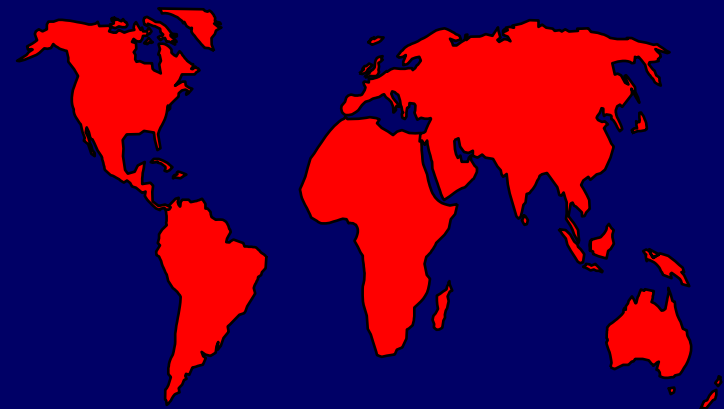




International Labour Organization

IPEC: The International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour





Definition of a child

- The term « child » applies to all persons under 18 years of age
- Child labourers often start work at an early age – 4/5 years of age onwards



Child labour is work

- That harm's children's well being and hinders their education, development and future livelihoods
- Which, by its nature and/or the way it is carried out, harms, abuses and exploits the child or deprives the child of an education

Child labour

- The aim is to eliminate all forms of child labour
- Not all forms of work carried out by children are child labour
- A problem in both industrialised and developing countries

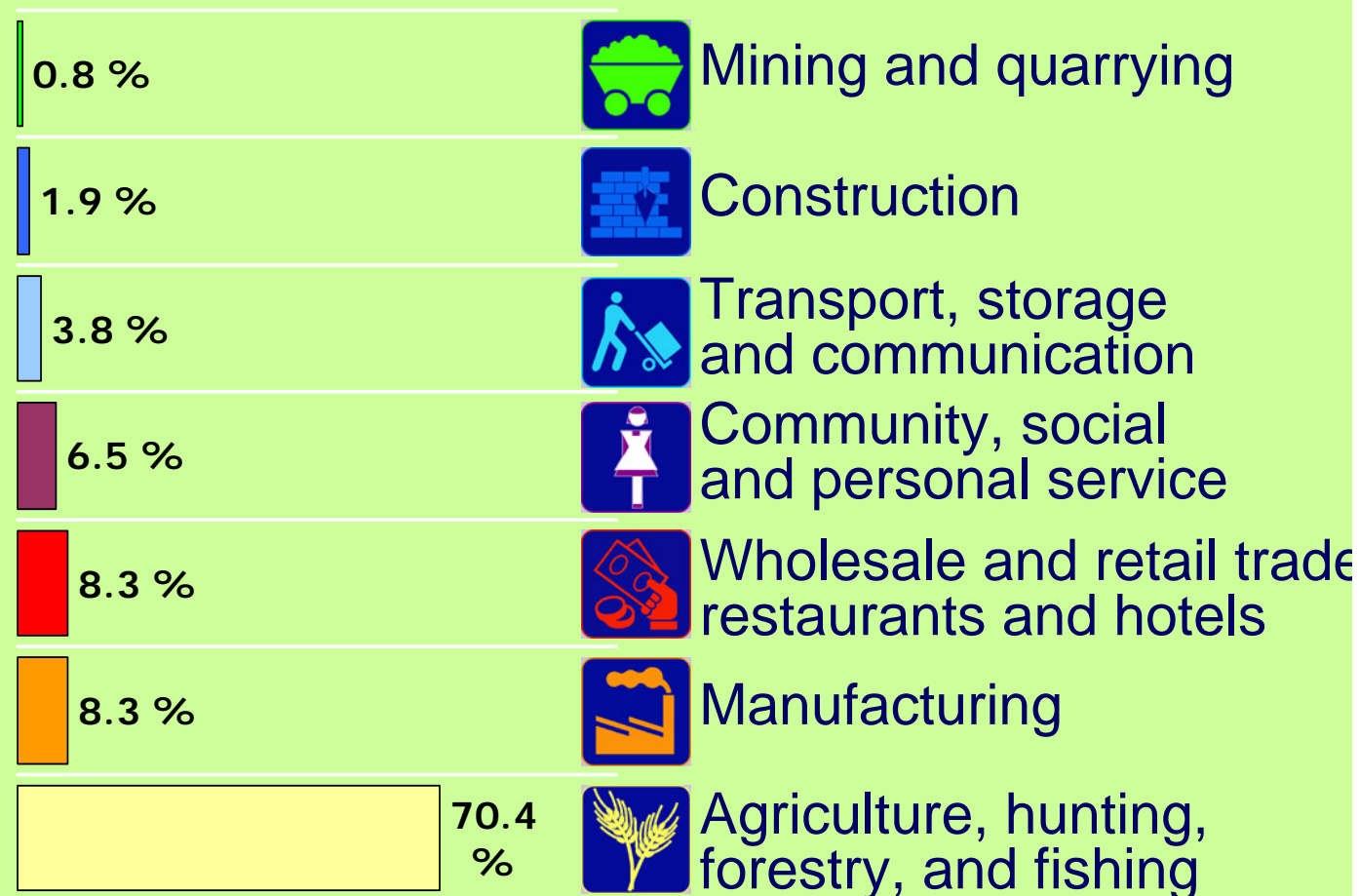
Children age under 18



246,000,000
are working,

171,000,000
are in hazardous work

Every sector has children Every sector has risks



Child labour

- Workplace exposure to chemicals
- Home production
- Small workshops
- Factories
- Farms, plantations
- Mining, construction sites

Child labour

- Exposures the same as adult workers in a given situation
- At greater risk because growing and developing physically, mentally, emotionally

Child labour

- Health effects of exposure to chemicals as a child labourer may only develop when the child is an adult
- Chronic effects, endocrine disruptors

Child labour

- Lack rights and organisation
- Powerless in work situations
- Key messages have to be directed to audiences who can help eliminate child labour

Child labour

- Employers and employers organisations
- Companies and industry – producers, purchasers/marketing
- Trade associations
- Trade unions and workers
- Communities
- NGOs
- IGOs

WORST FORMS OF CHILD LABOUR (Article 3)

HAZARDOUS CHILD LABOUR

- **Work** activities
- National list of hazardous work activities/sectors that should be legally prohibited for children

UNCONDITIONAL WORST FORMS OF CHILD LABOUR

- **Criminal** Activities
- To be banned
- child sexual exploitation, child soldiers, trafficking, drug pushing etc

STRATEGIES FOR ELIMINATION OF HAZARDOUS CHILD LABOUR

- **PREVENTION** – of children entering hazardous work
- **WITHDRAWAL** – from hazardous workplaces, and into schools/skill training
- **PROTECTION** – improving safety and health standards for those children who remain in the workplace (pending withdrawal)

HAZARDOUS CHILD LABOUR

- 22,000 children are killed at work each year
- Number of workplace accidents unknown
- (270 million accidents per annum)
- Number of cases of work-related illness unknown (160 million deaths per annum)