

ILO measurement of Forced Labour

Challenges and progress

National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine
**Estimating the Prevalence of Human Trafficking in the
United States**
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1

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Definition



One legal definition in ILO **Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29)**

“All work or service

that is exacted from any person

under the menace of any penalty

and

for which the said person has not offered himself voluntarily.”

Link with trafficking



Link with reaffirmed in **P029 - Protocol of 2014 to the Forced Labour Convention, 1930**

“Recognizing that the context and forms of forced or compulsory labour have changed and trafficking in persons for the purposes of forced or compulsory labour, which may involve sexual exploitation, is the subject of growing international concern and requires urgent action for its effective elimination...”

Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182) (184 ratifications)

Article 3(a) (b) (c)

“all forms of slavery or practices similar to slavery, such as the sale and trafficking of children, debt bondage and serfdom and forced or compulsory labour, including forced or compulsory recruitment of children for use in armed conflict;”

(b) the use, procuring or offering of a child for prostitution, for the production of pornography or for pornographic performances;

(c) the use, procuring or offering of a child for illicit activities, in particular for the production and trafficking of drugs as defined in the relevant international treaties;

20 years of pilot surveys



SOCIAL JUSTICE
DECENT WORK

- **Since 2008:** Qualitative and quantitative surveys on forced labour, bonded labour, forced labour of children, forced labour of migrant workers, vestiges of slavery, forced labour among indigenous communities
- **2009:** publication of «Operational indicators of trafficking in human beings» – Delphi survey- ILO- European Commission
- **2012:** publication of «Hard to see, harder to count»
- **2013:** 19th ICLS Presentation of pilot surveys →
Formal resolution to setup a working group
- **2013-2018:** 6 Expert group meetings including one on trafficking and forced labour (Vienna, December 2017)
- **October 2018:** Adoption of ICLS guidelines on the measurement of forced labour by all Member States

Global estimates of FL



- 2005 and 2012: Capture–recapture of reported cases of forced labour
- 2016: Global estimate of Modern Slavery with WalkFree and IOM
 - 25 million people in forced labour
 - 15 million in forced marriage

Methodology: use of national datasets on FL and IOM database on victims of trafficking for forced labour

Current situation



- International guidelines with a unique statistical definition of forced labour and recommendations for sampling tools

https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---stat/documents/meetingdocument/wcms_648619.pdf

- On going probabilistic national surveys
- Development of joint operational definition and tools for the measurement of trafficking for forced labour with UNODC and IOM

Current Challenges



- Mixed methods tools: use of administrative data (on THB) and survey tools
- Development and test of innovative sampling tools
- Measurement of trends/change
- Survey of specific forms of forced laboru/trafficking
- Strong ethical guidelines
- From research to policy making



Thank you!

www.ilo.org/forcedlabour