

Quality of employment

Dimension 1 “Safety and ethics of employment”

Child Labour sub-dimension

Republic of Moldova

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***UNECE/ILO/Eurostat/Statistics Canada Meeting on Measuring Quality of Employment
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The purpose:

- To reveal the experience of Moldova in using the framework, the indicators and their international definitions in practice for child labour sub-dimension;
- To share our suggestion and intentions on using *quality of employment concept and indicators* in Moldova.

Quality of Employment,
Child labour sub-dimension indicators:

1. Share of employed persons who are below the minimum age specified for the kind of work performed;
2. Share of employed persons below 18 years of age in “hazardous” industries and occupations (as defined by ILO);
3. Share of employed persons below 18 years working hours which exceed a specified threshold;
4. Share of children working in households chores which exceed a specified threshold of hours.

Definitions and methods of data collection accordingly *Resolution concerning statistics of child labour*, adopted by the 18th International Conference of Labour Statistics, 2008

Source – Ad-hoc module to Labour force survey

The ILO model questionnaire – Essential questions on child labour for household surveys (e.g. a labour force survey)

With ILO/IPEC/SIMPOC assistance.

Special thanks are due to Mr. Mustafa Hakki OZEL, Senior Statistician, Statistical Information and Monitoring Programme on Child Labour (SIMPOC), International Programme for the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC), ILO

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Framework for the statistical identification of child labour (according ILO Resolution)

Age group	General production boundary					
	SNA production				Non-SNA production	
	Non-hazardous work		Worst forms of child labour		Hazardous unpaid household services	Other non - SNA production
	Light work	Regular work	Hazardous work	Worst forms of child labour other than hazardous work		
Children aged 5–11 years	Below the minimum age for admission to light work (even if only for 1 hour per week)		1.Hazardous economic activities 2.Hazardous occupations 3.Excessive working hours: > 42 hours per week 4.Hazardous conditions	Children trafficked for work; forced and bonded child labour; commercial sexual exploitation of children; use of children for illicit activities and armed conflict	Unpaid household services for more than 27 hours per week	
Children aged 12-14 years	13 hours or less per week	14-42 hrs per week				
Children aged 15-16 years	24 hrs or less per week	25-42 hrs per week				
Children 17 years of age	35 hrs or less per week	36-42 hrs per week				



Child labour



Activities not considered as child labour

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Concept of Child Labour

The broadest concept relating to the measurement of child labour is that of “children in productive activities”, that is, children in any activity falling within the “general production boundary” as defined in the System of National Accounts (SNA). This comprises *children in employment* and *children in other productive activities*.

Children in employment (working children) are those engaged in any activity falling within the production boundary in the SNA, having worked in the reference week for at least one hour or those who in the reference week had a job or business from which they were temporarily absent.

Children in other productive activities includes children who perform unpaid household services, that is, the production of domestic and personal services by a household member for consumption within their own household, commonly called “household chores”.

Employment (production boundary, SNA)			
LFS (15 years +)		Children in employment (5–17 years)	
Type of production unit, SNA	Duration	Type of production unit, SNA	Duration
Enterprises (enterprise is being used in a broad sense)	At least one hour per week	Enterprises (enterprise is being used in a broad sense)	At least one hour per week
Households: Persons who worked on household subsidiary plots for own consumption	20 hours + per week	Households: Persons who worked on household subsidiary plots for own consumption	At least one hour per week

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Child labour: children who are engaged in work unsuitable for their capacities as **children** or work which by its nature or the circumstances is likely to harm the health, safety or morals of children.

Accordingly, the concept of “*child labour*” refers to work that is mentally, physically, socially or morally dangerous and harmful for the child and/or interferes with their schooling by causing absenteeism, academic failure and dropping out, or by obliging them to combine school attendance with work.

The ***statistical definition*** of child labour is based on the following criteria: age, duration of the work, nature of the work and the circumstances in which this work is performed.

The **statistical definition** of child labour includes:

