

Georgia


4,003

Population (thousands)


5%

Population below international poverty line


74 YEARS

Average life expectancy at birth


10

Under 5 mortality rate (per 1,000 births)


\$17,600

Gross national product (millions)


100%

Literacy rate for male youth (15-24)

100%

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}

- Making a child stand or kneel in one place for more than 5 minutes

Actions considered forms of child maltreatment:

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

- Physical beating of a child by any adult
- Child living on the street
- Prostituting a child
- Infanticide
- Female circumcision/female genital mutilation
- Forcing a child to beg
- 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

- Religious institution
- Sporting organization
- Work place
- Law enforcement facility
- Refugee camp
- In any place

Involving a parent or caregiver ^{Q14}

- Physical discipline with bruising
- Physical discipline without bruising or other injury
- 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
- Abandonment
- Emotional (psychological) abuse (e.g., repeated belittling or insulting of a child)
- Emotional (psychological) neglect (e.g., failure to provide emotional support/attention)
- 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
- Emotional maltreatment is not prohibited by law, but in severe forms lead to an intervention of child welfare system

Official Documentation on Child Maltreatment

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

Yes

Emotional (psychological) maltreatment

No

Exposure to intimate partner violence (IPV)

No

Agencies that maintain these records ^{Q16}

- Social services

The level at which records are maintained ^{Q17}

- National
- Regional/State
- Local

How long this counting system has been in place ^{Q19}

10+ years

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

Don't know

Emotional (psychological) maltreatment

Don't know

Exposure to intimate partner violence (IPV)

Don't know

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

Physical abuse

Yes

Sexual abuse

Yes

Neglect

No

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

No

Subgroups of children are included in this reporting system ^{Q24}

No

Country or most states/provinces have a law mandating reporting of suspected CM ^{Q26}	Yes	Percent of substantiated reports that result in ^{Q37}	
Year law too take effect ^{Q27}	Before 1990	Result in the perpetrator being removed from the home	Don't know
Law applies to ^{Q28}		Lead to prosecution of the alleged perpetrator	Don't know
- Physical abuse - Sexual abuse - Neglect - Emotional (psychological) maltreatment - Exposure to/witnessing IPV		Result in the child being removed from the home	0-15%
National Statistics		Number of children removed from home living in: ^{Q38}	
The rate of reported CM nationwide per 1,000 children per year ^{Q29}	75	Kinship care (with a family member)?	Don't know
Percentage of reports of suspected CM that are responded to/investigated by social services ^{Q30}	76-90%	Non-relative family foster care	Don't know
Percentage of all reports investigated that are substantiated or "proven" ^{Q31}	Don't know	Residential care/orphanages	46-60%
Year and period this rate applies to ^{Q33}	2018	Child Fatalities	
Official count represents number of children or number of responses ^{Q34}	Response	An autopsy is required by law when a child's death ^{Q39}	
One child or household can be counted more than once ^{Q35}	Yes	Is unexpected	Yes
Percentage of responses/investigations for each of the following types of CM ^{Q36}		Has an unclear cause	Yes
Physical abuse	Don't know	The autopsy is conducted by ^{Q40}	
Sexual abuse	Don't know	Forensic doctor	
Neglect	Don't know	There is a specific protocol ^{Q41}	Yes
Emotional (psychological) maltreatment	Don't know	My country has child death/fatality review teams ^{Q42}	No
Street children	Don't know	An official annual count of deaths due to child abuse or neglect is maintained by a government agency ^{Q46}	Yes
Abandoned children	Don't know	The annual rate of child deaths attributed to CM ^{Q47}	Less than 1 in 100,000
Exposure to IPV	Don't know	Time period that this annual rate applies to ^{Q48}	2018
		Percentage of child deaths that involves ^{Q49}	
		Physical abuse	76-90%
		Neglect	Don't know
		Sexual Abuse	Don't know
		Emotional Abuse	Don't know
		Intimate Partner Violence	Don't know
		In the past 10 years, the number of reported deaths due to CM ^{Q50}	Remained the same

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}	
		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	Specific criminal penalties for maltreating a child	Yes
These laws were established ^{Q54}	After 2000	Requirement that all victims receive some form of service or intervention	Yes
The following elements are specified in laws or policies ^{Q55}		Requirement that all perpetrators receive some form of service or intervention	Don't know
Mandated periodic training for professionals who may encounter maltreated children	No	Requires the development of specific prevention services	Don't know
Mandated reporting of suspected CM for specific groups of professionals or individuals	Yes	Requires that a separate attorney or advocate be assigned to represent the child's interests	Don't know
Mandated reporting of suspected CM for all adults	No	Penalties for professionals who fail to report CM	Don't know
Provisions that allow for voluntary reporting of suspected CM by any professional or individual	Yes	Provision of immunity from liability when reports are made in good faith	Don't know
Requirement that reports be investigated within a specific time period (e.g., 24 hours)	Yes	Provide a specific budget for preventing CM	Don't know
Requirement that the investigation be a coordinated intersectoral response	No	Clear definition of child neglect	Yes
Requirement that the child(ren)'s and family's needs be assessed	Yes	Clear definition of child physical abuse	Yes
Provisions for removing child from his or her parents/caretakers to ensure the child's safety	Yes	Clear definition of child sexual abuse	Yes
Provisions for removing the alleged perpetrator from the home	No	Clear definition of child emotional/psychological abuse	Yes
Requirement that background checks be conducted for employees who work with children (e.g., teachers, day care workers, etc.)	Yes	Clear definition of exposure to IPV	Don't know
		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)	

