

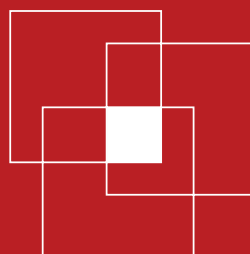


International
Labour
Organization



Kenya child labour baseline survey: Busia district report

OCTOBER 2011



International
Programme on
the Elimination
of Child Labour
(IPEC)

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First published 2012

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IPEC; KNBS

Kenya child labour baseline survey: Busia district report / International Labour Organization; ILO International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour; Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS) - Nairobi: ILO, 2012

ISBN: 978-92-2-126798-0 (Print); 978-92-2-126799-7 (Web PDF)

International Labour Organisation; International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour
child labour / child worker / baseline survey / Kenya - 13.01.2

ILO Cataloguing in Publication Data

NOTE

This publication is a joint publication elaborated by the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS) and IPEC Kenya Office.

Funding for this joint publication was provided by the United States Department of Labor (Project KEN/09/50/USA).

This publication does not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the United States Department of Labor, nor does mention of trade names, commercial products, or organizations imply endorsement by the United States Government.

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Table of contents

Page

Abbreviations	vii
Acknowledgements	ix
Executive summary.....	xi
1. Introduction.....	1
1.1 Country profile: Geography and economy	1
1.2 District profile: Poverty and economy.....	3
1.3 Overview of child labour	4
1.4 Statistical analysis of child labour in Kenya.....	5
1.5 Objectives of the baseline survey.....	6
1.6 Structure of the report	8
2. Concepts and definitions.....	9
2.1 Introduction	9
2.2 Concepts and definitions	9
3. Survey techniques and methodology	15
3.1 Introduction	15
3.2 Sample design	15
3.3 Scope	15
3.4 Sample frame.....	15
3.5 Listing process	15
3.6 Sample size and allocation	16
3.7 Sampling of EAs and households.....	16
3.8 Training	17
3.9 Development of survey instruments.....	17
3.10 Fieldwork	17
3.11 Data processing	17
3.12 Limitations of the study	17
4. Characteristics of the survey population	19
4.1 Introduction	19
4.2 Distribution of population by age and sex	19
4.3 Age dependency ratio.....	21

4.4	Distribution of households by size and sex of the household head.....	21
4.5	Marital status.....	22
4.6	School attendance and educational attainment for children aged 5-17	23
4.7	Education attainment by sex and place of residence	24
4.8	Housing characteristics.....	25
4.9	Source of drinking water	26
4.10	Source of energy for cooking and lighting.....	27
5.	Working children	29
5.1	Distribution of population aged 5-17 by activity status	29
5.2	Distribution of children by activity status and household headship.....	30
5.3	Distribution of working children by activity status and school attendance.....	30
5.4	Distribution of working children by age and occupation	31
5.5	Distribution of working children by age and industry.....	32
5.6	Distribution of working children by age and usual working time	33
5.7	Distribution of working children by age and main workplace	34
5.8	Distribution of working children by age and employment status.....	34
5.9	Distribution of working children by age and reasons for working.....	35
5.10	Distribution of working children by age and who receives earnings	36
6.	Children in child labour	37
6.1	Introduction	37
6.2	Child labour filtering criterion	37
6.3	Distribution of child labourers by sex.....	38
6.4	Distribution of child labourers by age and sex	38
6.5	Distribution of child labourers by age and occupation	39
6.6	Distribution of child labourers by age and economic activity.....	39
7.	Conclusions and recommendations.....	41
7.1	Conclusions	41
7.2	Recommendations.....	41
	References	43

TABLES

Table 3.1:	Survey design	16
Table 4.1:	Distribution of population by age and sex	19
Table 4.2:	Population distribution by age dependence groups.....	21

Table 4.3:	Distribution of households by size and sex of the household head	21
Table 4.4:	Distribution of population by marital status and age	22
Table 4.5:	Distribution of population by children who had ever attended school and by sex.....	24
Table 4.6:	Distribution of population by education attainment, sex and region	24
Table 4.9:	Distribution of households by main source of cooking fuel	27
Table 4.10:	Distribution of households by main source of lighting fuel	27
Table 5.1a:	Distribution of children by activity status and age	29
Table 5.1b:	Distribution of children by activity status and age	29
Table 5.2:	Distribution of children by age and household headship	30
Table 5.3a:	Distribution of children by working status and school attendance	31
Table 5.3b:	Distribution children by working status, age and sex	31
Table 5.5:	Distribution of working children by age and industry	33
Table 5.6:	Distribution of working children by age and usual work time	33
Table 5.7:	Distribution of working children by age and main work place	34
Table 5.8:	Distribution of working children by age and employment status	35
Table 5.9:	Distribution of working children by age and reason for working	35
Table 5.10:	Distribution of working children by age and who receives earnings.....	36
Table 6.1:	Distribution of child labourers by sex	38
Table 6.2:	Distribution of child labourers by age and sex.....	39
Table 6.3:	Distribution of child labourers by age and occupation	39
Table 6.4:	Distribution of child labourers by age and industry.....	40

FIGURES

Figure 1:	Map of Kenya	2
Figure 4.1:	Distribution of population by age and sex	20
Figure 4.2:	Distribution of population by age	20
Figure 4.3:	Distribution of households by household size	22
Figure 4.4:	Distribution of population by marital status.....	23
Figure 4.5:	Distribution of population by education attainment.....	24
Figure 4.6:	Distribution of households by tenure status	25
Figure 4.7:	Distribution of households by main source of drinking water	26
Figure 5.1:	Distribution of children by activity status	30

Abbreviations

Cspro	Census and Survey Processing System
EAs	Enumeration Areas
ERS	Economic Recovery Strategy
ISIC	UN International Standard Industrial Classification
KNBS	Kenya National Bureau of Statistics
KNOCS	Kenya National Occupation Classification Standards
MTP	Medium Term Plan
MoS	Measure of Size
NAP	National Action Plan
PPS	Probability Proportional to Size
PSUs	Primary Sampling Units
SNA	System of National Accounts
SPSS	Statistical Package for Social Sciences
TBP	Time Bound Programme
UNCRC	United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child
WFCL	Worst Forms of Child Labour

Acknowledgements

Child labour, especially in its worst forms remains a major concern for the Government of Kenya. However, statistics on the nature and extent of child labour at the district level remain scanty. The Busia District Child Labour Baseline Survey was designed to address this data gap. The survey covered 1,340 households selected using a two – stage cluster probability sampling design.

The main objective of the baseline survey was to collect information to enable identification and analysis of the causes and consequences of children engaged in child labour in an effort to provide policy makers, researchers and other stakeholders with comprehensive information and a set of indicators on child labour to guide the development of interventions.

The results indicated a high proportion of child labour in Busia district. These children aged 5-17 years were mainly engaged in domestic chores as well as in agriculture, forestry and fishing.

I wish to acknowledge both the financial and technical support extended to Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS) by the International Labour Organization (ILO) through the International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC). I also commend the hard work of the KNBS staff especially Mr James Gatungu, Njoroge Nyoike, Vivianne Nyarunda and Robert Nderitu, the ILO/IPEC staff Wangui Irimu and Enos Omondi in successfully completing the survey, making results available and compiling this report .

Finally, I am grateful to enumerators who worked tirelessly in the field to collect the data presented here and the respondents who gave their time to provide the information.

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Kenya National Bureau of Statistics

Executive summary

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), the ILO Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138), and the Convention on the Worst Forms of Child Labor 1999 (No. 182) recognize the child's right to be protected from economic exploitation, from performing any work that is likely to be hazardous or that may interfere with his or her education. The three Conventions also recognise the child's right to be protected from work that may be harmful to his or her health or physical, mental spiritual, moral or social development.

The 2010 Busia District Child Labour Baseline Survey is a sample survey based on the 2009 Population and Housing Census Enumeration Areas (EAs) as the sample frame. This involved the determination of the population aged 5-17 years. A child labour preference rate of 0.5 was considered to achieve a maximum sample. A design effect of 2 as well as an error margin of 3 per cent was considered. This resulted into 54, clusters being created in Busia, District.

The interviewers first updated the list of all the households in the selected enumeration areas. Among the variables of observation considered in this exercise were; Number of household members, Age and sex of household head and, population aged 5-17 years. The outcome of this process provided for the basis of sampling of households participating in this survey. The sampling of EAs was done independently within each stratum using the probability proportional to size (PPS) method with households being the measure of size. In the district sample, 25 households were randomly selected with equal probability in each enumeration area to give a large enough sample to generate reliable district estimates.

The survey was implemented by the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS), with the support of the ILO's International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC). The highlights of the main findings from the survey are presented below.

The total population in Busia district is 391,626. Overall, 63.2 per cent of the population in Busia district was aged below 20 years. Those aged 0-14 accounted for 50.3 per cent. 2.5 per cent of the population was aged 65 years and above. The 5-17 years age constituted 46.6 per cent of the total population. The age dependency ratio was 113.3.

Overall, 93.2 per cent of the survey population have ever attended school. There was a slightly higher proportion of males (47.9 per cent) who had attended school than females (45.3 per cent), 72.5 per cent of the population had primary level as the highest educational attainment, while 6.5 per cent had attained secondary level of education.

The results show that 42.7 per cent of the households in Busia get their drinking water from rivers or streams and 29.8 per cent get their water from boreholes. Only 6.7 per cent of the households have their water piped either within or outside the dwelling.

Firewood remains the predominant fuel for cooking with 84.7 per cent of the households in the district using it as their source of cooking fuel. Kerosene was used by majority (89.2 per cent) of the households as their main source of lighting fuel. Overall, only 4.8 per cent of the households in the district reported electricity as their main source of lighting fuel.

According to the results, 42.8 per cent of the population aged 5-17 years reported having engaged in an activity for pay, profit or family gain for at least one hour in the week prior to the survey. More than half of the persons in all the age groups 10 and above worked in the reference period.

Findings from the survey indicate that about 73,000 children aged 5-17 worked in the week preceding the interview. This constituted 42.8 per cent of the total children in this age category. Out of the children who had dropped out of school, 64.0 per cent were working, while 64.2 per cent of those who reported to have completed school were working. Analysis by gender shows that a higher proportion of boys who reported having worked (22.8 per cent) compared to the girls (19.9 per cent).

Overall, the most common occupations reported were farm-hand and related labourers' and "cleaners' launders and domestic workers' with 53.3 and 16.9 per cent respectively. The proportions that reported having engaged in the remaining occupations were all marginal.

The most preferred industry to working children was 'Agriculture, forestry and fishing' reported by 42.6 per cent of the respondents. The second most preferred industry to working children was 'Activities of households -producing for own use' at 21.9 per cent.

The highest proportion of children (37.0 per cent) reported that they usually worked during the hours after school followed by those who reported working during the day (19.2 per cent). About 16.3 per cent of the children reported that their usual time of work was during the weekend.

The largest proportion (51.3 per cent) of children reported that the family dwelling was their place of work; followed by about 15.0 per cent, who reported working in the plantation, farm or garden. About 5.9 per cent of the children reported that they worked at the pond, lake or river, an indication that they were engaged in fishing activities.

