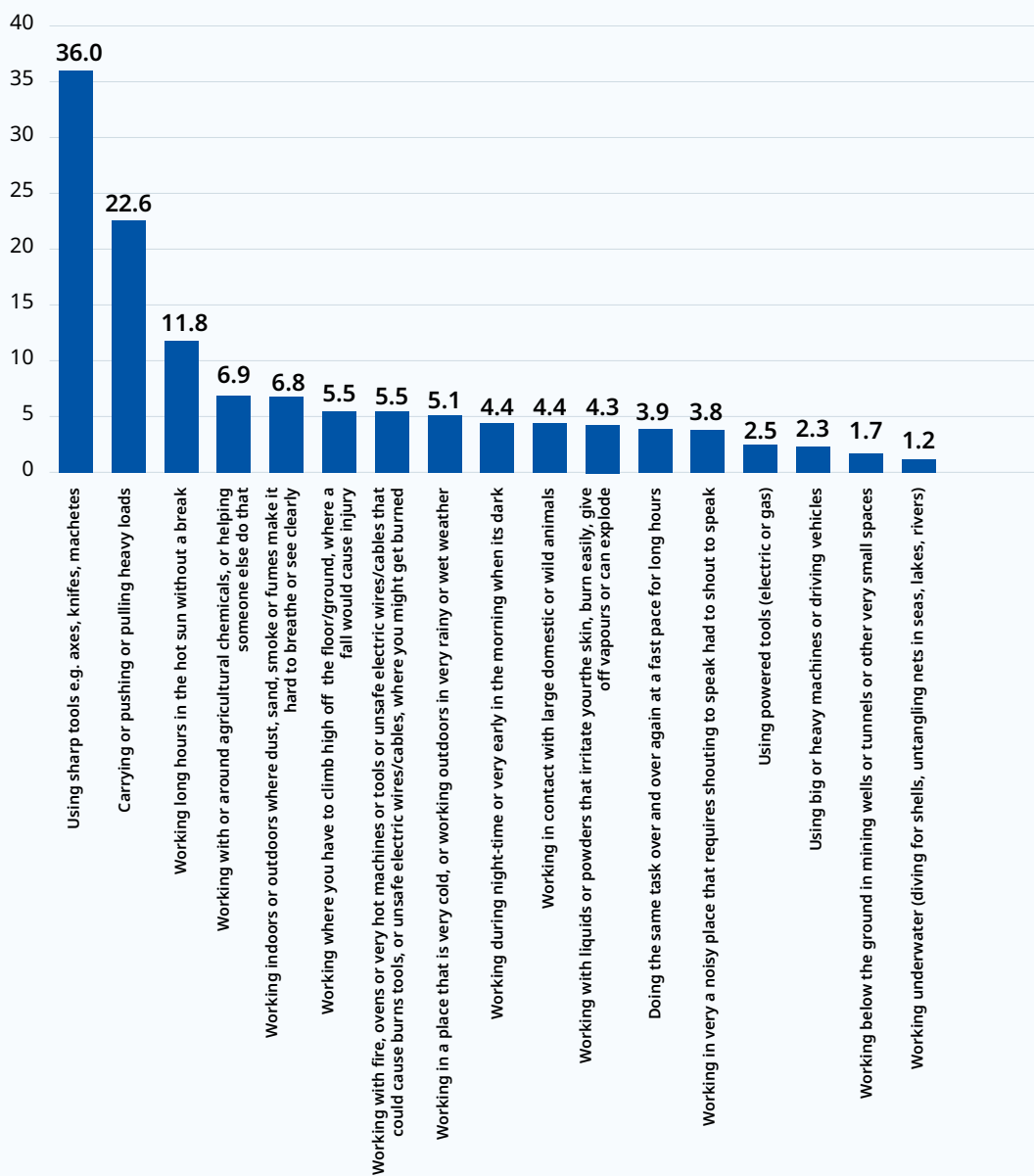
Moreover, male children in child labour and children living in rural areas are more likely to experience at least one workplace injury or illness. A total of 18.0 per cent of boys in child labour have experienced at least one injury versus 14.6 per cent of girls (see table A.27). Likewise, 17.1 per cent of children in child labour who live in rural areas experienced at least one workplace injury compared to 14.4 per cent of children in child labour who live in urban areas.

Examining the incidence of injury among children in child labour by form of work discloses that children 5 to 17 years old in child labour who are engaged in employment are the most likely to experience at least one injury (31.3 per cent,

amounting to 1,874,393 children) (see tables A.29 and A.30). Unpaid trainee work follows closely behind, with 30.0 per cent of children 5 to 17 years old in child labour in this form of work

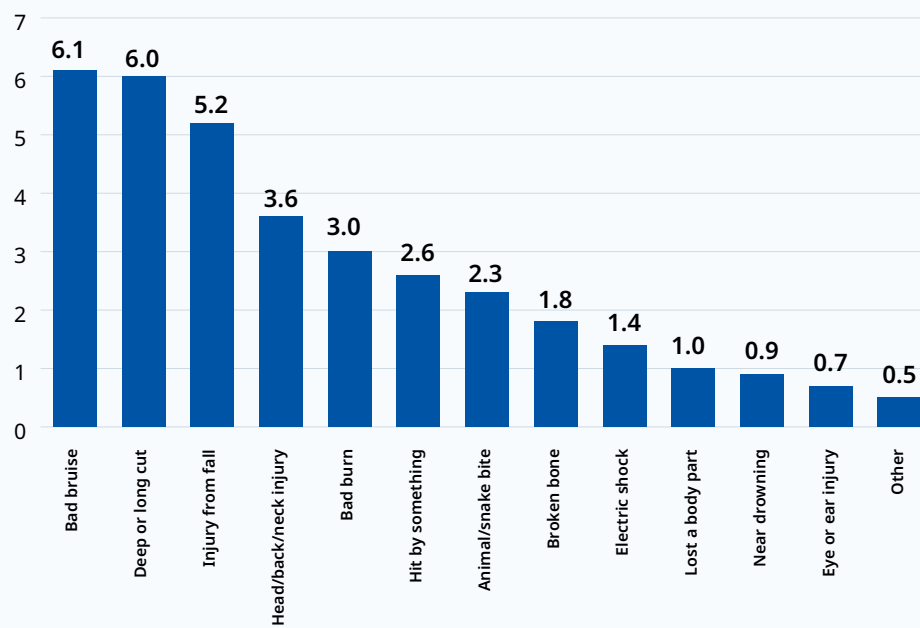
experiencing at least one injury. Notably, children in child labour engaged in own-use production are much less likely to experience an injury, totaling only 16.3 per cent of these children.

► Figure 11. Child labour and workplace hazards (% of children 5 to 17 years old in child labour exposed to workplace hazards and health risks, by type of hazard/risk)



Source: Calculations are based on the Nigeria Child Labour and Forced Labour Survey 2022.

► Figure 12. Child labour and work-related injury and illness (% of children 5 to 17 years old in child labour experiencing at least one episode of work-related injury or illness, by type of injury or illness)



Source: Calculations are based on the Nigeria Child Labour and Forced Labour Survey 2022.



▶ 10

► Household chores

Household chores undertaken by children in their own homes, in reasonable conditions and under the supervision of those close to them, are an integral part of family life and children's development. In some cases, however, these household duties may become excessive or dangerous in a way that interferes with the children's education, health and general development. This chapter explores children's involvement in household chores in Nigeria.

Household chores are unpaid activities carried out within one's own household and include caring for household members; cleaning and making minor household repairs; cooking and serving meals; washing and ironing clothes; and transporting or accompanying family members to and from work and school (see table A.32). In more technical terms, household chores are referred to as own-use production of services. They constitute a "non-economic" form of production and are therefore excluded from consideration in the UN System of National Accounts, the internationally agreed standard guidelines for measuring national economic activity.

An important facet of understanding how children's involvement in household chores interacts with children's development is the time children spend doing household chores per week. Excessive time spent engaging in these chores may inhibit children from taking full advantage of education or engaging in other developmentally necessary activities.

Data limitations have made it impossible to calculate the average number of hours children spend doing household chores from this survey. Therefore, while this chapter presents initial statistics that help understand children's involvement in household chores in Nigeria, further investigation into how their involvement in these chores for extended periods of time is related to their development is needed. It is worth repeating, however, that involvement in household chores is not considered when calculating the

number or percentage of children in child labour, as household chores do not form part of the economic activities included in the UN System of National Accounts. Consequently, the data limitations do not affect the results of the child labour statistics presented in this report.

10.1 Involvement in household chores

As shown in table 11, 56.4 per cent of children 5 to 17 years old are involved in household chores in some capacity. However, it is important to note the large variations in children's involvement in household chores by age and sex. Overall, girls 5 to 17 years old are more likely to be involved in household chores: 62.2 per cent carry out household chores in contrast to 50.8 per cent of boys. Furthermore, this gender gap persists in all age categories.

Another notable characteristic is that children's involvement in household chores increases noticeably with age. While 46.2 per cent of children in the 5–11 age group participate in household chores, 69.3 per cent of children in the 12–14 age group are engaged in household chores and 72.6 per cent in the 15–17 age group conduct household chores. This demonstrates that as children grow older, they are more likely to participate in household chores.

Evidence from the survey results reveal that children in child labour are more likely also to be involved in household chores than children not in child labour. As many as 73.1 per cent of children in child labour are involved in household chores in contrast to 45.6 per cent not in child labour. This is an important finding as it demonstrates that children in child labour have other responsibilities in their household in addition to the activities they perform in child labour. This enhances the burden on these children even more and could further prejudice their development.

► **Table 11. Children's involvement in household chore (% of children 5 to 17 years old involved in household chores, by age group, sex, residence and involvement in child labour)**

Individual background variables		Age group			
		5–11 years old	12–14 years old	15–17 years old	Total 5–17 years old
Sex	Male	41.1	61.9	66.3	50.8
	Female	51.1	76.9	79.3	62.2
Residence	Urban	47.2	71.5	75.7	58.5
	Rural	45.6	67.9	70.5	55.1
Involvement in child labour	In child labour	66.5	81.7	85.2	73.1
	NOT in child labour	32.2	62.0	65.1	45.6
Total		46.2	69.3	72.6	56.4

Source: Calculations are based on the Nigeria Child Labour and Forced Labour Survey 2022.

10.2 Types of household chores

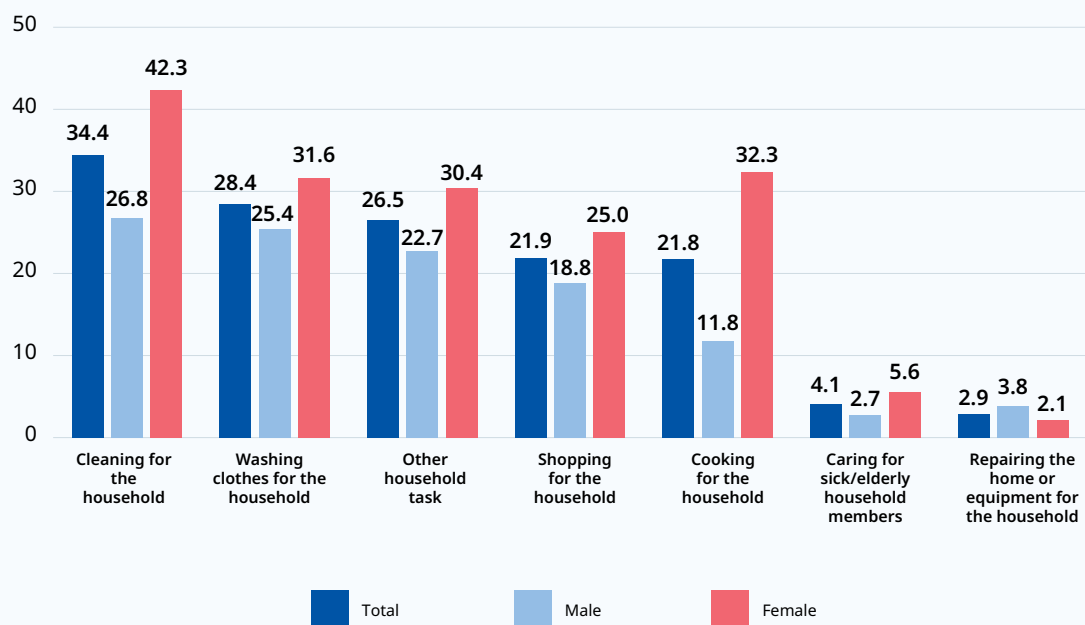
The survey results allow an investigation of children's involvement in household chores by specific task. Figure 13 shows that the most common household chore for children 5 to 17 years old is cleaning for the household (34.4 per cent), followed by washing clothes for the household (28.4 per cent). Not only are girls more likely to be involved in all household chores except repair work but the percentage difference between girls and boys involved in tasks like cleaning and cooking is significant.