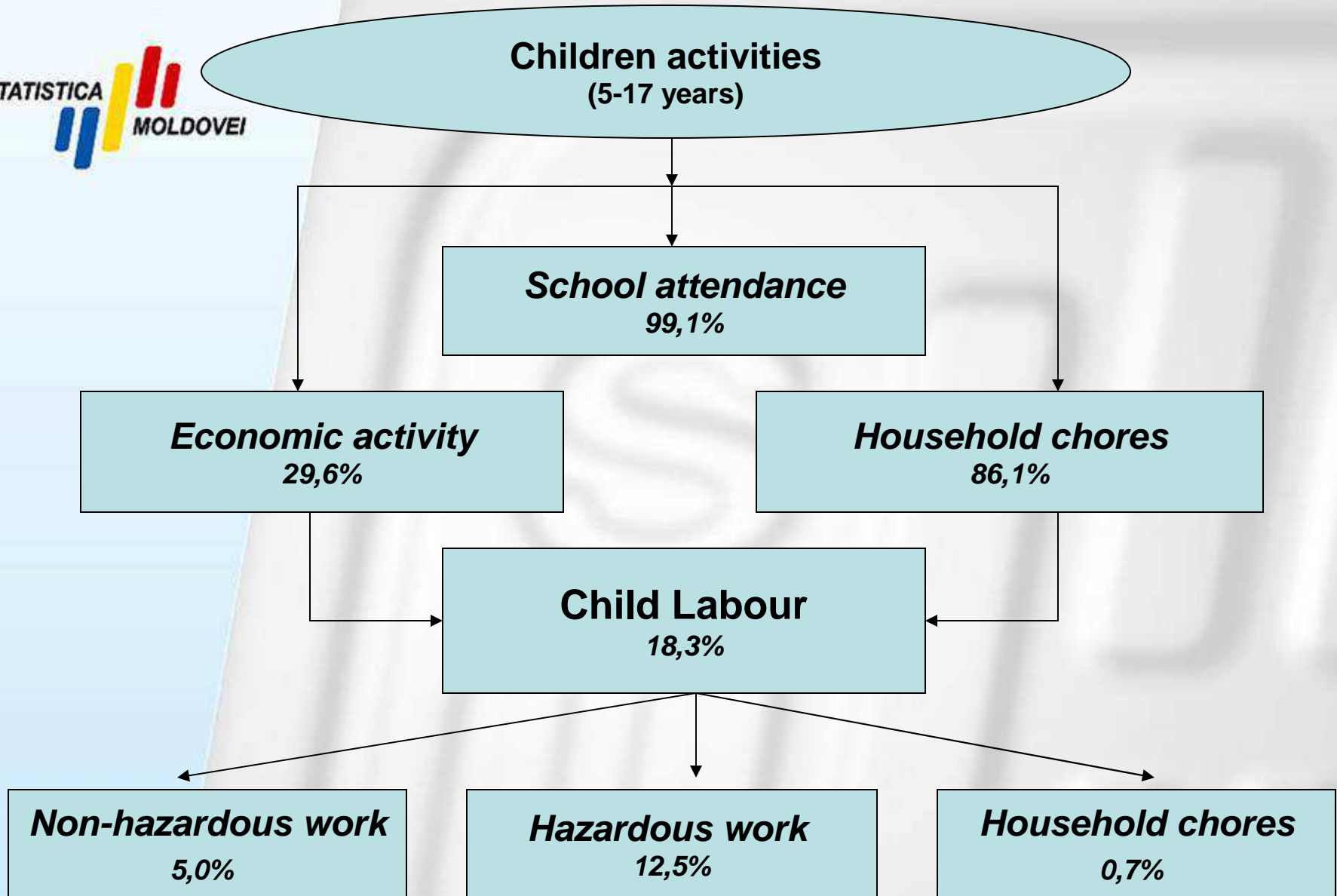
a). Hazardous work

- i) *Children employed in hazardous activities* which include mining, quarrying and construction;
- ii) *Children employed in hazardous occupations* which include metal trades workers, machinery and related trades workers, precision, handicraft, printing and related trades workers, other craft and related trades workers, stationary-plant and related operators, machine operators and assemblers, and drivers and mobile-plant operators;
- iii) *Children employed for more than 42 hours per week;*
- iv) *Children working under hazardous conditions* that involve carrying heavy loads at work, those who operate any machinery/heavy equipment at work, those exposed at work to adverse conditions such as dust/fumes, fire/gas/flames, loud noise and the like, as well as children who are verbally or physically abused at work.

b). Non-hazardous (regular) work (permissible light work)

- v) Children aged 5-11 years who are employed, even 1 hour per week;
- vi) Children aged 12-14 years who work between 14 and 42 hours per week;
- vii) Children aged 15-16 years who work between 25 and 42 hours per week;
- viii) Children aged 17 years who work between 36 and 42 hours per week;

c). ix) Children performing unpaid household services for more than 27 hours per week



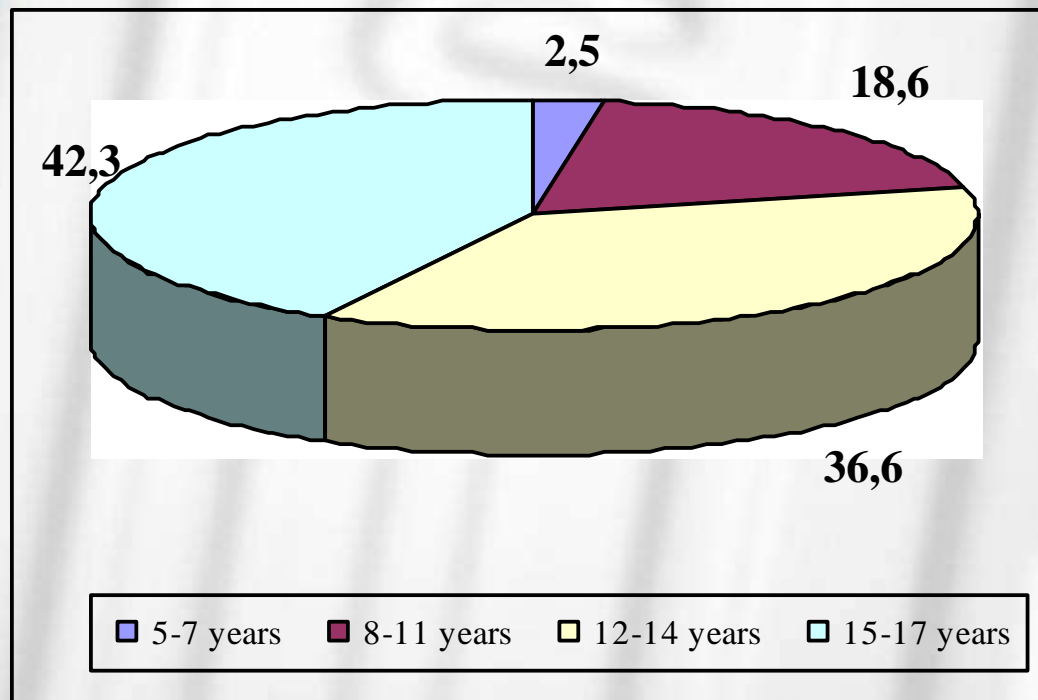
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Economic activity

