

Albania


2,883

Population (thousands)


1%

Population below international poverty line


78 YEARS

Average life expectancy at birth


9

Under 5 mortality rate (per 1,000 births)


\$15,103

Gross national product (millions)


99%

Literacy rate for male youth (15-24)

99%

Literacy rate for female youth (15-24)

Behaviors and Conditions Generally Viewed as Child Maltreatment

Age an individual is legally considered an adult ^{Q9}

- 18

Forms of acceptable punishment ^{Q11}

- Hitting a child on the buttocks with an open hand
- Hitting a child anywhere else on the body with an open hand

Actions considered forms of child maltreatment:

Affecting children's safety, health, or development ^{Q12}

- Child living on the street
- Prostituting a child
- Infanticide
- Female circumcision/female genital mutilation
- Forcing a child to beg
- Abuse by another child
- Child serving as soldier
- Child labor - under age 12
- Slavery
- Internet solicitation for sex
- Child marriage
- Torture for political reasons
- Making a child responsible for an adult crime to lessen risk of prosecution

In the following places ^{Q13}

- Foster care, group home or orphanage
- Day care center
- School or educational training center
- Psychiatric institution
- Detention facility
- Work place
- Law enforcement facility
- Refugee camp

Involving a parent or caregiver ^{Q14}

- Physical discipline with bruising
- Failure to provide adequate food, clothing, medical care education, or shelter (neglect)
- Failure to seek medical care for any reason
- Sexual abuse (e.g., incest, sexual touching)
- Exposing child to pornography
- Commercial sexual exploitation
- Failure to seek medical care for child based on religious beliefs
- Child is exposed to (witnesses) intimate partner (or domestic) violence
- Child exposed to parent's substance use

Official Documentation on Child Maltreatment

Government agency maintains official record/count of all suspected CM reported to authorities ^{Q15}

No

reported to the electronic database for the child protection system in Albania.

Types of CM and intimate partner violence used to classify reports ^{Q20}

Physical abuse	Yes
Sexual abuse	Yes
Emotional (psychological) maltreatment	Yes
Exposure to intimate partner violence (IPV)	Yes

Country or most states/provinces have a law mandating reporting of suspected CM ^{Q26}

Yes

Year law took effect ^{Q27}

After 2005

Law applies to ^{Q28}

- Physical abuse
- Sexual abuse
- Neglect
- Emotional (psychological) maltreatment
- Exposure to/witnessing IPV

Change in the past 4 years in the number of reports for the following types of CM ^{Q21}

Physical abuse	More cases
Sexual abuse	More cases
Neglect	No Change
Emotional (psychological) maltreatment	No Change
Exposure to intimate partner violence (IPV)	More cases

Subgroups of children are systematically excluded from the reporting system ^{Q22/Q23}

Yes

Migrant children, as they would receive services in designated camps or places and data would not be

National Statistics

Percentage of reports of suspected CM that are responded to/investigated by social services ^{Q30} 76-90%

Percentage of all reports investigated that are substantiated or "proven" ^{Q31} 31-45%

The rate of proven CM per 1,000 children ^{Q32} Don't know

Year and period this rate applies to ^{Q33} Don't know

Official count represents number of children or number of responses ^{Q34}

One child or household can be counted more than once ^{Q35}

Percentage of responses/investigations for each of the following types of CM ^{Q36}

Physical abuse	16-30%
Sexual abuse	0-15%
Neglect	16-30%
Emotional (psychological) maltreatment	0-15%
Street children	31-45%
Abandoned children	0-15%
Exposure to IPV	0-15%

Percent of substantiated reports that result in ^{Q37}

Result in the perpetrator being removed from the home	0-15%
Lead to prosecution of the alleged perpetrator	31-45%

Child count

No

Result in the child being removed from the home

0-15%

Number of children removed from home living in: ^{Q38}

Kinship care (with a family member)? 76-90%

Non-relative family foster care 0-15%

Residential care/orphanages 0-15%

Child Fatalities

An autopsy is required by law when a child's death ^{Q39}

Is unexpected No

Has an unclear cause No

My country has child death/fatality review teams ^{Q42} No

An official annual count of deaths due to child abuse or neglect is maintained by a government agency ^{Q46} No

The annual rate of child deaths attributed to CM ^{Q47} Don't know

In the past 10 years, the number of reported deaths due to CM ^{Q50} Don't know

Responses to Child Maltreatment

My country has an identified government agency (or agencies) at the national, state, or local levels that is mandated to respond to reports of CM ^{Q51}

Yes

Primary investigations are conducted by ^{Q52}

- Social services
- Law enforcement

Laws and Policies Responding to Child Maltreatment

My country has national laws or policies implemented at the state/provincial/territorial level regarding CM ^{Q53}

