



# NIUE

## NO ADVANCEMENT

Although research found no evidence that child labor exists in Niue, in 2023, the government made no advancement in efforts to prevent the worst forms of child labor. The government has not established adequate legal protections to prevent the worst forms of child labor. For instance, the law does not criminally prohibit the use, procuring, or offering of a child for prostitution; the production of pornography, or pornographic performances, or the use of children for illicit activities, including for the production and trafficking of drugs. In addition, Niue has not established a minimum age for work and lacks a law that prohibits hazardous occupations and activities for children.



### PREVALENCE AND SECTORAL DISTRIBUTION OF CHILD LABOR

Research found no evidence that child labor exists on Niue.



### SUGGESTED GOVERNMENT ACTIONS TO ELIMINATE CHILD LABOR

The suggested government actions below would close gaps USDOL has identified in Niue’s implementation of its international commitments to eliminate the worst forms of child labor.












#### Legal Framework

- Ratify ILO Convention 182, the convention concerning the prohibition and immediate action for the elimination of the worst forms of child labor.
- Ratify the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child Optional Protocol on Armed Conflict.
- Ratify the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child Optional Protocol on the Sale of Children.
- Ratify the Palermo Protocol on Trafficking in Persons.
- Establish a minimum age for work of at least age 16 that equals the compulsory education age.
- Establish age 18 as the minimum age for hazardous work and identify hazardous occupations and activities prohibited for children.
- Ensure that laws criminally prohibit forced labor, including debt bondage and slavery.
- Ensure that laws criminally prohibit the trafficking of children domestically and internationally for commercial sexual exploitation and forced labor, and do not require that the use of force, fraud, or coercion be established for the crime of human trafficking.
- Ensure that laws criminally prohibit the use, procuring, and offering of a child for prostitution, the production of pornography, and pornographic performances.
- Ensure that laws criminally prohibit the use of children in illicit activities, including in the production and trafficking of drugs.
- Ensure that the law criminally prohibits the forced or compulsory recruitment of children under age 18 into non-state armed groups.



### LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR CHILD LABOR

Niue is self-governing in free association with New Zealand. Since 1988, no treaty signed, ratified, accepted, approved, or acceded to by New Zealand extends to Niue, unless it was done expressly on behalf of Niue. Niue has not ratified ILO Convention 182 on the Worst Forms of Child Labor; the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC); the UN CRC Optional Protocol on Armed Conflict; the UN CRC Optional Protocol on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution, and Child Pornography; or the Palermo Protocol on Trafficking in Persons. Niue’s laws do not meet international standards for the minimum age for work, the minimum age for hazardous work, or the identification of hazardous occupations or activities prohibited for children.

Child Labor Laws and Regulations	Meets International Standards	Legislation
Minimum Age for Work		Article 24 of the Niue Public Service Regulations
Minimum Age for Hazardous Work		
Identification of Hazardous Occupations or Activities Prohibited for Children		
Prohibition of Slavery, Debt Bondage, and Forced Labor		Articles 3 and 37 of the Terrorism Suppression and Transnational Crimes Act
Prohibition of Child Trafficking		Articles 3 and 37 of the Terrorism Suppression and Transnational Crimes Act
Prohibition of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children		Articles 3 and 37 of the Terrorism Suppression and Transnational Crimes Act
Prohibition of Using Children in Illicit Activities		
Minimum Age for Voluntary State Military Recruitment, <b>17 Years</b>		Article 33 of the Government of New Zealand's Defense Act
Prohibition of Compulsory Recruitment of Children by (State) Military	N/A*†	
Prohibition of Military Recruitment by Non-state Armed Groups		
Compulsory Education Age, <b>16 Years</b>		Articles 2 and 24 of the Education Act
Free Public Education		Article 19 of the Education Act

\* Country has no conscription

† Country has no standing military

Niue's Public Service Regulations prohibit the permanent employment in public service of any person under age 18, but a minimum age for work in the private sector has not been established. Niue also has not determined the minimum age for hazardous work nor the types of work that are hazardous for children. Furthermore, the government does not prohibit slavery or slavery-like practices such as forced labor. Niue's human trafficking provision does not clearly criminalize domestic trafficking or the trafficking of children in the absence of force, fraud, or coercion. In addition, the government does not criminalize the use, procuring, or offering of children for prostitution, pornography, or pornographic performances. Niue has not specifically criminalized the use of children in illicit activities, including in the production and trafficking of drugs. Finally, although there are no armed forces in Niue, the law does not criminally prohibit non-state armed groups from recruiting children under age 18.



## ENFORCEMENT OF LAWS ON CHILD LABOR

As there is no evidence of a problem, there appears to be no need for enforcement actions to address child labor, including its worst forms. However, Niue has established an institutional mechanism for the enforcement of laws and regulations on child labor.

### Agencies Responsible for Child Labor Law Enforcement

**Niue Police Department:** Enforces laws related to child labor.



## COORDINATION, POLICIES, AND PROGRAMS

<p><b>Key Mechanism to Coordinate Government Efforts on Child Labor</b></p> <p>As there is no evidence of a problem, there appears to be no need for mechanisms to coordinate efforts to address child labor. However, Niue established a mechanism to coordinate its efforts to prevent child labor.</p>	<p><b>National Coordinating Committee on the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child:</b> Monitors and implements child protection policies, including policies related to child labor.</p>
<p><b>Key Policies Related to Child Labor</b></p> <p>As there is no evidence of a problem, there appears to be no need for policies to address child labor.</p>	
<p><b>Key Social Programs to Address Child Labor</b></p> <p>As there is no evidence of a problem, there appears to be no need for programs to address child labor.</p>	

For information about USDOL's projects to address child labor around the world, visit [dol.gov/ILABprojects](https://dol.gov/ILABprojects)  
For references, please visit [dol.gov/ChildLaborReports](https://dol.gov/ChildLaborReports)