

Switzerland


8,526

Population (thousands)


—%

Population below international poverty line


72 YEARS

Average life expectancy at birth


4

Under 5 mortality rate (per 1,000 births)


\$705,140

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

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

In the following places ^{Q13}

- Foster care, group home or orphanage
- Day care center
- School or educational training center

- Detention facility
- Religious institution
- Sporting organization
- Work place
- Law enforcement facility

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

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

The level at which records are maintained ^{Q17}

- Regional/State
- Local

Multiple agencies have interconnected recordkeeping systems ^{Q18}

No

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

5-10 years

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

Physical abuse	No
Sexual abuse	Yes
Neglect	Yes
Emotional (psychological) maltreatment	No
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	No Change
Emotional (psychological) maltreatment	Don't know
Exposure to intimate partner violence (IPV)	More Cases
Subgroups of children are systematically excluded from the reporting system ^{Q22}	Don't know
Subgroups of children are included in this reporting system ^{Q24}	Don't know
Country or most states/provinces have a law mandating reporting of suspected CM ^{Q26}	Yes
Year law took effect ^{Q27}	1990–2000

Law applies to ^{Q28}

- Physical abuse
- Sexual abuse
- Neglect
- Exposure to/witnessing IPV

National Statistics

The rate of reported CM nationwide per 1,000 children per year ^{Q29}	50
Percentage of reports of suspected CM that are responded to/investigated by social services ^{Q30}	0-15%
Percentage of all reports investigated that are substantiated or "proven" ^{Q31}	0-15%
The rate of proven CM per 1,000 children ^{Q32}	13
Year and period this rate applies to ^{Q33}	January
Official count represents number of children or number of responses ^{Q34}	Child count
One child or household can be counted more than once ^{Q35}	Yes
Percentage of responses/investigations for each of the following types of CM ^{Q36}	
Physical abuse	16-30%
Sexual abuse	0-15%
Neglect	46-60%
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	0-15%
Result in the child being removed from the home	31-45%
Number of children removed from home living in: ^{Q38}	
Kinship care (with a family member)?	0-15%

Non-relative family foster care	31-45%
Residential care/orphanages	31-45%

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}	
• Medical examiner	
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}	Yes
These teams are required by law ^{Q44}	Yes
These teams are ^{Q45}	National
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}	More than 4 in 100,000
Time period that this annual rate applies to ^{Q48}	Calendar
Percentage of child deaths that involves ^{Q49}	
Physical abuse	31-45%
Neglect	16-30%
Sexual Abuse	0-15%
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}	Increased

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	

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}	1980-1989	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	No
Mandated periodic training for professionals who may encounter maltreated children	Yes	Requires the development of specific prevention services	Yes
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	Yes
Mandated reporting of suspected CM for all adults	Yes	Penalties for professionals who fail to report CM	Yes
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	Yes
Requirement that reports be investigated within a specific time period (e.g., 24 hours)	No	Provide a specific budget for preventing CM	Yes
Requirement that the investigation be a coordinated intersectoral response	Yes	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	Yes	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	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)	

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
Provisions that allow for voluntary reporting of suspected CM by any professional or individual	Almost never
Requirement that reports be investigated within a specific time period (e.g., 24 hours)	Inconsistently
Requirement that the investigation be a coordinated intersectoral response	Almost never
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	Almost never
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	Almost never

Requirement that a separate attorney or advocate be assigned to represent the child's interests	Almost never
Penalties for professionals who fail to report CM	Almost never
Provision of immunity from liability when reports are made in good faith	Inconsistently
Provision of a specific budget for preventing CM	Inconsistently
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	Very inadequate
Requirement that the child(ren)'s and family's needs be assessed	Very 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	Very inadequate
Requirement that all victims receive some form of service or intervention	Somewhat inadequate
Requirement that all perpetrators receive some form of service or intervention	N/a
Requirement that a separate attorney or advocate be assigned to represent the child's interests	Very 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	Moderately
Therapy for neglected children	Moderately
Therapy for those who physically abuse a child	Usually
Therapy for physically abused children	Moderately
Therapy for those who sexually abuse a child	Occasionally
Therapy for sexually abused children	Occasionally
Case management support services to meet a family's basic needs	None
Home-based services to support parents and family	None
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	None
Hospitalization for mental illness for children	Occasionally
Substance abuse treatment for parents	None
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	None
Universal health screening for children	None
Universal, mostly free medical care for children	None
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	None
Mental health agencies	None
Businesses/factories	None
Schools	Minimal
Public social service agencies	Moderate
Community-based NGOs	Minimal
Religious institutions	Minimal
Voluntary civic organizations	Minimal
Courts/law enforcement	Moderate
Universities	None

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

Hospitals/medical centers	Minimal
---------------------------	---------

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

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	Safe Care parenting program	Not Used
Non-government	Minimal	The importance of the following barriers in limiting efforts to prevent CM ^{Q65}	
The effectiveness of these strategies in preventing CM ^{Q64}		Limited resources for improving the government's response to CM	Somewhat
Home-based services and support for parents at risk	Not Used	Lack of specific laws related to CM	Somewhat
Media campaigns to raise public awareness	Not Used	Lack of system to investigate reports of CM	Somewhat
Risk assessment methods	Not effective	Lack of trained professionals	Somewhat
Increasing individual responsibility for child protection	Not effective	Public resistance to supporting prevention efforts	Somewhat
Prosecution of child abuse offenders	Not effective	Extreme poverty	None
Universal home visitation for new parents	Not effective	Decline in family life and informal support systems for parents	Somewhat
Improving/increasing local services	Not Used	Country's dependency on foreign investment to sustain its local economy	Quite
A system of universal health care and access to preventive medical care	Not Used	Strong sense of family privacy and parental rights to raise children as they choose	Quite
Professional training	Not effective	General support for the use of corporal punishment/physical discipline of children	Somewhat
University programs for students	Not effective	Lack of commitment or support for children's rights	Very
Advocacy for children's rights	Not effective	Overwhelming number of children living on their own	Quite
Improving the basic living conditions of families (e.g., housing, access to clean water).	Not effective	Generally inadequate and poorly developed systems of basic health care or social services	Very
Mental health services	Not Used	Political or religious conflict and instability	None
Substance abuse services	Not Used	Lack of access to mental health services	Quite
Services for victims of domestic violence	Not Used	Lack of substance abuse treatment	Quite
Child death review teams	Not effective	Lack of laws allowing sharing of information among professionals	Quite Very
Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy	Not Used		
Multi-Systemic Therapy	Not Used		
Triple P Positive Parenting Program	Not Used		

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}	Rarely
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}	Somewhat	The extent to which my country arrests children who are exploited sexually ^{Q77}	Sometimes
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}	Don't know
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}	Don't know
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} Slightly

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

Ariel Foundation International
Address: 4 chemin des Papillon, Geneve, Switzerland 1712
Email: akimg@arielfoundation.org
Websitel: arielfoundation.org