The main reasons for working include supplement family income (52.6 per cent), helping in household enterprise (33.4 per cent) and to learn skills (5.7 per cent). This trend was replicated in the age groups 10 years and above. More than half of the children aged 5-9 years gave their main reason for working as learning skills.

There were a total of 28,692 children who were considered to be in child labour based on their age and number of hours worked. The incidence of child labourers is prevalent among schooling children (aged 5- 12 years) who work for more than 1 hour in a week. This category accounts for over 80.4 per cent of the children involved in labour and does not show any difference between males and females. On average, 18.8 per cent of the children aged 13 to 15 years were classified as child labourers.

The largest proportions of children involved in child labour worked as farm-hand and related labourers with 45.8 per cent. Cleaners, launders and domestic workers came second with 29.1 per cent, while messengers, porters, watchmen and related workers and street vendors and related workers contributed 3.8 and 0.8 per cent, respectively.

About 38.0 per cent of the children involved in child labour worked in activities of households producing for own use. The second most important economic activities were agriculture, forestry and fishing, where 35.9 per cent of the children 5-17 were involved.

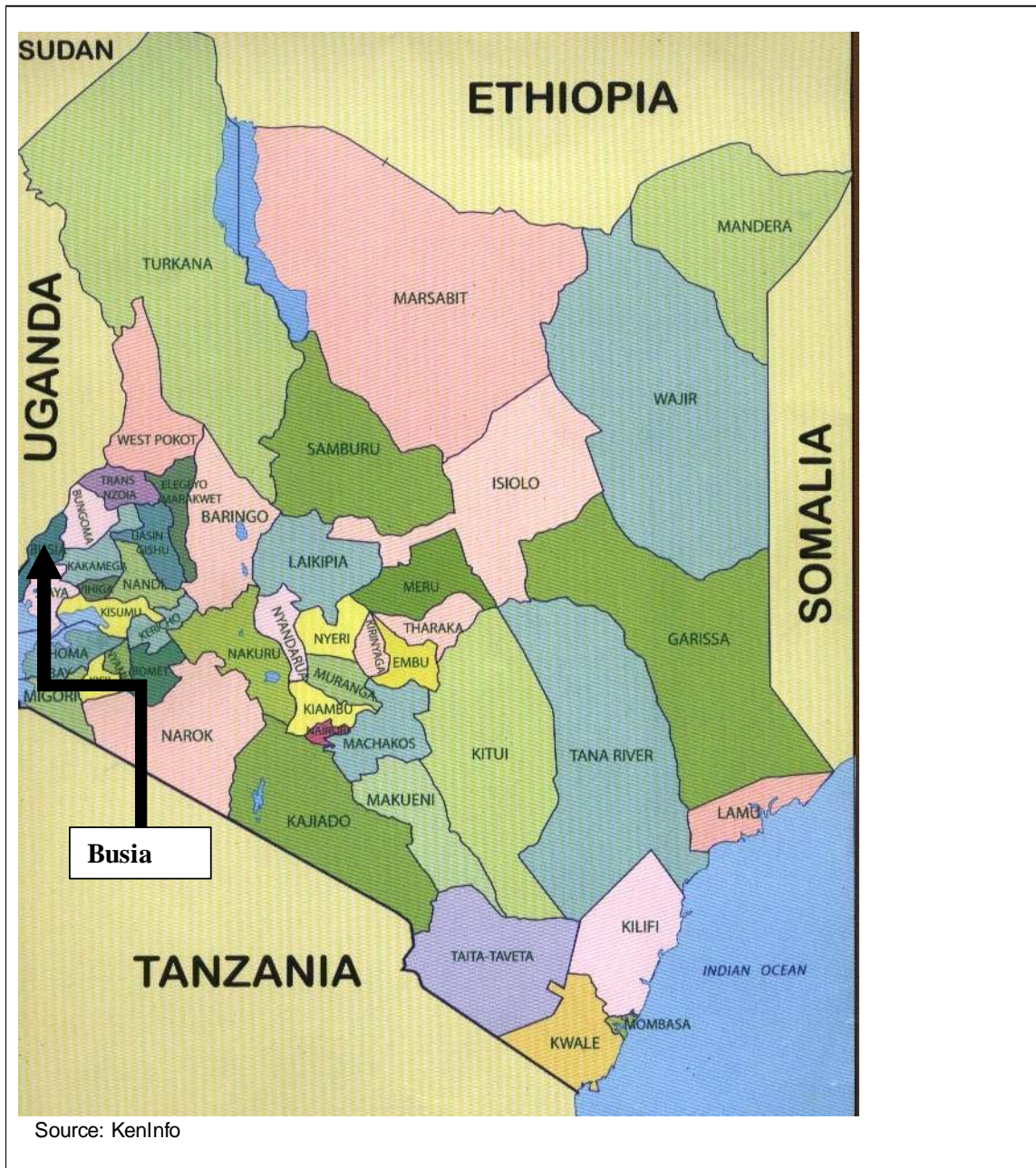
1. Introduction

1.1 Country profile: Geography and economy

Kenya is a developing country situated in the eastern part of Africa lying astride the Equator. The total area of 582,646 square kilometres comprise 571,466 square kilometres of land and the rest, various bodies of water, including the territorial allocation of Lake Victoria and the Indian ocean. Administratively, Kenya is divided into eight provinces and at the time of the 2009 Population and Housing Census, the information was collected on the basis of the 158 districts gazetted by December 2008. There are 42 ethnic groups distributed throughout the country. English and Kiswahili are the official languages while Kiswahili is the national language. Christianity and Islam are the main religions in the country.

The country has experienced a high increase in population. The first national census was undertaken in 1948 when a total of 5.5 million people were enumerated. The 2009 Population and Housing census enumerated a total of 38.6 million persons. The rapid high population growth rate, which was recorded at 3.0 per cent between 1999 and 2009 has been caused by high fertility and declining mortality. This has resulted in a youthful population with about half of the population being aged 17 years or younger. The results of the 2009 Population and Housing Census show that the total population of children aged 5-17 years had increased by 17 per cent from 1999 and had reached 13.2 million (approximately 34.2 per cent of national population).

Figure 1: Map of Kenya



Kenya has experienced variable development trends development in the past decade. Between 1997 and 2003, the economic performance was dismal, with an average growth rate of 1.8 per cent against a 2.8 per cent population growth rate. In 2003, the Government started implementing the Economic Recovery Strategy (ERS), aimed at stabilizing the economy and promoting growth, strengthening institutions of good governance and the rule of law, rehabilitating and expanding infrastructure, and improving human capital especially among the poor. These efforts led to an increase in growth rates in the economy from 2.9 per cent in 2003

to 7.0 per cent in 2007. Following the post election violence following the 2007 elections, the growth rate decelerated to 1.6 per cent in 2008. This later improved to a growth of 2.6 per cent in 2009.

With Vision 2030 especially its long-term development blueprint which focuses on development of the labour sector, Kenya intends to create an internationally viable and adaptive human resource base. This is necessary to meet the requirements of a rapidly industrializing economy which could be achieved through life-long training and education. This policy initiative has an elaborate social agenda that aims to reduce illiteracy by increasing access to education, improving transition rate from primary to secondary schools, and raising the quality and relevance of education. These initiatives will have a knockoff effect on child labour in the country. The Vision 2030 Medium Term Plan (MTP 2008 to 2012) has addressed child labour issues extensively.

1.2 District profile: Poverty and economy

Busia is one of the 17 districts in Western Province. It has an estimated population of 653,000 (Kenya Population and Housing Census 2009). The Busia District Development Plan for 2008-2012 shows that 66 per cent of the people in the district live in absolute poverty. The district depends on rain-fed small-scale agriculture, artisanal businesses, sugarcane farming and fishing. The wider Busia County has very high HIV/AIDS prevalence (14 per cent) compared to the national level (6 per cent). Many children have lost their parents to the disease (District Development Plan 2008-2012). The transition rate from primary to secondary education is about 12.4 per cent. At primary school level, the school dropout rate stands at 60 per cent and 70 per cent for boys and girls respectively (Ministry of Education, 2010).

The 2005/06 Kenya Integrated Household Budget Survey (KIHBS) shows that the proportion of children out of school has significantly decreased from 32.1 per cent in 1999 to 12.9 per cent in 2006. This means that there are children still out of school who are at risk of joining child labour. The total number of working children recorded was 1,012,184 comprising 535,197 boys (52.9 per cent) and 476,987 (47.1 per cent girls) compared to 1.9 million children who were reported to have worked in 1999. These results, although indicating a reduction in child labour, still point to the need to increase efforts to curb child labour to ensure that the children who are still working are withdrawn from child labour and those out of school are returned to school to prevent them from joining child labour.

The KIHBS report shows further that about 89.8 per cent of working children are in the rural areas as follows; in the age group 15-17 , 47.8 per cent, 10-14 , 36.4 per cent, and 5-9, 15.8 per cent. This poses another need; to concentrate efforts on the changing nature of child labour especially within the 15-17 year old working children and in the rural areas.

In the larger Busia district, about 3,000 school-going age children are engaged as child labourers (District Children's Office, Busia, 2009). Many of them are employed as casual labourers in sugar cane plantations around Nambale region. They are paid less than adults (KES 100 per day for children compared to KES 250 per day for adults) for work of equal value and

are exposed to risks such as snakes, cuts from machetes and insect bites. These children are often subjected to long working hours loading cane on to trucks. Children from vulnerable families are the most exploited especially by out-grower farmers in areas where there is poor enforcement of labour laws. Some families also send their children to work as casual labourers in these plantations to supplement family income. Sugarcane farmers prefer to employ child labourers because they are cheaper and can be manipulated easily.

Another sector that employs children is the *boda boda* (bicycle and motorcycle) taxis in the larger Busia district. This sector mainly employs children 15-17 years old where they work without protective gear such as helmets and reflective jackets leaving them at the risk of getting injured in the event of an accident. In addition, they do not understand traffic rules making them cause numerous road accidents. According to Busia traffic police department report (2010,) *boda boda* taxi riders are involved in about 80% of accidents occurring in the region.

Children in Busia District are also employed as porters to smuggle goods across the Kenya/ Uganda border and as a result, they no longer go to school. In addition, they are constantly harassed and arrested by police from both countries. Most of them are orphans left to fend for themselves and their siblings and have no alternative forms of livelihoods. In some instances too, hawkers and vegetable vendors involve their children in these businesses up to the late hours of the night.

1.3 Overview of child labour

Repercussions of child labour are both private and social costs. Child labourers may stop going to school or experience problems in learning. This in turn translates into a lower educational level which, reported on a national scale, has negative consequences for human capital development and hence for economic growth.

It goes without saying therefore that child labour needs to be addressed in countries where it is still prevalent. The most apparent characteristic of child labour is the variety of forms in which it can be found. Different forms of child labour in different contexts may have different determinants. These need to be considered when addressing the issue. In addition, data on child labour should be carried collected continuously. The KNBS has endeavoured to and will continue to mainstream child labour data collection in relevant national data collection surveys and studies.

