









Table of Contents

Introduction	4
Executive summary	6
Characteristics of the survey population	10
Children's activities	12
Schooling	12
Household chores	13
Child work	16
Schooling and work	16
Child labour	20
Circumstances and causes of child labour	25
Consequences of child labour	31
Schooling	31
Health	34

Introduction

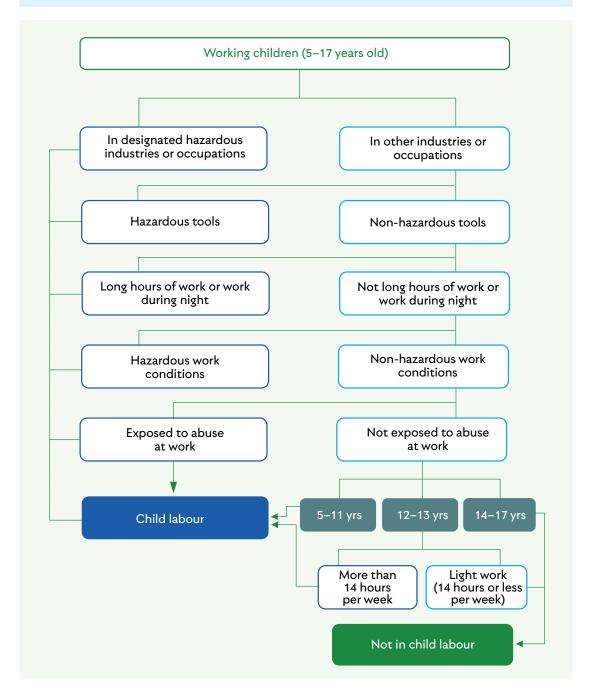
The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Child Labour Survey (KPCLS) 2022 is the first child labour survey to provide district level results in the province. Earlier in 1996 a National CLS was carried out at provincial/territory level in Pakistan. The 2022 KPCLS provides unique information about the living conditions of children in the province as well as their daily activities including schooling, working, household chores and leisure. The survey is representative of 8,282,673 children aged 5–17 in the province, at the district urban-rural stratum level.

The KPCLS follows the methodology defined by the Statistical Information and Monitoring Programme on Child Labour (SIMPOC) for data collection and analysis. The questionnaire was adapted to the local context in KP and relevant questions were included. The KPCLS is one of the first SIMPOC Child Labour Surveys that explores mental health among children in child labour, which represents a major step forward in recognising the manifold consequences of child labour. The main objectives of the KPCLS were to investigate causes, circumstances, characteristics, and consequences of child labour on education, health, protection of children's rights, as well as to facilitate decision makers in the formulation of cross-sectoral policy in support of protecting children in the province from all forms of economic exploitation. Additionally, the 2022 KPCLS collected information on how households had been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

This report presents a selection of key findings from the KPCLS. First, information on the population of children is presented, including characteristics of the children themselves and the households they live in. This is followed by information on the activities of children, with a focus on work and child labour. We then present circumstances in which children in child labour live and potential causes of child labour followed by consequences of child labour, including violence against children at work. Children with disabilities are given special attention at the end of the section on children's activities.

It is important to note that not all work that children carry out is defined as child labour. According to the 20th ICLS, working children are defined as those "engaged in any activity falling within the general production boundary as defined in the 2008 System of National Accounts (SNA)" and "comprises all children below 18 years of age engaged in any activity to produce goods or to provide services for use by others or for own use". Unpaid household services in one's own household, i.e., household chores, are outside the SNA production boundary and not included in child work nor child labour for the purposes of this report. Child labour is generally defined as "work that deprives children of their childhood, their potential and their dignity, and that is harmful to physical and mental development" (International Labour Organization, 2002, p. 16). Statistically, it is defined as illustrated in Figure 1 according to a set of age specific thresholds for the number of hours worked and the circumstances under which a child works, i.e., the environment, the tools used, the industry, the occupation, whether working at night and whether exposed to abuse at work.

Figure 1. Definition of child labour illustrated



Executive summary

Table 1. Survey implementation

Sample frame used:

KP MICS 2016 for child labour prevalence and district level sample size determination

Population census 2017 for clusters and full household listing of selected clusters

Survey sample:

Households

Sampled: 54,270

Approached: 53,746

Responded: 49,734

Children aged 5-17 years

In household: 154,156

Interviewed: 144,632

Number of clusters: 2,974 (41 out of the 3,015 originally sampled clusters could not be covered due to security concerns, migration, floods or inaccessibility)

Child response rate: 93.8%

Response rate: 92.5%

Questionnaires:

Household members (adult respondent)

Household characteristics (adult respondent)

Children 5–17 years (child respondent)

Fieldwork:

15 Jan 2022 - 2 Oct 2022

Table 2. Children 5-17 years: population estimates

Indicator	Number	Percentage
Total 5–17	8,282,673	100
Age group		
5–11	4,720,781	57.0
12–13	1,329,506	16.1
14–17	2,232,386	26.9
Sex ¹		
Boys	4,388,618	53.0
Girls	3,892,911	47.0
Residence		
Rural	7,286,033	88.0
Urban	996,640	12.0

¹ The sum of boys and girls does not equal the total number of children since the table does not include transgender/other.

