

## Source: Child Domestic Labour in Haiti Characteristics, Contexts and Organisation of Children's Residence, Relocation and Work

- In the present report, child domestic labour is defined in terms of parent-child separation, high workload of the child, and lack of or delays in schooling. Using these criteria, it is found that child domestic workers count 173 000 or 8.2 percent of the child population aged five to 17 years. 7
- Not regarding urban-rural status, our data show that overall, 59 percent of the child domestics are girls, whereas 41 percent are boys. 7
- In Haiti, however, the issue had been raised in public forums earlier. In 1984, Haitian official and scholars gathered in a Conference on child domesticity (which produced a conference report, "Colloque sur l'Enfance en Domesticité", see Anderson et. al. 1990: iv; UNICEF 1993: 34). The first known estimates of the extent of child domesticity in Haiti stem from this conference. With basis in census data from 1982, Dorélien estimated that Haiti had a number of 109.737 domestics, which comprised 2.2% of the total population, or 9% of the population aged less than 18 years (Dorélien 1990 [1984]: 1). During the same conference in 1984, E. Clesca suggested an estimate of 120.000 child domestics, or 11% of the children from six to 15 years of age. However, Clesca also noted that this figure may be doubled, to 240.000, as domestics considered as relatives or lodgers/paying guests/boarders (French: pensionnaires) are not included in the estimate of 120.000 (Clesca 1984, in UNICEF 1993: 39, 58n43; Anderson et. al. 1990: 1). 8
- The fieldwork for the HLCS was conducted over a period of about 18 weeks, from March to July 2001, in all regions of the country. The fieldwork was undertaken by the Institut Haïtien de Statistique et d'Informatique (IHSI), and involved 79 interviewers and 20 supervisors. In 501 clusters, 7812 households were selected for interviewing, and the response rate was 97.8 percent. Further details on the HLCS are described in the appendix. 17
- About 110 persons participated in 56 interviews and seven group sessions. 11 More precisely, 12 participants were parents or close family members (in the original household) of children who had been placed in new families, and 11 had, or had had in the past, children living with them who were not their biological offspring. 17
- Furthermore, 22 of the 110 participants were children who presently lived with others than their parents or original caretakers, or were children and adults who had done so in the past. 21 of these 22 had been placed with new families before they reached the age of 15, and one had been below 18 (at the age of 16). Ten of these 22 participants were below 15 at the time we interviewed them, and seven of them were still living away from their original homes, some of them working as "domestics". Only two of the ten had returned to their original parents or households, and one was presently living in the streets, having run away from the home he had been placed in. Nine of the 22 participants mentioned above belonged to the age category 15 to 17 (i.e. below 18), and all but one of them were still living in other than their original homes. 18
- It would have been convenient if households simply reported their number of child domestic workers when asked. To allow for this possibility, the HLCS did have an answer category in the question on household composition that identified restaveks.

Among the children aged from six years to 17 years, the respondents volunteered 1.4 percent (or 32 000) as restaveks. In addition, 1.9 percent (42 000) of the children were reported as having no relation of kinship to the household head. Given the stigma associated with the term restavek in the current Haitian public debate, it is likely that the number is considerably underreported. Nevertheless, the reporting based on the question of household composition appears better than what the mothers report about the whereabouts of their children. In that case, about 12 000 children are reported as doing housework in other households. In contrast, the mothers report 85 000 children as being “adopted” by other people. 32

- Of the total of 2.1 million children aged five to 17, 19 percent, or 401 000 live in households with neither mother nor father present. 33
- School attendance is assessed here through considering enrolment and if enrolled, whether the child is at the stage that he or she should be according to age. Altogether, 61 percent or 1 290 000 of the children aged five to 17 have either never attended, are not currently enrolled or is behind their age group at school. At early ages, the problem consist mainly of no enrolment, while at older ages there is a mix of having never enrolled, falling behind, and drop-out. 34
- If we combine the three characteristics: residence, school and work, we find that 173 000 children, or 8.2 percent of the child population aged five to 17 years can be considered child domestic workers. Obviously, the few below-eighteens that have established their own households are excluded. For estimation purposes we considered those children having a workload belonging to one of the three highest groups 36 as having a heavy load (the workloads in each quintile depends on age, see Table 3). If we make the work criteria more stringent, and consider only the two upper quintiles of workload, we arrive at a figure of 124 000 or 5.9 percent. 35
- The various international conventions that pertain to child labour use different age limits, in particular less than 15 and less than 14. There are 134 000 child domestic workers less than 15 years of age (7.7 percent of the population 5-14) and 115 000 (7.3 percent) child domestic workers less than 14 years of age. These estimates too are based on the upper three quintiles. How do these figures compare to previous estimations of the number of child domestic workers in Haiti? In general, most estimates fall in the region of 100 to 200 thousand children. 36
- In general, the child domestics are proportionally represented in rural and urban areas, with about 73 percent living in rural areas. If considering the proportion of child domestics of the total child population in urban and rural areas, the percentages are about the same. There are, nevertheless, some differences between the percentages of the child population accounted for by child domestic workers between the departments and also between urban and rural areas. 38
- In general, there are more girls (59 percent) than boys (41 percent) that we classify as domestic child workers. The percentage resembles that found in previous studies. For example, Dorélien (1990: 1) found 60 percent girls in the 1982 census, and 0 10 20 30 40 50 Ouest Artibonite Grande Anse Sud Sud'Est Nord Nord'Ouest Centre Nord'Est Urban Male Urban Female Rural Male Rural Female 40 UNICEF (1993: 39) recounts that the different studies present percentages of girls between 60 and 80 percent. To

some extent, the difference between the different studies may be due to urban or rural bias. In the HLCS, it turns out that while the urban areas have 72 percent girls, the rural have 53 percent. 39