10.3 Hazardous household chores

Children who perform household chores can sometimes engage in tasks that are dangerous and that put them at risk of physical harm. The

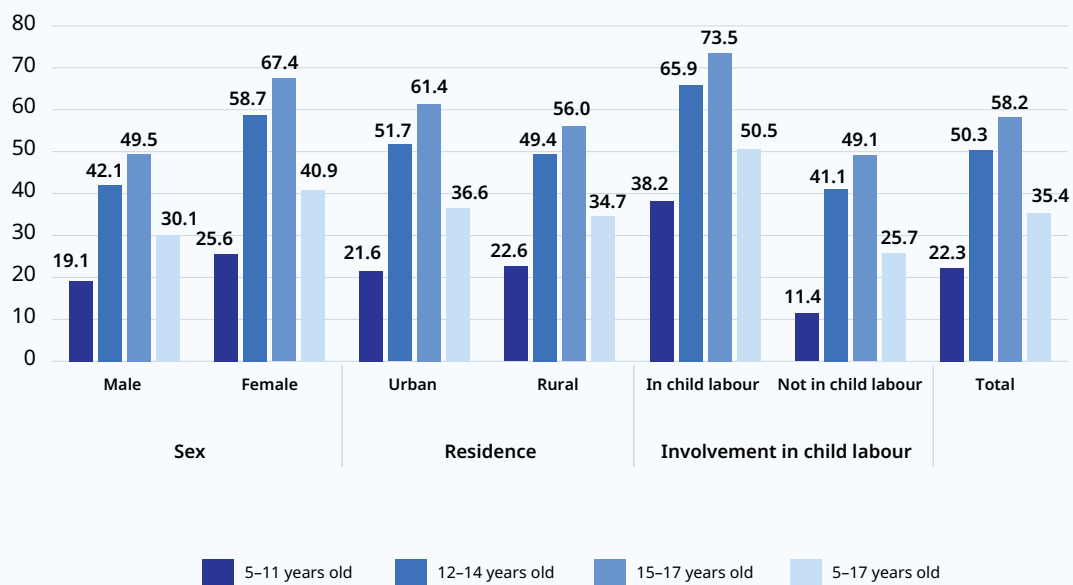
survey asked children if they had engaged in a variety of potentially dangerous tasks while conducting household chores (see table A.33). These tasks include using sharp knives while cooking, carrying or lifting an adult, using chemicals or bleach while cleaning and caring for a sick person (see table A.34). Figure 14 presents the percentage of children 5 to 17 years old who participated in at least one of these hazardous activities while doing household chores. Overall, 35.4 per cent of these children were involved in at least one hazardous activity when doing these chores. However, older children in the 15–17 age group were the most likely to perform a hazardous activity, with nearly 60 per cent engaged in at least one while doing chores. Furthermore, girls in all the categories were more likely to carry out a hazardous activity during household chores than boys: 40.9 per cent of girls 5 to 17 years old were involved in at least one hazardous activity versus 30.1 per cent of boys (also see table A.33).

► **Figure 13. Children's involvement in household chores (% of children 5 to 17 years old involved in household chores, by type of chore and sex)**



Source: Calculations are based on the Nigeria Child Labour and Forced Labour Survey 2022.

► **Figure 14. Children's involvement in hazardous task while performing household chores (% of children 5 to 17 years old involved in hazardous activities while carrying out household chores, by sex, residence, involvement in child labour and age group)**



Source: Calculations are based on the Nigeria Child Labour and Forced Labour Survey 2022.



▶ 11

► Priorities to eliminate child labour

This concluding chapter reports on the survey findings' implications for national efforts against child labour. It therefore goes beyond the descriptions of the survey results to explore how the findings should be addressed in policy terms.

11.1 Summary of findings

This section provides an overview of the main results from the report.

Overall, the survey findings reveal that 39.2 per cent of children 5 to 17 years old in Nigeria are involved in child labour – four out of every ten children. Child labour is persistent in all age groups, with 39.7 per cent of children in the 5–14 age group and 37.3 per cent in the 15–17 age group. Notably, the prevalence of child labour is higher in rural areas, where 44.8 per cent of children are engaged in this activity compared to 30.0 per cent in urban areas. This is a particularly important point as 62.4 per cent of children 5 to 17 years old in Nigeria live in rural areas. In addition, the results show that the South–East and North–East regions have the highest incidence of child labour: 49.9 per cent and 49.4 per cent of children in child labour, respectively. Understanding where child labour is most prevalent is a crucial consideration when planning interventions to mitigate it.

This report helps understand the community and household factors related to child labour. Overall, the findings indicate that child labour is more common in poorer households and in those in which the household head is less educated.

Further examination into the characteristics of child labour, specifically into the form of work in which children in child labour are involved, discloses that nearly 94 per cent of these children are engaged in own-use production of goods, while only 24.2 per cent are in the form of work of employment and 11.3 per cent are in unpaid trainee work. For the children in employment, the investigation into the branch of economic activity in which they are involved reveals that the majority (56.8 per cent) are concentrated in the agriculture sector, followed by 25.8 per cent in services and 17.4 per cent in industry.

A final and vital consideration explores the relationship between child labour and child development. This report investigates how child labour interacts with schooling and the health of children. Overall, children in child labour are less likely to be in school than those not in child labour. Of children 6 to 14 years old, 75.1 per cent of those in child labour attend school whereas 81.4 per cent not in child labour attend school. Furthermore, child labour puts children's health at risk. Of children 5 to 17 years old in child labour, 53.3 per cent have been exposed to at least one workplace hazard and 16.3 per cent have experienced a direct injury in the workplace.

All of these findings are vital to informing policy actions to eradicate child labour. They show not only where child labour is concentrated in Nigeria but also the ways in which child labour can put in jeopardy the mental and physical development of children.

11.2 Extant plans, policies and interventions

This section outlines the efforts and measures the Nigerian Government and NGOs have put in place to accelerate action on the elimination of child labour and its worst forms by 2025, in line with target 8.7 of the SDGs, and identifies policy priorities.

Government of Nigeria

Child labour is a global issue of concern to the Government of Nigeria as well as to employers, workers and other stakeholders and NGOs that have persistently sought solutions to reduce and subsequently eliminate it. To mitigate this scourge, through the Federal Ministry of Labour and Employment, the Government of Nigeria has created an enabling environment for the elimination of child labour, forced labour, human trafficking and modern slavery, by formulating various national laws and regulations as well as policies and by the ratification of ILO conventions that are key and instrumental to the elimination of child labour and forced labour.

Ratified ILO conventions

Convention No. 138 on the minimum age for work; Convention No. 182 on the worst forms of child labour; Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29); the Child Rights Act (2003), adopted in 34 states in Nigeria on the prohibition of children in illicit activities; the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989); the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (2000); the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights (1981) and Protocol on the rights of women in Africa; the Violence and Harassment Convention, 2019 (No. 190), including eliminating gender-based violence in the workplace.

National laws

Section 17 (3) (f) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999, as amended; section 59 (1) of the Labour Act; section 28 of the Child Rights Act on the prohibition of a child working in an industrial undertaking; sections 13, 22, 24 and 25 of the Trafficking in Persons (Prohibition) Law Enforcement and Administration Act; section 28 of the Child Rights Act on the prohibition of exploitative labour; section 30 of the Child Rights Act on the prohibition of child trafficking; section 32 of the Child Rights Act on forms of sexual abuse and exploitation of children; section 19 of the Trafficking in Persons (Prohibition) Law on the recruitment of persons for use in armed conflicts; sections 28 and 30 of the Child Rights Act on the prohibition of the involvement of children in illicit activities; section 28 of the Armed Forces Act and section 34 of the Child Rights Act on the minimum age for voluntary military recruitment.

The Federal Executive Council has approved that the minimum age for employment should be 15 years, as recommended by the National Steering Committee on the Elimination of Child Labour in 2012. Aligned with the international labour standard, the Labour Standard Bill provides for the minimum age of employment to be 15 years of age and for the enforcement of the List of Hazardous Child Labour in Nigeria.

Institutionally, to monitor the elimination of child labour in the country, the Government of Nigeria established a National Steering Committee on the Elimination of Child Labour. The Committee is made up of ministries, departments and agencies, faith-based organizations, employers' and workers' organizations (Nigeria Employers' Consultative Association, Nigeria Labour Congress, Trade Union Congress of Nigeria), civil society organizations/NGOs and international partners (ILO, United States Department of Labor, UNICEF and ECOWAS). Other Government actions include the constitution and inauguration of the State Steering Committee on the Elimination of Child Labour in the 36 states of Nigeria and Federal Capital Territory (FCT); the establishment and constitution of the Community Child Labour Monitoring Committee on child labour in collaboration with the ILO, through the ACCEL Africa project; the development of the National Reporting Template and training of relevant stakeholders on its application; and the annual commemoration on 12 June of World Day Against Child Labour, to create awareness of the ills of child labour and its elimination.

To promote child participation in the elimination of child labour, Nigeria conducted the National Children Conference on the elimination of child labour in 2021 and 2022, and the country became an Alliance 8.7 Pathfinder Country committing to achieving SDG target 8.7 (to take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, including recruitment and use of child soldiers, and by 2025 end child labour in all its forms).

The second phase of the National Policy on Child Labour and the NAP for the Elimination of Child Labour was validated on 15 April 2021 for a five-year implementation period (2021-25). Seven states adapted the NAP to the context of child labour at the state level, creating road maps and strategies relating to the elimination of child labour and its worst forms. Enugu, Lagos, Niger,

Ogun, Ondo, Osun and Oyo have a State Action Plan (SAP) for the elimination of child labour.

Time-bound national plans, road maps and strategies relating to child labour and its worst forms

- ▶ NAP for the Elimination of Child Labour (2021 – 25)
- ▶ SAP for the Elimination of Child Labour
- ▶ National Social and Behavioural Change and Communication Strategy for the Elimination of Child Labour
- ▶ Road map for the Deployment of Alliance 8.7 in Nigeria and Communication Strategy
- ▶ List of Hazardous Child Labour

Key sectoral plans, policies and interventions in the fields of social protection, basic education, labour markets and rural livelihoods

Nigeria has set up schemes, policies and programmes concerning social protection, such as:

- ▶ National Priority Agenda for Orphans and Vulnerable Children 2019–26, driven by the Federal Ministry of Women Affairs
- ▶ Universal Basic Education Programme, driven by the Universal Basic Education Commission
- ▶ Early Childhood Educational Policy, driven by the Federal Ministry of Education
- ▶ National Policy on HIV, by the National Agency for the Control of AIDS
- ▶ National Social Investment Programmes
- ▶ Ending Violence Against Children, by the Federal Ministry of Women Affairs
- ▶ National Policy on the Elimination of Discrimination Against People Living with Disabilities, driven by the Federal Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs, Disaster Management and Social Development
- ▶ National Policy on Albinism in Nigeria, driven by the Federal Ministry of Education

- ▶ National Gender Policy, driven by the Federal Ministry of Women Affairs
- ▶ National Policy on Protection and Assistance to Trafficked Victims, driven by the National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons
- ▶ National Child Policy, driven by the Federal Ministry of Women Affairs
- ▶ National Policy on Migration, driven by the National Commission for Refugees, Migrants and Internally Displaced Persons
- ▶ Labour Act (2004)

Since 2015, the Government has introduced programmes concerning social protection that are aligned with these policies and schemes, such as:

- ▶ Nigeria's Conditional Cash Transfer (CCT) programme
- ▶ National Home-Grown School Feeding Programme

Key government efforts linked to the monitoring and enforcement of child labour laws

The NAP guides the implementation of the monitoring, evaluation and review strategy. Monitoring and evaluation (M&E) is conducted at the national, state and local government levels.