Figure 2. KP child labour incidence

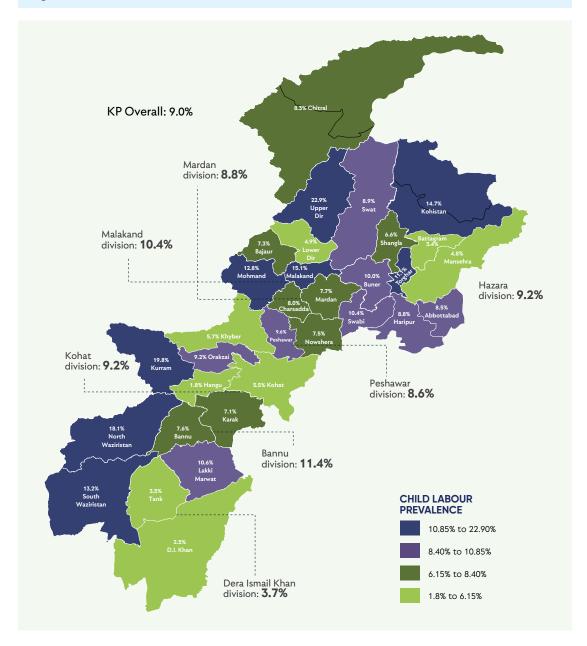
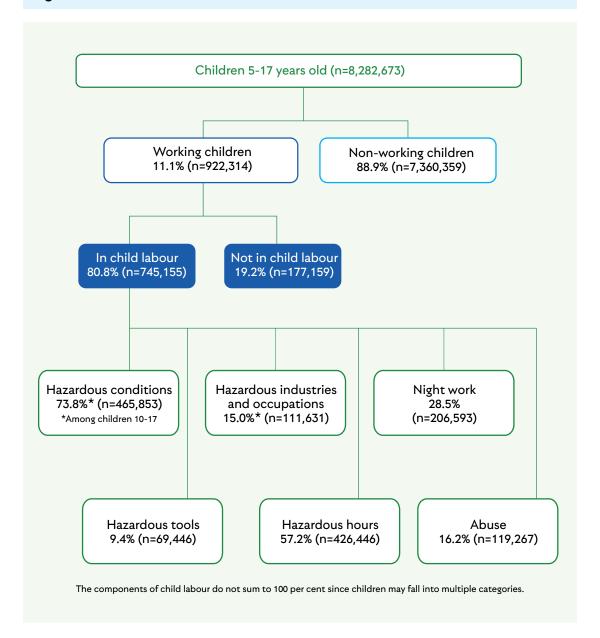


Figure 3. Results overview



Characteristics of the survey population

Table 3 shows the population composition of children 5–17 years in KP.

 Table 3.
 Population composition and characteristics

Indicator	Va	lue	Description		
Sex ratio					
Overall sex ratio 5-17	11:	2.7			
Age group					
5–11	11:	2.3	Ratio of boys to girls in the		
12–13	11:	2.9	population of children 5–17		
14–17	113	3.5	years by age group and area of residence.		
			area of residence.		
Residence					
Rural	11:				
Urban	110	0.0			
Birth certificate					
Total 5–17	43.8%				
Age group					
5–11	40.	.6%	Percentage of children		
12–13	47.	3%	5–17 years old that have		
14–17	48.4%		a birth certificate by age group and sex.		
			group and sex.		
Sex					
Boys		.2%			
Girls	43.	.3%			
Ever married	Age 10-14	Age 15-17	Percentage of children 10-		
Sex			17 years old that have ever been married (married,		
Boys	0.1%	1.4%	divorced, Nikah or married		
Girls	1.1%	7.9%	but separated) by sex and		
			age group.		

 $Table\,4\,shows\,the\,most\,important\,socio-economic\,and\,general\,characteristics\,of\,the\,households.$

 Table 4.
 Households' economic and general characteristics

Indicator	Value	Description
Female-headed households	9.8%	Percentage of female- headed households.
Average household size	7.7	Average number of household members per household.
Average number of children per household	4.0	Average number of children 0–17 years per household.
Households receiving BISP assistance	17.8%	Percentage of households currently receiving BISP assistance.
 Main income generating activity Regular wage employment Other causal labour Self-employment (non-agriculture) Seasonal paid employee in agriculture Self-employment (agriculture) Other sources Not specified 	31.3% 30.8% 23.7% 5.9% 4.8% 3.2% 0.3%	Percentage of households by main activity from which households derive income.
Type of housing tenure Owner occupied On rent² Rent-free Subsidized rent Other	88.7% 6.4% 3.6% 1.1% 0.1%	Percentage of households by type of housing tenure.

² Other housing tenure includes subsidized rent and on rent.

Children's activities

Schooling

Table 5 shows both the percentage of children 5–17 years currently attending school and the percentage who never attended school by sex.

Table 5. Households' economic and general characteristics

Indicator	Percentage	Description
Attend school Boys Girls	70.5 79.3 60.6	Percentage of children 5–17 years currently attending school by sex.
Never attended school Boys Girls	22.5 15.2 30.7	Percentage of children 5–17 years who never attended school by sex.

Figure 4 shows the percentage of children aged 5–17 that are currently attending school by sex and age. For all ages, the percentage is higher for boys than girls, and the gap intensifies with age. The percentage of boys currently attending school increases until age 9, slightly decreases at age 10, increases again at age 11, and thereafter decreases. A similar pattern with age is observed for girls, but with a sharper decrease from age 9 to 10 meaning the peak for girls is at age 9, while for boys it is at age 11. The drop between the ages 9 and 10 suggests that some children may face challenges in the transition from primary to middle school.