Of the total children aged 5-17 years, 29,6% were engaged in economic activities. 57,7% of them – aged 5-14 years.

Or, 24,3% of the total children aged 5-14 years were engaged in economic activities.

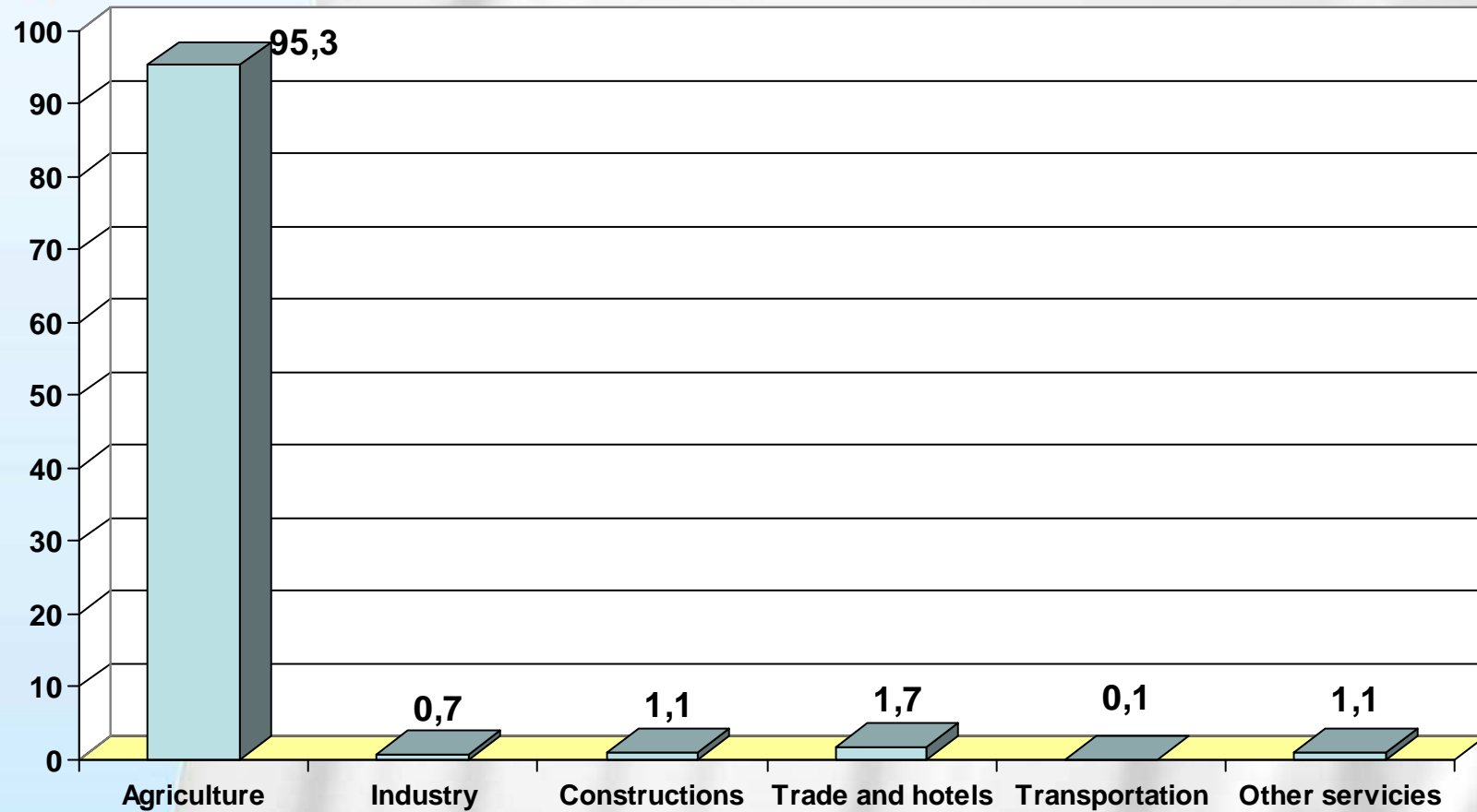
Distribution of employed children by age group, %