The M&E system at the national level is aligned with the ECOWAS regional action plan for the elimination of child labour and forced labour (2021 to 2030). As a pathfinder country, Nigeria produces an annual progress report on its achievement on SDG 8.7.

The national level consists of the National Steering Committee on the Elimination of Child Labour while the state level consists of the State Steering Committee on Child Labour and the local level consists of the Community Child Labour Monitoring Committee. These committees established M&E units, planning, research and statistics through the NAP and SAP, with the mandate to generate and analyse data for their respective organizations.

Guided by the NAP, the M&E mechanism for the elimination of child labour and forced labour comprises the following:

- ▶ the annual report of the National Steering Committee;
- ▶ biannual reports of state steering committees;
- ▶ quarterly reports of the local Government working groups;
- ▶ the National Reporting Template for the implementation of the NAP for the Elimination of Child Labour
- ▶ Federal Ministry of Labour inspection tools;
- ▶ a checklist for child labour specific inspections.

Non-governmental actors

Current NGO projects and activities targeting child labour and related issues

- ▶ ACCEL Africa project (2018–23)

This ILO regional project, aimed at eliminating child labour in supply chains in Africa, is funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands with particular focus on those involved in the production of cocoa, coffee, cotton, gold and tea. It collaborated with supply chain actors who work in Africa on public policy, good governance, employment, representation, partnership and knowledge-sharing. In Nigeria, the project focused on cocoa in Ondo state and the artisanal and small-scale gold mining sector in Niger state, and was implemented by the ILO in collaboration with relevant ministries, departments and agencies, employers' and workers' organizations, faith-based organizations, civil society organizations/NGOs and ECOWAS at the regional level.

Community-level interventions

These interventions include:

- ▶ renovating schools in Ibala, Osun state, and Oke-Agunla, Ondo state;
- ▶ providing back-to-school kits for 1,400 beneficiaries;
- ▶ providing youths with vocational skills and startup equipment;

- ▶ providing adult caregivers/beneficiaries with equipment to start and improve their businesses through the ILO Start & Improve Your Business training module.

United States Department of Labor funded projects

- ▶ Action against Child Labour in Agriculture in West Africa

This project aims to support the ECOWAS Commission in implementing the Regional Action Plan for the elimination of child labour and also to support national governments in implementing National Action Plans to eliminate child labour. For the first time, through this project, the ILO will support communities to develop Community Action Plans (CAPs) in some identified pilot communities to implement the CAPs. The project will also strengthen the various national-, state- and community-level monitoring structures to ensure the effective elimination of child labour in the cocoa producing areas of Ondo state.

- ▶ Global Accelerator Lab Project

This US\$10 million project implemented by the ILO focuses on eliminating child labour through social protection systems and builds on already existing interventions by the ACCEL Africa project in Ondo state.

Child and Youth Protection Foundation (CYPF) WhatsApp platform

CYPF created a WhatsApp group called CYPF Crew with 246 members. The group aims to build the capacity of members on child protection and child labour and create awareness through publicity, referral mechanisms for child labour cases and case management. Members include civil society organizations, law enforcement officers, legal practitioners and child and youth protection advocates.

Action Against Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants (A-TIPSOM)

This programme is a European Union External Action funded project under the 11th European Development Fund, implemented by the International and Ibero-American Foundation for Administration and Public Policies. Its main objective is to reduce trafficking in persons (TIP)

and the smuggling of migrants (SOM) at the national and regional levels, and between Nigeria and the European Union, with specific emphasis on women and children.

Its specific objective is to enhance the Government of Nigeria's ability to combat trafficking in persons and the smuggling of migrants. The expected outcomes are:

- ▶ improved governance of migration in Nigeria, with a specific focus on fighting TIP and SOM;
- ▶ greater prevention of TIP and SOM in key states of origin and transit;
- ▶ improved protection, return and reintegration of victims of trafficking and smuggling from Europe;
- ▶ enhanced identification, investigation and prosecution of traffickers and smugglers;
- ▶ more effective cooperation at the national, regional and international levels to fight TIP and SOM.

The project corresponds to the five-pronged approach (policy, prevention, protection, prosecution and partnership) adopted by the National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons.

Current programmes and activities of multilateral agencies targeting child labour and related issues

- Alliance 8.7 of the SDGs, a global partnership with three priority areas (migration, supply chains, and humanitarian settings and conflict) and a road map for taking immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking, and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, including the recruitment and use of child soldiers, and by 2025 end child labour in all its forms.
- ▶ Projects that aimed to improve access to education include:
 - the National Social Safety Nets Project (2016– 22), a US\$50-million project to provide primary school lunches and offer conditional cash transfers based on children's enrolment – the project

worked to enrol participants in 33 states in the country and 17 focus states have been adopted;

- Better Education Service Delivery for All (2017– 22), a \$611-million project to increase access to education for out-of-school youth and improve literacy – the project has helped reduce the number of out-of-school children by 924,590, of which 633,772 were girls;
- the Safe Schools Initiative, a donor funded programme implemented by the Government and international organizations that aims to improve access to education in north-eastern Nigeria.

Current efforts of employers' and workers' organizations against child labour

- ▶ Nigeria Employers' Consultative Association, in collaboration with the ACCEL Africa project
 - developed and validated a code of conduct for private recruitment agencies in collaboration with the ILO FAIRWAY Programme;
 - developed and validated a code of conduct for employers, which guides companies' practices towards the elimination of child labour (launched in June 2022);
 - developed guidance tools for business through adaptation of the ILO–International Organisation of Employers guides for business for use by Nigerian employers to address child labour (launched in June 2022);
 - employed the Cocoa Farmers Association of Nigeria in Ondo and the Miners Association of Nigeria in Niger to support the formalization of these sectors, and appointed focal persons to monitor the process.
- ▶ Nigeria Labour Congress and Trade Union Congress of Nigeria, in collaboration with the ILO ACCEL Africa project
 - worked to promote unionism and fundamental principles and rights at work in the agricultural and artisanal gold mining sector, mapped children of legal working age in the artisanal and small-scale gold mining and cocoa sectors in Niger and Ondo states (validated in May 2022), and developed an information toolkit for workers on fundamental principles and rights at work, and unionism in the elimination of child labour (in May 2022).

11.3 Further policy options

Ensuring an adequate legal architecture: policy options

Policy goal	Strategies and measures
Strengthen laws governing child labour as a foundation and guide for action against child labour	Ensure the registration of every child at birth so that children have a legal identity and can enjoy all of their rights from birth.
	Domesticate the Child Rights Act (2003) in the remaining states yet to do so; and the Labour Act (2004); the Criminal Code Act (2004); the Penal Code (1959); the Violence Against Persons (Prohibition) Act (2015); the Cybercrime (Prohibition, Prevention, etc.) Act (2015); and the Trafficking in Persons (Prohibition) Law Enforcement and Administration Act (2015).
	Transpose international legal standards into national legislation and practice; mapping the gap between national legislation and international legal standards can be a useful starting point for aligning national legislation with international legal standards.
	Enforce the List of Hazardous Child Labour in Nigeria developed in 2013, a list of hazardous work in keeping with the provisions of ILO Convention No. 138 on the minimum age for work and ILO Convention No. 182 on the worst forms of child labour, which Nigeria has ratified, especially in the agriculture, mining and quarrying, textile, traditional tannery, child domestic work, environment, commerce and tradition, construction, transport and manufacturing sectors.
	Ensure coherence between the laws governing the minimum age for work and those dealing with the age range for compulsory schooling.
	Ensure coherence between national laws, such as the Labour Act (2004) and the Child Rights Act (2003), and compliance with international labour standards and the Convention on the Rights of the Child on compulsory schooling.
Strengthen laws in areas pertaining to child labour	Ensure laws protecting children's rights in areas pertaining to child labour, including the right to birth registration in the National Child Policy; universal child grants in the National Social Protection Policy; free and good-quality education in the Early Childhood Educational Policy; healthcare and nutrition, and protection from violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation in the National Policy on Protection and Assistance to Trafficked Victims.
	Extend the national legal architecture to other fundamental labour rights, including freedom of association and freedom from discrimination, which are also key preconditions for ensuring children's right to freedom from child labour.
Strengthening enforcement.	Engage non-state actors (such as social workers, teachers, childcare workers, youth workers, community development workers, welfare officers and a range of other social services actors) to complement the regulatory role of public labour administrations and help extend their reach and effectiveness.
	Mobilize trade unions, the Nigeria Employers' Consultative Association, Trade Union Congress of Nigeria and Nigeria Labour Congress, to play a role in identifying child labour and supporting public labour inspectorates, through their active presence in workplaces as documented in their code of conduct.
	Facilitate the establishment of local community-based child labour monitoring systems to back public labour inspectorates to identify and follow child labour cases.

Extending social protection: policy options

Policy goals	Strategies and measures
Mitigate economic vulnerabilities associated with child labour	Ensure the extension of social protection schemes to households with children at risk of child labour, including introducing or expanding child benefits and other cash transfer programmes, such as universal child benefits, to supplement the incomes of poor households vulnerable to child labour.
	Introduce or expand in-kind transfer schemes, including food for education schemes, to help reduce household food insecurity and provide an additional incentive for school attendance; school meals can also improve student concentration and performance, meaning greater benefit from classroom time.
Mitigate the impact of other contingencies leading to a reliance on child labour	Extend health insurance access to households of children at risk of child labour to address the social distress and economic loss associated with ill health and injuries.
	Extend social protection for persons with disabilities to address the social and economic vulnerabilities associated with disabilities, including through contributory and non-contributory disability benefits, wage replacement for disabling injuries and illnesses, and the provision of social care services for people with disabilities or who suffer from long-term illness.
	Ensure income security in old age through pension schemes or similar measures to help offset the social vulnerabilities associated with ageing and help provide income security in multigenerational households.
	Extend unemployment protection to secure the income needs of households buffeted by loss of work.
Ensure adequate funding	Develop domestic resource mobilization strategies to expand fiscal space, through measures such as progressive taxation and reallocations of existing spending to prioritize children and families in situations of vulnerability.
Complementary social finance schemes^(a)	
Expand household access to credit	Introducing of micro-credit and micro-insurance schemes for vulnerable families to facilitate their access to the financial market and enable them to hedge against part of the risks they face.

Note: (a) Complementary social finance schemes are not technically part of social protection systems.

Ensuring free, good-quality schooling: policy options

Policy goal/targets	Strategies and measures
Expand access to early childhood development opportunities for vulnerable households	Advocate for more schools in communities with households of children at risk of child labour.
	Target the introduction/expansion of home outreach programmes on better parenting and caregiving.
	Target the introduction/expansion of comprehensive early childcare programmes.
Reduce direct schooling costs	Eliminate school fees through access to social protection scheme.
	Provide free uniforms and textbooks.
Reduce indirect schooling costs	Introduce/expand cash transfer programmes, including child benefits, for families with school-aged children.
	Introduce/expand in-kind transfer schemes, including food for education schemes.

Improve school quality	Address teachers' working conditions, academic freedom, violence affecting them, their migration and mobility, and institutional independence.
	Recruit well-trained teachers and teacher assistants from the local community and ensure gender balance in the teaching corps to help encourage girls to attend school.
	Engage parents and community leaders in the life of the school.
	Ensure the protection of all children, girls and boys, against violence, including sexual violence, at school.
	Reform the curriculum to improve relevance.
	Integrate digital learning into education.
Expanded school access	Target school and classroom expansion based on a needs assessment (including children with learning difficulties or with physical disabilities).
	Expand schooling hours and after-school activities as an alternative to child labour.
Ensuring adequate financing	Engage in budgetary reform to attain the common international benchmarks of allocating 15–20 per cent of public expenditure and 4–6 per cent of GDP to education.
	Prioritize spending on lower levels of education.