“Child labour” is often defined as work that deprives children of their childhood, their potential and their dignity and which is harmful to their physical and mental development. It also refers to work that is socially or morally dangerous for children and interferes with their schooling by depriving them of the opportunity to attend school, forcing them to leave school prematurely or requiring them to attempt to combine school attendance with excessive, long and tedious work.

In its worst forms, child labour involves children being enslaved, separated from their families, exposed to serious hazards and illnesses and/or left to fend for themselves on the

streets of large cities – often at very early ages. Whether or not particular forms of “work” are referred to “child labour” depends on the child’s age, its type and hours of work performed, the conditions under which it is performed and the objectives pursued by individual countries. The answer varies from country to country, as well as among sectors within countries.

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) recognizes the child’s right to be protected from economic exploitation and from performing any work that is likely to:

- be hazardous,
- interfere with the child’s education,
- be harmful to the child’s health,
- be harmful to the child’s physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development.

Worldwide, there have been positive changes in the situation of child labour. According to Global Report on Child Labour (2008), the number of child labourers declined from 222 million to 215 million from 2004 to 2008. In 2006, the International Labour Organization (ILO) set a global target of eliminating child labour in its worst forms by the year 2016. Kenya however, targeted elimination of worst forms of child labour by 2015 as set out in the National Action Plan (NAP). However, child labour, especially in its worst forms, remains a major concern for the Government of Kenya.

1.4 Statistical analysis of child labour in Kenya

The Child Labour Analytical Report released by the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics in June 2008 with support from ILO/IPEC, indicated that as many as 1 million Kenyan children aged 5-17 or 7.9 % of the total number of children in that age bracket are still working and remain deprived of quality education, good health and other basic needs.

However, while the total number of children in child labour remains high, there are encouraging signs that the overall incidence and absolute numbers are declining (KNBS, 2008). Free primary education and Government efforts to reduce poverty and the implementation of the ILO-IPEC programmes in the country have contributed to more awareness about child labour. In addition, these programmes have also supported the Government’s efforts to create an enabling legal and policy environment that has pushed the child labour agenda to the national level and facilitated partnerships and direct support to children and families affected or at risk of child labour. These demonstrate that the fight against child labour can be won.

In 2001, the Government ratified ILO Convention 182 on the Worst Forms of Child Labour and subsequently developed a National Plan of Action on the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour (WFCL) in Kenya. This Plan sets out time-bound measures to deal with child labour. In line with this, the Government sought technical assistance from ILO-IPEC to implement a Time-Bound Programme (TBP). A programme of support to the National Action Plan (NAP) was developed and implemented from January 2005 to April 2009.

Building on IPEC experiences in Kenya (Country, ComAgri, Education and Training and Capacity Building Programmes), the TBP project increased activities to:

- implement time-bound effective measures to prevent the engagement of children in the WFCL,
- provide the necessary assistance for the removal, rehabilitation and social integration of children released from hazardous work,
- identify children at special risk taking into account the special situation of girls and assurance of access to free basic education,
- and, wherever possible and appropriate, provide vocational training for all children rescued from WFCL.

Kenya's National Action Plan for the Elimination of Child Labour was revised in 2008, and the Government's strong commitment to the elimination of child labour is evident from the attention accorded to socio-economic issues surrounding child labour, the development of comprehensive policies and a legislative framework that addresses it. Under the broader umbrella of Kenya's national development framework, Vision 2030, the Government has committed itself to the implementation of a far-reaching programme tackling the socio-economic challenges facing its citizens, particularly the marginalized and vulnerable. This includes significant efforts to ensure quality education for all children with support from the Fast-Track Initiative (FTI), the alignment of national policies and legislation to international conventions relevant to the elimination and prevention of child labour, and continued efforts to update and implement the National Action Plan.

A review of available information on child labour in general indicates that there are some gaps regarding the existence and extent of child labour in the sectors identified for support by IPEC/ SNAP. Area (district) specific data is also not available. It would therefore be difficult to realistically plan for interventions or to set realistic targets and indicators for the project. Monitoring and evaluation will also be hampered in the absence of baseline information thereby compounding assessment of the overall impact of the project for the country.

1.5 Objectives of the baseline survey

The overall goal of the baseline survey (BLS) in Busia, Kitui and Kilifi Districts was to establish the starting out situation (baseline) for children and families in the target districts. The survey also aimed to collect information in each of the three districts to enable identification and analysis of the causes and consequences of children engaged in child labour. This comprehensive information was in turn intended for policy makers, researchers and other stakeholders to guide the development of interventions.

Specifically, the objectives of the baseline survey were:

- 1.** To collect data on the main characteristics of working children and their households (demographic composition and details by age/ sex/ ethnicity/ marital status/ literacy and educational status/ classification by industry occupation and status in employment/ earnings and weekly hours of work/ location of work place/ reasons for not attending school/reasons for working/ types of unpaid household services done and weekly hours performed/ etc);
- 2.** To identify the 8,155 potential CL in WFCL who could be potential project beneficiaries;
- 3.** To collect data that will give information to enable identification and analysis of the causes and consequences of children engaged in child labour, including household earnings and debt, perceptions of parents/ guardians/ children, and the hazards and abuses faced by children at their work;
- 4.** To establish the starting out situation (baseline) for children and their families in the target districts;
- 5.** To collect available information from the households children who are trafficked or at risk of being trafficked, and the main reasons for the malpractice;
- 6.** To obtain through FGDs and KIIs ¹qualitative data on the various forms of child labour prevailing in the districts, particularly on WFCL and the underlying forces leading to the persistence of child labour;
- 7.** To assess the level of social services available in the three districts including those of Government in order to determine alternative livelihoods and support to target children in the three districts;
- 8.** To provide policy-makers, researchers and other stakeholders with comprehensive information and a set of indicators on child labour to guide the development of interventions;
- 9.** To identify some of the possible partners and stakeholders that the programme could work with in these areas detailing selection criteria;
- 10.** To locate and trace children and families who had received previous IPEC support and establish their current status and the contribution of the support they received; and
- 11.** To offer the baseline picture on indicators to be monitored through the project.

¹ Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) and Key Informant Techniques (KII).

1.6 Structure of the report

The Baseline Child Labour Survey Report is presented in seven chapters, structured as follows. Chapter 1 provides the introduction to child labour which includes international perspectives and national efforts aimed at addressing the problem locally. The chapter also highlights the objectives of the survey. Chapter 2 gives the concepts used in the Survey and the report as well as a definition of terms applied herein. Chapter 3 describes the survey techniques and methodology. In particular, it provides details on the scope and coverage of the survey in terms of the geographical area, sample size and principles of sample selection, and distribution. Limitations of the survey are also presented in this chapter. Survey findings on activities by children are presented in Chapter 4. The issues covered in the chapter include main characteristics of the survey population, prevalence of children's economic activity by various background characteristics and school attendance. Chapter 5 gives a detailed analysis of characteristics of working children while Chapter 6 zeroes in on Child Labour and Hazardous work by children. Finally, Chapter 7 presents conclusions and recommendations.

2. Concepts and definitions

2.1 Introduction

To reduce interviewers' bias, unfamiliar terms and concepts were defined in the enumerator's reference manual and also during training.

Below are the main concepts used during data collection and during the analysis of survey results.

2.2 Concepts and definitions

2.2.1 Household

This was the unit of enumeration used in the survey and was defined as a person or a group of persons residing in the same compound, answerable to the same head and pooling and sharing resources for common provisions such as food and house rent.

2.2.2 Head of household

This was defined as the key decision-maker whose authority is acknowledged by other members of the household. Because the survey considered *de jure* household members, the head was to be a usual resident in the compound who made day-to-day decisions for the household.

2.2.3 Labour force framework

The total population was categorized into currently economically active population (labour force) and the economically inactive population. The former was defined as consisting of persons who were either working or holding a job in an economic activity during the past one week plus those who were not working, but were actively looking for work during the reference period. The inactive population covered persons who were not in the labour force, and included persons less than five years of age, the infirm/incapacitated and full-time students. The conventional working age limits were relaxed for this survey to include all persons aged 5 years and above. The age limit was lowered in order to capture the intensity and extent of child labour.

2.2.4 Economically active persons

Economically active persons covered members of the population who were either on leave or off from a job, at work, or looked for work during the survey's reference period. Economic activities related to market production and certain types of non-market production such as production of primary goods for own consumption, the processing of primary

commodities for own consumption by the producers of these items and the production of fixed assets for own use among others.

2.2.5 Reference period

This referred to the time to which the collected data relates. Two reference periods were used in his survey, past week (the week prior to the interviewing week), and the past twelve months.

2.2.6 Work

This concept covered economic activities either for pay, profit or family gain during the reference period.

2.2.7 Employment

This term referred to performance of work as defined in 2.2.6 and was used to measure the number of persons employed, including persons at work during a short reference period, and also persons temporarily absent from work but holding a job.

2.2.8 Household tasks

Household tasks refer to unpaid services carried out by and for household members in own households such as preparing and serving meals; mending, washing and ironing clothes, shopping, caring for siblings, the sick and disabled household members, cleaning and maintaining the household dwelling, repairing household durables and transporting household members and their goods. These are all classified as non-economic activities and also referred to as “household chores”.

2.2.9 Status in employment

This referred to status of an economically active person with respect to his/her employment during a specific time - reference period. It includes:

Paid employees: persons who worked for a public or private employer and received remuneration in the form of wages, salary, commission, tips, and piece-rates or pay in kind.

Working employers: persons who operated their own businesses, agricultural farms or engaged in pastoralist activities and hired one or more employees.

Own account workers: persons who operated their own businesses, agricultural farms, or engaged in pastoralist activities and hired no employees.

Unpaid family workers: persons who worked without pay in an economic enterprise operated by a related person.

Apprentice: Particular type of trainees who may have been directly engaged in producing goods and services or may have simply been learning by observation without actually performing any meaningful productive tasks.

2.2.10 Occupation

“Occupation” referred to the job held or work performed during the reference period (or kind of work done previously if unemployed). Persons with two or more jobs were asked to report for the job at which they worked the greatest number of hours during the reference period. The 3-digit occupational codes and descriptions used during data collection and analysis were based on the Kenya National Occupation Classification Standards (KNOCS).

2.2.11 Industry/Economic activity

This referred to the economic activity of the establishment or work site in which an employed person worked during the survey reference period, or last worked if unemployed. This activity was defined in terms of the kinds of goods produced, or services offered. The 3-digit industrial codes and their descriptions used during data collection and analysis were based on the UN International Standard Industrial Classification (ISIC-1990) of all economic activities.

2.2.12 Economic sector

For the purposes of classifying employment data into exhaustive categories, the Kenyan economy was split into three sectors: namely, the modern sector, the informal sector, and the small-scale agriculture and pastoralist sector. These sectors were defined as follows:

Modern sector: Included all establishments operating organized business. It consisted of the entire public sector, private enterprises and institutions that are formal in terms of registration, taxation and official recording.

Informal sector: Referred to as “*Jua Kali*”, the informal sector was defined to cover all small-scale activities that are normally semi-organised, unregulated and use simple technology. The sector excluded agricultural farm activities.