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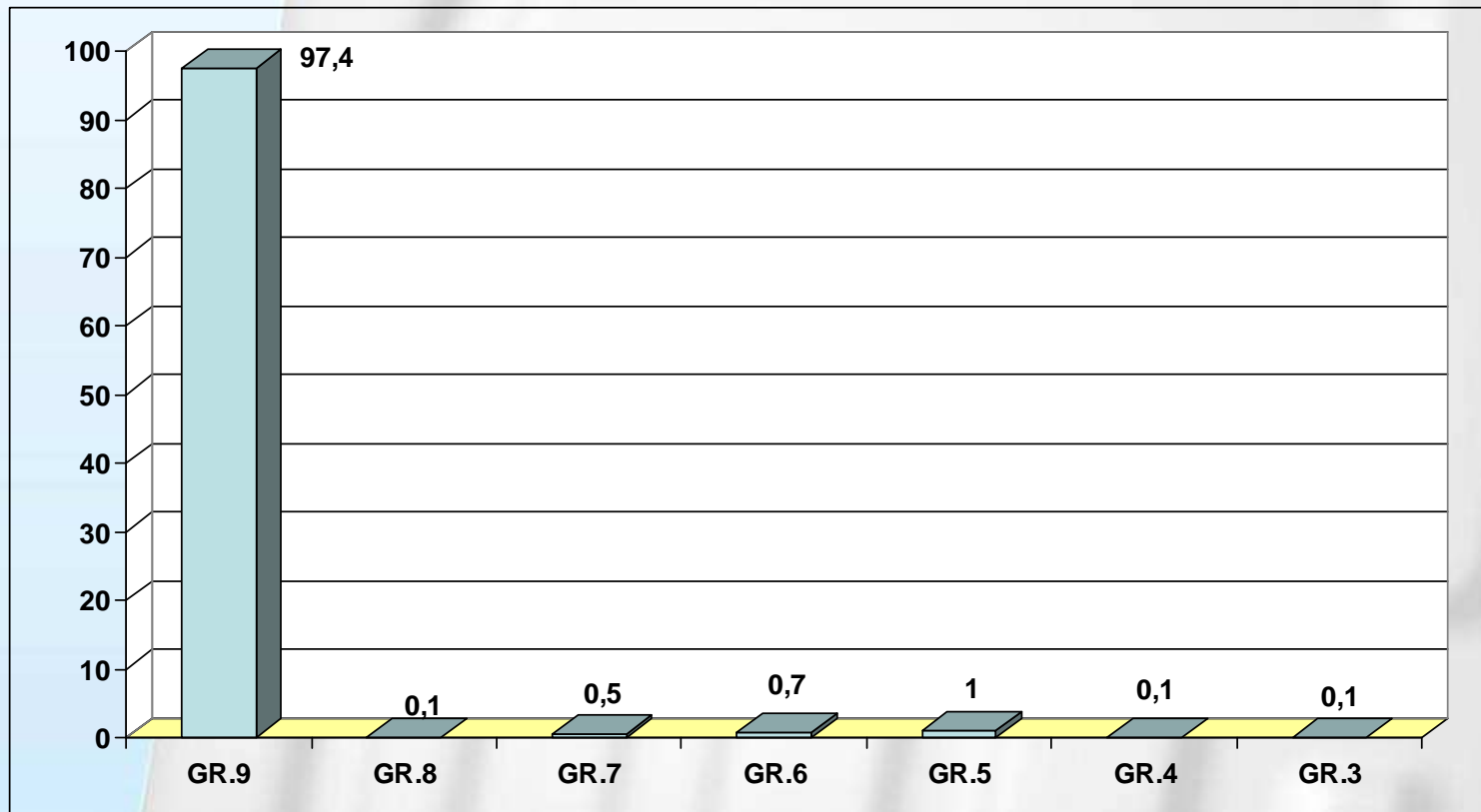
Distribution of employed children by economic activities, %



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Distribution of employed children by occupations (ISCO-88), %