- The relation between child domesticity and households size points to the importance of fertility for the development of the institution of child domesticity. During the last 20 years, fertility rates have been dropping in Haiti, and the current Total Fertility Rate (TFR) of about 4.7 children per woman is, for example, about one child lower than five years ago. If the trend continues, Haiti will follow other countries and arrive at fertility levels at or below what is needed for replacement of the population in the long run. 42
- Therefore, assuming that other factors stay the same, the future holds a reduction in number of potential domestic workers and increasing demand. Since it appears that the gender bias in child domesticity in Haiti is comparatively slight (overall 59 percent girls and 41 percent boys), the effect of reduced fertility (on the pool of potential child workers) will not be as quick as in countries where there is a preference for one or the other gender. The exception will be the potential supply of girls to the towns, since child domestics in towns are predominantly girls. 43
- The pattern that appears when studying activities in this manner thus gives an intake to analyse the gender distribution among child domestics in urban and rural areas. One may recall from Chapter 3 that we found an overall percentage of 59 percent girls and 41 percent boys, but that the distribution varies in a more profound way when looking at urban areas more specifically, where girls make up 72 percent of the domestics, and boys 28 percent. The gender distribution in rural areas, on the other hand, is more even, with 53 percent girls and 47 percent boys. 50
- Significantly, depending on residence and gender, 30 to 40 percent of the child domestic workers who have parents still alive are reported as expected to return to their parents, or that they may do so (Table 14). This may indicate that the remaining 60 to 70 percent expect to stay with their current caretakers, or other caretakers, until they are ready to set up their own households, or get married. It may also indicate that the relationship to the original parents is no longer regarded as the child's most important bond. However, it is recorded that child domestic workers living in rural areas to a greater extent than urban domestics may return to their parents, in spite of the fact that they to a lesser degree than their urban counterparts are visited by their parents. 55
- One may recall that the Aire Métropolitaine (the greater Port-au-Prince area) accounts for a large proportion of the child domestic workers, by virtue of its large total population size. In general, however, the child domestic workers are proportionally represented in urban and rural areas, with around 73 percent living in rural areas. 77
- If looking at new caretakers' economic considerations, the rationale behind employing a child domestic and spend money on the child's schooling, rather than paying for adult domestic service, is clear. Salaries for paid domestic servants vary greatly, but it is reasonable to say that they range from 80 to 300 Haitian dollars per month (400 to 1500 Gourdes). The girl who used to live with Mrs. Rosefa, for instance, earns 150 Haitian dollars (Gourdes 750) per month in the convent where she works as a servant, but gets food and board in addition to her salary. Now, taking Rosefa as an example (as she claimed that she could not afford paid help), the two youngest children who stay with her

both attend evening school. Rosefa pays six Haitian dollars (30 Gourdes) for each of them per month in school fees. Evening school is less costly than morning school. In Rosefa's case, she would have had to pay 20 Haitian dollars (100 Gourdes) per month for the two youngest children. Fabienne went to evening school up to the sixth grade, but has attended morning school for the past three years. Even with three children in the house, then, who all attend school, Rosefa currently pays 32 Haitian dollars (160 Gourdes) in fees per month. This is far less than what she would have had to pay had she hired an adult domestic servant. 83

- Whereas boys and rural girls tend to live with close relatives, such as siblings, grandparents and siblings of parents (67 percent urban boys, 75 percent rural boys and 68 percent rural girls); urban girls tend to live with more distant relatives (only 37 percent with close relatives) (Table 20). Once again, urban girls stand out as different from the other: 32 percent of the urban girls live with people classified as nonrelatives. In the rural area, grandparents are common caretakers for both boy and girl domestics. 86
- We found earlier that the group of households that send children away for domestic work in other households stands out as a low-income group, with an average annual household income at only about half of the national average (Table 18). Looking at the group of households that receive or contain child domestic workers, on the other hand, no such marked distinctions are found. The average household income of these households is some 20 percent higher than the total average. Yet, as the households with child domestic workers are also larger than others, their resulting per capita income falls below the total average 89
- Working through the empirical material, we can establish that child domesticity is a significant feature of social life in Haiti. Considering that between 5.9 and 8.2 percent of the child population aged five to 17 years can be categorised as child domestics, child domesticity is an important component in household composition, and as such, in social organisation.
- Our data show that overall, 59 percent of the child domestics are girls, whereas 41 percent are boys. In urban areas, girls make up an even larger proportion of the child domestic workers (72 percent), and among these girls, fewer have kinship relationships to their new guardians. There is a tendency that more of the boy child domestics originate from rural areas, whereas girls to a larger extent than boys come from urban areas. On an average, about 80 percent of child domestics have parents (mother and/or father) who are still alive. In urban areas, more boys than girls are visited by their parents. 92

### Source: Protecting Human Rights in Haiti

- Quantitative measures were in great part exceeded and indicate PHR' successful impact: The PHR program reached an estimated 3 million people through the program's innovative and effective public awareness campaigns. Over 16,000 beneficiaries were

served through partner organizations—over 3,500 victims of trafficking and organized violence were assisted; more than 1,500 people were trained on TIP and another 1,500 on VOV issues; 350 GOH officials were trained; and 132 partners (118 NGOs and 14 GOH institutions) were supported in the implementation of new practices and strategies to assist victims of human rights violations. 5