Small scale agricultural and pastoralist activities: These were defined as unregistered small-holder farming and livestock-keeping activities mainly located in the rural areas.

2.2.13 Hours of work

These were categorized into usual/normal hours of work and actual hours of work. **Usual/normal hours of work** referred to hours of work fixed by or in pursuance of laws or regulations, collective agreements or arbitral awards, excess of which is paid for as overtime.

Actual hours worked referred to the actual number of hours worked during the reference period.

2.2.14 Wages and salaries

These included gross wages and salaries relating to a given period including remuneration for time worked including overtime, piecework, bonus, etc.

2.2.15 Household income

Household income consisted of all receipts that accrued to the household or its individual members. Information on income was sought from three sources:

Income from paid employment consisted of wages and salaries and other benefits and allowances given by the employer.

Income from own business was taken as income from self-employment, and referred to sale of farm produce in the previous month and income from other non-farm businesses also in the previous month.

Income from other sources was taken to represent income that was not from paid employment or own farms and businesses, and included child alimony, insurance claims.

2.2.16 Tenure

The tenure investigated in this survey was that of land on which owner-occupier dwelling units are built. Households who owned both the structures they occupied and the land or plot on which the structures are built may own the land on either freehold or leasehold tenure. Freehold land is a parcel of land held in perpetuity through absolute title, where there is no time limit in ownership and no restrictions on the transfer. On the other hand, leasehold land is a parcel of land held for a fixed term (normally ranging from 30 to 99 years) given by either a local authority or the Commissioner of Lands. There are other owner-occupiers of dwelling units who only own the structures they occupy, but do not own the land or plots on which the structures are built. Such persons are settled on either trust land (land held in trust on behalf of local communities by Local Government) or land owned by either individuals or institutions/Government under different tenure systems.

2.2.17 Child

The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and ILO Conventions 138 and 182 on the minimum age of admission to work and worst forms of child labour (WFCL) designate individuals under 18 years of age as children. This is also true for the Children Act, 2001 and the Employment Act 2007 in Kenya. Since it is rather uncommon for children younger than 5 years of age to work or start schooling, the survey focused on interviews with children aged 5 to 17 years old.

2.2.18 Child labour

Child labour is defined on the basis of ILO Convention 138 on Minimum Age for Admission to Employment, ILO Convention 182 on the Elimination of Worst Forms of Child Labour, the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and national legislation in Kenya. The term reflects the engagement of children in work that is prohibited, or, more generally, in work that is socially and morally undesirable. Not all working children are considered to be in child labour.

“Child labour” includes the worst forms of child labour and employment of children below the minimum age and excludes children in permissible light work, if applicable. In other words, child labour as per the above definition would imply:

1. Children aged 5-12 years: All children engaged in some form of economic activity or non-economic activity within a household involving working long hours, using dangerous machinery etc.
2. Children aged 13-15 years: All children engaged in some form of economic activity excluding those who work 14 hours or less per week in non-hazardous activities.
3. Children aged 16-17 years: All children engaged in some form of economic activity excluding those who work 42 hours or less per week in non-hazardous activities.

On the basis of the System of National Accounts (SNA) production boundary, the survey defines child labour as all persons aged 5-17 years who, during a specified time period, were engaged in worst forms of child labour or did not meet the light work exemption.

2.2.19 Worst Forms of Child Labour

The worst forms of child labour described in Article 3 of the ILO Convention No. 182 comprise:

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

Activities covered under clauses (i) to (iii) are referred to as “worst forms of child labour other than hazardous work” (also often termed as “unconditional worst forms of child labour”), whereas activities covered under clause (iv) are referred to as “hazardous work”.

The concept of child labour was not directly used in the survey, but is used in this report through a filtering process which identifies the number of children engaged in child labour in general and worst forms of child labour in particular from working children by use of selected indicators.

2.2.20 Light work exemption

This applies to work performed by children aged 13-15 years engaged in economic activities and who are under the minimum age specified for work, but in cases where, in accordance with Article 7 of ILO Convention No. 138, national legislation permits children in certain age groups to engage in 'light work', such work should be excluded from the definition of child labour.

2.2.21 Working children (children in employment)

Working children were defined as persons aged 5 to 17 years old who performed some non-schooling activities during the reference period either for pay, profit or family gain. Child labour is a sub-set of working children.

2.2.22 Gross attendance ratio

The gross attendance ratio is the number of students enrolled in a given level of education, regardless of age, as a percentage of the population in the relevant age group for that level.

2.2.23 Primary school completion rate

The primary school completion rate refers to the number of students completing the highest class in primary school as a percentage of students entering the first class of the same education level.

2.2.24 Sex ratio

This is the ratio of males to females.

3. Survey techniques and methodology

3.1 Introduction

The 2010 Child Labour Baseline Survey in Busia District, was designed to provide estimates on the nature, extent, and causes of child labour in general and Worst Forms of Child Labour in particular and the conditions of work and how it affects the overall development (health, physical, moral, mental) of the working children in the district.

3.2 Sample design

A two-stage cluster probability sampling design was adopted for the survey. The first stage involved selection of Enumeration Areas (EAs) from the sampling frame and the second stage involved selection of the housing units. The unit of study for the survey was the housing unit defined as the dwelling unit (or units) occupied by one household.

3.3 Scope

The baseline survey was designed to provide estimates on the extent of child labour in the district. To ensure that the concept of child labour was well understood, ILO/IPEC organized a teleconference with experts from ILO in Geneva. The questionnaire and the child labour conceptual framework were reviewed. The district was covered in the survey based on the 2009 Kenya Population and Housing Census.

3.4 Sample frame

A sampling frame for the study was based on EAs created for the 2009 Population and Housing Census. The frame was created at the demarcation of areas conducted between 2006 and 2007 during cartographic mapping prior to the census enumeration. During mapping, estates or villages were split into EAs, each having an average of 100 households with a minimum of 50 and a maximum of 149 households. The frame therefore had Enumeration Areas (EAs) as the Primary Sampling Unit (PSUs) each Measure of Size (MoS) averaging 100 households.

3.5 Listing process

KNBS hired and trained personnel to undertake the listing process. The interviewers first updated the list of all the households in the selected EAs. Among the variables considered were; Number of household members, age and sex of household heads and population aged 5-17 years. The outcome of this process provided for the basis of sampling of households participating in this survey.

3.6 Sample size and allocation

In the sample design, information from the 2009 Kenya Population and Housing Census was utilized to arrive at the sample size. This involved the determination of the population aged 5-17 years. A child labour preference rate of 0.5 was considered to achieve a maximum sample. A design effect of 2 was considered. Further, to determine an appropriate sample, an error margin of 3 % was considered, which resulted into 54 clusters being created in Busia District.

Table 3.1: Survey design

Age		Busia
TOTAL		327,852
5-9		52,315
10-14		47,796
15		8,548
16		7,905
17		8,066
5-17		124,630
% 5-17		38
Households		68,781
Population per household		4.8
5-17 population per household		1.8
Sample Size Calculations		4,187
Error: 5%	Households	482
	Persons	873
	Clusters	19
Error: 3%	Households	1,340
	Persons	2,428
	Clusters	54

3.7 Sampling of EAs and households

The sampling of EAs was done independently within each stratum using the probability proportional to size (PPS) method with households being the measure of size. In each district sample, 25 households were randomly selected with equal probability in each EA to give large enough samples to generate reliable district estimates.

The selection of households to be interviewed was done in the field during data collection. Households were first counted to estimate the number of households in the EAs. The sampling interval was then calculated by dividing the total number of households by 25. The

first household to be interviewed was identified by multiplying the random number by the sampling interval. Thereafter, the successive households were selected by adding the sampling interval to the preceding number of the selected household until the five households were identified. A clockwise directional movement was adopted to quickly count and identify the targeted households.

This process was necessary in the development of the survey's sampling frame.

3.8 Training

Data collection personnel were trained by a team led by four trainers who were involved in the technical design of the survey. The three-day training was held at Kilifi District from 3rd January and was attended by a child labour expert to support the team. It covered the contents of the questionnaire as well as survey concepts, logistics and other related issues.

3.9 Development of survey instruments

KNBS in collaboration with ILO/IPEC and with assistance of a child labour expert prepared the survey instruments which were reviewed at the teleconference with experts.

3.10 Fieldwork

The fieldwork commenced on 30th November 2010 and took approximately two weeks. The data collection teams consisted of the coordinators, supervisors and research assistants.

3.11 Data processing

After data was collected, all the questionnaires were sent to the KNBS headquarters for processing. The questionnaire were then sorted and edited ready for data capture.

The data entry was done using the Census and Survey Processing System (CSpro) version 4.0 software. The data entry screen was created with checks to ensure accurate data entry. A total of ten data entry personnel and support staff were engaged for the exercise.

The captured data was exported to the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) for cleaning and analysis. The cleaned data was then weighted using application of inflation factors derived from the selection probabilities of the EAs and households. The results in this report are therefore based on the weighted data.

3.12 Limitations of the study

An ideal sampling frame for any survey is an up-to-date complete list of all households in the targeted areas (districts). However, a complete list of all households was not available and constructing one would have involved enormous resources.

In addition, the baseline survey was a household-based survey and it was therefore difficult to capture children who away working in places/environments that were difficult to access.

Thirdly, the survey did not capture street families and those engaged in trades considered morally repulsive and illegal such as commercial sex work.

To make up for the above, key informants were interviewed and focused group discussions were held in the relevant areas.

It should also be noted that the sampling design was not based on rural-urban strata but rather on the whole district. Therefore, a rural urban comparison should be done with caution.

4. Characteristics of the survey population

4.1 Introduction

This chapter details findings of the survey population by the various demographic, socio-economic and area of residence. It narrows down to the activities of children aged 5-17 years and looks specifically at their household background characteristics, sex, age-group, area of residence, schooling status and other demographic attributes.

4.2 Distribution of population by age and sex

Table 4.1, Figures 4.1 and 4.2 show the distribution of the population in Busia by age and sex. The population pyramid depicts a youthful population with a majority of the population falling within the 0-19 year age bracket. There were more males aged below 20 years while there were more females aged between 20-34 years. There were no major gender disparities in the older age groups.