Promoting decent work for adults and youth of legal working age: policy options

Policy goal	Strategies and measures
Promote transition from informal to formal economy	Promote the development of sustainable micro, small and medium-sized enterprises.
	Create an enabling policy and regulatory environment that reduces barriers to formalization while protecting workers' rights.
	Promote informal entities' greater awareness of the advantages and protection that come with formalization (business development services for micro, small and medium-sized enterprises, access to the market, productive resources, credit programmes, and training and promotional programmes to upgrade informal economy units).
	Enable the self-organization of workers from the informal economy and encourage informal enterprises to join together in producers' associations, including cooperatives.
	Invest in skills development and training that is responsive both to the diverse requirements and levels of informal economy workers and to the evolving demands of the labour market, including informal apprenticeship schemes.
	Build collective representation structures for different categories of informal economy workers, to widen their collective and enable them to influence their working conditions, productivity and incomes.
Promote decent work for youth of legal working age	Enact active labour market interventions targeting young people, including training and skills development, public works engagement, job search support and other labour market services, employment subsidies, and self-employment and entrepreneurship opportunities.
	Ensure young people's rights at work so they receive equal treatment and are protected from abuse and exposure to hazards.
	Ensure young people's participation in employers' and workers' organizations and in social dialogue.

Policy goal	Strategies and measures
End child labour among adolescents 15–17 years old	Develop systems to provide youth removed from hazardous work with second chances to access education and training and secure decent work.
	Develop systems to provide youth removed from the worst forms of child labour with the necessary social services, such as emergency shelter, medical care, psychosocial counselling, legal support, family tracing, and assessment and post-reintegration follow-up.
	Provide training and awareness-raising about occupational safety and health to employers and their young workers, master craftworkers and their apprentices, and trade union occupational safety and health representatives, including about adequate and consistent supervision.
	Mobilize trade unions, business associations, chambers of commerce, community organizations and social protection agencies in monitoring minimum age guidelines and the safety of the workplace and its adolescent workers, in conjunction with the labour inspectorate.
	Institute “strategic inspection plans” to help identify workplace hazards facing adolescents and requiring follow-up.

Promoting adequate rural livelihoods and resilience: policy options

Policy goal	Strategies and measures
Promote decent rural livelihoods	Promote small producers’ associations and democratic cooperatives as means of boosting market and bargaining power in agricultural value chains, upholding price stability, and of pooling adult labour resources, inputs, tools and other facilities.
	Strengthen the collective, representative voice of those who earn their livelihoods in the rural economy, including for collective bargaining with employers, not least in plantation agriculture, and for product price negotiations to improve adult incomes.
	Improve family farms’ and enterprises’ access to inputs and credit, including through the development of community savings and credit unions.
	Introduce sustainable and appropriate technologies and alternative practices in family farms and enterprises to improve productivity and viability.
	Invest in food processing and infrastructure to add quality and value to locally grown produce.
Promote rural resilience	Develop social protection strategies combining contributory social insurance and tax-based social assistance to ensure the adequate protection of rural populations throughout their lives, including in confronting risks and contingencies specific to rural areas.
	Invest in developing the skills of rural youth, to bolster farm productivity and contribute to a structural shift towards higher-value-added manufacturing and services.
	Engage in employment-intensive investment in rural infrastructure and basic services, such as water and power systems, to offer jobs off the farm while improving farm productivity and reducing the need for tasks often performed by children, such as hauling water and gathering fuel.



► Annexes

Annex 1. Findings

*All calculations are based on the Nigeria Child Labour and Forced Labour Survey 2022.

Characteristics of the child population

► Table A.1. Distribution of the child population (number of children 5 to 17 years old, by state and age group)

State	Age group			Total 5–17 years old
	5–11 years old	12–14 years old	15–17 years old	
Abia	583 222	222 545	205 506	1 011 273
Adamawa	626 030	227 606	280 282	1 133 919
Akwa Ibom	707 282	250 724	193 988	1 151 995
Anambra	826 734	378 628	300 498	1 505 860
Bauchi	1 742 331	610 662	416 009	2 769 002
Bayelsa	401 362	155 654	118 720	675 735
Benue	1 178 179	452 389	340 713	1 971 281
Borno	1 202 229	399 608	282 439	1 884 276
Cross River	717 655	334 922	281 046	1 333 623
Delta	1 002 850	410 131	343 539	1 756 520
Ebonyi	667 575	230 073	182 126	1 079 774
Edo	824 816	309 801	271 392	1 406 009
Ekiti	493 059	204 172	210 360	907 590
Enugu	635 213	218 568	258 956	1 112 737
Gombe	714 341	242 212	243 761	1 200 313
Imo	700 280	321 156	294 214	1 315 650
Jigawa	1 546 985	454 708	342 716	2 344 409
Kaduna	1 633 178	627 240	569 399	2 829 817
Kano	3 013 084	1 183 152	1 011 359	5 207 595
Katsina	1 872 253	706 309	551 924	3 130 486
Kebbi	998 818	312 315	305 253	1 616 386
Kogi	711 003	229 982	279 684	1 220 670
Kwara	629 991	183 646	186 845	1 000 482
Lagos	2 218 419	906 819	819 530	3 944 768
Nasarawa	508 123	183 064	149 787	840 974
Niger	1 063 853	371 971	323 707	1 759 531

State	Age group			
	5-11 years old	12-14 years old	15-17 years old	Total 5-17 years old
Ogun	1 042 462	395 566	433 980	1 872 008
Ondo	815 463	397 660	321 402	1 534 525
Osun	721 891	304 446	213 295	1 239 632
Oyo	1 340 435	470 559	438 883	2 249 877
Plateau	737 933	274 484	244 725	1 257 142
Rivers	1 190 972	595 238	438 378	2 224 588
Sokoto	1 152 317	310 182	453 369	1 915 868
Taraba	683 754	236 538	197 697	1 117 989
Yobe	560 799	204 779	176 912	942 491
Zamfara	824 447	341 362	316 815	1 482 625
Federal Capital Territory	543 222	206 654	203 187	953 062
National	36 832 561	13 865 523	12 202 395	62 900 479

► Table A.2. Child activity status by sex and residence (number of children in the 5-14 age group, by activity status, sex and residence)

Individual background variables		Mutually exclusive activity category				(a)&(c) Total working	(b)&(c) Total in school	(a)&(d) Total out of school
		(a) Only working	(b) Only in school	(c) Working and in school	(d) Neither activity			
Sex	Male	2 978 667	10 731 935	8 864 793	2 823 591	11 843 460	19 596 728	5 802 258
	Female	2 586 130	10 377 881	8 754 840	2 786 249	11 340 970	19 132 721	5 372 379
Residence	Urban	711 021	10 738 651	6 192 478	1 018 484	6 903 499	16 931 129	1 729 505
	Rural	4 853 776	10 371 164	11 427 155	4 591 356	16 280 931	21 798 319	9 445 132

► Table A.3. Child activity status by state (% of children in the 5-14 age group, by activity status and state)

State	Mutually exclusive activity category						
	(a) Only working	(b) Only in school	(c) Working and in school	(d) Neither activity	(a)&(c) Total working	(b)&(c) Total in school	(a)&(d) Total out of school
Abia	1.1	33.1	64.7	1.2	65.8	97.7	2.3
Adamawa	10.0	34.1	44.3	11.6	54.2	78.4	21.6
Akwa Ibom	2.8	37.1	59.6	0.5	62.4	96.8	3.2
Anambra	0.4	31.9	66.9	0.9	67.3	98.7	1.3
Bauchi	42.7	19.9	20.3	17.2	63.0	40.2	59.8

State	Mutually exclusive activity category						
	(a) Only working	(b) Only in school	(c) Working and in school	(d) Neither activity	(a)&(c) Total working	(b)&(c) Total in school	(a)&(d) Total out of school
Bayelsa	4.0	46.3	43.5	6.2	47.5	89.9	10.1
Benue	5.1	51.2	34.4	9.3	39.5	85.6	14.5
Borno	21.4	26.5	24.0	28.0	45.4	50.6	49.5
Cross River	12.0	21.4	63.9	2.7	75.9	85.3	14.7
Delta	2.5	40.3	55.0	2.2	57.5	95.3	4.7
Ebonyi	3.1	30.8	64.5	1.6	67.5	95.3	4.7
Edo	0.5	55.2	42.4	1.9	42.9	97.7	2.4
Ekiti	1.0	35.2	63.7	0.0	64.8	99.0	1.0
Enugu	0.3	59.8	36.9	3.0	37.3	96.7	3.3
Gombe	22.0	24.1	20.1	33.8	42.1	44.2	55.8
Imo	1.7	40.7	56.6	0.9	58.3	97.3	2.7
Jigawa	19.7	35.2	24.8	20.3	44.5	60.0	40.0
Kaduna	4.4	53.1	34.4	8.1	38.8	87.5	12.5
Kano	11.0	41.8	23.6	23.6	34.6	65.4	34.6
Katsina	14.2	36.2	27.3	22.4	41.4	63.5	36.5
Kebbi	36.8	18.2	14.9	30.1	51.7	33.1	66.9
Kogi	9.9	36.3	49.2	4.7	59.1	85.4	14.6
Kwara	6.2	44.4	42.3	7.2	48.4	86.7	13.4
Lagos	0.2	88.5	10.5	0.9	10.7	98.9	1.1
Nasarawa	12.8	39.8	34.2	13.2	46.9	74.0	26.0
Niger	23.9	36.3	29.7	10.0	53.6	66.0	34.0
Ogun	1.7	55.4	37.8	5.1	39.5	93.2	6.8
Ondo	0.9	52.8	42.3	3.9	43.2	95.2	4.8
Osun	1.1	47.5	50.1	1.3	51.1	97.6	2.4
Oyo	4.0	53.0	40.1	2.9	44.1	93.1	6.9
Plateau	7.4	30.4	57.0	5.2	64.4	87.5	12.6
Rivers	0.7	73.6	24.3	1.3	25.0	97.9	2.1
Sokoto	13.9	36.0	25.3	24.7	39.3	61.4	38.7
Taraba	13.9	24.0	53.8	8.4	67.7	77.8	22.3
Yobe	40.1	13.1	32.9	13.9	73.0	46.0	54.0
Zamfara	28.4	20.8	25.1	25.7	53.5	45.8	54.2
Federal Capital Territory	3.9	52.9	40.8	2.5	44.6	93.7	6.3
National	11.2	42.3	35.3	11.2	46.5	77.6	22.4

► Table A.4. Child activity status by sex and residence (number of children in the 15–17 age group, by activity status, sex and residence)

Individual background variables		Mutually exclusive activity category				(a)&(c) Total working	(b)&(c) Total in school	(a)&(d) Total out of school
		(a) Only working	(b) Only in school	(c) Working and in school	(d) Neither activity			
Sex	Male	1 222 206	1 481 907	2 783 902	425 683	4 006 108	4 265 809	1 647 889
	Female	1 295 242	1 357 531	2 418 506	500 049	3 713 748	3 776 037	1 795 291
Residence	Urban	660 138	1 579 188	2 065 577	248 336	2 725 715	3 644 765	908 474
	Rural	1 857 310	1 260 250	3 136 832	677 397	4 994 142	4 397 082	2 534 707
Total		2 517 448	2 839 438	5 202 409	925 733	7 719 857	8 041 847	3 443 181

► Table A.5. Child activity status by state (% of children in the 15–17 age group, by activity status and state)

State	Mutually exclusive activity category				(a)&(c) Total working	(b)&(c) Total in school	(a)&(d) Total out of school
	(a) Only working	(b) Only in school	(c) Working and in school	(d) Neither activity			
Abia	11.9	5.1	81.1	1.9	93.0	86.2	13.8
Adamawa	16.1	29.3	46.0	8.6	62.1	75.3	24.7
Akwa Ibom	6.4	12.5	77.4	3.7	83.8	89.9	10.1
Anambra	9.8	12.5	76.2	1.5	86.0	88.7	11.3
Bauchi	49.8	17.8	23.9	8.6	73.6	41.7	58.4
Bayelsa	13.7	26.4	55.0	5.0	68.7	81.3	18.7
Benue	19.4	27.0	51.6	2.0	71.1	78.6	21.4
Borno	29.1	16.2	37.4	17.3	66.5	53.6	46.4
Cross River	29.1	7.7	63.3	0.0	92.3	71.0	29.1
Delta	12.9	12.4	74.7	0.0	87.6	87.1	12.9
Ebonyi	13.1	12.4	72.1	2.4	85.2	84.5	15.5
Edo	19.0	24.0	51.3	5.7	70.3	75.4	24.6
Ekiti	8.3	18.2	73.6	0.0	81.8	91.7	8.3
Enugu	6.4	41.0	45.4	7.2	51.8	86.4	13.6
Gombe	33.6	18.7	26.6	21.1	60.2	45.3	54.7
Imo	6.0	18.3	73.5	2.2	79.5	91.8	8.2
Jigawa	27.4	17.5	38.0	17.1	65.4	55.5	44.5
Kaduna	8.1	34.3	50.3	7.4	58.3	84.6	15.4
Kano	30.9	24.6	29.3	15.3	60.2	53.8	46.2
Katsina	34.4	15.2	19.2	31.2	53.6	34.4	65.6
Kebbi	54.8	9.3	24.9	10.9	79.7	34.3	65.7

