

Hong Kong


7,483

Population (thousands)


—%

Population below international poverty line


84 YEARS

Average life expectancy at birth


3

Under 5 mortality rate (per 1,000 births)


\$362,682

Gross national product (millions)


—%

Literacy rate for male youth (15-24)

—%

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 on the buttocks with an object (e.g., shoe, belt)
- Hitting a child on the head or face with an open hand
- Hitting a child anywhere else on the body with an open hand
- 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}

- Child living on the street
- Prostituting a child
- Infanticide
- Female circumcision/female genital mutilation
- Forcing a child to beg
- 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
- Religious institution
- Sporting organization
- 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
- Abandonment
- Failure to seek medical care for child based on religious beliefs
- 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}

Yes

Agencies that maintain these records ^{Q16}

- Social services
- Law Enforcement
- Courts

The level at which records are maintained ^{Q17}

- Local

Multiple agencies have interconnected recordkeeping systems ^{Q18}

Don't know

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

10+ years

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

 Physical abuse
Sexual abuse
Neglect

 Yes
Yes
Yes

Emotional (psychological) maltreatment

Yes

Exposure to intimate partner violence (IPV)

No

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

More cases

Emotional (psychological) maltreatment

More cases

Exposure to intimate partner violence (IPV)

N/A

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

No

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

Yes

Migrants, immigrants

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

No

National Statistics

The rate of reported CM nationwide per 1,000 children per year ^{Q29}	Don't know
Percentage of reports of suspected CM that are responded to/investigated by social services ^{Q30}	Don't know
Percentage of all reports investigated that are substantiated or "proven" ^{Q31}	Don't know
The rate of proven CM per 1,000 children ^{Q32}	1
Year and period this rate applies to ^{Q33}	2018
Official count represents number of children or number of responses ^{Q34}	Child
One child or household can be counted more than once ^{Q35}	No
Percentage of responses/investigations for each of the following types of CM ^{Q36}	
Physical abuse	Don't know
Sexual abuse	Don't know
Neglect	Don't know
Emotional (psychological) maltreatment	Don't know
Street children	Don't know
Abandoned children	Don't know
Exposure to IPV	Don't know
Percent of substantiated reports that result in ^{Q37}	
Result in the perpetrator being removed from the home	Don't know
Lead to prosecution of the alleged perpetrator	Don't know
Result in the child being removed from the home	Don't know
Number of children removed from home living in: ^{Q38}	

Kinship care (with a family member)?	Don't know
Non-relative family foster care	Don't know
Residential care/orphanages	Don't know

Child Fatalities

An autopsy is required by law when a child's death ^{Q39}	
Is unexpected	Yes
Has an unclear cause	Yes
The autopsy is conducted by ^{Q40}	
• Forensic doctor	
There is a specific protocol ^{Q41}	Yes
My country has child death/fatality review teams ^{Q42}	Yes
These teams are trained in recognizing child abuse and neglect ^{Q43}	Don't know
These teams are required by law ^{Q44}	Yes
These teams are ^{Q45}	
• Local	
An official annual count of deaths due to child abuse or neglect is maintained by a government agency ^{Q46}	Yes
The annual rate of child deaths attributed to CM ^{Q47}	Less than 1 in 100,000
Time period that this annual rate applies to ^{Q48}	2014 & 2015
Percentage of child deaths that involves ^{Q49}	
Physical abuse	76-90%
Neglect	0-15%
In the past 10 years, the number of reported deaths due to CM ^{Q50}	Decreased

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
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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	Requirement that all perpetrators receive some form of service or intervention	Yes
These laws were established ^{Q54}	1980-1989	Requires the development of specific prevention services	Yes
The following elements are specified in laws or policies ^{Q55}		Requires that a separate attorney or advocate be assigned to represent the child's interests	No
Mandated periodic training for professionals who may encounter maltreated children	Yes	Penalties for professionals who fail to report CM	No
Mandated reporting of suspected CM for specific groups of professionals or individuals	No	Provision of immunity from liability when reports are made in good faith	No
Mandated reporting of suspected CM for all adults	No	Provide a specific budget for preventing CM	Yes
Provisions that allow for voluntary reporting of suspected CM by any professional or individual	Yes	Clear definition of child neglect	Yes
Requirement that reports be investigated within a specific time period (e.g., 24 hours)	No	Clear definition of child physical abuse	Yes
Requirement that the investigation be a coordinated intersectoral response	Yes	Clear definition of child sexual abuse	Yes
Requirement that the child(ren)'s and family's needs be assessed	Yes	Clear definition of child emotional/psychological abuse	Yes
Provisions for removing child from his or her parents/caretakers to ensure the child's safety	Yes	Clear definition of exposure to IPV	No
Provisions for removing the alleged perpetrator from the home	No	The sectors that are required to be included in the response ^{Q56}	
Requirement that background checks be conducted for employees who work with children (e.g., teachers, day care workers, etc.)	Yes	• Child protection	
Specific criminal penalties for maltreating a child	Yes	• Law enforcement (police)	
Requirement that all victims receive some form of service or intervention	Yes	• Health (e.g., forensic doctor or pediatrician)	
		• Education (teachers)	
		The extent to which these laws or policies are being enforced ^{Q57}	
		Mandated periodic training for professionals who may encounter maltreated children	Widely
		Mandated reporting of suspected CM for specific groups of professionals or individuals	N/A