- After the earthquake, PADF distributed 250 tons of donated emergency, housing, and basic supplies to its Haitian partners, reaching a total of 1.7 million Haitians overall; of these, 25,000 PHR beneficiaries were provided emergency relief. Public awareness and communications campaigns widely educated and mobilized civil society, sectors of government, and the Haitian public. 6
- Haiti is rarely mentioned in public without its tagline of “the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere.” It has the worst social and economic indicators in the region, and has had a negative annual GDP growth for much of the past 20 years, with the **current per capita GDP** estimated at only **US \$360**. According to a 2007 UN/World Food Programme report, over two-thirds of Haiti’s citizens live on less than US \$2 per day. There is extreme income inequality—the poorest 20% account for 1.5% of the income and the wealthiest 20% account for 68%, creating additional social and economic stressors. 10
- Growing at 1.9% per annum, Haiti’s population of 8.4 million is expected to reach 12.8 million in just 20 years.<sup>4</sup> Continued rapid population growth presents a fundamental development challenge that undermines stability and the government’s ability to provide basic social services for this growing population. The same strategy document notes that Haiti’s population is disproportionately young, with **58% below 25 years of age and 21% between the ages of 15 and 25**. This “youth bulge” presents both an opportunity and a challenge for bringing about change. 11
- Haitian women suffer disproportionately from increased crime, with more than 70% of the female population reportedly experiencing some form of violence, 37% of which is gender-based.<sup>5</sup> By the mid-2000s, gangs controlled key “hotspots” in Port-au-Prince and major secondary cities,<sup>6</sup> and there were indications that they were beginning to expand into other areas. Many of the current gangs had been re-armed in preparation for the 2006 elections. Many prospered through ransoms from kidnappings, something that did not exist in Haiti until fairly recently, and which were at their peak in 2005-2006.<sup>7</sup> Though economic gain was the most prevalent motivation, several kidnappings, particularly in 2005- 2006, have been characterized by brutal beatings, torture, rape, and murder. 11
- The context for a new USAID human rights program in late May 2007 was one in which the second Prével administration was in its second year, levels of violence and kidnappings had dropped, but were still high, UN troops were still on the ground, and at least 70% of Haitians were unemployed. Of particular grave concern were the findings in a report from the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IAHCR) in April 2007 about violence against women and children. 13
- Port-au-Prince and Saint-Marc had higher percentages of households with restavèk children, with more than one-third reporting servant children in their homes, and the Port-au-Prince neighborhood of Cité Soleil had the highest percentage—an amazing 44 percent—of restavèk children. 19

- In the case of incidence of restavèk by geography, data show that inter-departmental flow of restavèk is predominantly towards **Port-au-Prince**. In the other cities surveyed, most restavèk children live in their departments of origin. For example, only 32% of restavèk children in Port-au-Prince are from the West Department; however, 82% of restavèk children in Cap-Haïtien are from the North Department; 83% in Saint-Marc and Gonaïves are from the Artibonite, and 88% in Petit Gôave are from the West. In **Port-au-Prince**, the most important department of origin is the **West (32%)**; however, another 42% originate overall in the **South (21%)**, **Southeast (11%)**, and **Grande-Anse (10%)**. 20
- The surveys also included questions about types of violence, aggressors, and recourse, and revealed details about the extent of violence in urban areas. More than 7 percent of urban households report incidents of rape, murder, kidnapping, or gang involvement. In terms of incidents of physical assault, Port-au-Prince households had more than double the average (nearly 16 percent) than the other cities. Overall, respondents attribute the vast majority of rapes, murders, and kidnappings to **armed authorities and politically partisan groups, including gangs**. A majority of victims do not file a complaint with **authorities**. 20
- Survey findings also indicated that respondent knowledge of victim services was low, with only 15% of 1,431 respondents who knew where to go for services to victims of violence. Saint-Marc showed a much higher rate (33%) than other cities surveyed. This may reflect the relative efficiency of Hôpital St. Nicolas and its collaboration with active civil society organizations such as FEFBA, which provides legal aid and physically accompanies victims who need medical services. Petit-Goâve shows by far the lowest rate of respondent knowledge of services (6%), which may reflect the more limited range of services available in Petit-Goâve compared to other cities studied. 20
- As part of its strategy to build sustainable local capacity and cultivate a new generation of human rights leaders, PADF supported a capacity-building activity for the **Faculté de Sciences Humaines (FASCH)** at the State University of Haiti, providing equipment to the school's library and creating a **Human Rights Fellowship program**. Fellows in this program provided technical assistance to partner institutions. As a measure of the success of this program, the first six fellows, during the 12 weeks spent working with the program, provided psycho-social counseling to 448 victims (34 women, 414 men). 30
- Communications and public outreach on human rights-related themes were key elements of the PHR program. Under this Result, activities focused on preparing and training partner organizations, communities, and local leaders to improve the identification and treatment of victims. Other activities focused on mass social communications campaigns at the national and local levels to educate the general public and decision-makers. Other awareness-building and outreach activities are discussed in Result 5 below, such as Community Forums. Together, the events and outreach initiatives in Results 3 and 5 were effective both in broadly disseminating the human rights themes to the general public and stakeholders, and also in increasing the ability of providers, communities, and officials to prevent and respond to human rights abuse. 30
- A total of 72 women participated in this training, representing 10 local organizations.<sup>38</sup> The training covered human rights violations, gender-based violence, women's rights, protection mechanisms, and advocacy for the respect of women's rights. The women

attending the training were particularly interested in knowing more about existing procedures in the justice system. 31

- Fifty-five participants (35 women, 20 men) representing 20 organizations took part in a training seminar in Gonaïves on Human Rights Advocacy. Human rights activists had requested training in designing, planning, and implementing awareness and advocacy campaigns. The curriculum covered various types of advocacy, targeting relevant social problems, advocacy strategies and tools, mass communication, and how to effectively incorporate the concept of ethics in political and social communication. 32
- On **October 9, 2009, the PADF and the Maurice A. Sixto Foundation** organized a press conference with several local artists, the local media, and national and international human rights activists to watch the premiere of the first episode **Ti Sentaniz. PADF** developed an aggressive distribution plan for the film. Seventy percent (70%) of Haiti's private and public TV stations aired the animated film every week for the duration of the campaign. The stations did not charge for air time because of the social importance of the issue and the potential for major impact. 32
- To complement training done through HBI, TIP, and G-TIP, PHR conducted training seminars for NGO and GOH community leaders in Haitian border communes. A total of 44 community leaders participated, (36 men, 8 women) 25 CBOs, four mayors, six CASECs, four ASECs, and two city delegates. PADF's Our Border program also convened a series of high-level meetings from 2006 until 2010 between Dominican and Haitian customs officials, border patrol officers, and other local government representatives to discuss the issues and foster collaboration. These meetings resulted in the creation of the Bicameral Border Commission of the Haitian Parliament, a dramatic increase in funding for the border, and the strengthening of cross-border relations that fostered the outpouring of help from DR after the earthquake. 38
- The first Community Forum held in Petit-Goâve was attended by 175 participants representing 90 community-based organizations (CBOs). The Forum in Cap-Haïtien was attended by 100 participants (53 men, 47 women) from 60 CBOs. The Gonaïves Community Forum had 116 participants (132 men, 24 women) representing 80 CBOs. The Community Forum in Saint-Marc had 180 participants (142 men, 38 women) representing 100 local CBOs. 40
- PADF distributed relief in the 27 IDP camps assigned to it by USAID in an effort to ensure coverage of humanitarian assistance and human rights protection.<sup>53</sup> From May to June 2010, the program distributed to 15,260 children and 4,174 families <sup>54</sup> tarpaulins, canned food, T-shirts, sandals, flashlights, gallons and bottles of water, Clorox, hygiene kits, baby kits, food kits, medicine and medical supplies for hospitals, bags, blankets, sleeping bags, water filters, socks, and other supplies. PHR also continued to support partner hospitals. A total of 1,100 cases of half gallon containers with chlorine bleach were distributed to the six partner hospitals. In the 12 months following the earthquake, PADF provided emergency relief and recovery support to over 1.7 million Haitians across all our programs and through our local partners. 48
- 15,260 children and 4,174 families<sup>58</sup> in IDP camps received tarpaulins, canned food, T-shirts, sandals, flashlights, water, Clorox, hygiene kits, baby kits, food kits, medicine and medical supplies, bags, blankets, sleeping bags, water filters, socks, and other supplies.