Table 4.1: Distribution of population by age and sex

	Male	Female	%	Number
Less than 5 years	52.0	48.0	13.2	51,586
5 – 9	51.8	48.2	18.4	71,964
10 – 14	50.7	49.3	18.8	73,510
15 – 19	54.3	45.7	12.8	49,937
20 – 24	43.6	56.4	6.4	25,226
25 – 29	39.6	60.4	5.3	20,857
30 – 34	41.3	58.7	4.6	18,111
35 – 39	49.5	50.5	4.7	18,435
40 – 44	45.7	54.3	4.0	15,647
45 – 49	50.8	49.2	3.5	13,714
50 – 54	52.0	48.0	2.5	9,714
55 – 59	60.3	39.7	1.5	5,956
60 – 64	46.8	53.2	1.5	6,048
65 and Above	54.1	45.9	2.8	10,920
Total	50.0	50.0	100.0	391,626
5 – 17	51.8	48.2	46.6	182,491

Figure 4.1: Distribution of population by age and sex

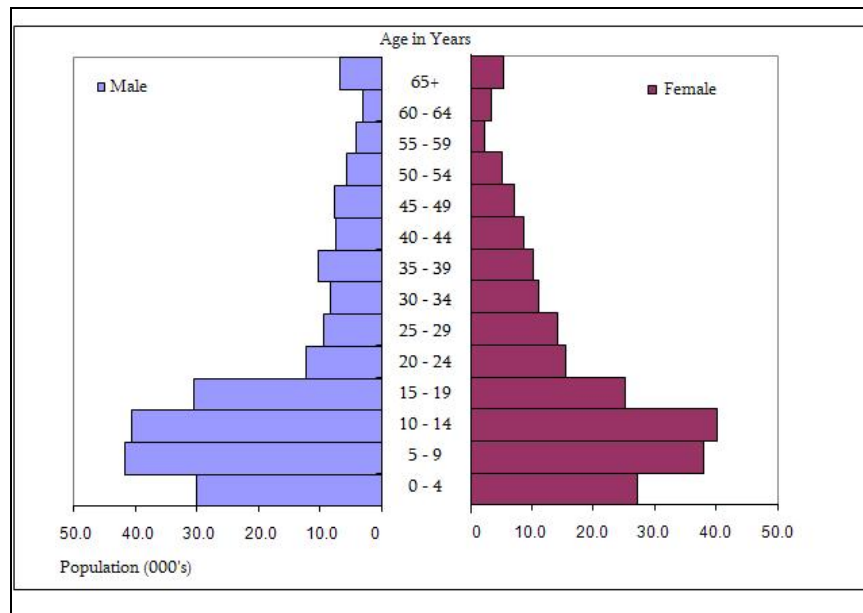


Figure 4.2: Distribution of population by age

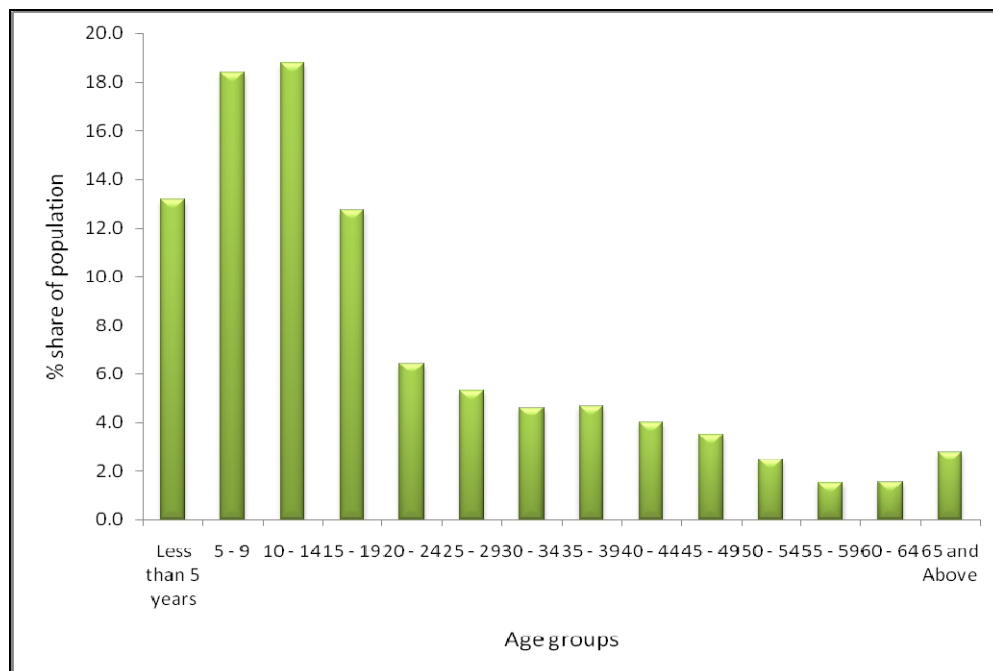


Figure 4.2 shows that 63.2 per cent of the population was aged less than 20 years. Of the children aged between 5 and 17 years, four out of every five children (79.6 per cent) were aged between 5 and 14 years.

4.3 Age dependency ratio

Age dependency ratio, defined as the ratio of the surveyed population aged below 15 years and 65 years and above to the working age population (aged 15 to 64 years), is presented in Table 4.2. Overall, the dependency ratio for the survey population in Busia was 113.3. The age dependency ratio for females was slightly lower than that of their male counterparts, at 105.9 and 121.1, respectively.

Table 4.2: Population distribution by age dependence groups

Age	Male	Female	Total
0 – 14	101,366	95,694	197,060
15 – 64	88,556	95,090	183,646
65 – 97	5,904	5,016	10,920
Total	195,826	195,800	391,626

4.4 Distribution of households by size and sex of the household head

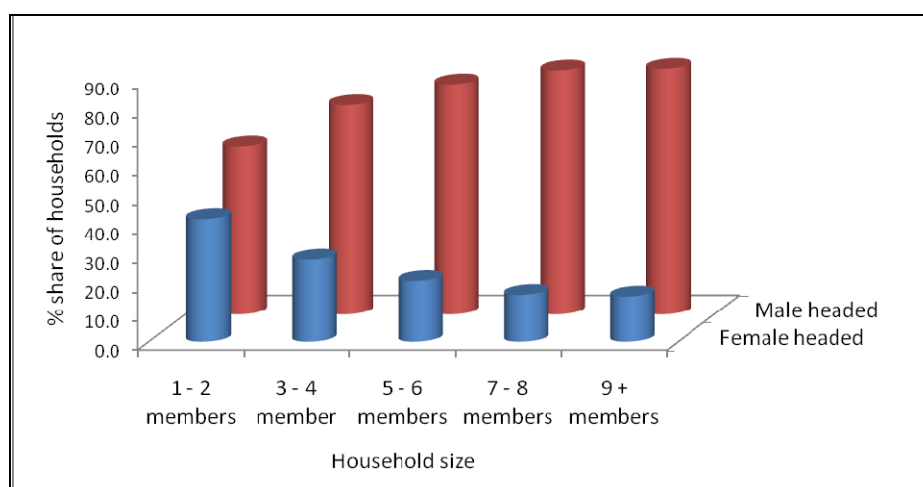
Household size influences overall expenditure within the households and the extent of burden borne by the economically active members of those households. Table 4.3 and Figure 4.3 present the distribution of households in Busia district by size and sex of the household head. The mean size of households in the district is 5.8 members.

Overall, most of the households in Busia had five or more members, constituting 70.3 per cent of all households in the district. One out of every five households (22.4 per cent) had 7 to 8 members. The majority of households were male-headed ranging from 71.8 per cent for 3–4 member households to 84.5 per cent for 9 + member households. Only in the 1–2 member households did female headed households register a significant ratio of 42.2 per cent compared to the male headed households at 57.8 per cent.

Table 4.3: Distribution of households by size and sex of the household head

	Female headed	Male headed	%	Number
1 - 2 members	42.2	57.8	8.0	5,431
3 - 4 member	28.2	71.8	21.7	14,621
5 - 6 members	20.9	79.1	34.5	23,264
7 - 8 members	16.1	83.9	22.4	15,143
9 + members	15.5	84.5	13.4	9,011
Total	22.4	77.6	100.0	67,469

Figure 4.3: Distribution of households by household size



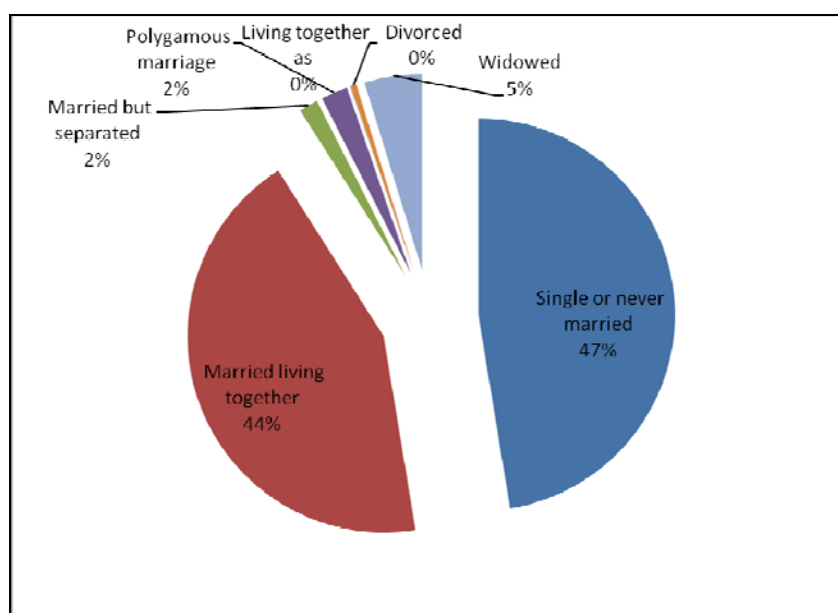
4.5 Marital status

The survey sought information on marital status of all individuals aged 12 years and above as presented in Table 4.4 and Figure 4.4. 47.4 per cent of those aged 12 years and over were single or never married while the majority of the remaining proportion was either monogamous (43.6 per cent) or polygamous (2.2 per cent) union. Those in polygamous unions were aged 18 years and above. The majority (70.8 per cent) of persons in the age bracket 12-17 were never married. About 27.9 per cent of those in the age bracket 18-34 also stated that they were never married.

Table 4.4: Distribution of population by marital status and age

	12-17	18-34	35 and over	%	Number
Single or never married	70.8	27.9	1.3	47.4	113,423
Married living together	1.1	38.9	60.1	43.6	104,254
Married but separated	1.4	69.1	29.6	1.6	3,747
Polygamous marriage		22.5	77.5	2.2	5,240
Living together as married		100.0		0.0	71
Divorced		35.5	64.5	0.5	1,160
Widowed	1.8	6.3	92.0	4.7	11,358
Total	34.1	32.2	33.6	100.0	239,252

Figure 4.4: Distribution of population by marital status



The overall proportion of the widowed stood at 4.7 per cent with the majority of the widowed being those aged 35 years and above.

4.6 School attendance and educational attainment for children aged 5-17

School attendance

The Children's Act 2001 states that every child shall be entitled to education, the provision of which shall be the responsibility of the Government and of parents. School attendance also influences whether a working child qualifies to be categorized as a child labourer or not.

All persons aged five years and above were asked whether they had attended school the week prior to the interview date. Table 4.5 presents the analysis for those aged 5-17, which shows that overall, 93.2 per cent of the survey population had attended school. A slightly higher proportion of males (47.9 per cent) had attended school compared to females (45.3 per cent). The proportions who had attended school by age followed the same trend for both sexes. The proportion of those who reported ever attending school in the 5-9 age group constituted 87.5 per cent of children in the children in this age group. This was lower relative to the other two age cohorts, probably signifying late entry into schooling.