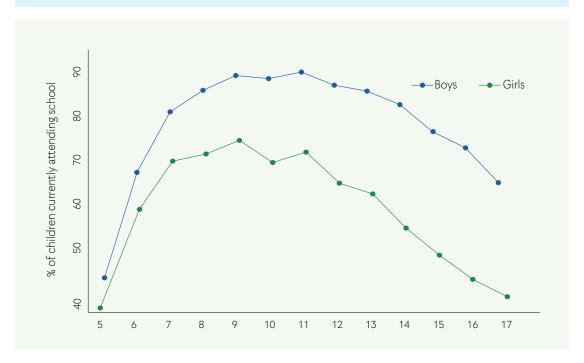


Figure 4. Percentage of children 5-17 years currently attending school by sex and age

Household chores

Figure 5 shows the percentage of children that performed household chores during the past 7 days by age group and sex. The share of boys and girls engaging in household chores is similar for the age group 5–11, but among older children, more girls take on responsibilities for household chores compared to boys.

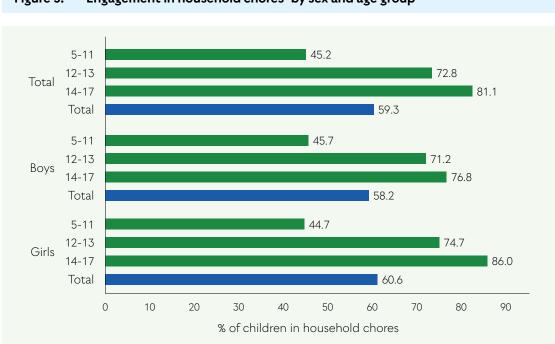
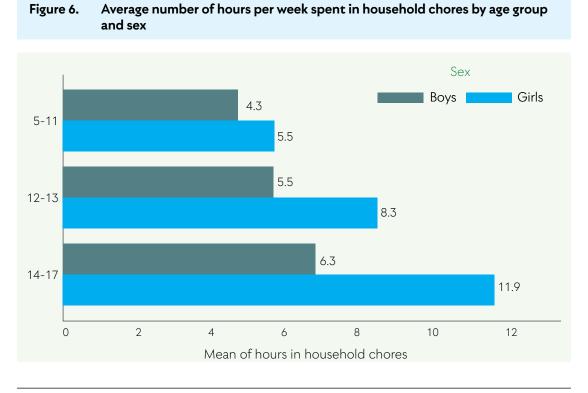


Figure 5. Engagement in household chores³ by sex and age group

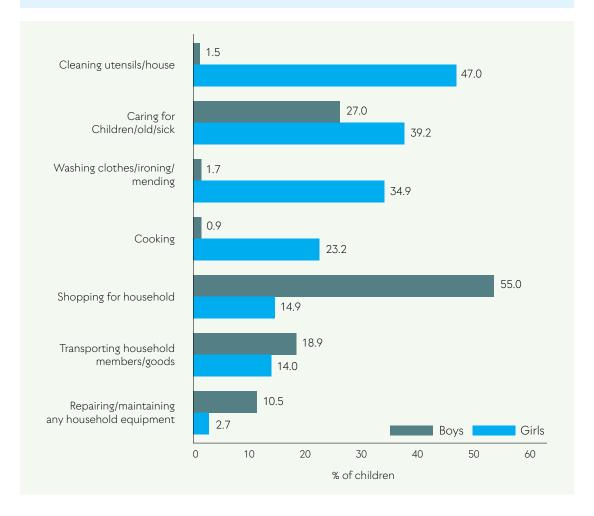
Figure 6 shows that girls are not only more often involved in housekeeping, but they also spend more time on household chores compared to boys across all age groups.



³ For at least one hour during the past 7 days.

Figure 7 shows the percentage of children performing household chores by type and sex. The figure demonstrates clear differences between boys and girls engaged in household chores and the type of chores they perform. Girls are most likely to carry out cleaning of utensils or the house, while boys are most likely to go shopping for the household.

Figure 7. Percentage of children 5–17 years engaged in household chores by type and sex



Child work

Table 6 presents the number and percentage of children who worked in the past 12 months and in the past 7 days disaggregated by sex and age group.

Table 6. Working children

Indicator	Last 12 months Percentage	Last 7 days Percentage	Description
Both sexes			
Total 5-17	12.3	11.1	
5–11	5.9	5.3	
12–13	16.0	14.1	
14–17	23.8	21.6	
Boys			Per cent of
Total 5–17	15.4	13.8	children 5–17 years
			that worked in the
5–11	6.6	5.9	last 12 months and the last 7 days by sex and age group.
12–13	19.7	17.1	
14–17	31.3	28.3	
Girls			
Total 5–17	8.9	8.2	
F 44	E 4	4.7	
5–11	5.1	4.7	
12–13	11.8	10.8	
14–17	15.2	14.0	

Schooling and work

Among both boys and girls aged 5–17, most are engaged in only school and not work, as shown in Figure 8, but the percentage is significantly higher for boys (70.0 per cent) than for girls (57.5 per cent). Girls are instead more likely to neither work nor go to school (34.3 per cent vs. 16.2 per cent). Boys are also three times more likely to do both activities (9.2 per cent vs. 3.0 per cent).