- Relief aid was distributed to 21 PHR partner organizations (including four GOH agencies), benefiting 10,150 people. • Committees for monitoring and preventing human rights abuse against women and children were set-up and trained in 27 camps. • Six hospitals received medical supplies and supplies for cholera prevention. • The 27 camp management committees participated in training of trainers seminars with the participation of key GOH institutions such as the MCFDF, IBESR, OPC, BMP, MAST, and DPC. • 5 service contracts were established with commercial radios in selected strategic zones to broadcast key messages. 54
- A qualitative study on trafficking in children in the worst affected sites was conducted. • Child protection networks in four border crossing points were deployed, including support to BPM, OPC, and IBESR in their deployment efforts. • 1,000 DVD copies of the Ti Sentaniz film were produced and distributed. • Over 40 children were directly assisted by Border Networks and GOH agencies. • A child protection campaign—Ann rebate Ayiti San Restavèk—against the restavèk practice was revised and widely disseminated. 55
- 88 people received mental health counseling to deal with PTSD. • Several visits with psycho-social counselors were conducted in the local communities and IDP camps. 55
- 2,000 camp dwellers participated in community forums on GBV, TIP/VOV, hygiene, cholera prevention, and environmental protection. • 225 MCFDF camp monitors (brigadiers) were trained and deployed in 27 camps, 50 financially supported by PHR. 55
- PHR was an innovative program in many respects. Its comprehensive approach engaged and increased the capacity of grassroots civil society in Haiti as well as the technical and political government leadership. An estimated 3 million people were reached through the program's innovative and effective public awareness campaigns. Over 16,000 beneficiaries were reached through partner organizations, and over 1.7 million Haitians with emergency relief supplies following the earthquake, an estimated 25,000 of whom were PHR beneficiaries. Its other innovation was a public awareness and communications strategy to widely educate and mobilize civil society, sectors of government, and the Haitian public. 57

### Source: Child Domestic Workers in Haiti 2014: Analytical Report

- Twenty five percent of Haitian children 5-17 years of age live separately from their parents (with a “third party”). This is an increase compared to 2001. Most of these children (21 percent) live together with relatives, while the remaining four percent live with “strangers” (non-relatives). Fewer of the children living with strangers are currently attending school, and they perform more domestic work than children living with parents or relatives. XIII
- Haitian children perform a large number of household tasks in the households where they live. More child domestic workers than non-child domestic workers do household tasks. It is not possible to point out clear differences in the workload by children's living-arrangement. Fifteen percent of all Haitian children work after 8 pm in the evening and before 6 pm in the morning. Twenty-seven percent of the child domestic workers work during night-time. This is more than twice as many as the non-child domestic workers. XIII

- In Haiti, three out of four children (74 percent), aged five to 18 years live with one or both parents. 44 percent of all children live with both parents, while 31 live with only one parent. 28
- Seven percent of Haitian children live in the household that they were born into, but where parents have moved out or have died. These children most often live with grandparents or their parents' siblings. Another 11 percent of children in Haiti tell that they live with what they refer to as "well-knowns" – which mainly are relatives. In total, then, 18 percent of children aged five to 18 in Haiti are living with their extended family. 28
- The remaining seven percent of Haitian children are living with what they characterize as people they did not know prior to the move into their present home, or who they only knew a little before they moved. 28
- Only two percent of all children in the age group five to 18 report that they never do any domestic tasks. It is only children below eight years of age that say they never carry out any domestic work. Among the latter, 11 percent say they never take part in any domestic work. Another 24 percent of all children (regardless of age) did not perform any work the day before the interview ("yesterday", or if the last day was a weekend, last weekday), but report to do such work on a regularly basis. Six out of ten children (57 percent) carried out less than 4 hours of work the last workday. More than 8 hours of work was carried out by two percent of the children, and three percent worked between six and eight hours. 29
- We have seen that most children in Haiti do some sort of household chores. According to the framework provided by ILO and the Technical Committee to this study, how such work should be defined depends on whether or not a child lives with a third party. In this framework, child domestic work refers to a situation where children perform domestic work in the home of a third party or employer with or without pay. Out of the children in Haiti that live separated from their parents, only one percent says that they never perform domestic work, and another 21 percent had not performed any domestic work the previous weekday. Put differently, in this framework, nearly all of the children who live away from parents perform child domestic work. 29
- Child domestic work encompasses both permissible and non-permissible conditions. "Child labour" in child domestic work makes up the non-permissible situations. This framework further follows specific minimum ages. In Haiti, the minimum age for non-hazardous forms of domestic work is 15 years. Thus, strictly speaking (and related to problems of operationalisation, as pointed out in Chapter 2), all the work that younger children perform is defined as non-permissible, in this framework. According to this, 80 percent of all children below 15 years who live away from parents live in situations of child labour in domestic work. 29
- Children 15 years old may work up to six hours a day, and children aged 16 and 17, up to eight hours a day. Very few children work so many hours. In Haiti, our figures show that in Haiti, among the 15-year olds who live away from parents, a total of nine percent work hours or more per day. In comparison, among the 15 year olds who live with parents, the figure is six percent. Among the 16 and 17 year olds who live away from parents, five percent work eight hours or more. In comparison, three percent among the