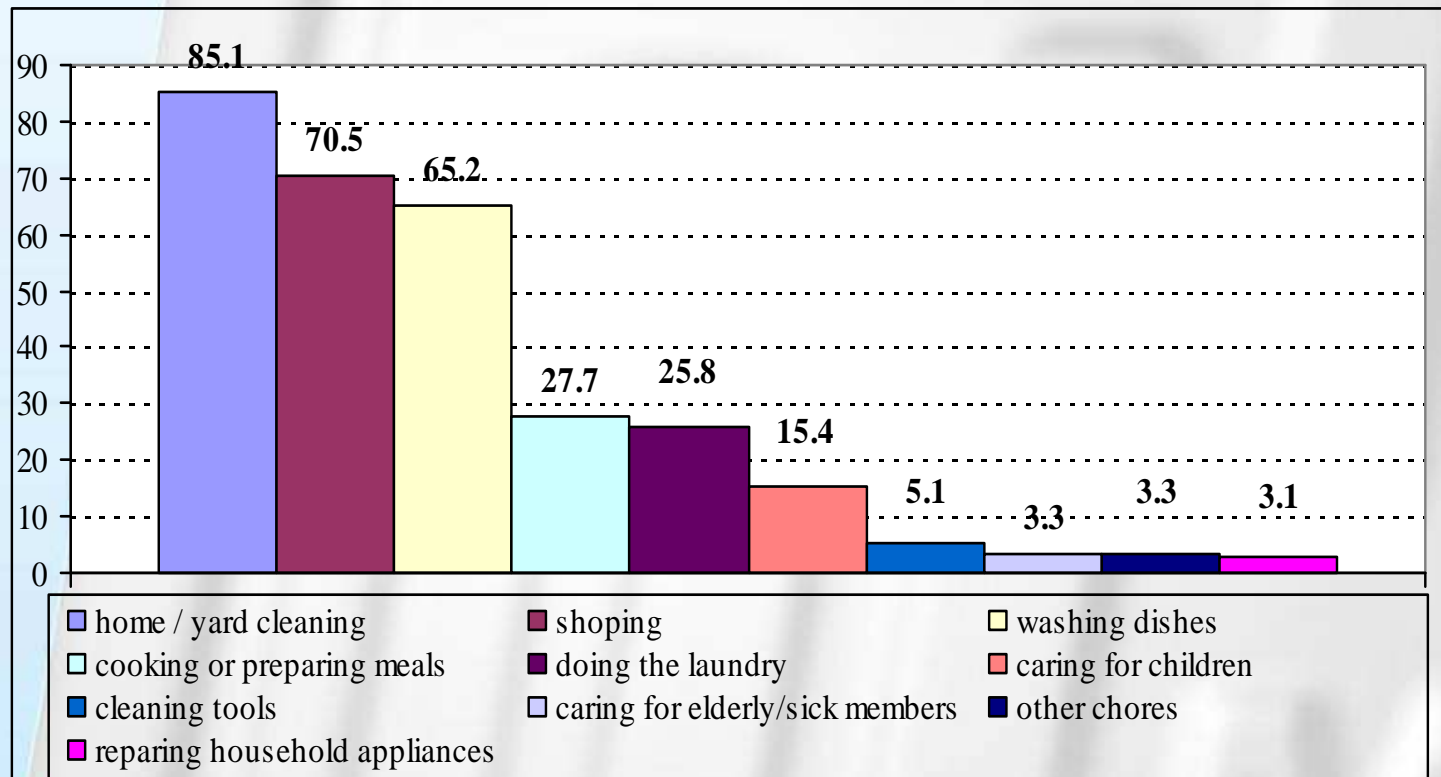
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Household chores

86,1% of children aged 5-17 years performed regular household chores.


Distribution of children by type of household chores, %



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Child labour sub-dimension indicators, %



		in the total number of children	In the total number of child labour
1	<p>Share of employed persons who are below the minimum age specified for the kind of work performed:</p> <p>Share of employed children aged 5-14 years in the total number of children aged 5-14 years</p>	24,3	x
2	<p>Share of employed persons below 18 years of age in "hazardous" industries and occupations (as defined by ILO):</p> <p>Share of employed persons aged 5-17 years in "hazardous" industries and occupations (as defined by ILO)</p>	1,0	5,4
3	<p>Share of employed persons below 18 years working hours exceed a specified threshold:</p> <p>Share of working children aged 5-11 years; aged 12-14 years who work more than 13 hours per week; aged 15-16 years who work more than 24 hours per week; 17 years who work more than 35 hours per week</p>	5,2	28,3
4	<p>Share of children working in household chores which exceed a specified threshold of hours:</p> <p>Share of children aged 5-17 years working in household chores for more than 27 hours per week</p>	0,7	4,0
5	<p>Additional indicators, relevant for Moldova:</p> <p>Share of employed persons below 18 years of age (aged 5-17 years) in "hazardous work conditions" in industries and occupations not designated as hazardous (as defined by ILO)</p>	11,3	62,1

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Distribution of child labour by component elements and age group, thousand persons

	Total	5-11 years	12-14 years	15-16 years	17 years
Total children	596,9	270,8	149,6	115,6	60,9
Child labour	109,0	38,2	30,5	26,9	13,4
Share of child labour in the total number of children	18,3	14,1	20,4	23,3	22,0
<i>I. Activities within the SNA</i>					
a) non-hazardous activities	29,9	26,6	2,9	0,3	0,2
Working children aged 5-11 years	26,6	26,6	0	0	0
Children aged 12-14 years who work more than 13 hours per week; aged 15-16 years who work more than 24 hours per week; 17 years who work more than 35 hours per week	3,3	0	2,9	0,3	0,2
b) hazardous activities	74,7	10,7	27,1	24,2	12,7
Hazardous economic activities	1,9	0,1	0,4	0,7	0,8
Hazardous occupations	4,0	0,3	0,6	1,7	1,4
Excessive working hours (> 42 hrs/week)	1,0	0	0,3	0,4	0,4
Hazardous conditions	67,7	10,3	25,8	21,4	10,1
<i>II. Activities outside the SNA</i>					
c) children engaged in unpaid household services for more than 27 hours per week	4,4	0,8	0,5	2,4	0,7

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Child labour (CL)

18,3% of the total children and 61,6% of the employed children are in child labour.