Table 4.5: Distribution of population by children who had ever attended school and by sex

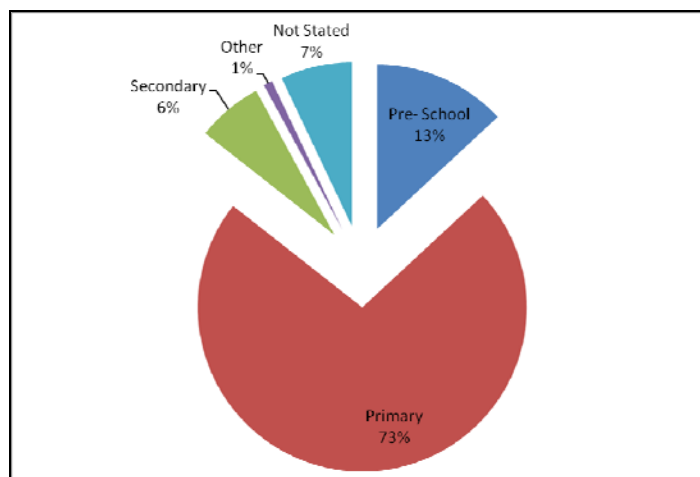
	Male		Female		Total	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	%	Number
5 – 9	44.2	7.6	43.3	5.0	39.4	71,964
10 – 14	49.3	1.4	47.4	1.9	40.3	73,510
15 – 17	52.2	1.8	45.2	0.8	20.3	37,017
Total	47.9	3.9	45.3	2.9	100.0	182,491

4.7 Education attainment by sex and place of residence

Table 4.6 and Figure 4.5 detail the highest schooling level attained by the surveyed population by sex and place of residence. Overall, 72.5 per cent of the population had primary level as the highest educational attainment, while 6.5 per cent had attained secondary level of education.

Table 4.6: Distribution of population by education attainment, sex and region

	Male	Female	%	Number
Pre-School	50.3	49.7	13.1	23,856
Primary	51.6	48.4	72.5	132,381
Secondary	48.9	51.1	6.5	11,832
Other	73.8	26.2	0.9	1,580
Not Stated	56.8	43.2	7.0	12,842
Total	51.8	48.2	100.0	182,491

Figure 4.5: Distribution of population by education attainment

4.8 Housing characteristics

Information was collected on a wide range of issues pertaining to the housing conditions of the population in the district. This includes data on the tenure status of the household's main residence, total floor area, type of lighting and cooking facilities. These can all be used to assess the household welfare status.

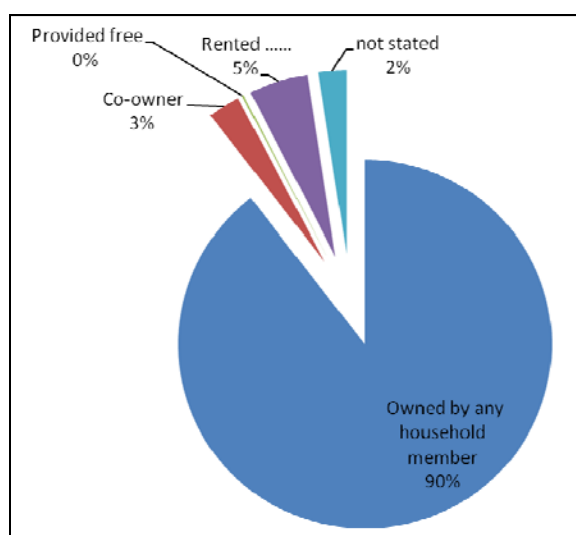
4.8.1 Housing tenure and type

Table 4.7 and Figure 4.6 present the distribution of households in Busia by tenure, status of main residence and by type of dwelling unit. On average, 89.6 per cent of the households live in their own houses, while 5.1 per cent reside in rented dwellings. A majority of the households (68.1 per cent) live in private houses followed by apartment/flats and others houses at 17.6 per cent and 11.8 per cent respectively.

Table 4.7: Distribution of households by tenure status and region

	Owned by any household member	Co-owner	Provided free	Rented	Not stated	%	Number
Apartment/flat	92.1	3.3		4.6		17.6	11,908
Private house	91.7	3.2	0.2	4.6	0.3	68.1	45,921
Part of a private house				100.0		0.2	111
Shanty	100.0					0.1	53
Other	91.7			8.3		11.8	7,963
Not stated					100.0	2.2	1,514
Total	89.6	2.8	0.2	5.1	2.4	100.0	67,469

Figure 4.6: Distribution of households by tenure status



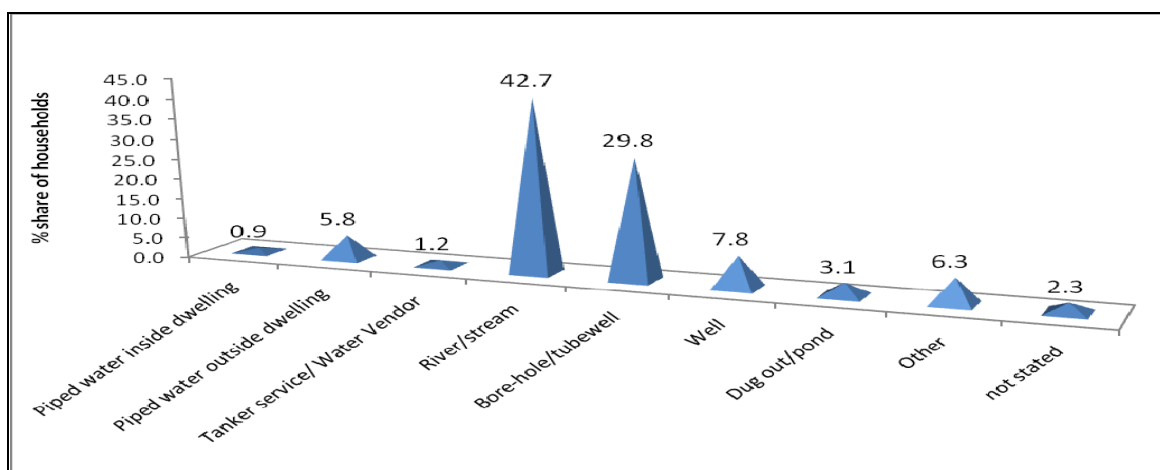
4.9 Source of drinking water

Information on the distribution of households by main source of drinking water is given in Table 4.8 and Figure 4.7. As shown in the Table, 42.7 per cent of the households in Busia get their drinking water from rivers or streams and 29.8 per cent get their water from boreholes. Only 6.7 per cent of the households have their water piped either within or outside their houses. More than half (55.6 per cent), relied on water from river/ stream, tanker service/water vendor, wells and dug out/pond all of which are not considered as safe water sources.

Table 4.8: Distribution of households by main source of drinking water and region

	Apartment/ flat	Private house	Part of a private house	Shanty	Other	Not stated	%	Number
Piped water inside dwelling	31.0	60.4			8.7		0.9	588
Piped water outside dwelling	17.8	62.6			19.6		5.8	3,914
Tanker service/ Water Vendor	43.2	56.8					1.2	836
River/stream	21.5	68.3	0.4	0.2	9.6		42.7	28,838
Bore-hole/tubewell	14.8	67.4			17.8		29.8	20,084
Well	14.4	76.7			8.9		7.8	5,253
Dug out/pond	34.6	53.0			12.4		3.1	2,116
Other		100.0					6.3	4,254
Not stated					4.5	95.5	2.3	1,585
Total	17.6	68.1	0.2	0.1	11.8	2.2	100.0	67,469

Figure 4.7: Distribution of households by main source of drinking water



4.10 Source of energy for cooking and lighting

The distribution of households by main source of cooking fuel is presented in Table 4.9. Firewood remains the pre-dominant fuel for cooking with 84.7 per cent of the households in the district using it as their source of cooking fuel. Charcoal comes a distant second at 10.6 per cent of all households.

Table 4.9: Distribution of households by main source of cooking fuel

	Apartment /flat	Private house	Part of a private house	Shanty	Other	Not stated	%	Number
Wood	17.8	70.6	0.1	0.1	11.4		84.7	57,135
Charcoal	18.6	64.7	0.8		15.9		10.6	7,134
Kerosene	29.0	50.1			20.9		1.5	1,025
Gas/lpg	24.8	75.2					0.5	366
Electricity		100.0					0.2	127
Bio-gas					100.0		0.2	106
Other		100.0					0.1	61
Not stated						100.0	2.2	1,514
Total	17.6	68.1	0.2	0.1	11.8	2.2	100.0	67,469

Table 4.10 shows the distribution of households by their main source of lighting fuel. Kerosene was used by majority (89.2 per cent) of the households as their main source of lighting fuel. Only 4.8 per cent of the households in the district reported electricity as their main source of lighting fuel.

Table 4.10: Distribution of households by main source of lighting fuel

	Apartment/flat	Private house	Part of a private house	Shanty	Other	Not stated	%	Number
Wood	19.5	71.8			8.8		2.5	1,693
Kerosene	17.2	70.8	0.2	0.1	11.8		89.2	60,193
Gas/lpg	100.0						0.2	106
Electricity	30.4	54.3			15.3		4.8	3,260
Solar	18.7	58.4			22.9		0.5	309
Bio-diesel					100.0		0.1	64
Other	100.0						0.1	91
Not stated		9.1			4.5	86.4	2.6	1,753
Total	17.6	68.1	0.2	0.1	11.8	2.2	100.0	67,469

5. Working children

5.1 Distribution of population aged 5-17 by activity status

Table 5.1a shows distribution of children by activity status as defined by general production boundaries. Under this definition, those engaged in non economic activities such as household chores in their own households are considered to be working. However, for the rest of the report will consider working children as defined by the System of National Accounts (SNA) which excludes children undertaking non economic activities such as household chores in their own household.

Hence under general production boundaries, working children are working children under SNA production boundaries plus children working in non-SNA production. Table 5.1b shows the distribution of children in Busia district by working and non working categories excluding household chores. According to the results, 42.8 per cent of children reported having worked in the past week prior to the interview date.

Across the age groups, the number of children who worked increased with the age. More than half (55.7 per cent) of the children aged 15-17 years worked in the reference period. On the other hand, slightly less than a third (32.4 per cent) of the children aged 5-9 years reported having engaged in an economic activity, while 47.2 per cent of those in the age group 10-14 years worked over the same period.