16 and 17 year-olds who live with parents work eight hours or more per day. It should be noted, that many children aged 15 to 18 work from one to six hours per day. A workload of 4 to six hours per day is difficult to combine with education. 30

- All the non-permissible situations – ‘Child Labour in Domestic Work’ – are put against a red background. As is evident, it is only the children that live separately from their parents that fall into the non-permissible situations, according to this understanding. **In line with our comment above, special attention should be made to the children younger than 14 years of age that work more than four hours a day.** As many as 40 percent of the children who live away from parents aged 11-13 years work more than four hours a day, and 15 percent work more than six hours/day. Very few the children living with their parents have such a workload in that age group. 30
- Nearly 80 percent of the children below 15 years of age living separately from their parents will belong to the category “Child Labour in Domestic Work” (but recall comments on criteria of operationalisation in the previous chapter). In contrast, 31 only nine percent of the 15 years-olds and five percent of the 16-17 years old children living without parents will be defined in this group. 31
- Accordingly, the number of child domestic workers aged five to fourteen years is 286,000 (95 % confidence interval 233,000 – 350,000). One may argue that children aged fifteen and above should not be considered child domestic workers, because their schooling is not mandatory and few have an observed work load that surpass legal limits. The present estimate is more than a doubling of the number compared with our 2001 estimate for the five to fourteen age group, which was 134,000. As was the case for the whole five to seventeen age group, the increase stems from an increase in the percentage, an increase in the estimated population base; and population growth. The number of child domestic workers aged five to thirteen years is 229,000 (95 % confidence interval 184,000 – 283,000). Again, and for the same reasons as those stated above, the estimate about twice as high as the similarly constructed estimate from 2001 (115,000). 35
- Restricting the estimate of the number of child domestic workers through relaxing the to only the two highest quintiles results in a total estimate of 9.1 percent or a total 284,000 (95% CI 233,000 –334,000) for the five to seventeen age group, that is, a reduction of about 122,000 compared to the estimate that uses the three highest quintiles. In workload terms it means an unchanged workload for the youngest group, and an increase of the minimum to be considered as child domestic of four to seven hours per day for the other age groups (see Table 11 in Chapter 4 for precise changes). 35
- The majority of children living away from their parents live together with relatives, as noted in Chapter 4. However, the percentage child domestic workers among those living without relatives are strikingly different from that among those living with relatives. Thus, 60 percent (95% CI 44- 75%) of children aged five to seventeen years living without relatives can be classed as child domestic workers, while 10.6 (95% CI 8.5-13.2%) of those living with relatives can. The huge difference in the width of the confidence intervals for the two estimates stems from the fact that only 180 children was observed as living without relatives, while 1409 lived with relatives. The estimates are practically the same for those aged five to fifteen years. 36

- In 2001, one out of five Haitian children (19 percent) aged 5 to 17 lived separately from their biological parents (HLCS 2001, see Sommerfelt, ed., 2002). This number has increased to one out of four (26 percent) in the present 2014-survey. Among all the children in this age group, 8 percent no longer have a living mother, and 12 percent do not have their father alive. As shown in Table 4, only half of the children live together with their biological father (51 percent), and 69 percent live together with their mother. Less than half of Haitian children, 44 percent, live together with both their biological parents. 39
- Among the 26 percent of the children that live away from their biological parents, most live with other relatives (Figure 6). Living with grandparents is the most frequent living arrangement for these children. However, 17 percent of children who live away from parents do not have any prior relation to their current household head. 13 percent of these children are characterized as 'Other non-relatives', while 4 percent are characterized as "Restavèk" by respondents. 40
- In sum, three out of four Haitian children (74 percent) live with one or two parents, one of five live with extended family (22 percent) and one of twenty-five live with a third party (4 percent) 40
- 74 percent of children live together with either one or both parents. With respect to the ways in which children are related to other household members, there are no large differences between the regions. However, there is a tendency that fewer children in the North live together with non-relatives than in the West (2 versus 6 percent). 41
- However, there are differences in living arrangements between children living in urban and rural areas. In urban areas, fewer children live with both parents (31 percent versus 51 in rural), and more live with relatives or non-relatives. In rural areas, half of both the boys and the girls live in the same households as both of their parents, while this is only the case for one out of three children in urban areas (Table 5). The rural boys are those who most rarely live with non-relatives (3 percent), while the urban girls are those who most frequently live with non-relatives (6 percent). 41
- Only 1-2 percent of the children in this age-group that live with their biological parents or other relatives have never attended school, while this is the case for 4-6 percent of those living with non-relatives. For the children younger than 12 years of age less than 90 percent have ever attended school no matter their living arrangements. 43
- In Haiti nearly all children (95 percent) have birth certificates (Table 8). However, children living without parents and relatives more often do not have a birth certificate than other children (14 percent). Among the children who have a birth certificate, 90 percent have been enrolled (i.e. "ever enrolled"), while for those who do not have such a certificate 70 percent have been enrolled. 43
- In Haiti nearly all children (95 percent) have birth certificates (Table 8). However, children living without parents and relatives more often do not have a birth certificate than other children (14 percent). Among the children who have a birth certificate, 90 percent have been enrolled (i.e. "ever enrolled"), while for those who do not have such a certificate 70 percent have been enrolled. 44
- One of the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) is completion of primary school. If children follow the educational schedule, they should finish their primary education when

they are 12 years old. Among children aged 12-17, only 40 percent had obtained that goal countrywide. Only 27 percent of Haitian children in the age group 12-14 have completed primary education. It is less likely that children living with non-parents finish primary school. However, children aged 15-17 years, no matter who they live with, have a higher likelihood for having completed primary school. 44