Figure 8. Children's activities by sex

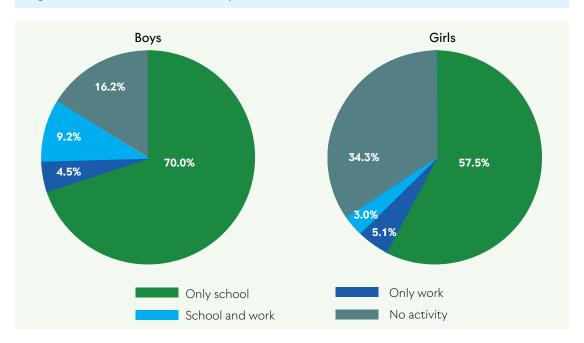


Figure 9 below shows that as the percentage of children only attending school starts to drop around the age 10, the percentage of children engaging only in work starts to increase from 0 per cent at age 7 to around 18 per cent at age 17. This pattern is in line with children beginning to drop out of school to exclusively work from the age of 11. The share of children both in school and work steadily increases until age 14 and thereafter drops to around 10 per cent at age 17.

Figure 9. Children's activities by age

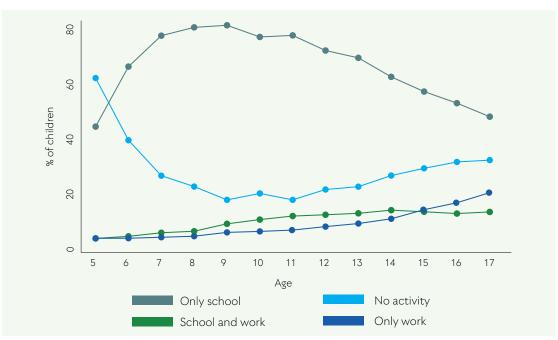


Table 7 presents the proportion of working children who are attending school by work status, as well as the median number of hours worked and devoted to household chores per week by school attendance.

Table 7. School attendance

Indicator	Value	Description
Working children attending school		
Total 5-17	56.8%	
Age group		Percentage of working
5–11	71.8%	children 5–17 years attending school by age
12–13	64.3%	group and sex.
14–17	46.1%	
Boys	67.1%	
Girls	37.3%	
Children not working attending school		
Total 5–17	72.2%	
Age group 5–11	70.00/	Percentage of not working children 5–17
12–13	72.8%	years attending school by
14–17	78.5%	age group and sex.
14-1/	66.6%	
Boys	81.2%	
Girls	62.6%	

Indicator	Value	Description
Median number of hours worked for children attending school		
Total 5–17	11	
Age group 5–11	9.5	Median number of hours worked per week for working children 5–17
12–13	10	years attending school.
14–17	13	
Boys Girls	12 8	
Median number of hours worked for children not attending school		
Total 5–17	22	
Age group		Median number of hours worked per week for
5–11	12	working children 5–17 years not attending
12–13	16	school.
14–17	28	
Boys	42	
Girls	13	

Indicator	Value	Description
Median number of hours devoted to household chores for children attending school		
Total 5-17	3.5	
Age group		Median number of hours devoted to household
5–11	3.5	chores per week for children 5–17 years
12–13	4	attending school.
14–17	5.5	
Boys	3.5	
Girls	4.5	
Median number of hours devoted to household chores for children not attending school		
Total 5-17	7	
Age group 5-11		Median number of hours devoted to household chores per week for
12–13	3.5	children 5–17 years not attending school
14–17	7	
//	9.5	
Boys		
Girls	4	
	7.5	

Child labour

Figure 10 provides an overview of the percentage of 5–17-year-olds working, in child labour and in hazardous work. According to the KP Prohibition of Employment of Children Act 2015, all working children aged 5–11 are in child labour, whereas children aged 12–13 may carry out light work which is limited to no more than 14 hours. However, children in these age groups are not necessarily engaged in hazardous work as defined in the introduction. Working children between 14–17 years are in child labour if they are engaged in hazardous work, meaning that the percentage of older children in child labour and hazardous work is the same.

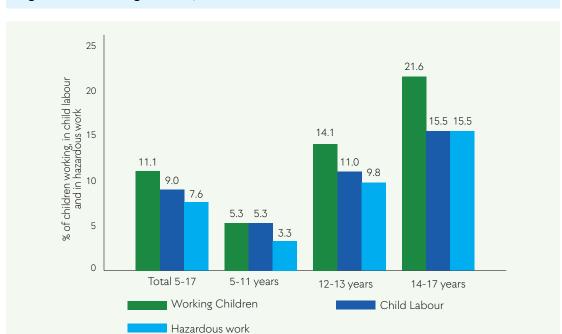


Figure 10. Working children, child labour and hazardous work

Figure 11 provides an overview of the percentage of 5-17-year-olds working, in child labour and in hazardous work split by sex.

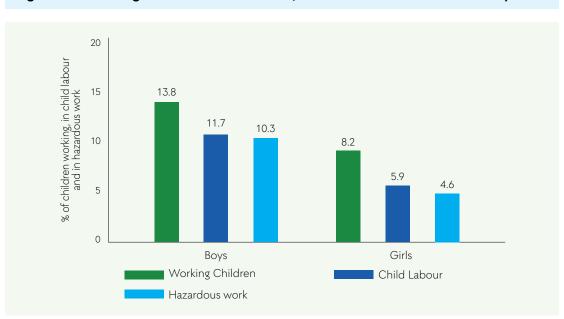


Figure 11. Working children and adolescents, child labour and hazardous work by sex

Table 8 reports the overall child labour prevalence by sex and age. The table further shows the most common industries, occupations, status in employment and work location for children in child labour.