The main characteristics of the child labour in Moldova:

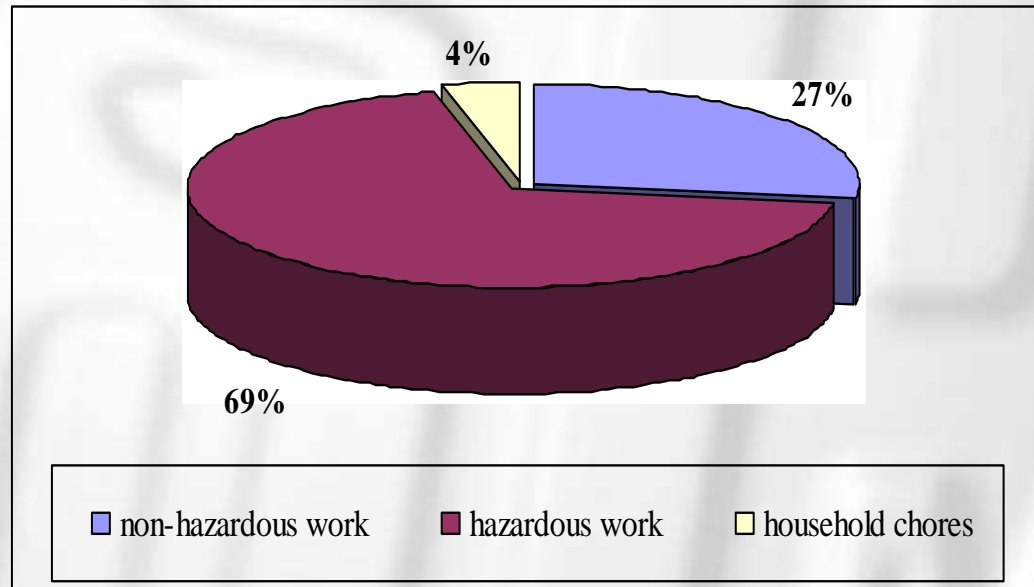
Economic activity – *agriculture*, 93,8% of CL;

Occupation – *farm-hands and labourer*, 92,2% of CL;

Status in employment – *contributing family workers*, 91,7% of CL;

Place of work – *farms and own subsidiary plots*, 92% of CL.

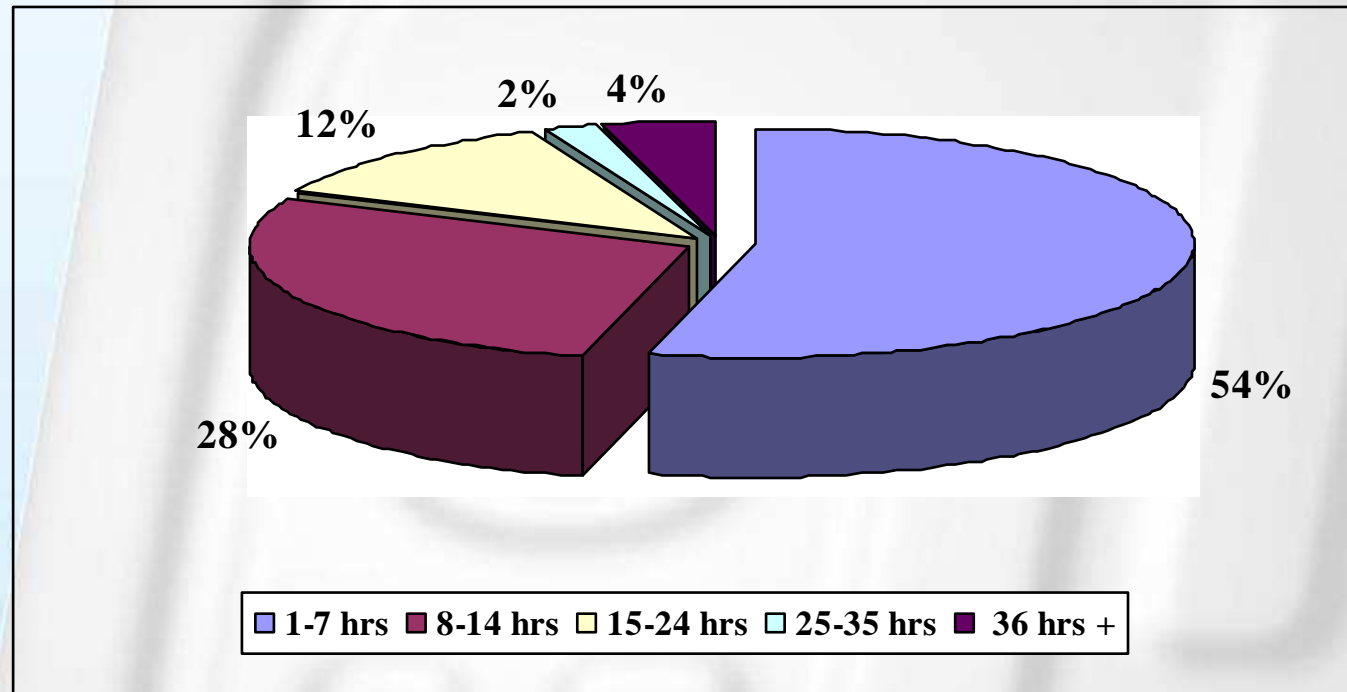
Distribution of child labour by component elements, %



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Distribution of child labour by duration of the working week, %



The average number of worked hours is 10 hours per week.