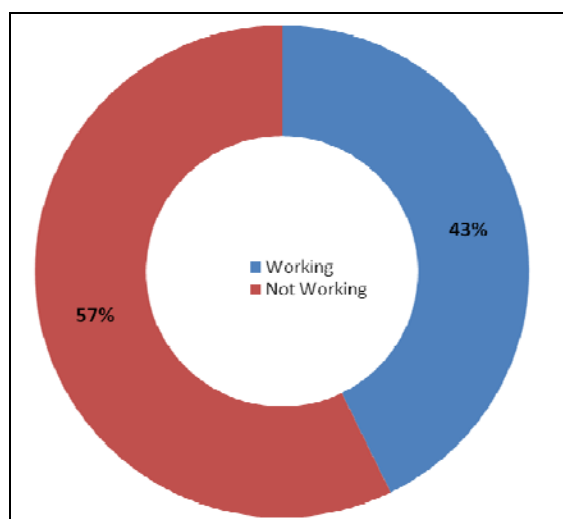
Table 5.1a: Distribution of children by activity status and age

	Working		Not working	%	Number
	Household chores	Non-household chores			
5 – 9	2.9	31.7	65.4	39.4	71,964
10 – 14	9.5	43.3	47.2	40.3	73,510
15 – 17	14.0	50.8	35.2	20.3	37,017
Total	7.8	40.3	51.9	100.0	182,491

Table 5.1b: Distribution of children by activity status and age

	Working	Not Working	%	Number
5 – 9	32.4	67.6	41.2	70,044
10 – 14	47.2	52.8	39.4	67,032
15 – 17	55.7	44.3	19.5	33,102
Total	42.8	57.2	100.0	170,178

Figure 5.1: Distribution of children by activity status



5.2 Distribution of children by activity status and household headship

Table 5.2 shows the distribution of children in Busia district by household headship and activity status. About half of the children (46.3 per cent) in female-headed households reported that they were working in the seven days preceding their interview. Similarly, about 41.8 per cent of the children in male-headed households worked over the same period.

Table 5.2: Distribution of children by age and household headship

	Female headed		Male headed		Total	
	Working	Not Working	Working	Not Working	%	Number
5 – 9	36.4	63.6	31.6	68.4	41.2	70,044
10 – 14	50.2	49.8	46.3	53.7	39.4	67,032
15 – 17	53.4	46.6	56.5	43.5	19.5	33,102
Total	46.3	53.7	41.8	58.2	100.0	170,178

The proportion of children in female-headed households in the lower age groups of 5-9 and 10-14, who were working, was higher than that of those in male-headed households. About three out of every five children (53.4 per cent and 56.5 per cent) of children from female and male-headed households in the age group 15-17, respectively, reported that they worked in the week preceding the survey period.

5.3 Distribution of working children by activity status and school attendance

Table 5.3a indicates that about 73,000 children aged 5-17 worked in the week preceding the interview. This represented 42.8 per cent of the total number of children in this age category. Of the children who had dropped out of school, 64.0 per cent were working, while

64.2 per cent of those who reported to have completed school were working. Table 5.3b presents the distribution of children by working status, age group and sex. As shown in the table, there was a higher proportion of boys who reported having worked (22.8 per cent) compared to girls (19.9 per cent).

Table 5.3a: Distribution of children by working status and school attendance

	5 -9		10 – 14		15 - 17		Total	
	Working	Not Working	Working	Not Working	Working	Not Working	%	Number
Pre-School	25.4	73.3	0.9	0.2	0.2		13.4	22,795
Primary	12.7	20.2	24.5	27.6	8.1	6.8	68.5	116,580
Secondary			10.5	7.0	44.2	38.4	5.8	9,935
Completed			12.3	9.8	51.9	26.0	3.1	5,301
Dropped out	3.3	1.8	13.4	10.3	47.3	23.9	2.1	3,497
Not Stated	16.5	57.8	5.5	13.1	1.6	5.4	7.1	12,071
Total	13.3	27.8	18.6	20.8	10.8	8.6	100.0	170,178

Table 5.3b: Distribution children by working status, age and sex

	Male		Female		Total	
	Working	Not Working	Working	Not Working	%	Number
5 – 9	16.8	35.3	15.7	32.3	41.2	70,044
10 – 14	24.2	27.3	22.9	25.5	39.4	67,032
15 – 17	32.8	21.9	22.9	22.4	19.5	33,102
Total	22.8	29.5	19.9	27.7	100.0	170,178

5.4 Distribution of working children by age and occupation

An analysis of the distribution of working children by broad occupational categories is presented in Table 5.4. Overall, the most common occupation reported was ‘farm-hand and related labourers’ at 53.3 per cent followed by ‘cleaners’, laundres and domestic workers’ at 16.9 per cent. The proportions that reported having engaged in the remaining occupations were all marginal. These trends were similar for children in the different age groups. The table also mentions some children involved in work at occupations listed in Kenya as hazardous including mining, blasting, stone cutting and related activities. Others worked as blacksmiths, toolmakers and related trades, motor vehicle drivers, agriculture and materials handlers and machinery, mining and quarrying labourers.

Table 5.4: Distribution of working children by age and occupation

	5-9	10-14	15-17	%	Number
Nursing and mid-wifely professionals		50.0	50.0	0.3	182
Primary Education Teachers		51.6	48.4	0.2	165
Other Teachers and Instructors			100.0	0.1	53
Shop Assistants and Demonstrators			100.0	0.1	51
Protective Service Workers		100.0		0.1	51
Field Crop, Vegetable and Horticultural Farm Workers	43.3	35.2	21.5	1.7	1,225
Poultry, Dairy and Livestock Producers	51.0		49.0	0.1	104
Crop and Animal Producers	25.9	74.1		0.5	352
Forestry and Related Workers	29.8	70.2		0.4	306
Building Trades Workers	54.5	14.5	31.0	0.5	351
Tailors, Dressmakers and Related Workers		78.1	21.9	0.3	233
Grain and Spice-milling Machine Operators		100.0		0.1	58
Agricultural and Materials – Handling Machinery	75.0		25.0	0.5	364
Street Vendors and Related Workers	10.9	43.1	46.0	1.1	778
Shoe Cleaning and Other Street Services Elementary Occupations	57.1	42.9		0.2	124
Cleaners, Launderers and Domestic Workers	37.7	51.0	11.2	16.9	12,324
Messengers, Porters, Watchmen and Related Workers	42.4	43.0	14.5	1.8	1,341
Farm- Hand and Related Labourers	26.1	40.5	33.4	53.3	38,759
Construction and Maintenance Labourers	50.0	50.0		0.1	106
Transport Labourers and Handlers	5.7	68.3	26.0	1.2	888
Not stated	39.3	44.0	16.6	20.5	14,952
Total	31.2	43.4	25.3	100.0	72,767

5.5 Distribution of working children by age and industry

Table 5.5 provides information on the distribution of working children in Busia by age and industry. About half (42.6 per cent) of the children reported having been engaged in agriculture, forestry and fishing, followed by, “activities of household- producing goods for own use”, which constituted 21.9 per cent. 12.5 per cent of the children reported been involved in activities of trade and repair of motor vehicles while the remaining activities had less than one per cent each.

Table 5.5: Distribution of working children by age and industry

	5-9	10-14	15-17	%	Number
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	31.7	38.2	30.0	42.6	31,016
Manufacturing	23.0	42.3	34.7	0.6	461
Construction	23.1	49.0	27.9	0.8	597
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motor cycles	7.4	49.2	43.3	12.5	9,086
Transportation and storage	33.3	66.7		0.2	153
Administrative and support service activities		100.0		0.1	51
Education		39.0	61.0	0.3	218
Human health and social work activities		50.0	50.0	0.3	182
Other service activities		100.0		0.1	91
Activities of households -producing for own use	37.7	48.8	13.5	21.9	15,960
Not stated	39.3	44.0	16.6	20.5	14,952
Total	31.2	43.4	25.3	100.0	72,767

5.6 Distribution of working children by age and usual working time

Table 5.6 provides information on the distribution of working children by age and usual working time. The information refers to time of usual work during the week preceding the survey.

The highest proportion of children (29.3 per cent) reported that they usually worked during the hours after school followed closely by those who reported working during missed school hours (28.4 per cent). About 13.7 per cent of the children reported that their usual time of work was during the day between 6 am and 6 pm, which may imply missing school so as to work. This trend was similar across the age groups.

Table 5.6: Distribution of working children by age and usual work time

	5-9	10-14	15-17	%	Number
During the day (between 6 am and 6 pm)	17.9	28.6	53.5	13.7	9,934
In the evening or at night (after 6 pm)	100.0			0.4	255
During both the day and the evening (for the entire day)	36.9	13.3	49.8	0.5	384
On the week-end	24.2	47.9	27.8	11.0	8,034
Sometimes during the day, sometimes in the evening	49.7	13.8	36.5	0.8	576
After school	33.0	47.1	19.9	29.3	21,350
Both before or after school	27.5	27.5	45.0	0.5	331

	5-9	10-14	15-17	%	Number
During missed school hours/days	28.5	50.5	21.0	28.4	20,688
Not stated	47.0	37.5	15.5	15.4	11,214
Total	31.2	43.4	25.3	100.0	72,767

5.7 Distribution of working children by age and main workplace

Table 5.7 illustrates the distribution of working children (aged 5-17 years) by age groups and main workplace in Busia district. The information refers to location of main work place during the week preceding the survey. The largest proportion (51.6 per cent) of children reported that the family dwelling was their place of work; followed by about 21.6 per cent who reported working in the plantations, farms or gardens. About 7.9 per cent of the children reported that they worked at the pond, lake or river, an indication that they were engaged in fishing activities. This was reported mainly by children in the ages 5-9 and 10-14 years.

Table 5.7: Distribution of working children by age and main work place

	5-9	10-14	15-17	%	Number
At (his/her) family dwelling	29.7	43.0	27.3	51.6	37,535
Client's place	38.0		62.0	0.2	168
Plantations / farm / garden	19.3	44.5	36.3	21.6	15,737
Construction sites		54.3	45.7	0.2	112
Shop / kiosk / coffee house / restaurant / hotel		54.2	45.8	0.4	325
Different places (mobile)		56.8	43.2	0.2	140
Fixed, street or market stall		20.8	79.2	0.4	255
Pond/lake/river	44.4	53.3	2.3	7.9	5,780
Other	34.6	56.5	8.9	2.0	1,432
Not stated	47.8	37.3	14.9	15.5	11,284
Total	31.2	43.4	25.3	100.0	72,767

5.8 Distribution of working children by age and employment status

Table 5.8 illustrates the distribution of working children aged (5-17 years) by age groups and employment status in Busia district. The information refers to work situation during the week preceding the survey. Overall, 65.1 per cent of the children were unpaid family workers while own account workers accounted for 16.5 per cent of the children. The proportion of children who said they were employees constituted about 2.0 per cent. This trend was replicated across the various age groups.

Table 5.8: Distribution of working children by age and employment status

	5-9	10-14	15-17	%	Number
Employee	5.9	30.8	63.3	1.5	1,082
Own account worker (His/her own business without employees)	25.0	42.7	32.4	16.5	12,038
Unpaid family worker	30.1	44.9	25.1	65.1	47,361
Not stated	43.9	39.9	16.3	16.9	12,287
Total	31.2	43.4	25.3	100.0	72,767

5.9 Distribution of working children by age and reasons for working

Table 5.9 illustrates the distribution of working children (aged 5-17 years) by age groups and reasons for working. The information refers to the child's main activity. The children reported that the main reasons for working were helping in household enterprise (40.2 per cent), to learn skills (13.8 per cent) and supplement family income (4.8 per cent). This trend was replicated in the age group 10 years and above. Four out of every five children reported that they work because there was no school or it was too far away. Three out of every five children (63.9 per cent) who gave their main reason for working as learning skills were aged 5-9 years.