Table 8. Incidence and characteristics of child labour

Indicator	Í	Percentag	е	Description
indicator	Both	Boys	Girls	
Child labour prevalence				
Total 5-17	9.0	11.7	5.9	
				Percentage of all children in child
5–11	5.3	5.9	4.7	labour.
12–13	10.9	14.3	7.2	
14–17	15.5	22.3	7.9	
Industry				
Agriculture, forestry, and fishing	51.6	54.0	46.3	
Manufacturing	7.7	8.0	7.2	Percentage of
Water collection	19.1	9.7	40.1	
Construction	4.6	6.4	0.5	children 5–17 years
Wholesale and retail trade	9.7	13.1	2.0	in child labour by
Accommodation and food service activities	2.1	2.9	0.2	industry.
Transportation and storage	1.9	2.7	0.3	
Other industries	3.3	3.2	3.5	
Occupation				
Service and sales workers	7.8	10.3	2.2	
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	16.5	15.9	17.9	Percentage of children 5–17 years
Craft and related trades workers	11.7	13.6	7.6	in child labour by
Plant and machine operators	1.3	1.8	0.1	occupation.
Elementary occupations	61.6	57.2	71.6	
Other occupations	1.1	1.3	0.6	

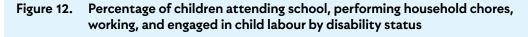
Indicator	I	Percentage	е	Description
Indicator	Both	Boys	Girls	
Status in employment				
Unpaid family worker	71.2	62.4	90.8	
Self-employed (non-agriculture)	6.3	7.8	3.1	Percentage of
Self-employed (agriculture)	2.6	3.0	1.7	children 5–17
Labourer (agriculture)	2.1	2.9	0.1	years in child
Labourer (non-agriculture)	10.3	14.0	2.0	labour by status in
Employee	1.9	2.4	1.0	employment.
Apprenticeship	4.5	6.1	1.1	
Other	1.0	1.4	0.2	
Location of work				Percentage of children 5–17 years in child labour by location
At home	18.7	12.4	32.6	of work (at home or
Away from home	81.3	87.6	67.4	away from home).

There are an estimated 143,022 children between the ages 5-17 with disabilities in KP as displayed in Table 9.

Table 9. Children and adolescents with o
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Indicator	Value	Description
Children with disabilities	143,022	
5–11 12–13 14–17	71,540 25,872 45,609	Total number of children 5–17 years with disabilities and number of children 5–17 years with disabilities by age group and sex.
Boys	85,326	
Girls	57,593	

Figure 12 shows the activities performed by children with and without disabilities, including attending school, working, performing household chores, and engaging in child labour. A lower share of children with disabilities work or are in child labour compared to children without disabilities. Children with disabilities are not only less likely to work and engage in child labour, but also less likely to go to school and perform household chores, thus leaving them idle.



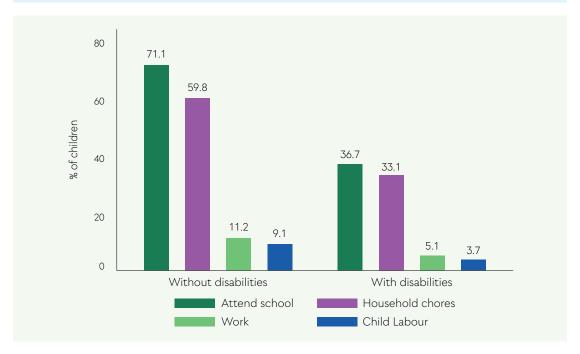
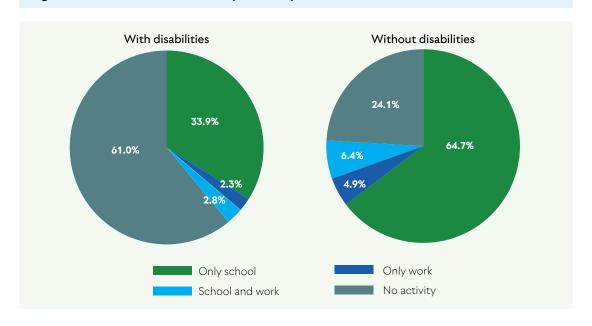


Figure 13 contrasts how children with and without disabilities combine work and schooling. Children without disabilities are more likely to only attend school compared to children with disabilities. Children with disabilities, on the other hand, are more likely to engage in neither school nor work.

Figure 13. Children's activities by disability status



Circumstances and causes of child labour

Table 10 shows household characteristics for both children in child labour and children not in child labour. Children in child labour are more likely to have lost at least one parent.

Table 10. Household size and structure

	Val		
Indicator	Children not in child labour	Children in child labour	Description
Average household size	8.9	8.3	Average household size for children 5–17 years.
Average number of children	5.0	4.8	Average number of children 0–17 years in the household for children 5–17 years.
Average number of adults	3.8	3.4	Average number of adults in the household for children 5–17 years.
Living arrangements – living with both father and mother	85.7%	85.2%	Percentage of children 5–17 years that live with both their father and mother in the household.
Parental survival – lost at least one parent	4.6%	6.6%	Percentage of children 5–17 years that have lost at least one parent (either father, mother, or both).

Table 11 shows the percentage of children in child labour and not in child labour with a household head that never migrated and a household head that has migrated (including both seasonal and other than seasonal migration). Out of all children whose household head migrated, 14.6 per cent are in child labour. The percentage of children in child labour is lower among those in households where the household head never migrated (8.7 per cent).