State	Mutually exclusive activity category				(a)&(c) Total working	(b)&(c) Total in school	(a)&(d) Total out of school
	(a) Only working	(b) Only in school	(c) Working and in school	(d) Neither activity			
Kogi	16.0	22.7	57.4	4.0	73.3	80.1	19.9
Kwara	13.3	31.7	55.0	0.0	68.3	86.7	13.3
Lagos	11.0	60.0	26.3	2.7	37.2	86.3	13.7
Nasarawa	28.8	19.3	45.2	6.7	74.0	64.5	35.5
Niger	36.9	20.0	40.8	2.4	77.7	60.8	39.2
Ogun	19.4	28.0	50.1	2.5	69.5	78.1	22.0
Ondo	7.8	27.8	62.4	2.1	70.2	90.2	9.8
Osun	4.1	27.6	66.2	2.1	70.3	93.8	6.2
Oyo	13.3	27.8	58.2	0.8	71.5	85.9	14.1
Plateau	23.8	11.5	58.0	6.8	81.8	69.4	30.6
Rivers	6.7	55.2	30.9	7.2	37.7	86.1	13.9
Sokoto	27.6	29.2	25.4	17.9	52.9	54.5	45.5
Taraba	21.5	9.9	64.6	4.0	86.1	74.6	25.4
Yobe	50.2	6.6	39.0	4.2	89.3	45.6	54.4
Zamfara	43.7	17.2	24.1	15.0	67.7	41.3	58.7
Federal Capital Territory	10.3	31.8	53.0	4.9	63.3	84.8	15.2
National	21.9	24.7	45.3	8.1	67.2	70.0	30.0

Child labour prevalence

► Table A.6. Children in child labour by work category (% and number of children 5 to 17 years old in economic activity, child labour and hazardous work, by age group)

Work category	Age group							
	5–11 years old		12–14 years old		15–17 years old		Total 5–17 years old(a)	
	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.
Total	58.6	36 832 561	22.0	13 865 523	19.4	12 202 395	100.0	62 900 479
In economic activity	40.7	14 990 674	61.9	8 583 312	67.1	8 182 316	50.5	31 756 302
In child labour	40.7	14 990 674	37.0	5 132 574	37.3	4 550 237	39.2	24 673 485
In hazardous work	15.8	5 824 667	29.0	4 015 447	37.3	4 550 237	22.9	14 390 353

Notes: (a) Child labour for this age group consists of hazardous work. Working children are considered to be in hazardous work if they are found to be in any one of the following categories: children working in designated hazardous industries (mining, quarrying and construction); children working in designated hazardous occupations (they refer to the list of hazardous work established by the national legislation); children working long hours (42 hours or more per week); children working under other hazardous conditions such as night work, using hazardous tools and being in an unhealthy work environment.

► Table A.7. Distribution of children in child labour by age group (% and number of children in child labour in each age group)

children in child labour	Age group							
	5–11 years old		12–14 years old		15–17 years old		Total 5–17 years old(a)	
	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.
Total	60.8	14,990,674	20.8	5,132,574	18.4	4,550,237	100	24,673,485

► Table A.8. Children in economic activity (% and number of children 5 to 17 years old in economic activity, by age group, sex, residence and region)

Individual background variables		Age group							
		5–11 years old		12–14 years old		15–17 years old		Total 5–17 years old	
		%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.
Sex	Male	41.2	7 726 113	61.1	4 288 889	67.4	4 238 781	50.7	16 253 782
	Female	40.1	7 264 561	62.7	4 294 423	66.7	3 943 536	50.2	15 502 520
Residence	Urban	30.7	4 135 450	53.4	2 838 037	60.1	2 913 931	41.8	9 887 418
	Rural	46.5	10 855 224	67.2	5 745 275	71.7	5 268 386	55.7	21 868 885
Region	North–Central	44.2	2 375 186	68.3	1 299 717	72.9	1 260 470	54.8	4 935 373
	North–East	52.5	2 904 718	70.5	1 354 574	71.5	1 142 167	59.7	5 401 459
	North–West	37.2	4 103 046	54.7	2 153 773	60.9	2 163 891	45.4	8 420 710
	South–East	49.2	1 679 430	76.2	1 045 176	76.2	946 335	60.9	3 670 941
	South–South	43.1	2 086 674	66.6	1 369 416	71.5	1 178 377	54.2	4 634 467
	South–West	27.8	1 841 621	50.8	1 360 655	61.2	1 491 077	40.0	4 693 353
Total		40.7	14 990 674	61.9	8 583 312	67.1	8 182 316	50.5	31 756 302

► Table A.9. Children in hazardous work (% and number of children 5 to 17 years old in hazardous work, by age group, sex, residence and region)

Individual background variables		Age group							
		5–11 years old		12–14 years old		15–17 years old		Total 5–17 years old	
		%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.
Sex	Male	15.9	2 973 754	29.6	2 074 384	37.4	2 353 021	23.1	7 401 159
	Female	15.8	2 850 913	28.3	1 941 063	37.2	2 197 216	22.7	6 989 192
Residence	Urban	9.2	1 234 060	21.1	1 121 451	31.0	1 504 773	16.3	3 860 284
	Rural	19.7	4 590 607	33.9	2 893 996	41.4	3 045 464	26.8	10 530 067

Individual background variables		Age group							
		5-11 years old		12-14 years old		15-17 years old		Total 5-17 years old	
		%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.
Region	North-Central	19.0	1 018 814	33.1	630 104	43.3	748 039	26.6	2 396 957
	North-East	22.9	1 264 764	35.4	680 471	42.0	671 119	28.9	2 616 354
	North-West	12.4	1 370 740	23.0	903 298	28.0	992 690	17.6	3 266 728
	South-East	20.4	695 979	44.8	614 241	50.7	629 823	32.2	1 940 043
	South-South	18.8	909 706	35.5	730 917	45.0	741 225	27.9	2 381 848
	South-West	8.5	564 664	17.0	456 417	31.5	767 342	15.2	1 788 423
Total		15.8	5 824 667	29.0	4 015 448	37.3	4 550 238	22.9	14 390 353

► Table A.10. Children in child labour (% of children 5 to 17 years old in child labour, by age group and state)

State	Age group			
	5-11 years old	12-14 years old	15-17 years old	Total 5-17 years old
Abia	56.6	62.8	66.9	60.1
Adamawa	51.1	37.9	40.4	45.8
Akwa Ibom	54.7	43.7	56.0	52.5
Anambra	47.6	39.8	42.8	44.7
Bauchi	59.5	46.5	37.5	53.3
Bayelsa	43.2	43.7	40.0	42.8
Benue	32.5	13.2	23.3	26.5
Borno	41.1	42.5	43.0	41.7
Cross River	70.7	59.4	68.4	67.4
Delta	48.9	53.2	49.8	50.1
Ebonyi	60.5	48.8	49.6	56.2
Edo	35.5	40.3	48.2	39.0
Ekiti	58.4	37.2	33.3	47.8
Enugu	33.2	39.6	31.1	34.0
Gombe	33.7	46.5	35.5	36.7
Imo	48.7	64.2	65.4	56.2
Jigawa	40.7	31.6	35.0	38.1
Kaduna	37.8	34.6	37.2	37.0
Kano	28.3	30.8	23.4	27.9

State	Age group			
	5-11 years old	12-14 years old	15-17 years old	Total 5-17 years old
Katsina	37.9	20.6	23.4	31.4
Kebbi	47.7	49.1	48.3	48.1
Kogi	53.2	55.4	56.6	54.4
Kwara	40.3	53.6	47.7	44.1
Lagos	5.9	7.2	19.0	8.9
Nasarawa	41.2	33.6	36.3	38.7
Niger	47.6	46.9	47.9	47.5
Ogun	30.0	23.0	37.9	30.4
Ondo	35.2	32.2	40.6	35.6
Osun	42.9	26.1	18.5	34.6
Oyo	38.3	38.0	47.1	40.0
Plateau	59.9	58.4	56.5	58.9
Rivers	19.8	22.7	20.8	20.7
Sokoto	36.7	39.3	12.3	31.4
Taraba	62.9	50.4	53.5	58.6
Yobe	68.2	58.2	49.8	62.6
Zamfara	48.0	48.7	28.9	44.1
Federal Capital Territory	37.5	38.5	36.3	37.5

Household and community factors correlated with child labour

► Table A.11. Child labour prevalence by household factors (% of children 5 to 17 years old in child labour, by household factors, age group and sex)

Household and community background factors ^(a)		Age group								
		5-14 years old			15-17 years old			Total 5-17 years old		
		Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Education level of household head	Primary or less	43.4	44.1	43.7	39.4	43.4	41.4	42.5	44.0	43.2
	Lower-secondary	46.0	37.8	41.5	56.2	35.7	45.4	48.1	37.4	42.3
	Upper-secondary	36.2	34.8	35.5	35.3	31.8	33.7	36.0	34.3	35.2
	Tertiary	27.8	28.8	28.3	28.0	29.8	29.0	27.8	29.0	28.4

Household and community background factors ^(a)		Age group								
		5–14 years old			15–17 years old			Total 5–17 years old		
		Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Sex of household head	Male	39.8	38.8	39.3	36.2	35.9	36.0	39.1	38.3	38.7
	Female	42.8	42.1	42.4	43.4	42.7	43.0	42.9	42.2	42.5
Household income quintile	Lowest	46.5	45.9	46.2	40.6	36.0	38.6	45.5	44.3	45.0
	2	45.9	44.5	45.2	37.0	38.6	37.7	44.1	43.4	43.8
	3	47.2	44.5	45.9	45.6	42.7	44.2	46.9	44.1	45.5
	4	38.7	38.8	38.8	40.1	42.6	41.3	39.0	39.6	39.3
	Highest	24.3	25.9	25.1	27.0	28.6	27.9	24.9	26.5	25.7

Notes: (a) The household and community background factors listed in the table are not definitive or exhaustive.

Characteristics of child labour

► Table A.12. Child labour and branch of economic activity (% of children 5 to 17 years old in child labour and employment, by branch of economic activity, age group, sex and residence)

Individual background variables			Branch of economic activity			
			Agriculture	Industry	Services	Total
5–14 age group	Sex	Male	67.8	12.3	19.9	100
		Female	52.8	15.7	31.5	100
	Residence	Urban	28.9	28.2	42.9	100
		Rural	72.1	9.0	18.9	100
	Total			61.4	13.8	24.8
15–17 age group	Sex	Male	51.8	28.6	19.6	100
		Female	43.6	17.3	39.1	100
	Residence	Urban	21.0	36.0	43.0	100
		Rural	61.0	18.3	20.6	100
	Total			48.4	23.9	27.7
Total 5–17 age group	Sex	Male	62.0	18.2	19.8	100
		Female	49.6	16.3	34.1	100
	Residence	Urban	25.6	31.5	42.9	100
		Rural	68.4	12.1	19.5	100
	Total			56.8	17.4	25.8

► Table A.13. Child labour and status in employment (% of children 5 to 17 years old in child labour and employment, by status in employment, age group, sex and residence)

Individual background variables			Status in employment			
			Employee	Own-account worker	Contributing family worker	Other
5-14 age group	Sex	Male	25.1	12.6	42.3	20.0
		Female	20.2	32.8	52.1	15.1
	Residence	Urban	22.0	11.0	41.2	25.8
		Rural	23.3	13.1	48.2	15.3
Total			23.0	12.6	46.5	17.9
15-17 age group	Sex	Male	30.7	15.7	30.0	23.6
		Female	31.0	19.7	36.1	13.2
	Residence	Urban	39.1	14.5	21.3	25.2
		Rural	27.0	18.7	37.7	16.6
Total			30.8	17.3	32.5	19.3
Total 5-17 age group	Sex	Male	27.2	13.7	37.8	21.3
		Female	24.0	15.1	46.5	14.5
	Residence	Urban	29.1	12.4	33.0	25.6
		Rural	24.6	15.0	44.7	15.8
Total			25.8	14.3	41.5	18.4