- Only 54 percent of all Haitian children aged 15 to 17 have completed primary education. As shown in Figure 10, somewhat fewer children living with non-parents also in this age-group have completed primary education. 45
- When we take into account which level they should have obtained according to their age, as many as 77 percent of the children is delayed in their education (Table 9). Even though it is high for all, it is highest for the children above 10 years of age, and highest for children living with non-relatives. For the children 15-17 years of age, there is no significant difference in delays between the children living with their parents, and those living with their relatives, another indication that children might move to relatives in order to attend school. 45
- Twenty five percent of Haitian children 5-17 years of age live separated from their parents. Most of these children live together with relatives, 21 percent, while the remaining four percent live with “strangers” (non-relatives). Fewer of the children living with strangers are currently attending school, and they have in general more domestic work than children living with parents or relatives. However, within each group of children there is a large variation in both school attendance and workload. In Chapter 3, this information was used to define which children can be considered as child domestic workers (CDW). In turn, a more thorough analysis of the living conditions of CDWs, non-CDWs and children living with parents will be presented in Chapter 5. Chapter 5 also re-examines the details on enrolment and workloads for these different categories of children. 48
- 59 percent of the children classified as domestic child workers were girls and 41 percent boys. The data from the current survey shows that the share of male and female domestic workers has remained unchanged (Table 12). Another continuity is the gender distribution in rural areas, which should be noted especially: Just as in 2001, the proportion of boys in rural areas is higher than in urban areas. This is most likely related to the differences in labour tasks in urban and rural areas: Tending animals is almost entirely a male task, and taking part in agricultural work is far more common for boys than girls (cf. Sommerfelt, ed., 2002: Chapter 4). A household need for the labour force of boys in agriculture may thus partly account for the higher proportion of boys in rural areas. 49
- In urban areas, there are changes in the gender distributions of child domestic workers as compared to results of 2001. While in 2001 we found 72 percent girls among the urban CDWs, this share is reduced to 65 percent in 2014. The proportion of boy CDWs in the urban areas has increased accordingly, and the gender distribution of CDWs are thus becoming more equal in urban areas too. 50
- we have stated earlier that 25 percent of children in the age group 5-17 live separately from their parents. These 25 percent include all children who live separately from their parents, also children who cannot be considered as child domestic workers. Among

these “separated” children, there are differences between CDWs and non-CDWs in urban and rural areas and with respect to gender and age. As shown in Figure 13, more children live separately from their parents in urban than in rural areas (30 vs 23 percent). In rural areas there is not a big difference between the genders in this respect. However, 12 percent of the rural boys are not CDWs even though they live separated from their parents, which is higher than for girls. Put differently, in the rural areas, girls who live away from their parents more often are CDWs than boys. The highest share of child domestic workers is found among urban girls: Nearly one in five urban girls can be classified as a CDW. 50

- Looking into distributions according to gender and age, the highest share of child domestic workers is found among girls in the age-group 10-14 (see the second part of Figure 13). In this group too, nearly one out of five girls can be classified as a CDW. In the youngest age-group, 5-9 years of age, 20 percent of children live separately from their parents – but the proportion of CDWs among them is different for girls and boys. It is important to pay attention to the girls in this group, as half of them are characterised as CDW. The figure also brings out that the majority of CDWs are found in the highest age group, 15-17 years of age, where the gender distribution is pretty similar. 50
- 75 percent of children live with either one (31 percent) or both (44 percent) of their parents (cf. Chapter 4). In the table below, we describe in further detail the distribution of the remaining 25 percent of children who live in households without a parent present. As many as seven percent are born in their current household, and they are thus left behind as parents migrate or they stay on in their parental household they when orphaned (often with grandparents, cf. Figure 6). Of the remaining 18 percent of the children who do not live with a parent, 11 percent say that they live with relatives or someone they know well, while seven percent say that they live with strangers or people they only knew “a little” before their move. 51
- Among the children who live away from their parents, two thirds have both parents alive, whereas 11 percent have lost both parents. This pattern is similar for the child domestic workers and the non-CDWs. Most of the children, 85 percent, with at least one parent still alive, stay in touch with their parent(s) (Figure 15). Child domestic workers and non-CDWs thus report to have relatively similar frequency of contact with parents. 53
- A moderate improvement in school enrolment applies to child domestic workers too – whose current enrolment increase with age. However, child domestic workers have low enrolment rates in their early age. On a positive note, their enrolment rates have improved in 2014, as compared to 2001, the percentage of child domestic who have never attended school falling from 29 percent to 7 percent, for instance. 54
- This is similar to the level found in the 2001 survey. However, while in 2001 it was found that 16 percent of the children never had attended school; in 2014 this was reduced to 6 percent that never had attended school. 55
- In spite of rising enrolment and attendance rates, the largest proportion of children who are not currently enrolled (or have never been enrolled) are found among child domestic workers. As shown in Table 16, these figures are 32 percent (seven plus 25 percent) for child domestic workers (as against 40 in 2001), 24 percent for non-child domestic

workers living away from their parents (as against 14 percent in 2001) and 23 percent for children living with their parents (as against 21 percent in 2001). 56