Table 11. Migration status of household head

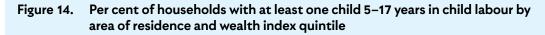
	Perce		
Indicator	Children not in child labour	Children in child labour	Description
Household head never migrated	91.3	8.7	Per cent of children 5–17 years by migration status
Household head migrated	85.4	14.6	of the household head.

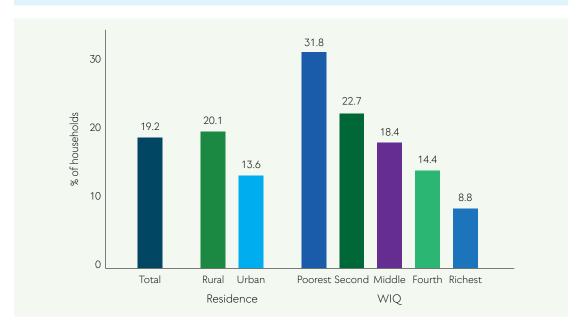
Table 12 shows the socioeconomic status of the households, displaying the median household income in PKR of children 5–17 years in child labour and not in child labour and the percentage of children 5–17 years in child labour and not in child labour living in a household that is currently receiving BISP assistance. Households of children in child labour are on average poorer.

Table 12. Socio-economic status

	Va		
Indicator	Children not in child labour	Children in child labour	Description
Median household income	30,000	26,800	Median household income in PKR of children 5–17 years in child labour and not in child labour.
Receiving BISP assistance	19.3%	26.3%	Percentage of children 5–17 years in child labour and not in child labour living in a household that is currently receiving BISP assistance.

Figure 14 shows that almost one in five households have at least one child in child labour and the child labour prevalence decreases with the wealth of the household. While 31.8 per cent of households in the poorest wealth index quintile have at least one child in child labour, 8.8 per cent of households in the richest wealth index quintile do. Further, the percentage of households with at least one child in child labour is considerably higher in rural compared to urban areas.





Households where the household head has not completed any education are the most likely to have at least one child in child labour and the percentage of households with at least one child in child labour decreases with the level of education of the household head, as shown in Figure 15.

Figure 15. Per cent of households with at least one child 5–17 years in child labour by education of household head

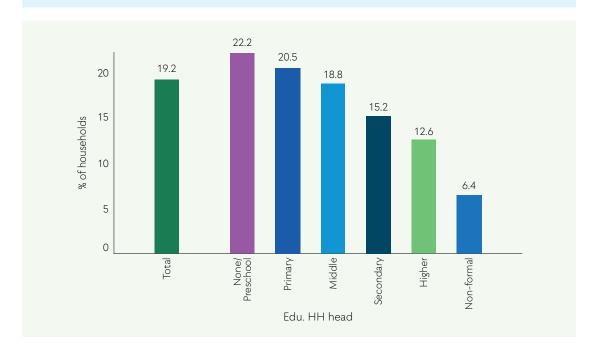


Figure 16 shows that children in child labour are less likely than children not in child labour to have a birth certificate (44.3 per cent vs. 38.6 per cent).

Figure 16. Percentage of children 5–17 years with a birth certificate by child labour status

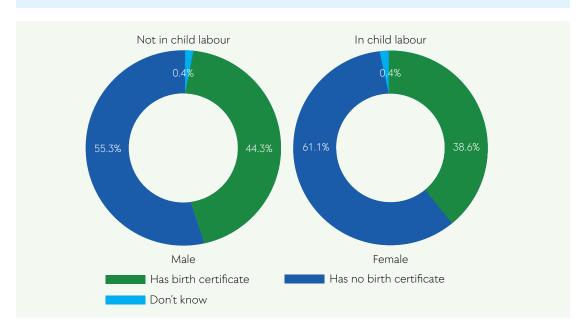


Table 13 shows the percentage of children 5–17 years in child labour by reported reason of parent/guardian for letting the child work and the percentage of children 5–17 years in child labour that earn an income by contribution to household income.

Table 13. Perceptions and reason why children work

Indicator	Percentage	Description
Reasons for letting child work4		
■ Support household needs ⁵	52.9	Percentage of children
Supplement household income	26.0	5–17 years in child labour
Help in household enterprise	12.8	by reported reason of
Learn skills	10.7	parent/guardian for letting
Own will/interest	9.5	them work.
 No school/school too far 	2.6	

⁴ The percentages do not sum up to 100 as multiple reasons could be stated.

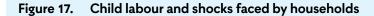
⁵ This category includes fetching water and collecting firewood.

Indicator	Percentage	Description
Other educational reasonsOther reasons	6.0 6.0	Percentage of children 5–17 years in child labour by reported reason of parent/guardian for letting them work.
Children in child labour that earn an income by contribution to household income? Give all/part to parents/guardian Buy things for household Buy things for myself Employer gives all/part to parents/guardian Buy things for school Other	66.5 21.1 17.1 14.2 6.7 8.5	Percentage of children 5–17 years in child labour that earn an income by contribution to household income.

Figure 17 displays the relationship between different shocks faced by households and child labour for children aged 5–17 years. The figure shows both natural shocks, including pest attack on agricultural crops and natural disaster, and economic shocks, comprising price inflation, business closing due to economic recession and falling agricultural prices. Given that the overall child labour prevalence in KP is 9.0 per cent, Figure 17 indicates that the percentage of children in child labour is higher for those living in a household that experienced natural or economic shocks, and overall, the child labour prevalence is higher among children in households experiencing natural shocks compared to economic shocks.