Time intensity of child labour

► Table A.14. Time intensity of child labour (average weekly working hours in employment of children 5 to 17 years old in child labour, by branch of economic activity, status in employment, sex, age group and residence)

Individual background variables	Activity	Sex		Age group		Residence		Total
		Male	Female	5-14 years old	15-17 years old	Urban	Rural	
Branch of economic activity	Agriculture	19.2	18.3	17.3	22.4	17.5	19.1	18.9
	Industry	23.4	22.8	18.9	27.7	23.9	22.4	23.2
	Services (excluding domestic service)	23.8	21.5	17.8	30.3	21.1	23.7	22.5

Individual background variables	Activity	Sex		Age group		Residence		Total
		Male	Female	5-14 years old	15-17 years old	Urban	Rural	
Status in employment	Employee	24.4	21.7	18.5	29.8	28.0	21.3	23.4
	Own-account worker	25.2	26.2	24.0	27.7	21.7	26.8	25.6
	Contributing family worker	18.8	17.2	16.6	21.6	13.3	19.3	18.0
	Other	17.5	20.6	14.7	25.0	22.9	15.9	18.5

► Table A.15. Time intensity of child labour (average weekly working hours of children 5 to 17 years old in child labour, by state and age group)

State	Age group			Total
	5-11 years old	12-14 years old	15-17 years old	
Abia	12.2	20.0	17.1	15.1
Adamawa	9.3	16.5	20.2	12.8
Akwa Ibom	8.9	14.3	14.8	11.0
Anambra	4.1	11.9	14.6	7.9
Bauchi	11.8	14.2	15.7	12.7
Bayelsa	8.4	29.3	30.1	17.0
Benue	4.5	16.0	14.8	7.4
Borno	9.2	12.1	12.3	10.3
Cross River	12.0	21.4	32.4	18.5
Delta	8.9	20.8	25.6	15.2
Ebonyi	6.0	14.4	20.6	9.7
Edo	7.5	21.3	25.2	14.7
Ekiti	6.9	10.6	13.1	8.5
Enugu	4.6	13.6	17.5	9.2
Gombe	12.0	28.0	33.2	20.4
Imo	15.7	24.5	23.8	20.3
Jigawa	12.3	16.3	29.3	15.4
Kaduna	8.6	17.2	11.0	10.8
Kano	11.4	25.5	41.8	19.9
Katsina	9.0	21.5	29.4	13.2
Kebbi	17.4	27.4	28.5	21.5
Kogi	15.7	17.3	27.4	18.8
Kwara	11.4	22.9	32.2	18.2
Lagos	3.1	22.2	42.8	25.6

State	Age group			Total
	5-11 years old	12-14 years old	15-17 years old	
Nasarawa	20.9	31.3	29.0	24.3
Niger	10.7	20.9	19.5	14.4
Ogun	6.6	20.3	37.4	17.9
Ondo	13.0	15.0	22.3	15.8
Osun	6.1	18.0	20.7	10.6
Oyo	8.2	19.2	224.1	14.0
Plateau	6.9	10.4	13.4	9.0
Rivers	6.3	22.7	31.3	15.7
Sokoto	7.2	8.5	17.2	8.6
Taraba	8.3	15.6	20.7	11.7
Yobe	11.7	14.2	19.4	13.4
Zamfara	9.7	30.3	28.4	17.6
Federal Capital Territory	7.8	13.1	15.3	10.3
Total	9.8	19.4	24.6	14.6

Child labour and schooling

► Table A.16. School attendance and child labour (% of children 6 to 14 years old attending school, by involvement in child labour, age, sex and residence)

Individual background variables		Children in child labour									
		6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	Total
Sex	Male	63.7	69.5	74.8	79.4	77.5	78.3	70.9	75.3	75.3	74.3
	Female	71	71.8	75.6	77.8	75.3	82.9	80.0	71.2	75.4	76.0
Residence	Urban	77.6	84.2	89.0	94.7	89.7	91.2	89.5	86.3	90.5	88.9
	Rural	64.0	67.0	69.2	72.7	70.6	75.1	69.7	67.6	69.7	69.7
Sex and residence	Male, urban	72.3	86.0	86.8	95.2	90.7	90.1	86.2	90.6	88.4	88.1
	Male, rural	61.1	65.8	69.4	73.7	72.7	73.1	65.9	69.2	71.4	69.5
	Female, urban	85.4	82.8	91.5	94.2	88.9	92.1	91.9	82.7	92.2	89.6
	Female, rural	67.5	68.4	69.0	71.6	68.2	77.2	74.0	66.1	67.3	70.0
Total		67.0	70.6	75.2	78.6	76.4	80.6	75.4	73.1	75.4	75.1

Individual background variables		Children NOT in child labour									
		6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	Total
Sex	Male	73.7	79.4	83.8	82.9	83.8	85.0	81.5	84.7	80.7	81.2
	Female	77.4	80.6	79.5	84.2	81.9	88.9	83.2	82.7	80.1	81.5
Residence	Urban	87.7	93.6	92.4	93.9	95.4	92.4	93.4	93.4	93.6	92.7
	Rural	66.7	70.9	73.4	73.8	72.8	80.8	74.1	75.9	67.5	72.3
Sex and residence	Male, urban	87.2	92.9	91.6	94.2	95.4	91.5	93.1	95.4	93.5	92.6
	Male, rural	65.2	70.2	78.6	73.6	74.7	78.6	73.2	76.6	69.2	92.8
	Female, urban	88.1	94.2	93.1	93.6	95.5	93.4	93.7	91.6	93.7	72.7
	Female, rural	68.4	71.5	68.1	74.2	70.6	83.6	75.2	75.2	65.8	71.8
Total		75.5	80.0	81.6	83.5	82.9	86.9	82.3	83.7	80.4	81.4

► Table A.17. School attendance and child labour by form of work (% of children 6 to 14 years old in child labour attending school, by form of work, sex and residence)

Individual background variables		Form of work		
		Employment	Own-use production	Unpaid trainee
Sex	Male	68.2	74.3	78.6
	Female	71.4	76.0	77.8
Residence	Urban	82.2	89.0	91.5
	Rural	66.1	69.9	69.4
Sex and residence	Male, urban	80.0	88.5	90.9
	Male, rural	65.2	69.6	69.5
	Female, urban	84.7	89.4	92.3
	Female, rural	67.3	70.3	69.2
Total		69.6	75.1	78.2

► Table A.18. School attendance and child labour by branch of economic activity (% of school attendance of children 6 to 14 years old in child labour and employment, by branch of economic activity and sex)

Individual background variable		School attendance		
		Agriculture	Industry Services	Services
Sex	Male	59.6	80.5	74.3
	Female	62.8	71.9	75.3
Total		60.7	76.3	74.8

► Table A.19. Child labour time intensity and school attendance (% of school attendance of children 6 to 14 years old in child labour, by weekly working hours, sex and residence)

Individual background variables		Weekly working hours			
		1-7	8-14	15-21	22+
Sex	Male	80.1	76.5	69.6	67.1
	Female	80.5	73.5	75.0	73.3
Residence	Urban	90.6	87.5	87.9	84.1
	Rural	75.0	72.1	67.8	65.6
Total		80.3	75.1	72.0	69.9

► Table A.20. Reason for never attending school (% of children 6 to 14 years old who never attended school, by main reason, sex, residence, age group and involvement in child labour)

Individual background variables			Main reason						
			Too young	Disability/illness	No school/school too far/no teachers	Family does not allow schooling	Not interested in school	Education not considered valuable	School not safe
In child labour	Sex	Male	6.7	0.5	28.5	16.2	15.8	9.0	1.5
		Female	5.5	0.3	20.2	22.3	16.6	10.0	1.2
	Residence	Urban	6.3	1.7	7.1	17.2	16.6	7.5	0.0
		Rural	6.1	0.3	26.5	19.3	16.1	9.7	1.5
	Age group	6-11	7.6	0.2	25.1	19.2	15.3	9.5	1.6
		12-14	1.5	1.0	22.9	18.5	18.9	9.3	0.6
	Total		6.1	0.4	24.6	19.1	16.2	9.5	1.4
NOT in child labour	Sex	Male	16.6	3.4	16.4	16.0	16.1	6.7	0.6
		Female	16.4	1.4	16.8	15.8	15.9	7.4	1.2
	Residence	Urban	24.0	8.7	7.1	5.9	19.8	4.4	0.8
		Rural	15.2	1.4	18.3	17.6	15.3	7.5	0.9
	Age group	6-11	21.0	2.3	16.4	15.4	14.3	6.4	0.8
		12-14	4.1	2.9	17.1	17.4	20.5	8.9	0.9
	Total		16.5	2.4	16.6	15.9	16.0	7.0	0.9

Individual background variables			Main reason						
			To learn a job	To work for pay	To work as unpaid worker in family business/farm	To help at home with household chores	Could not afford/too costly	Other	Total
In child labour	Sex	Male	1.2	1.1	1.5	1.3	10.2	3.8	100
		Female	0.6	0.3	0.5	3.5	15.3	1.3	100
	Residence	Urban	0.9	1.2	3.0	1.1	28.2	4.3	100
		Rural	0.9	0.7	0.8	2.5	10.9	2.4	100
	Age group	6–11	0.7	0.4	0.8	2.1	12.6	2.4	100
		12–14	1.5	1.8	1.7	3.3	12.5	3.4	100
	Total		0.9	0.8	1.0	2.4	12.6	2.6	100
NOT in child labour	Sex	Male	1.3	0.5	0.1	0.5	15.9	3.9	100
		Female	0.3	0.1	0.1	2.4	15.8	4.0	100
	Residence	Urban	2.1	1.3	0	0.5	15.2	6.1	100
		Rural	0.6	0.2	0.1	1.6	15.9	3.6	100
	Age group	6–11	0.7	0.1	0.0	1.3	14.9	4.0	100
		12–14	1.1	1.0	0.3	1.7	18.3	3.8	100
	Total		0.8	0.3	0.1	1.4	15.8	4.0	100

► Table A.21. Reason for not currently attending school (% of children 6 to 14 years old who do not currently attend school, by main reason, sex, residence, age group and involvement in child labour)

Individual background variables			Main reason						
			Disabled/illness	No school/school too far	Family does not allow schooling	Not interested in school	Education not considered valuable	School not safe	To learn a job
In child labour	Sex	Male	1.8	8.1	4.1	19.0	6.3	1.7	1.2
		Female	0.0	9.1	3.6	10.7	4.6	1.4	1.0
	Residence	Urban	3.1	8.3	7.1	17.2	7.3	0.0	2.9
		Rural	0.4	8.6	2.9	14.7	5.0	2.1	0.6
	Age group	6–11	1.5	7.4	4.5	15.7	6.5	1.6	0.4
		12–14	0.0	10.7	2.8	14.6	3.7	1.6	2.5
	Total		1.0	8.5	3.9	15.3	5.5	1.6	1.1
NOT in child labour	Sex	Male	1.1	8.9	4.3	6.0	1.3	2.6	0.4
		Female	4.2	5.1	5.5	4.7	2.0	0.5	0.0
	Residence	Urban	7.7	4.7	9.5	2.9	0.0	2.7	0.0
		Rural	0.7	7.7	3.1	6.3	2.4	1.0	0.3
	Age group	6–11	0.8	8.4	7.2	5.5	1.0	1.0	0.0
		12–14	4.8	5.2	2.7	5.1	2.4	2.0	0.4
	Total		2.8	6.8	4.9	5.3	1.7	1.5	0.2

Individual background variables			Main reason					
			To work for pay	To work as unpaid worker in family	To help at home with household chores	Could not afford/too costly	Finished Schooling	Other
In child labour	Sex	Male	0.0	0.7	2.2	7.7	26.8	15.0
		Female	0.0	1.8	1.1	12.9	34.5	13.3
	Residence	Urban	0.0	0.0	2.0	13.3	25.7	5.1
		Rural	0.0	1.6	1.7	9.0	31.6	17.0
	Age group	6-11	0.0	0.6	2.3	10.4	28.6	14.9
		12-14	0.0	2.4	0.7	9.2	33.3	13.0
	Total			0.0	1.2	1.7	10.0	30.2
NOT in child labour	Sex	Male	0.0	0.0	1.7	8.8	42.6	14.6
		Female	0.0	0.0	3.0	4.5	47.0	10.8
	Residence	Urban	0.0	0.0	7.6	12.8	23.2	10.0
		Rural	0.0	0.0	0.2	3.8	54.1	13.7
	Age group	6-11	0.0	0.0	2.2	6.5	37.0	15.2
		12-14	0.0	0.0	2.6	6.5	53.1	9.9
	Total			0.0	0.0	2.4	6.5	45.0