Yes

These laws were established ^{Q54}

After 2000

The following elements are specified in laws or policies ^{Q55}

Mandated periodic training for professionals who may encounter maltreated children	Yes
Mandated reporting of suspected CM for specific groups of professionals or individuals	Yes
Mandated reporting of suspected CM for all adults	Yes
Provisions that allow for voluntary reporting of suspected CM by any professional or individual	No
Requirement that reports be investigated within a specific time period (e.g., 24 hours)	Yes
Requirement that the investigation be a coordinated intersectoral response	Yes
Requirement that the child(ren)'s and family's needs be assessed	Yes
Provisions for removing child from his or her parents/caretakers to ensure the child's safety	Yes
Provisions for removing the alleged perpetrator from the home	No
Requirement that background checks be conducted for employees who work with children (e.g., teachers, day care workers, etc.)	No
Specific criminal penalties for maltreating a child	Yes
Requirement that all victims receive some form of service or intervention	Yes
Requirement that all perpetrators receive some form of service or intervention	No
Requires the development of specific prevention services	No
Requires that a separate attorney or advocate be assigned to represent the child's interests	Yes
Penalties for professionals who fail to report CM	Yes
Provision of immunity from liability when reports are made in good faith	No
Provide a specific budget for preventing CM	No
Clear definition of child neglect	Yes

Clear definition of child physical abuse Yes

Clear definition of child sexual abuse Yes

Clear definition of child emotional/psychological abuse Yes

Clear definition of exposure to IPV Yes

The sectors that are required to be included in the response ^{Q56}

- Child protection
- Law enforcement (police)
- Health (e.g., forensic doctor or pediatrician)
- Legal (e.g., prosecutor or court appointed advocate)
- Education (teachers)
- NGOs

The extent to which these laws or policies are being enforced ^{Q57}

Mandated periodic training for professionals who may encounter maltreated children	Inconsistently
Mandated reporting of suspected CM for specific groups of professionals or individuals	Not enforced
Mandated reporting of suspected CM for all adults	Not enforced
Provisions that allow for voluntary reporting of suspected CM by any professional or individual	Not enforced
Requirement that reports be investigated within a specific time period (e.g., 24 hours)	Inconsistently
Requirement that the investigation be a coordinated intersectoral response	Widely
Requirement that the child(ren)'s and family's needs be assessed	Widely
Provisions for removing child from his or her parents/caretakers to ensure the child's safety	Inconsistently
Provisions for removing the alleged perpetrator from the home	Inconsistently
Requirement that background checks be conducted for employees who work with children (e.g., teachers, daycare workers, etc.)	Inconsistently
Requirement that all victims receive some form of service or intervention	Inconsistently
Requirement that all perpetrators receive some form of service or intervention	Not enforced

Requirement that the development of specific prevention services	Inconsistently	Requirement that the child(ren)'s and family's needs be assessed	Very inadequate
Requirement that a separate attorney or advocate be assigned to represent the child's interests	Widely	Provisions for removing child from his or her parents/ caretakers to ensure the child's safety	Very inadequate
Penalties for professionals who fail to report CM	Not enforced	Provisions for removing the alleged perpetrator from the home	Very inadequate
Provision of immunity from liability when reports are made in good faith	Not enforced	Requirement that all victims receive some form of service or intervention	Somewhat inadequate
Provision of a specific budget for preventing CM	Not enforced	Requirement that all perpetrators receive some form of service or intervention	Very inadequate
The adequacy of government resources for implementing these laws or policies ^{Q58}		Requirement that a separate attorney or advocate be assigned to represent the child's interests	Adequate
Mandated periodic training for professionals who may encounter	Very inadequate	Provision of a specific budget for preventing CM	Very inadequate
Requirement that reports be investigated within a specific time period (e.g., 24 hours)	Very inadequate		
Requirement that an investigation be a coordinated intersectoral response	Very inadequate		

Services

Child abuse and neglect services available and to what extent ^{Q59}

Therapy for those who neglect a child	None	Institutional care for maltreated children	Occasionally
Therapy for neglected children	Occasionally	Financial and other material support	None
Therapy for those who physically abuse a child	None	Hospitalization for mental illness for adults	Moderately
Therapy for physically abused children	None	Hospitalization for mental illness for children	Moderately
Therapy for those who sexually abuse a child	Occasionally	Substance abuse treatment for parents	None
Therapy for sexually abused children	Occasionally	Substance abuse treatment for children	None
Case management support services to meet a family's basic needs	Occasionally	Centers for parents to share experiences/concerns	None
Home-based services to support parents and family	None	Universal home visits for all new parents	Occasionally
Foster care with official foster parents	None	Targeted home visits for new parents at-risk	Moderately
Group homes for maltreated children	None	Free/highly subsidized child care	None
Public shelters for maltreated children	Occasionally	Universal health screening for children	Usually
Public shelters for victims of domestic violence and their children	Occasionally	Universal, mostly free medical care for children	Moderately
		Universal, mostly free medical care for all citizens	Moderately

Prevention

The involvement of the following sectors in providing CM prevention services before CM has occurred ^{Q60}