⁶ The percentage of children in child labour that earn an income is 16.2 per cent.

⁷ The percentages do not sum up to 100 as multiple choices could be selected.



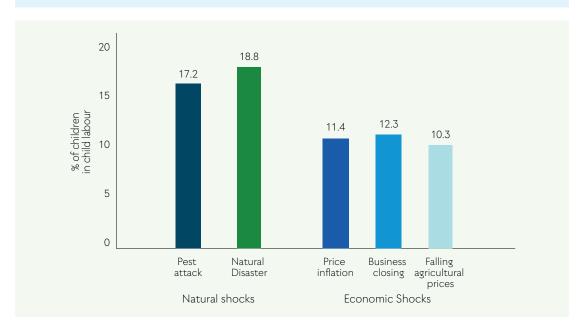


Figure 18. Per cent of households with at least one child 5–17 years in child labour by impact of COVID-19 on economic well being

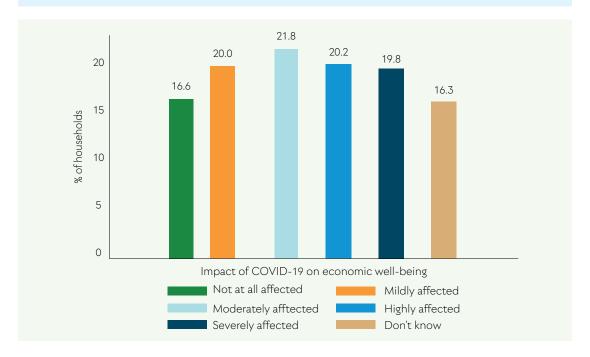


Figure 18 shows the percentage of households with at least one child in child labour by the impact of COVID-19 on the economic well-being of the household. The findings indicate that among households that reported no impact on their economic well-being due to COVID-19, 16.6 percent have at least one child in child labour. In contrast, among households that reported severe impact on their economic well-being, 19.8 percent have at least one child in child labour.

Consequences of child labour

Figure 19 shows the responses of adults regarding the negative consequences children in their household face as a result of their work. The most common response is that children suffer from extreme fatigue, which is a particularly serious consequence when considering the negative effect on other aspects of life such as limited mental stimulation, lack of concentration, tiredness, stress, and propensity to accidents (Admassie, 2003). Respondents also identify injuries or poor health, long distance travelled and no time for leisure as negative consequences of work.

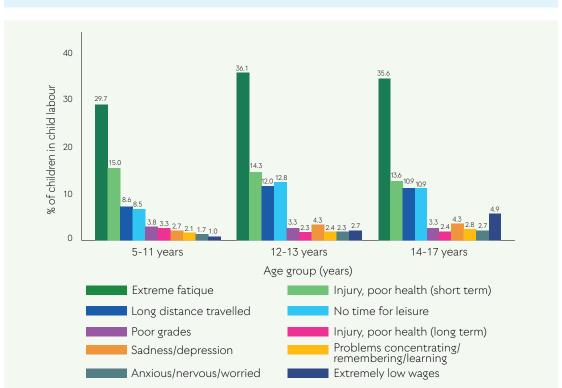
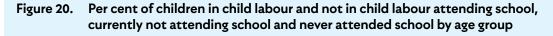


Figure 19. Negative consequences of child labour

Schooling

Figure 20 displays school attendance by age group and shows that children in child labour are less likely to currently attend school for all age groups. The difference in school attendance rates increases with age and is especially large for the age groups 12–13 and 14–17, where the school attendance rate is 13.8 and 19.3 percentage points lower for children in child labour respectively.



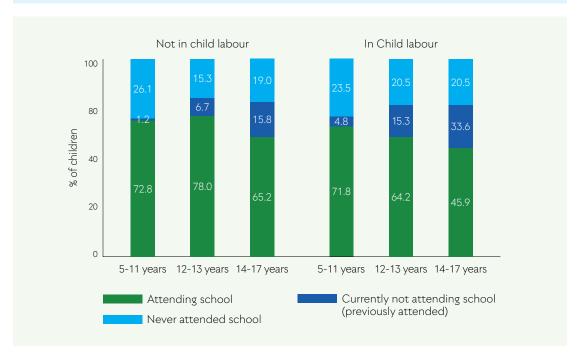


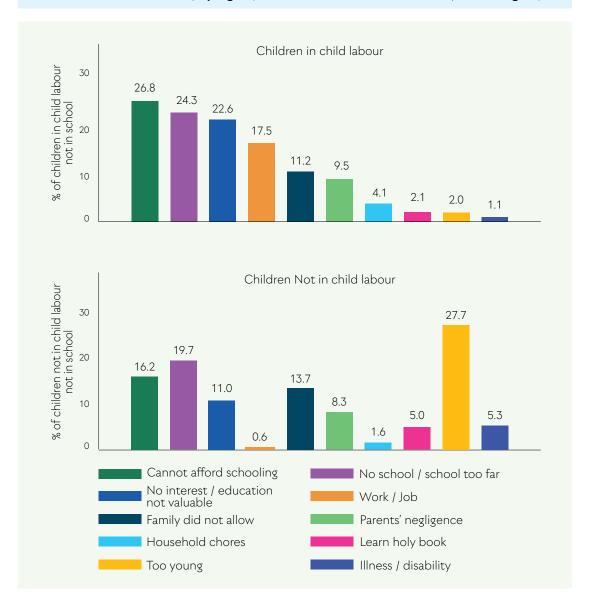
Table 14 presents more details on the relationship between schooling and work, which shows that the median number of hours worked differs considerably depending on the school attendance status.