Child labour and health

► Table A.22. Child labour and workplace hazard (% of children 5 to 17 years old in child labour exposed to at least one workplace hazard, by age group, sex and residence)

Individual background variables		Age group		
		5–14 years old	15–17 years old	Total 5–17 years old
Sex	Male	45.1	89.4	53.3
	Female	44.9	90.0	53.2
Residence	Urban	38.0	85.7	48.1
	Rural	47.7	91.6	55.4
Total		45.0	89.7	53.3

► Table A.23. Child labour and workplace hazard (% of children 5 to 17 years old in child labour exposed to workplace hazards and health risks, by type of hazard/risk, sex and residence)

Individual background variables		Workplace hazard/risk								
		Carrying, pushing or pulling heavy loads	Climbing high off the floor/ground, from where a fall would cause injury	Using powered tools (electric or gas)	Using sharp tools (axes, knives, machetes)	Working with fire, ovens or very hot machines or tools, or unsafe electric wires/cables that could cause burns	Working in a very noisy place that requires shouting to speak	Working indoors or outdoors where dust, sand, smoke or fumes make it hard to breathe or see clearly	Working in a place that is very cold, or working outdoors in very rainy or wet weather	Working long hours in the hot sun without a break
Sex	Male	24.0	6.7	3.3	34.5	4.5	4.1	7.1	5.5	13.8
	Female	21.2	4.2	1.8	37.6	6.5	3.5	6.4	4.6	9.8
Residence	Urban	15.5	3.4	3.4	31.8	6.9	5.6	5.9	4.0	8.3
	Rural	25.5	6.4	2.2	37.7	4.9	3.1	7.1	5.5	13.3
Total		22.6	5.5	2.5	36.0	5.5	3.8	6.8	5.1	11.8

Individual background variables		Workplace hazard/risk							
		Working below the ground in mining wells or tunnels or other very small spaces	Working underwater (diving for shells, untangling nets in seas, lakes, rivers)	Working with or around agricultural chemicals, or helping someone else do that	Working with liquids or powders that irritate the skin, burn easily, give off vapours or can explode	Using big or heavy machines or driving vehicles	Working during night-time or very early in the morning when it is dark	Working in contact with large domestic or wild animals	Doing the same task over and over again at a fast pace for long hours
Sex	Male	1.8	1.4	7.9	4.3	2.9	4.5	5.3	4.1
	Female	1.7	1.1	5.8	4.2	1.7	4.3	3.4	3.5
Residence	Urban	1.5	0.8	2.6	4.7	2.2	4.3	1.9	3.5
	Rural	1.9	1.4	8.7	4.1	2.3	4.5	5.4	4.0
Total		1.7	1.2	6.9	4.3	2.3	4.4	4.4	3.9

► Table A.24. Child labour and workplace hazard (number of children 5 to 17 years old in child labour exposed to workplace hazards and health risks, by type of hazard/risk, sex and residence)

Individual background variables		Workplace hazard/risk							
		Carrying, pushing or pulling heavy loads	Climbing high off the floor/ground, from where a fall would cause injury	Using powered tools (electric or gas)	Using sharp tools (axes, knives, machetes)	Working with fire, ovens or very hot machines or tools, or unsafe electric wires/cables that could cause burns	Working in a very noisy place that requires shouting to speak	Working indoors or outdoors where dust, sand, smoke or fumes make it hard to breathe or see clearly	Working in a place that is very cold, or working outdoors in very rainy or wet weather
Sex	Male	2 932 233	826 629	398 500	4 235 231	556 789	502 315	871 921	678 382
	Female	2 476 023	490 613	208 793	4 426 196	771 149	409 232	760 412	540 472
Residence	Urban	1 070 096	234 674	238 641	2 216 405	479 240	385 768	414 342	276 322
	Rural	4 338 160	1 082 568	368 653	6 445 022	848 698	525 779	1 217 992	942 533
Total		5 408 256	1 317 241	607 293	8 661 427	1 327 938	911 547	1 632 333	1 218 855

Individual background variables		Workplace hazard/risk								
		Working long hours in the hot sun without a break	Working below the ground in mining wells or tunnels or other very small spaces	Working underwater (diving for shells, untangling nets in seas, lakes, rivers)	Working with or around agricultural chemicals, or helping someone else do that	Working with liquids or powders that irritate the skin, burn easily, give off vapours or can explode	Using big or heavy machines or driving vehicles	Working during night-time or very early in the morning when it is dark	Working in contact with large domestic or wild animals	Doing the same task over and over again at a fast pace for long hours
Sex	Male	1 646 965	221 042	166 471	982 872	536 692	359 674	547 806	655 722	506 160
	Female	1 131 469	197 775	128 643	692 826	498 423	194 943	499 031	398 681	413 437
Residence	Urban	568 148	101 779	53 487	181 078	328 881	152 344	292 947	131 271	242 282
	Rural	2 210 286	317 038	241 627	1 494 620	706 234	402 273	753 890	923 132	677 315
Total		2 778 435	418 817	295 114	1 675 698	1 035 115	554 617	1 046 837	1 054 402	919 598

► Table A.25. Child labour and workplace hazard (% of children 5 to 17 years old in child labour exposed to workplace hazards and health risks, by type of hazard/risk and form of work)

Individual background variables		Workplace hazard/risk							
		Handling dangerous machinery, equipment or tools	Handling and/or transporting heavy loads	Using powered tools (electric or gas)	Using sharp tools (axes, knives, machetes)	Working with fire, ovens or very hot machines/tools, unsafe machines/tools, or unsafe electric wires/cables	Working in a very noisy place	Working indoors or outdoors where dust, sand, smoke, or fumes make it hard to breathe or see clearly	Working in a place that is very cold, or working outdoors in very rainy or wet weather
Form of work	Employment	36.3	12.9	6.6	46.4	10.3	9.8	15.5	11.7
	Own-use production	22.9	5.3	2.2	36.8	5.3	3.5	6.5	5.0
	Unpaid trainee	30.6	11.8	13.1	34.8	14.9	13.0	13.2	7.3

Individual background variables		Workplace hazard/risk								
		Working long hours in the hot sun without a break	Working below the ground in mining wells or tunnels or other very small places	Working underwater (diving for shells, untangling nets in seas, lakes, rivers)	Working with or around agricultural chemicals, or helping someone else do that	Working with liquids or powders that irritate the skin, burn easily, give off vapours or can explode	Using big or heavy machines or driving vehicles	Working during night-time or very early in the morning when it is dark	Working in contact with large domestic or wild animals	Doing the same task over and over again at a fast pace for long hours
Form of work	Employment	24.2	4.6	3.3	15.9	9.8	6.7	11.1	9.4	8.7
	Own-use production	11.7	1.7	1.3	7.1	4.2	2.1	4.3	4.5	3.8
	Unpaid trainee	14.2	7.5	3.3	13.6	10.0	9.5	11.0	7.2	9.4

► Table A.26. Child labour and workplace hazard (number of children 5 to 17 years old in child labour exposed to workplace hazards and health risks, by type of hazard/risk and form of work)

Individual background variables		Workplace hazard/risk							
		Handling dangerous machinery, equipment or tools	Handling and/or transporting heavy loads	Using powered tools (electric or gas)	Using sharp tools (axes, knives, machetes)	Working with fire, ovens or very hot machines/tools, unsafe machines/tools, or unsafe electric wires/cables	Working in a very noisy place	Working indoors or outdoors where dust, sand, smoke or fumes make it hard to breathe or see clearly	Working in a place that is very cold, or working outdoors in very rainy or wet weather
Form of work	Employment	2 095 533	741 929	376 342	2 692 941	600 419	561 802	901 709	681 994
	Own-use production	5 128 870	1 197 408	493 856	8 289 745	1 196 678	774 453	1 462 822	1 128 163
	Unpaid trainee	828 922	320 982	353 584	945 076	407 098	348 985	360 055	199 498

Individual background variables		Workplace hazard/risk								
		Working long hours in the hot sun without a break	Working below the ground in mining wells or tunnels or other very small spaces	Working underwater (diving for shells, untangling nets in seas, lakes, rivers)	Working with or around agricultural chemicals, or helping someone else do that	Working with liquids or powders that irritate the skin, burn easily, give off vapours or can explode	Using big or heavy machines or driving vehicles	Working during night-time or very early in the morning when it is dark	Working in contact with large domestic or wild animals	Doing the same task over and over again at a fast pace for long hours
Form of work	Employment	1 377 717	269 600	190 932	934 213	575 673	391 663	631 631	549 060	502 659
	Own-use production	2 574 001	385 189	283 420	1 612 940	961 138	476 607	953 323	1 007 724	842 545
	Unpaid trainee	375 089	204 454	88 238	374 029	275 529	260 042	293 139	196 258	252 195

► Table A.27. Child labour and work-related injury and illness (% of children 5 to 17 years old in child labour experiencing at least one episode of work-related injury or illness, by age group, sex and residence)

Individual background variables		Age group		
		5–14 years old	15–17 years old	Total 5–17 years old
Sex	Male	15.3	29.9	18.0
	Female	13.2	20.6	14.6
Residence	Urban	11.8	23.7	14.4
	Rural	15.2	26.2	17.1
Total		14.3	25.4	16.3

► Table A.28. Child labour and work-related injury and illness (% of children 5 to 17 years old in child labour experiencing work-related injury or illness, by type of injury or illness, sex, residence and age group)

Individual background variables		Workplace injury					
		Injury from fall	Hit by something	Deep or long cut	Bad burn	Bad bruise	Animal/snake bite
Sex	Male	5.9	2.8	6.7	2.9	6.8	2.8
	Female	4.6	2.4	5.3	3.1	5.5	1.7
Residence	Urban	3.6	2.2	5.4	3.0	5.1	1.1
	Rural	5.9	2.7	6.3	3.1	6.6	2.8
Age group	5-14 years old	4.8	2.3	4.9	2.6	5.1	2.0
	15-17 years old	7.0	3.7	10.9	4.8	10.8	3.6
Total		5.2	2.6	6.0	3.0	6.1	2.3

Individual background variables		Workplace injury						
		Head, back or neck injury	Broken bone	Lost a body part	Eye or ear injury/damage	Electric shock	Near drowning	Other
Sex	Male	3.8	1.8	1.2	0.7	1.7	1.0	0.5
	Female	3.4	1.8	0.9	0.6	1.1	0.8	0.5
Residence	Urban	2.9	1.2	0.8	0.6	2.5	0.4	0.3
	Rural	3.9	2.0	1.1	0.7	0.9	1.1	0.5
Age group	5-14 years old	3.1	1.6	1.0	0.6	1.1	0.8	0.4
	15-17 years old	6.1	2.5	1.4	0.7	2.6	1.4	0.7
Total		3.6	1.8	1.0	0.7	1.4	0.9	0.5

► Table A.29. Child labour and work-related injury and illness (number of children 5 to 17 years old in child labour experiencing work-related injury or illness, by type of injury or illness, sex, residence and age group)

Individual background variables		Workplace injury					
		Fall from scaffolding/building, ladder	Hit by something very heavy falling or being crushed	Deep or long cut	Bad burn (not sunburn)	Bad bruise, bump or swelling (strained muscle, dislocation)	Animal/snake bite
Sex	Male	733 268	350 190	831 927	367 089	843 783	354 903
	Female	545 200	280 671	635 173	373 301	653 538	204 373
Residence	Urban	251 067	156 085	381 009	209 155	357 462	80 984
	Rural	1 027 401	474 776	1 086 091	531 234	1 139 859	478 292
Age group	5-14 years old	959 623	463 168	974 492	523 029	1 009 296	397 169
	15-17 years old	318 846	167 693	492 608	217 360	488 026	162 108
Total		1 278 468	630 861	1 467 100	740 389	1 497 321	559 276