- On Saturdays there is also a higher share that works many hours: 14 percent of all the children worked more than 6 hours the last Saturday, while only 5 percent had such a large workload last weekday, and 3 percent last Sunday. It is not possible to point out clear differences in the workload by the living-arrangement for children. However, a somewhat higher share of the children living away from the household they were born into, work more hours during weekdays than the other children: 25 percent versus 18 percent. 63
- Fifteen percent of all Haitian children work after 8 pm in the evening and before 6 pm in the morning (14 percent “sometimes” and 1 percent “always”). There is a small tendency that children living together with one or both parents work somewhat less during the night-time than children living together in a non-parental household (Table 18). Note that twenty-seven percent of the child domestic workers work during night-time. This is more than twice as many as the non-CDWs. 62
- Very few children (4 percent) are given compensation in form of money for their work. As shown in Figure 22, an equal amount of the child domestic workers (3.3 percent) and the non-CDWs (2.5 percent) get compensation, as the children living with their parents (3.9 percent). Thus, the living arrangement does not seem to influence whether or not children receive payment. 63
- With respect to work-related injuries, half of all children report that they have experienced injuries while doing domestic work. **The two main injuries reported are cut-injuries and having been burnt.** As indicated in Figure 24, the child domestic workers and the non-CDWs follow the same pattern in this respect, but with a tendency that there are some more child domestic workers who have experienced any injury (57 versus 50 percent) and have received cuts during work (50 versus 41 percent). 64
- If we disregard the distinction between child domestic workers and non-CDWs, and focus on children’s living arrangements, we find that one out of twenty children (five percent) in the agegroup five to 18 has a handicap<sup>20</sup> (see Table 21). **The most frequent handicap is intellectual.** There is a tendency that parents to a very little extent will send their handicapped children to other relatives. **Relatively few children with an intellectual handicap are found among the children living with other relatives.** As we will come back to later, many of the children living with other relatives do that for educational purposes. 67
- **Differences in commensality are significant in the statistical material, and the sharing of meals comes across as an important measure of integration in the household.** Nearly four out of five Haitian children (78 percent) do eat together with other members of the households they live in. However, there is a remarkable difference between the children living with their parents, and the other children. As shown in Figure 33 children living with their parents eat more frequently together with the rest of the household than the other children do. Only half of the female child domestic workers in urban areas (53 percent) eat with the rest of the households. The mean number of meals does however not vary between the groups, the mean number of meals for all the groups were 2. 73

- Among the children that do not live together with their original parents, 10 percent think they are worse treated than the other children in the household (12 percent of the child domestic workers and 8 percent among the others). This question is only answered by the children that live separated from their parents. 74
- For the children not defined as child domestic workers, 17 percent feel they are better treated than other children in the household, while this is the case for six percent of the child domestic workers. 74
- Most of the adult respondents find it not desirable for children to be placed in other households for doing unpaid or paid agricultural work and domestic work. This is found desirable for neither children under the age of 18 nor children under 14 (Figure 41). The placement in homes of relatives or godmothers/godfathers is found “not desirable” for 50 to 60 percent of the respondents. The least problematic is to place children for apprenticeships. However, attitudes in the latter respect vary considerably with children’s age: 49 percent of respondents report that they find it unacceptable to place children under 14 years for apprenticeship, while 27 percent state that children under 18 should not be placed for apprenticeship. 83
- Among all the parents that were asked, five percent said they would encourage their own children to live in another household, regardless of purpose. Another 24 percent said that they would do so under certain conditions. There are, however, differences among the households that would encourage their children to live in new households. As shown in Figure 44, the poorest households - and households the lowest education of household heads – are much more willing to send their children to other households than the more wealthy households and the households whose household heads have higher education. What is more, parents from rural areas are more willing to send their children to other households than the urban ones: While 40 percent of the parents from the Transversal region are willing to relocate their children, this is the case for 18 percent of the parents in Northern region. 86
- Looking at the wealth of the households, nearly none of the households that have sent children away to live elsewhere are defined in the rich third on the wealth index. In the households that have received children, on the other hand, only 26 percent are in the poor third. Thus, there is a tendency that the better-off receive children, whereas the poorer households have a higher likelihood of sending their children away. 88
- A high number of Haitian children have been moving from the place where they were born. Among all the children under 18 years of age, one third (36 percent) has moved at least once. 14 percent has moved more than once. As shown in Table 25, more children currently living in urban areas have moved than those living in rural areas. There might be at least two explanations for this; 1) Children tend to move from rural to urban households, or 2) Rural households move less. Most likely the situation in Haiti is a combination of the two. Movements are related to age, but not as linear as one could expect. While 25 percent of the youngest children have moved at least once, this is the case for about 40 percent of children both in the age-group 10-14 and 15-17. In all age groups the children currently living in rural households have moved less than the children living in urban households. 95

- In the interviews with the children, 42 percent of the moves were reported to have taken place in the company of parents, another 15 percent with other household members, and the remaining 43 percent of the moves were done unaccompanied by household members. Two third of the moves (69 percent) had taken place within the same department, and 43 percent within the same commune (22). When the boys move without other household-members, they move mainly within the same commune, or they move out of the commune to a rural area either in the same department or in another department. 96

### Source: Haiti's Model Communities Ending Restavèk Child Domestic Servitude

- An estimated 27 percent of the children in villages reached by the project were initially identified as being in restavèk are now back home. 16
- The children's rights participatory learning method, in which 525 community members participated, was very effective at shifting norms by improving attitudes and behaviors related to children's rights. Reported desirable behavior such as better treatment of children, increasing by 29 percentage points. 18
- Programming contributed to the prevention of restavèk by providing education to an average of 148 overage children during each project year, thus helping to retain at-risk children in their communities of origin, and leading to both a perceived reduction in delinquency in the community and a greater likelihood that pupils can take care of themselves as adults. Children taking part in accelerated education might not have been able to attend school otherwise, due to the discrepancy between their age and their grade level. As a result of the program, they were able to complete their primary school more quickly. Without access to education for their children, parents are more likely to feel little choice but to send them into restavèk. 20
- Accelerated education is also contributing strongly to the reintegration of children who have returned from restavèk by serving 53 percent of the returnees in communities assessed in the evaluation. The interface between accelerated education programming and the work of the CPCs was strong, with the latter engaged in outreach, referrals and supporting access to accelerated education for the most vulnerable, as well as tracking dropouts. The overall retention rate in the accelerated education program was 80 percent and the pass rate was 55 percent, which are relatively high for the rural Haitian context. Asked whether accelerated education classes were seen to be inferior to mainstream classes, stakeholders were unanimous in stating that recent exam results have made it so popular that some parents now express a preference for accelerated education over traditional classes. "Many parents didn't believe in this program at first because they didn't believe the child would be ready for exams in three years. Now they see it is serious because of the results on exams." (Marre resident.) 21
- The project team is not aware of any similar models with which to compare the Model Communities approach in order to evaluate its effectiveness. Given the vast array of factors that drive and maintain the restavèk practice, we expect that the outcomes attained during this project (a 27% retrieval rate; very positive reintegration experiences for returned children; demonstrated changes in attitudes, knowledge and behavior

regarding the practice of restavèk and the treatment of children) indicate program effectiveness. However, the fact that a majority of parents did not retrieve their children from restavèk and that some who did, did not retrieve all of them, points to the need to continue to derive lessons from and refine the Model Communities approach to attain greater effectiveness. 25