Table 14. Child labour and schooling

Indicator	Median number of hours worked for children attending school	Median number of hours worked for children currently not attending school	Median number of hours worked for children that never attended school	Description
Both sexes	11	42	17	Median number of hours worked per week for children
Boys	12	48	39	5–17 years in child labour attending school, currently not
Girls	9	15	14	attending school, and never attended school by sex.

Figure 21 looks at the reason for children to not attend school and compares across child labour status. For children in child labour, the main reason to not attend school is because the family cannot afford schooling (26.8 per cent). For children not in child labour, on the other hand, being too young is the most reported reason (27.7 per cent).

Figure 21. Reported reason for non-attendance or dropping out of school for children in child labour (top figure) and children not in child labour (bottom figure)



Health

Table 15 shows the incidence of illnesses or injuries and symptoms of depression among children in child labour and not in child labour.

Table 15. Child labour and health

	Percentag		
Indicator	Children not in child labour	Children in child labour	Description
Injured or ill due to work	13.4	57.6	Percentage of children 5–17 years in child labour and working children not in child labour who got injured or ill due to work.
Symptoms of depression None Mild Moderate Moderately severe Severe	83.8 13.2 2.3 0.5	68.2 23.5 6.3 1.6	Percentage of children 10–17 years in child labour and working children not in child labour reporting symptoms of depression by severity level (mild, moderate, moderately severe or severe form of depression).

The most reported hazardous condition is carrying heavy loads (50.3 per cent), followed by extreme cold or heat (45.8 per cent), and wooden splinters (26.2 per cent), as presented in Figure 22.

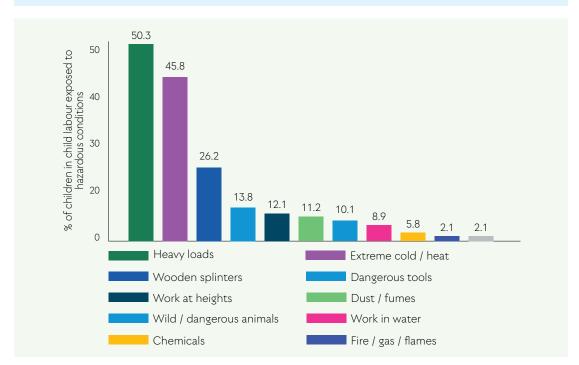


Figure 22. Most prevalent hazardous conditions among children in child labour⁸

Table 16 shows the percentage of 5–17-year-olds in child labour working in hazardous occupations, hazardous industries and with hazardous tools by sex.

Table 16. Children in child labour working in hazardous occupations, industries and with hazardous tools

Indicator	Both sexes Percentage	Boys Percentage	Girls Percentage	Description
Hazardous occupations	7.8	11.0	0.9	Per cent of 5–17-year-olds in child labour working in hazardous occupations by sex.
Hazardous industries	12.5	15.4	6.2	Per cent of 5–17-year-olds in child labour working in hazardous industries by sex.
Hazardous tools	9.4	9.8	8.6	Per cent of 5–17-year-olds in child labour working with hazardous tools by sex.

⁸ The percentages do not add up to 100 per cent as children can face several hazardous conditions.

Figure 23 shows the percentage of children in child labour that experienced abuse at work. Almost one in six children in child labour faced abuse at work. A slightly higher share of boys has experienced any type of abuse at work compared to girls. The most common type of abuse for both sexes is psychological, followed by physical and sexual abuse.



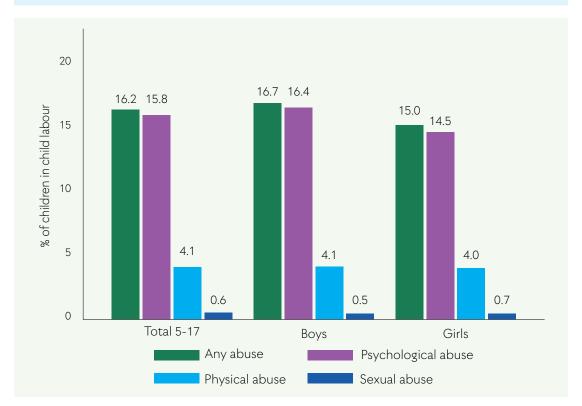


Table 17 shows information about abuse against children aged 5–17 in child labour. Children in child labour working away from home are more likely than those working at home to have experienced abuse, and those that have experienced abuse are more likely to report symptoms of depression.

⁹ Abuse at work comprises: Psychological abuse: being constantly shouted at, repeatedly insulted, discriminated due to gender, religion, and caste. Physical abuse: beaten/physically hurt. Sexual abuse: being touched or done things that you did not want.

¹⁰ The categories do not add up to the total of "any abuse" as some children experienced more than one type of abuse.

Table 17. Abuse against children 5-17 years in child labour

Indicator	Percentage	Description
Abuse against children and location of work At home Away from home	14.1 16.7	Percentage of children 5–17 years in child labour that experienced abuse at work by location of work.
Symptoms of depression among children experiencing and not experiencing abuse Experienced abuse Did not experience abuse	54.2 27.6	Percentage of children 10–17 years in child labour that experienced or did not experience abuse at work with a mild or more severe form of depression.