In the age group 5-11 years, respectively – 6 hours; 12-14 years – 10 hours, 15-17 years – 14 hours per week.

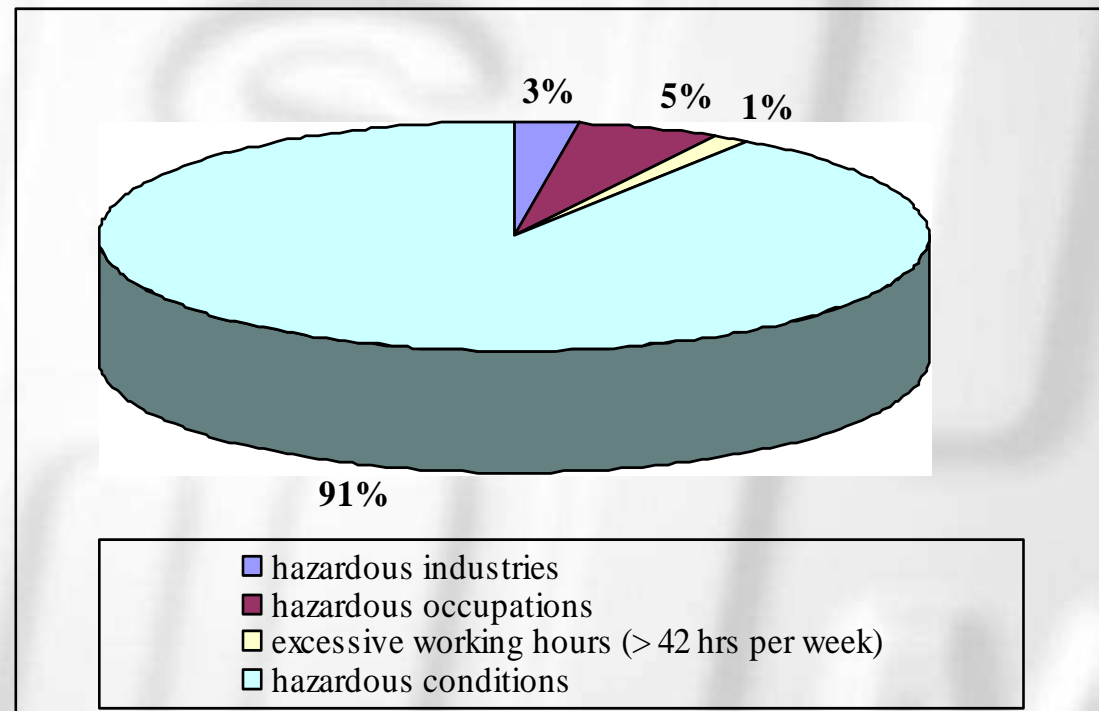
The median number of worked hours for children aged 5-9 years is 4 hours per week; for children aged 10-14 years – 7 hours per week.

Hazardous work

Hazardous work constitute 42,2% of children employment and 68,6% of child labour.

The most children (9 in 10 children) worked under *hazardous work conditions* in industries and occupations not designated as hazardous.