### Source: Urban Child Labor in Port-au-Prince, Haiti

- An estimated 600,000 people fled the capital zone for rural areas after the earthquake, but within 6 months at least 40 percent had returned.<sup>30</sup> Haiti also has very high rates of rural to urban migration—an estimated 75,000 people move to Port-au-Prince each year—and “nearly 17 percent of all Haitians over the age of 18 have migrated at some point to Port-au-Prince.” 15
- Among those interviewed, roughly one-third lived on the street and the rest in some kind of shelter. Those without shelter described sleeping at gas stations, on porches, on empty tables in markets, and in abandoned cars or ruined buildings. 25
- Haiti has a 48 percent fundamental education participation rate for boys and a 52 percent rate for girls (net attendance ratio, 2005-2010 data). The secondary school participation rate for both boys and girls is much lower, at 18 and 21 percent, respectively. 35
- Schooling in Haiti has a long history of weakness and has produced a population with an approximate literacy rate of 49 percent.<sup>36</sup> While schooling is compulsory through age 11, there are not enough public schools to enroll nearly all of Haiti’s primary school-aged children.<sup>37</sup> Since demand for education far outstrips public delivery, there are many private and parochial schools which provide an education for 81 percent of early primary school students (first six levels). Since most children attend private schools, many families struggle to pay the cost of tuition, uniforms, and textbooks. One child explained, for example, “When the moment of the exams arrived, they always sent me out the door because my mother didn’t have the money to pay for school.” 31

### Source: Child Labor in Domestic Service (Restavèk) in Port-Au-Prince, Haiti

- The Republic of Haiti is located in the northern Caribbean Sea, approximately 600 miles southeast of Florida. It shares the island of Hispaniola with its neighbor, the Dominican Republic, occupying the western third of the island. Estimates in 2011 put Haiti’s population at over 9.7 million.<sup>3</sup> Haiti is the western hemisphere’s poorest and least-developed country. It ranks 145th out of 169 countries on the 2010 United Nations (UN) Human Development Index.<sup>4</sup> Roughly 80 percent of its population lives below the poverty line and 54 percent in abject poverty (on \$2 per day or less).<sup>5</sup> Roughly two-thirds of Haitians rely on small-scale subsistence farming for a living, but this activity makes up only 30 percent of the gross domestic product (GDP).<sup>6</sup> The country has experienced little formal job-creation over the last decade, although the informal economy is growing. Haiti’s economy suffered severe setback when a 7.1 magnitude earthquake damaged its capital city, Port-au-Prince, in January 2010. The damage to

Port-au-Prince caused the country's GDP to contract by an estimated 8 percent in 2010.<sup>7</sup> It further devastated the country's already inadequate social services, exacerbated political and social-economic instability, and weakened the already poor educational system.<sup>3</sup>

- Restavèks are mostly found in middle-to-lower-middle class households; they are also prevalent in the poorest slums of Port-au-Prince.<sup>18</sup> A survey conducted by the Pan-American Development Foundation (PADF) and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) found that **Cite Soleil, the largest slum of Port-au-Prince, had the highest percentage of restavèks.** While 16 percent all Haitian children surveyed were found to be restavèks, 40 percent of all children in Cité Soleil surveyed were found to be restavèks. **The lack of public services, such as electricity and water, in poor neighborhoods where families lacked employment created a high demand for free child labor.** **Yet, with the lack of employment, these families could not afford to send these children to school.** **For receiving families who were not employed, many restavèks were not sent to school because of their long work hours and their low social status.**<sup>4</sup>
- Kinship plays a large factor in the recruitment of restavèks.<sup>19</sup> According to a 2009 study by Francois, Smucker, and Tardieu, only 22 percent of restavèks had no kinship ties to the head of household where they resided. For the remaining 78 percent, family obligations and ties, to close and distant relatives, were evident as children were transferred from lower-income to higher-income families. These obligations occurred even among households that were just a little poorer than the sending households. For the poorer families, this represents an opportunity for their children to have a proper education and health care in urban areas, which they cannot receive in the rural areas where they currently live.<sup>4</sup>
- Most of the children interviewed had been living on their own current premises for at least 1 year, and many for much longer. Approximately one in three children had lived at the same location for at least 6 years, with most having resided at their present location for between 1 and 5 years. Less than 10 percent of children had lived at their current residence for less than a year.
- **Approximately 30 percent of those initially enrolled in primary school would not continue on to the third grade, and 60 percent of all students would drop out of school before the sixth grade.**<sup>43</sup> Much has happened since January 2010, both in terms of physical reconstruction and in terms of access to schooling, particularly as a consequence of President Martelly's new initiative for free education, launched in October 2011, targeting some 260,000 out-of-school children.<sup>16</sup>
- The formal and informal experts tended to suggest that participation in education by these children was at a lower level than suggested by the children themselves. In the experts' view, which broadly aligns with available statistics, **only a minority of children—probably no more than 20 percent—actually attended school, and most of these children attended low-quality institutions.** Some were late starters and found themselves in classes with other children who were significantly younger than they were. Hence, there might be a discrepancy between the actual age of the working children and the class in which they should have been enrolled.<sup>45</sup> The experts also suggested that school

attendance was more likely to be in the afternoon or evening, a time of day when working children would have already performed extensive household chores. 18