Hospitals/medical centers	None
Mental health agencies	None
Businesses/factories	None
Schools	Very
Public social service agencies	Very
Community-based NGOs	Very
Religious institutions	None
Voluntary civic organizations	None
Courts/law enforcement	Very
Universities	None

The level of involvement for the following sectors in providing CM treatment services after CM has occurred ^{Q61}

Hospitals/medical centers	None
Mental health agencies	None
Businesses/factories	None
Schools	Moderate
Public social service agencies	Very
Community-based NGOs	Very
Religious institutions	None
Voluntary civic organizations	Minimal
Courts/law enforcement	Very
Universities	Minimal

The extent to which government and non-governmental agencies fund CM prevention services ^{Q62}

Government	Minimal
Non-government	Major

The extent to which government and non-governmental agencies fund CM treatment services ^{Q63}

Government	Minimal
Non-government	Major

The effectiveness of these strategies in preventing CM ^{Q64}

Nurse Family Partnership	Not Used
Home-based services and support for parents at risk	Not Used
Media campaigns to raise public awareness	Seems effective
Risk assessment methods	Seems effective
Increasing individual responsibility for child protection	Not Used
Prosecution of child abuse offenders	Not effective
Universal home visitation for new parents	Not Used
Improving/increasing local services	Seems effective
A system of universal health care and access to preventive medical care	Seems effective
Professional training	Seems effective
University programs for students	Not Used
Advocacy for children's rights	Seems effective

Improving the basic living conditions of families (e.g., housing, access to clean water).	Not Used	Decline in family life and informal support systems for parents	Somewhat
Mental health services	Not effective	Country's dependency on foreign investment to sustain its local economy	Very
Substance abuse services	Not effective	Strong sense of family privacy and parental rights to raise children as they choose	Very
Services for victims of domestic violence	Seems effective	General support for the use of corporal punishment/physical discipline of children	Very
Child death review teams	Not Used	Lack of commitment or support for children's rights	Very
Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy	Not Used	Overwhelming number of children living on their own	None
Multi-Systemic Therapy	Not Used	Generally inadequate and poorly developed systems of basic health care or social services	Quite
Triple P Positive Parenting Program	Not Used	Political or religious conflict and instability	None
Safe Care parenting program	Not Used	Lack of access to mental health services	Quite
The importance of the following barriers in limiting efforts to prevent CM ^{Q65}		Lack of substance abuse treatment	Quite
Limited resources for improving the government's response to CM	Very	Lack of laws allowing sharing of information among professionals	None
Lack of specific laws related to CM	Quite		
Lack of system to investigate reports of CM	Very		
Lack of trained professionals	Very		
Public resistance to supporting prevention efforts	Somewhat		
Extreme poverty	Very		

Child Sexual Exploitation

The following questions pertain to child sex exploitation (CSE), defined as: the recruitment, harboring, transportation, trafficking, provision, or obtaining of a person under 18 for the purpose of a commercial sex act -- by force, fraud, or coercion.

The extent to which my country has laws concerning CSE ^{Q66}	Greatly	The extent to which my country prosecutes citizens who engage in CSE ^{Q74}	Sometimes
The extent to which my country has programs to combat CSE ^{Q67}	Somewhat	The extent to which my country prosecutes citizens who engage in CSE abroad ^{Q75}	Rarely
The extent to which agencies collaborate to stop CSE ^{Q68}	Somewhat	The extent to which my country prosecutes foreigners who engage in CSE within my country ^{Q76}	Rarely
The extent to which clear policies exist for reporting CSE to a public agency or NGO ^{Q69}	Not really	The extent to which my country arrests children who are exploited sexually ^{Q77}	Rarely
My country keeps official records on CSE ^{Q70}	Yes	There have been arrests in my country in the past year of persons who sexually exploit children ^{Q78}	Yes
Commercial sex work is legal in my country ^{Q71}	No	There have been arrests in my country in the past year of persons for the possession or production of child pornography ^{Q79}	Yes
At age what is it legal to be a sex worker ^{Q72}	None		
The extent to which CSE victims receive mental health care ^{Q73}	Rarely		

Resources

The extent to which the UNCRC has helped improve CM policies and programs ^{Q80} Example(s) ^{Q81} - There is National Policy and Action Plan on Child Rights, Child Exploitation, Education etc. Major developments in child abuse and neglect in my country in the past year ^{Q83} - Establishment of the first-ever National Centre for Protection of Children and Youth from Sexual Abuse (based on the model of Barna House)	Significantly	Reputable agencies or organizations in my country able to provide reliable information, with contact information, especially websites. ^{Q84} Child Rights Centre Albania Address: Rr. Perlat Rrexhepi, Pall. 17, Hyrja 21, Tirana, Albania 1001 Email: crca@crca.al Website: crca.al Resources Provided: Research, data, services, training Albanian National Child Helpline Address: Rr. Perlat Rrexhepi, Pall. 17, Hyrja 22, Tirana, Albania 1001 Email: alo116@alo116.al Website: alo116.al Resources Provided: Data, information, services
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