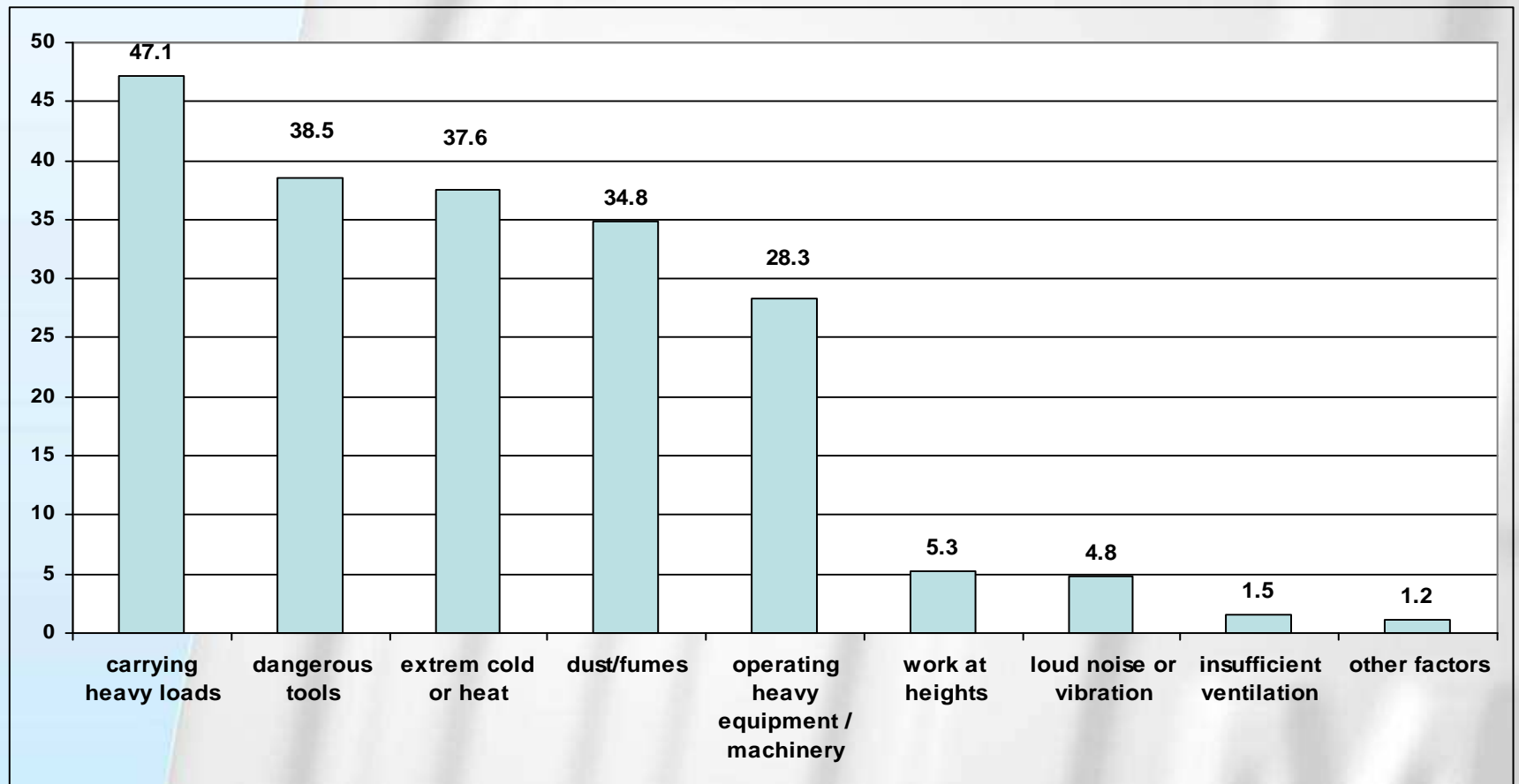
Distribution of child labour by hazardous work, %



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Distribution of children in hazardous work accordingly to work place risk, %



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Key conclusions

1. The problem of child labour in the Republic of Moldova is generated mainly by the (hazardous) working conditions in which children work and the entry into employment at a too early age. The key determinants of child labour are: the age of the child, the child's place of residence (urban or rural) and the fact if the household has or not a subsidiary plot.

More details:

<http://statistica.md>: publications/labour market/Working children in the Republic of Moldova

2. The proposed indicators for child labour sub-dimensions in the *Quality of employment framework* are clear and measurable in practice and produce a good picture in this field. For a better analysis and understanding of child labour issue in Moldova we consider as necessary to use additional indicators, which were obtained through child labour survey.
3. Child labour ad-hoc module to Labour force survey is a good data source for achieving these goals.

Implementing Quality of employment framework and indicators in Moldova (1) ***(Ongoing work)***

Brief review:

- **The available statistical sources were reviewed;**
- **The series of data for the last five years (2006 - 2010) have been created (excel files) containing all dimensions / available indicators;**
- **The seminar with the support of ILO Department of Statistics “Measurement of decent work and quality of employment” has been conducted on 22-23 September this year with producers and main users of the labour market statistics.**
- **The goal of the seminar: - to inform participants about the concepts developed on “quality of employment” and “decent work” and encouraged them to give one’s opinions on the indicators, their relevance and applications at the national level, possibility to use other data sources and use the indicators in analytical reports, monitoring and assessment labour market and social polices.**

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Implementing Quality of employment framework and indicators in Moldova (2) (Ongoing work)

- The international expert [1] from ILO Department of Statistics presented the conceptual framework, background and proposed indicators to measure the Quality of Employment and Decent Work. Also, there were presented the “Linkages between the Decent Work and the Quality of Employment framework”;
- NBS presented the ongoing work on “time series with results of all available indicators” for these two concepts (*Quality of employment and decent work*).
- Future activities:
 - Dissemination of the time series data on quality of work through NBS web site (with definitions and data sources);
 - Prepare next year the country Report “Quality of Employment in the Republic of Moldova”, in order to assess the trends of the indicators during 2006-2011 years, using the new developed indicators.

[1] *Special thanks are due to Mr. Igor Chernyshev, Senior Statistician, Head, Yearly Indicators, Decent Work Data Production Unit, ILO Department of Statistics. NBS acknowledge the valuable and efficient contribution of Mr Igor Chernyshev to the Seminar's work and results achieved.*

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Thank you for your qualitative attention!

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