Mandated reporting of suspected CM for all adults	N/A	Provision of immunity from liability when reports are made in good faith	N/A
Provisions that allow for voluntary reporting of suspected CM by any professional or individual	Inconsistently	Provision of a specific budget for preventing CM	Inconsistently
Requirement that reports be investigated within a specific time period (e.g., 24 hours)	N/A	The adequacy of government resources for implementing these laws or policies ^{Q58}	
Requirement that the investigation be a coordinated intersectoral response	Widely	Mandated periodic training for professionals who may encounter	Adequate
Requirement that the child(ren)'s and family's needs be assessed	Widely	Requirement that reports be investigated within a specific time period (e.g., 24 hours)	N/A
Provisions for removing child from his or her parents/ caretakers to ensure the child's safety	Inconsistently	Requirement that an investigation be a coordinated intersectoral response	Somewhat inadequate
Provisions for removing the alleged perpetrator from the home	N/A	Requirement that the child(ren)'s and family's needs be assessed	Adequate
Requirement that background checks be conducted for employees who work with children (e.g., teachers, daycare workers, etc.)	Widely	Provisions for removing child from his or her parents/ caretakers to ensure the child's safety	Somewhat inadequate
Requirement that all victims receive some form of service or intervention	Widely	Provisions for removing the alleged perpetrator from the home	N/A
Requirement that all perpetrators receive some form of service or intervention	Inconsistently	Requirement that all victims receive some form of service or intervention	Somewhat inadequate
Requirement that the development of specific prevention services	Inconsistently	Requirement that all perpetrators receive some form of service or intervention	Somewhat inadequate
Requirement that a separate attorney or advocate be assigned to represent the child's interests	N/A	Requirement that a separate attorney or advocate be assigned to represent the child's interests	N/A
Penalties for professionals who fail to report CM	N/A	Provision of a specific budget for preventing CM	Somewhat inadequate

Services

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

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

Prevention

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

Hospitals/medical centers	Moderate	Businesses/factories	None
Mental health agencies	Minimal	Schools	Moderate
Businesses/factories	None	Public social service agencies	Very
Schools	Moderate	Community-based NGOs	Moderate
Public social service agencies	Very	Religious institutions	None
Community-based NGOs	Minimal	Voluntary civic organizations	None
Religious institutions	None	Courts/law enforcement	None
Voluntary civic organizations	Minimal	Universities	None
Courts/law enforcement	Minimal	The extent to which government and non-governmental agencies fund CM prevention services ^{Q62}	
Universities	Minimal	Government	Major
Community child protection teams		Non-government	Major

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

Hospitals/medical centers	Very	The extent to which government and non-governmental agencies fund CM treatment services ^{Q63}	
Mental health agencies	Minimal	Government	Major
		Non-government	Major

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

Nurse Family Partnership	None
Home-based services and support for parents at risk	Seems effective
Media campaigns to raise public awareness	Seems effective
Risk assessment methods	Seems effective
Increasing individual responsibility for child protection	Seems effective
Prosecution of child abuse offenders	Not effective
Universal home visitation for new parents	Seems effective
Improving/increasing local services	Not effective
A system of universal health care and access to preventive medical care	Seems 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).	None
Mental health services	Not effective
Substance abuse services	Not effective
Services for victims of domestic violence	Seems effective
Child death review teams	Not effective
Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy	Seems effective
Multi-Systemic Therapy	None
Triple P Positive Parenting Program	Seems effective
Safe Care parenting program	Seems effective

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	Very
Lack of system to investigate reports of CM	Very
Lack of trained professionals	Very
Public resistance to supporting prevention efforts	Quite
Extreme poverty	Somewhat
Decline in family life and informal support systems for parents	Quite
Country's dependency on foreign investment to sustain its local economy	Somewhat
Strong sense of family privacy and parental rights to raise children as they choose	Quite
General support for the use of corporal punishment/physical discipline of children	Quite
Lack of commitment or support for children's rights	Very
Overwhelming number of children living on their own	Somewhat
Generally inadequate and poorly developed systems of basic health care or social services	None
Political or religious conflict and instability	Somewhat
Lack of access to mental health services	Quite
Lack of substance abuse treatment	Quite
Lack of laws allowing sharing of information among professionals	Quite

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 abroad ^{Q75}	Sometimes
The extent to which my country has programs to combat CSE ^{Q67}	Somewhat	The extent to which my country prosecutes foreigners who engage in CSE within my country ^{Q76}	Don't know
The extent to which agencies collaborate to stop CSE ^{Q68}	Somewhat	The extent to which my country arrests children who are exploited sexually ^{Q77}	Don't know
The extent to which clear policies exist for reporting CSE to a public agency or NGO ^{Q69}	Greatly	There have been arrests in my country in the past year of persons who sexually exploit children ^{Q78}	Yes
My country keeps official records on CSE ^{Q70}	Yes	There have been arrests in my country in the past year of persons for the possession or production of child pornography ^{Q79}	Yes
Commercial sex work is legal in my country ^{Q71}	No		
The extent to which CSE victims receive mental health care ^{Q73}	Sometimes		
The extent to which my country prosecutes citizens who engage in CSE ^{Q74}	Most of the time		

Resources

The extent to which the UNCRC has helped improve CM policies and programs ^{Q80}	Somewhat
Major developments in child abuse and neglect in my country in the past year ^{Q83}	
• A Commission on Children was established. • The procedural guide for handling of child abuse cases was revised and enhanced. • More resources allocated by the government to increase social workers in school setting. • Public awareness of child protection was raised.	