Table 5.9: Distribution of working children by age and reason for working

	5-9	10-14	15-17	%	Number
Supplement family income	10.6	32.0	57.4	4.8	3,481
Help pay family debt	34.9	33.2	31.9	1.7	1,244
Help in household enterprise	19.6	52.6	27.8	40.2	29,268
Learn skills	63.9	26.7	9.4	13.8	10,032
School too far / no school	80.0	20.0		0.4	303
Cannot afford school fees			100.0	0.1	53
Not interested in school			100.0	0.1	51
To temporarily replace someone unable to work			100.0	0.1	53
Not stated	33.6	42.3	24.1	38.9	28,280
Total	31.2	43.4	25.3	100.0	72,767

5.10 Distribution of working children by age and who receives earnings

Table 5.10 illustrates the distribution of working children (aged 5-17 years) by age groups and persons who receive earnings from the working activities of the children. Overall, 32.8 per cent of the children are unpaid family workers. About 8.9 per cent of the children gave the money to their parents while about one per cent retained their earnings. This trend is replicated across the different age groups.

Table 5.10: Distribution of working children by age and who receives earnings

	5-9	10-14	15-17	%	Number
Self		40.5	59.5	0.5	346
Parents	29.6	47.9	22.4	8.9	6,512
Guardian			100.0	0.1	58
Unpaid worker	28.7	45.8	25.5	32.8	23,859
Not stated	33.2	41.5	25.3	57.7	41,992
Total	31.2	43.4	25.3	100.0	72,767

6. Children in child labour

6.1 Introduction

This survey focused on working children aged five years and above in Busia district. This chapter presents results on child labourers aged 5–17. The schooling status, sex and broad age groups are the domains on which most of the results of the analysis are presented.

6.2 Child labour filtering criterion

The filtering process used a set of indicators related to child labour in general that were considered to be sufficient in identifying children engaged in the practice. The measurement framework for child labour was structured around two main elements namely: (i) the age of the child; and (ii) the productive activities by the child including their nature and the conditions under which these were performed and the hours of work.

Age: The Employment Act 2007 states that no person shall employ a child who has not attained the age of sixteen whether gainfully or otherwise. It further states that a child aged 13–15 may be employed to perform light work which includes:

1. work not designated as hazardous in activities included in the SNA production boundary performed for less than 14 hours per week.
2. work that is not likely to be harmful to the child's health or development; and
3. work that is not such as to prejudice the child's attendance at school, his participation in vocational orientation or training programmes approved or his capacity to benefit from the instructions received.

Hours of work: The hours-of-work criterion is embodied in the child labour concept both at the lower and higher risk (worst form) levels. Children who work for long hours are considered to be exploited as this not only endangers their health, but also affects school performance as full-time pupils.

Child labour is measured on the basis of the general production boundary. A child may be considered to be in child labour when the total number of hours worked in employment and unpaid household services exceed the thresholds. A cut-off point for identifying child labour with respect to hours worked was therefore established by reference to the existing regulations and the average hours of work for the Kenyan adult work force.

Average hours of work for adults in the modern sector of the economy vary between 39 and 42 hours in a week (Employment in the Modern Sector Report, various issues). The

national labour laws in Kenya categorize working hours by sector but the normal working hours are considered to be 42 hours per week.

All children aged 5-12 years in the survey were therefore categorized as having been in child labour if they engaged in any economic activity during the reference period irrespective of the time. Those aged 13-15 years were considered to be in child labour if they worked for 14 hours or more while those aged 16-17 years were classified as being child labourers if they worked for more than 42 hours in a week.

Other criteria

Any child who worked in risky or hazardous occupations or undertakings was also classified to be in child labour irrespective of their ages or the number of hours they worked.

6.3 Distribution of child labourers by sex

Table 6.1 shows the distribution of child labourers in Busia District by schooling status and sex. There was a total of 28,692 children considered to be in child labour based on their age and number of hours that they worked. The incidence of child labourers is prevalent among schooling children (aged 5-12 years) who work for more than one hour a week. This category accounts for over 80.4 per cent of the children involved in labour and does not show any difference between males and females. On average, 18.8 per cent of the children aged 13 to 15 years were classified as child labourers.

Table 6.1: Distribution of child labourers by sex

	Male	Female	%	Number
Worked > 1hrs and aged 5 - 12 yrs	51.4	48.6	80.4	23,076
Worked > 14hrs and aged 13 - 15 yrs	50.3	49.7	18.8	5,406
Worked > 42 hrs and aged 16 - 17 yrs		100.0	0.7	210
Total	50.8	49.2	100.0	28,692

6.4 Distribution of child labourers by age and sex

Table 6.2 shows the distribution of children labourers in Busia District by their and sex. The incidence of child labourers is highest among children aged 10-14 years (48.0 per cent). This is followed by children aged 5-9 years. Child labour among children in the 15-17 years age category was the lowest at 8.0 per cent and involved slightly more male children than female children. The proportion of female child labourers is higher than the male child labourer in the 10-14 years age group.

Table 6.2: Distribution of child labourers by age and sex

	Male	Female	%	Number
5–9	52.0	48.0	44.1	12,640
10–14	47.7	52.3	48.0	13,763
15–17	62.5	37.5	8.0	2,289
Total	50.8	49.2	100.0	28,692

6.5 Distribution of child labourers by age and occupation

Table 6.3 shows the distribution of children labourers in Busia District by occupation. The largest proportions of children involved in child labour, 45.8 per cent, worked as farm-hands and related labourers. Cleaners, launders and domestic workers came second at 29.1 per cent, while messengers, porters, watchmen and related workers and street vendors and related workers contributed 3.8 and 0.8 per cent.

Table 6.3: Distribution of child labourers by age and occupation

	5-9	10-14	15-17	%	Number
Other Teachers and Instructors			100.0	0.2	53
Field Crop, Vegetable and Horticultural Farm Workers	100.0			0.3	91
Forestry and Related Workers	36.0	64.0		0.9	253
Grain and Spice-milling Machine Operators		100.0		0.2	58
Street Vendors and Related Workers		62.9	37.1	0.8	229
Shoe Cleaning and Other Street Services Elementary Occupation	100.0			0.2	71
Cleaners, Launders and Domestic Workers	54.1	45.3	0.6	29.1	8,349
Messengers, Porters, Watchmen and Related Workers	52.1	43.2	4.7	3.8	1,091
Farm- Hand and Related Labourers	36.8	51.6	11.6	45.8	13,134
Transport Labourers and Handlers		100.0		0.2	61
Not stated	46.6	43.6	9.8	18.5	5,303
Total	44.1	48.0	8.0	100.0	28,692

6.6 Distribution of child labourers by age and economic activity

Table 6.4 shows the distribution of children labourers in Busia District by age and economic activity. About 38.0 per cent of the children involved in child labour worked in activities of households producing for their own use. The second most important economic activity was agriculture followed by forestry and fishing, where 35.9 per cent of the children 5-17 were involved.

Table 6.4: Distribution of child labourers by age and industry

	5-9	10-14	15-17	%	Number
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	38.8	47.9	13.3	35.9	10,307
Construction		100.0		0.2	61
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and mot	19.0	76.9	4.1	7.2	2,073
Education			100.0	0.2	53
Activities of households -producing for own use	53.0	44.6	2.4	38.0	10,895
Not stated	46.6	43.6	9.8	18.5	5,303
Total	44.1	48.0	8.0	100.0	28,692

7. Conclusions and recommendations

7.1 Conclusions

A review of existing the policy and legal framework in Kenya in regard working children shows that there is commitment to eliminate child labour practices in the country. The Children's Act's Kenya's National Action Plan for the Elimination of Child Labour was revised in 2008 and the Government's strong commitment to the elimination of child labour is evident from the attention accorded to socio-economic issues surrounding child labour, the development of comprehensive policies and a legislative framework that addresses it. Under Vision 2030 which is the broader umbrella of Kenya's national development framework, the Government has committed itself to the implementation of a far-reaching programmes tackling the socio-economic challenges facing its citizens, particularly the marginalized and vulnerable.

The phenomenon of child labour has consistently been identified as a significant threat to child development in the country. As the results of this baseline study show, Busia District is not an exception to the worrying trend of involving children in child labour. Although majority of the working children are working within their homes, agricultural holdings or family enterprises, a large number of them were found to be working for more than 24 hours in a week. It is considered exploitative and detrimental to children's normal development for children to work for such long durations as this not only endangers their health but also affects school performance for full-time pupils.

7.2 Recommendations

7.2.1 Short term recommendations

The following are action points that can be completed within a year or so:

1. The Government should as a matter of urgency conclude the enactment of the Children's Policy and the National Child Labour Policy.
2. The Government should ensure that its capacity to deal with child labour is strengthened through consistent deployment of staff implementing child labour intervention programmes. The challenge of high staff turnover, especially district-level involving Government officers and teachers, should be addressed as a priority.
3. A clear implementation mechanism and guidelines should be put in place to deal with the protection of children including: Children's Act (2001), Sexual Offences Act (2006) and the Employment Act (2007). In addition, the Government should support the enactment of any new laws including the proposed Bill on trafficking of persons and the review of the constitution to ensure the protection of children from all forms of abuse and exploitation.

7.2.2 Medium to long term recommendations

These following are action points that will require a longer time but may be initiated without delay:

1. The Government should ensure continued economic growth and improved standards of living in order to eradicate poverty which is a major cause of child labour.
2. More targeted information on child labour should be collected through child labour surveys, research and studies. These should be undertaken more frequently and should include strengthening of institutions that contribute towards research on child labour.
3. Although there is overwhelming evidence that communities' awareness of the **negative** consequences of child labour had increased due to the Government efforts and the large number of actors involved in the efforts towards the elimination of child labour, there is need to sustain child labour intervention programmes at the community level. It will take the combined efforts of all these actors through capacity building, networking and linkages to achieve total change in the attitude of Kenyans towards rejection of child labour.
4. Severe poverty remains a challenge among community members in the country. Efforts to withdraw and protect children from joining the worst forms of child labour are still viewed as tantamount to foregoing much-needed household income. Awareness enhancement and poverty alleviation programmes need to be increased and sustained.
5. The Government should continue to promote quality education for all children. The Government should especially promote policy and programme support for non-formal schools which is attractive to child labourers and their parents due to its flexibility. Since child labour is now more prevalent in the 15-17 age category, more attention should be paid to the promotion of TIVET for the provision of skills to the youth. Further steps should be taken to make the FPE compulsory in order to maximize its impact.
6. The Government should continue to promote access to and quality of medical care for its population including the reduction spread of HIV/AIDS. This will contribute towards reduction of the adverse effects of HIV/AIDS that remain a major hindrance in the effort towards elimination of child labour in many communities.
7. More attention should be focused on sustainability of programmes addressing elimination of child labour taking advantage of resources available through such funds as the Constituency Development, Local Authority Transfer, Bursary, Youth Enterprise, and Women's Development.
8. Collection of data on child labour in the country should be carried out on a continuous basis and the KNBS has endeavoured to and will continue to mainstream child labour data collection in relevant national data collection surveys and studies.

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ISBN 978-92-2-126798-0



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