Individual background variables		Workplace injury						
		Head, back or neck injury	Broken bone	Lost a body part (finger, hand, arm, leg)	Eye or ear injury/damage	Electric shock	Near drowning	Other
Sex	Male	477 678	218 639	145 923	89 056	210 837	128 367	56 881
	Female	405 594	208 674	107 573	70 864	125 784	97 004	56 763
Residence	Urban	201 610	87 364	56 042	44 229	174 481	30 747	20 587
	Rural	681 662	339 950	197 454	115 692	162 140	194 625	93 057
Age group	5-14 years old	608 620	316 258	188 402	127 729	217 180	161 572	80 612
	15-17 years old	274 652	111 056	65 094	32 191	119 441	63 800	33 032
Total		883 272	427 313	253 496	159 921	336 621	225 372	113 644

► Table A.30. Child labour and work-related injury and illness (% of children 5 to 17 years old in child labour experiencing at least one episode of work-related injury or illness, by age group, form of work and sex)

Form of work	Age group								
	5-14 years old			15-17 years old			Total 5-17 years old		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Employment	30.2	29.2	29.7	37.4	30.5	34.6	32.6	29.6	31.3
Own-use production	15.4	13.3	14.4	29.4	21.6	25.5	17.7	14.7	16.3
Unpaid trainee	34.1	25.0	29.9	37.3	20.8	30.1	35.2	23.6	30.0

► Table A.31. Child labour and work-related injury and illness (number of children 5 to 17 years old in child labour experiencing at least one episode of work-related injury or illness, by age group, form of work and sex)

Form of work	Age group								
	5-14 years old			15-17 years old			Total 5-17 years old		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Employment	684 707	505 744	1 190 451	437 132	246 811	683 942	1 121 838	752 554	1 874 393
Own-use production	1 505 917	1 245 517	2 751 434	582 038	427 533	1 009 571	2 087 955	1 673 050	3 761 005
Unpaid trainee	341 875	216 042	557 917	192 499	82 310	274 810	534 375	298 352	832 727

Children's involvement in household chores

► Table A.32. Children's involvement in household chores by task (% of children 5 to 17 years old involved in household chores, by specific task, age group and sex)

Individual background variables		Household chores						
Age group	Sex	Shopping for the household	Repairing the home or equipment for the household	Cooking for the household	Cleaning for the household	Washing clothes for the household	Caring for sick/ elderly household members	Other
5-14 years old	Male	16.9	2.5	9.6	24.6	20.6	2.5	22.1
	Female	21.5	1.7	25.5	37.9	26.1	4.6	28.9
	Total	19.2	2.1	17.4	31.2	23.3	3.5	25.4
15-17 years old	Male	26.6	8.9	20.8	36.0	44.8	3.7	25.2
	Female	39.6	3.8	60.9	60.9	54.9	9.8	37.0
	Total	32.9	6.4	40.3	48.1	49.7	6.7	30.9
Total 5-17 years old	Male	18.8	3.8	11.8	26.8	25.4	2.7	22.7
	Female	25.0	2.1	32.3	42.3	31.6	5.6	30.4
	Total	21.9	2.9	21.8	34.4	28.4	4.1	26.5

► Table A.33. Children's involvement in hazardous household chores by age group (% of children 5 to 17 years old involved in hazardous activities while carrying out household chores, by age group, sex, residence and involvement in child labour)

Individual background variables		Age group			
		5-11 years old	12-14 years old	15-17 years old	Total 5-17 years old
Sex	Male	19.1	42.1	49.5	30.1
	Female	25.6	58.7	67.4	40.9
Residence	Urban	21.6	51.7	61.4	36.6
	Rural	22.6	49.4	56.0	34.7
Involvement in child labour	In child labour	38.2	65.9	73.5	50.5
	NOT in child labour	11.4	41.1	49.1	25.7
Total		22.3	50.3	58.2	35.4

► Table A.34. Children's involvement in hazardous household chores by task (% of children 5 to 17 years old involved in hazardous household chores by specific task, age group and sex)

Individual background variables		Household chores					
Age group	Sex	Carrying heavy loads while shopping	Cooking using a hot stove (with fire, gas or flames)	Preparing food with sharp knives	Cleaning with chemicals or bleach	Climbing or cleaning in hard-to-reach places from which a fall could cause injury	Sweeping, mopping or vacuuming for long periods of time
5-14 years old	Male	2.7	5.2	6.2	3.4	0.9	6.4
	Female	3.2	13.3	17.3	5.9	1.3	10.5
	Total	2.9	9.2	11.7	4.6	1.1	8.4
15-17 years old	Male	6.3	12.1	15.9	5.1	1.5	9.4
	Female	10.0	36.7	48.5	13.0	2.7	22.7
	Total	8.1	24.0	31.7	8.9	2.1	15.9
Total 5-17 years old	Male	3.4	6.5	8.1	3.7	1.0	7.0
	Female	4.5	17.8	23.3	7.3	1.6	12.9
	Total	3.9	12.0	15.5	5.5	1.3	9.9

Individual background variables		Household chores					
Age group	Sex	Washing clothes by hand	Ironing clothes	Carrying heavy washing baskets	Carrying or lifting an adult	Bathing, showering or dressing an adult	Caring for a sick person
5-14 years old	Male	19.7	4.2	1.7	0.4	0.3	0.4
	Female	24.8	4.6	2.4	0.5	0.5	0.7
	Total	22.2	4.4	2.1	0.4	0.4	0.6
15-17 years old	Male	43.2	16.5	4.3	0.6	0.3	1.1
	Female	53.1	16.4	7.4	1.7	0.9	2.3
	Total	48.0	16.4	5.8	1.1	0.6	1.7
Total 5-17 years old	Male	24.3	6.6	2.2	0.4	0.3	0.6
	Female	30.2	6.8	3.4	0.7	0.5	1.0
	Total	27.2	6.7	2.8	0.6	0.4	0.8

Annex 2. Survey methodology

This annex describes the methodology used in the Nigeria Child Labour and Forced Labour Survey (NCFLS) 2022. It explains the scope and coverage of the survey, sampling design, field operations, data processing, response rates, weighting and the survey limitations.

Scope and coverage

The Nigeria Child Labour Survey is a household-based survey; the target population comprises households and children in Nigeria's households. It was conducted as a stand-alone survey primarily concerned with children's activities and child labour topics, characterized by its single-subject focus. The survey was carried out to produce estimates at the national, regional and state levels.

A total of 16,650 households from 1,110 enumeration areas (EAs) distributed across Nigeria's 36 states and Federal Capital Territory (FCT), Abuja were targeted. It covered both urban and rural households.

Questionnaire

The questionnaire followed the model developed by ILO, comprised of three main parts. The first part covered all household members' socio-demographic characteristics, economic activities and perceptions of children's parents or guardians about child labour. The second part collected

information on housing and accommodation, while the third part focused on children's education, working status, health and welfare in employment as well as their safety in the workplace.

The questionnaire comprised eight sections:

- Section A: Identification
- Section B: Household roster and demographics
- Section C: Education
- Section D: Forms of work
- Section E: Hazardous work
- Section F: Household tasks
- Section G: Forced labour
- Section H: Housing

Sampling design and implementation

Sampling frame

The sample design for the survey was based on the National Integrated Survey of Households (NISH) master sample design developed by the NBS. This was developed from the frame of EAs demarcated by the National Population Commission for the 2006 housing and population

census. The NISH design employed a replicated sampling design, a technique by which many samples (replicates) were selected independently from a population such that each replicate sample represents the population.

Basically, the NISH sample design is a two-stage, replicated and rotated cluster sample design with EAs as the primary sampling units, and households as the secondary sampling units. Generally, for each Nigerian state and the FCT, the NISH master sample is made up of 200 EAs drawn into 20 replicates. A replicate consists of ten EAs.

Sample size

The calculation of the sample size used the design effect of 1.2. Other parameters for the sample size calculation included the predicted value of the prevalence rate (40 per cent); the relative margin of error at 95 per cent confidence (5 per cent); the proportion of the target population in the base population (36.07 per cent); the average household size (5.06); and the expected response rate of households (95 per cent). The sample size of the survey was designed to provide state estimates of the prevalence of child labour with standard errors of about 1 per cent [$r \cdot RME/2 = 40\% \cdot 5\%/2 = 1\%$] under simple random sampling (RME = relative margin of error).

Sampling design

The sample design of the survey was based on a stratified two-stage sampling technique. In the first stage of sampling, 30 EAs were selected as part of a master sample in each of the 36 states and the FCT. In total, 1,110 EAs formed the primary sampling units of the survey. In the second stage, 15 households were systematically selected in each of the EAs. The target sample size was 16,650 households. All children 5 to 17 years old living in the households were interviewed.

Training and fieldwork

Two levels of training were organized. The first level was the training of trainers conducted from 28 to 30 March 2022. At this level, the participants trained were NBS and Federal Ministry of Labour and Employment staff and other members of the technical committee, who served as trainers for the second level of training as well as monitors/

quality assurance officers during the fieldwork. The participants included 74 trainers, 12 coordinators and other stakeholders. The training lasted three days.

Training of interviewers and supervisors

The second level of the training was the training of field personnel carried out from 4 to 6 April 2022. At this level, the training of field personnel took place in the 36 states and the FCT. In total, 444 field personnel (111 team leads and 333 team-mates), 37 state officers and six zonal controllers were trained nationwide. To ensure quality data collection, experienced field staff were engaged due to the sensitivity and peculiarity of the survey. Training sessions for the field personnel included an overview of the survey and its objectives, techniques for interviewing, a detailed description of all questionnaire sections, computer-assisted personal interviewing (CAPI) training and mock interviews. The training lasted three days.

Fieldwork

The selection criteria considered during the recruitment process were education level (having at least a National Diploma), knowledge of the local language and experience of data collection in similar national surveys.

A total of 12 field personnel were engaged in each state and the FCT. Three teams comprising three teammates and one team lead were constituted. The teams worked in a roving manner by completing interviews in one EA before moving to the next, until the ten EAs assigned to each team were completed. The fieldwork lasted 12 days including travelling time from one EA to the next and from one local government area to another as well as the time for callbacks to the households from 7 to 20 April 2022. Data was collected using CAPI devices and transmitted to the NBS server in real time online.

Data processing

The questionnaire was programmed using the Census and Survey Processing System software and CAPI for data capturing. A team responsible for data quality protocols was established for real-time online data checks, comprising a data administrator, who ensured the connectivity of CAPI

devices to the server and monitored the downloading and uploading of data to and from enumerators in the field, as well as data editors, who checked for errors in the data downloaded from the server and communicated any corrections or requested clarification from the enumerators.

Data cleaning and analysis using Stata

After the data was downloaded from the web-based system, a process of data cleaning was performed to prepare the data for the statistical analysis. This process implied the creation of unique datasets including household and individual information to allow for an analysis of children's activities by variables describing the household's context. Data cleaning was performed by an expert using Stata statistical software. Moreover, the results in this report accounted for the complex sampling strategy by considering clustering, stratification and weighting. According to the sampling strategy, estimates and standard errors were adjusted using the survey weights.

Response rates and weighting

Response rates

The sample of the 2022 NCFLS was targeted at 16,650 households but the number of households interviewed was slightly lower than anticipated due to some non-response cases. Many factors caused the non-response cases, such as the change of location of some households and the unavailability of household members for

interviews, among others. In total 16,418 households were visited and interviewed, which represents a response rate of 98.6 per cent.

Weighting

The probability weight of the household was produced by taking the inverse of the probability to select the household (probability products obtained at each sampling stage). Weights were calculated by multiplying the probability of selection of EAs by the probability of selecting the households within the EAs and then taking the inverse of the product. An adjustment was made for non-responses before the final weight was applied to the dataset. Final weight values were further calibrated to follow the national population distribution by state.

Limitations and lessons learned

Given that the NCFLS is a household-based survey, it only captured information about children living in households, excluding children living on the street, in orphanages, in institutions, etc. This could have implications for the results, as these children may be more vulnerable to other types of child labour. To fully understand the situation of children in child labour, it would be insightful to complement the NCFLS findings with additional studies covering the groups of children not included in this survey. In addition, while the survey captures household chores performed by children, the data does not allow an examination of the time spent doing household chores, which is essential information to fully understand the impact of these chores on children's development.



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