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	Inconsistently
Mandated reporting of suspected CM for all adults	Inconsistently
Requirement that reports be investigated within a specific time period (e.g., 24 hours)	Inconsistently
Requirement that the investigation be a coordinated intersectoral response	Inconsistently
Requirement that the child(ren)'s and family's needs be assessed	Inconsistently
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	Almost never
Requirement that the development of specific prevention services	Inconsistently
Requirement that a separate attorney or advocate be assigned to represent the child's interests	Inconsistently

Penalties for professionals who fail to report CM	Inconsistently
Provision of immunity from liability when reports are made in good faith	N/A
Provision of a specific budget for preventing CM	N/A

The adequacy of government resources for implementing these laws or policies ^{Q58}

Mandated periodic training for professionals who may encounter	Very inadequate
Requirement that reports be investigated within a specific time period (e.g., 24 hours)	Somewhat inadequate
Requirement that an investigation be a coordinated intersectoral response	Somewhat inadequate
Requirement that the child(ren)'s and family's needs be assessed	Somewhat inadequate
Provisions for removing child from his or her parents/ caretakers to ensure the child's safety	Somewhat inadequate
Provisions for removing the alleged perpetrator from the home	Somewhat inadequate
Requirement that all victims receive some form of service or intervention	Very inadequate
Requirement that all perpetrators receive some form of service or intervention	Very inadequate
Requirement that a separate attorney or advocate be assigned to represent the child's interests	Somewhat inadequate
Provision of a specific budget for preventing CM	Very inadequate

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

Therapy for those who neglect a child	Occasionally
Therapy for neglected children	Occasionally
Therapy for those who physically abuse a child	Occasionally
Therapy for physically abused children	Occasionally
Therapy for those who sexually abuse a child	None
Therapy for sexually abused children	Occasionally
Case management support services to meet a family's basic needs	Occasionally
Home-based services to support parents and family	Occasionally
Foster care with official foster parents	Occasionally
Group homes for maltreated children	Occasionally
Public shelters for maltreated children	Occasionally

Public shelters for victims of domestic violence and their children	Occasionally
Financial and other material support	Occasionally
Hospitalization for mental illness for adults	Occasionally
Hospitalization for mental illness for children	Occasionally
Substance abuse treatment for parents	Occasionally
Substance abuse treatment for children	Occasionally
Centers for parents to share experiences/concerns	Occasionally
Universal home visits for all new parents	None
Targeted home visits for new parents at-risk	None
Free/highly subsidized child care	Occasionally
Universal health screening for children	Occasionally
Universal, mostly free medical care for children	Occasionally
Universal, mostly free medical care for all citizens	Occasionally

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

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

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

Hospitals/medical centers	Moderate
Mental health agencies	Moderate
Businesses/factories	None

Schools	Moderate
Public social service agencies	Very
Community-based NGOs	Moderate
Religious institutions	None
Courts/law enforcement	Very
Universities	Minimal

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

Government	Minimal
Non-government	Minimal

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

Government	Minimal
Non-government	Minimal

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

Home-based services and support for parents at risk	None
Media campaigns to raise public awareness	Seems effective
Risk assessment methods	Not effective
Increasing individual responsibility for child protection	Seems effective
Prosecution of child abuse offenders	Seems effective
Universal home visitation for new parents	None
Improving/increasing local services	Not effective
A system of universal health care and access to preventive medical care	Not effective
Professional training	Seems effective
University programs for students	None
Advocacy for children's rights	Seems effective
Improving the basic living conditions of families (e.g., housing, access to clean water).	Not effective
Mental health services	Not effective
Substance abuse services	Not effective
Services for victims of domestic violence	None
Child death review teams	Not effective
Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy	Seems effective
Multi-Systemic Therapy	Not Used
Triple P Positive Parenting Program	Not Used
Safe Care parenting program	Not Used

The importance of the following barriers in limiting efforts to prevent CM ^{Q65}

Limited resources for improving the government's response to CM	Very
Lack of specific laws related to CM	Somewhat
Lack of system to investigate reports of CM	Very
Lack of trained professionals	Very
Public resistance to supporting prevention efforts	Very
Extreme poverty	Very
Decline in family life and informal support systems for parents	Very
Country's dependency on foreign investment to sustain its local economy	Very
Strong sense of family privacy and parental rights to raise children as they choose	Very
General support for the use of corporal punishment/physical discipline of children	Very
Lack of commitment or support for children's rights	Very
Overwhelming number of children living on their own	Quite
Generally inadequate and poorly developed systems of basic health care or social services	Very
Political or religious conflict and instability	Very
Lack of access to mental health services	Very
Lack of substance abuse treatment	Very
Lack of laws allowing sharing of information among professionals	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}	Somewhat	The extent to which my country prosecutes citizens who engage in CSE ^{Q74}	Mostly
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}	Mostly
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}	Mostly
The extent to which clear policies exist for reporting CSE to a public agency or NGO ^{Q69}	Somewhat	The extent to which my country arrests children who are exploited sexually ^{Q77}	Mostly
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
The extent to which CSE victims receive mental health care ^{Q73}	Sometimes		

Resources

The extent to which the UNCRC has helped improve CM policies and programs ^{Q80}

Example(s) ^{Q81}

- Establishment of the child protection referral procedures, Juvenile Justice Code, Child Code etc

Major developments in child abuse and neglect in my country in the past year ^{Q83}

- Specific policies, training of professionals, awareness raising activities, projects and services developed by NGO.

Reputable agencies or organizations in my country able to provide reliable information, with contact information, especially websites. ^{Q84-Q87}

UNICEF Georgia

Address: 9, Eristavi Street, Floor IV, UN House, Tbilisi 0179

Website: unicef.org

Public Health Foundation of Georgia

Address: 4, Edisher Magalshvili st, Tbilisi 0186

Website: phf.org.ge

Resources: Service for abused children, helpline for children, awareness raising, advocacy, policy development, trainings for professionals etc.