

# WORLD DAY AGAINST CHILD LABOUR

THIS YEAR'S THEME: PROGRESS IS CLEAR, BUT THERE'S MORE TO DO: LET'S SPEED UP EFFORTS!



Graduate Women International (GWI)

## 12 JUNE 2025



## WHAT IS WORLD DAY AGAINST CHILD LABOUR?

The International Labour Organization (ILO) launched the World Day Against Child Labour in 2002 to focus attention on the global extent of child laborer and efforts needed to eliminate it.

This year marks a key milestone with the release of the 2025 global estimates and trends of child labour—an urgent opportunity to assess progress, expose persistent gaps, and reinforce international commitments such as ILO Convention No. 138 on the Minimum Age. This ILO and UNICEF joint report will provide a comprehensive overview of where we stand in the global commitments to eliminate child labour. ILO is calling for a full ratification of **ILO Convention No. 138 on the Minimum Age** and the implementation of **ILO Convention No. 182 on the Worst Forms of Child Labour**, increasing government accountability.

The Convention reinforces the importance of keeping children—especially girls—out of premature and exploitative labour, ensuring their right to complete education.

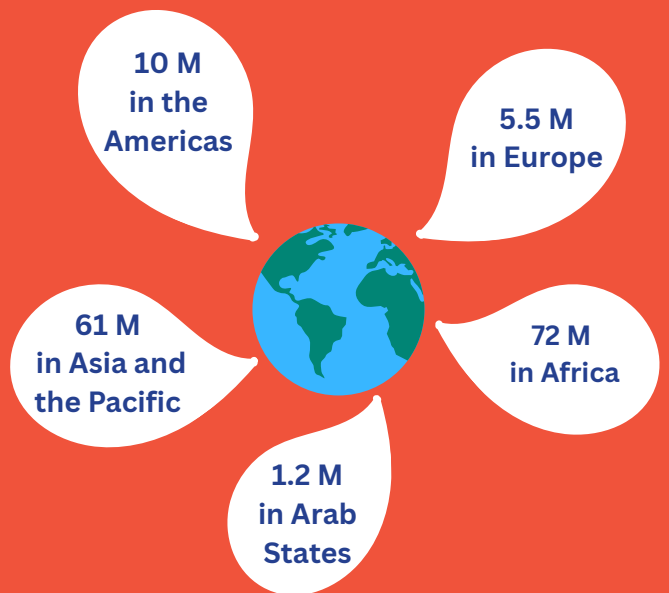
## FAST FACTS

### 160 million

children are still engaged in child labour



In all regions, boys and girls are equally likely to be involved in child labour. However, there are gender disparities in the types of activities carried out, with girls far more likely to be involved in unpaid household services. (UNICEF)

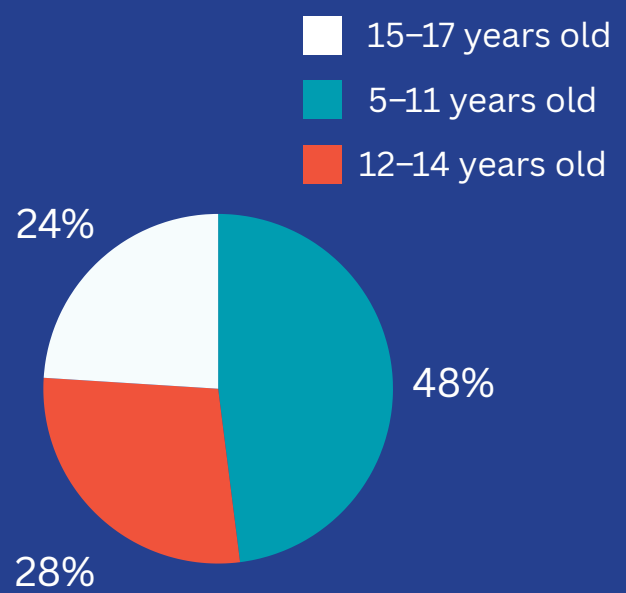


Child labour across the world (ILO)



### Over 1/3 of children in child labour are out of school

Even when children in child labour attend school, they often struggle to keep up. Studies show that they have lower foundational reading skills compared to their peers not involved in labour (UNICEF).



source: UNICEF

## UNICEF INNOCENTI: LEVERING EDUCATION TO END CHILD LABOUR

Focusing on India and Bangladesh, this UNICEF [report](#) from July 2024 analyzes how access to quality education can influence child labour trends. It emphasizes that disruptions in education, such as those caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, can increase the risk of child labour. **The study advocates for strengthening education systems to prevent children from entering the workforce prematurely.**

## GWI'S PROJECT IN EL SALVADOR



As part of the Bina Roy Partners in Development Programme (2019-2020), la Asociación de Mujeres Universitarias de El Salvador (AMUS) created workshops in Human Rights with Emphasis on the Rights of Women and Childhood for its dissemination among the Salvadorian Population.

This project aimed to train Salvadorian women and girls in the field of human rights and particularly the rights of women and children. A hundred and fifty low income students from the Queen's Secondary School in San Salvador and a hundred and thirty five women benefited from this programme.

Read the project summary [HERE](#)

Source: GWI BRPID project summaries 2019-2020

# WORLD DAY AGAINST CHILD LABOUR

12 JUNE 2025



Graduate Women International (GWI)

## GWI 2024 PRESS RELEASE



In 2024, World Day against Child Labour focused on celebrating the 25th anniversary of the adoption of ILO Convention No. 182 on the Worst Forms of Child Labour. GWI observed this day to raise awareness about the atrocity of child labour that exists around the world, depriving children of a healthy upbringing, access to education and future opportunities.

Click [HERE](#) to access the full press release



## Links with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015, provides a shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet, now and into the future. At its heart are the 17 SDGs, which are an urgent call for action by all countries in a global partnership.

1

NO  
POVERTY



By lifting families out of poverty, providing social protections, and increasing access to education, the root drivers of child labour are removed.

4

QUALITY  
EDUCATION



It keeps children safe, provides them with future opportunities, and reduces the likelihood that they'll be forced to work. Inclusive, accessible, and effective education is a sustainable tool to end Child Labour.

5

GENDER  
EQUALITY



It ensures girls are not pushed into hidden, unpaid, or exploitative work and supports broader social change that protects all children from labour.

8

DECENT WORK AND  
ECONOMIC GROWTH



It directly calls for its elimination and focuses on creating decent jobs for adults and youth, which reduces the need for children to work.

Source: United Nations

## HOW CAN YOU INFLUENCE CHANGE WITH GWI?

After two decades of progress, recent years have seen a resurgence in child labour. Here are some advocacy ideas that can make a difference.

**Support ethical brands: Choose products from companies committed to fair labour practices.**

**Educate others with GWI materials: Inform friends and family, raise awareness on social media about the importance of eliminating child labour.**

**Volunteer or Donate: Support GWI and NGOs that work to eliminate child labour and support children's education.**

GWI thanks intern, Suzanne Nette, for her contributions to this infographic.



Graduate Women International (GWI)



@GraduateWomenInternational



@GraduateWomenInternational



@gradwomen



@gradwomen

© 2025 Graduate Women International. All Rights Reserved.