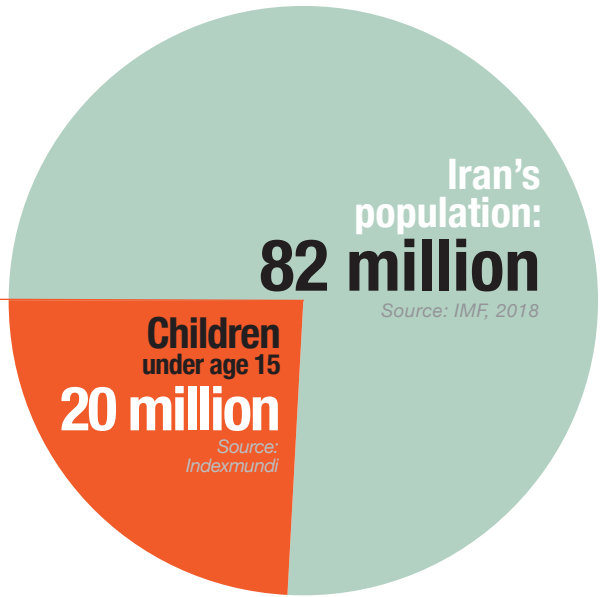


Who is a child?

Multiple definitions of a **“CHILD”** in Iranian law

Age ranges from **9 to 18** depending on law

Age of criminal responsibility **9 years** for girls **15 years** for boys



Iran does not comply with international law that defines a child as **anyone under 18**

FACT Sheet

CHILDREN IN IRAN

July 2019

Why is there a child protection CRISIS in Iran?

INADEQUATE child protection laws
WEAK labor regulations
Civil society **RESTRICTED** by state

Juvenile executions

7 juvenile offenders known to be put to death in 2018 (actual number likely higher)

90+ juvenile offenders currently on death row in Iran

Source: Amnesty International

Iran: **93** child offenders executed



Eight countries combined: **45** child offenders executed

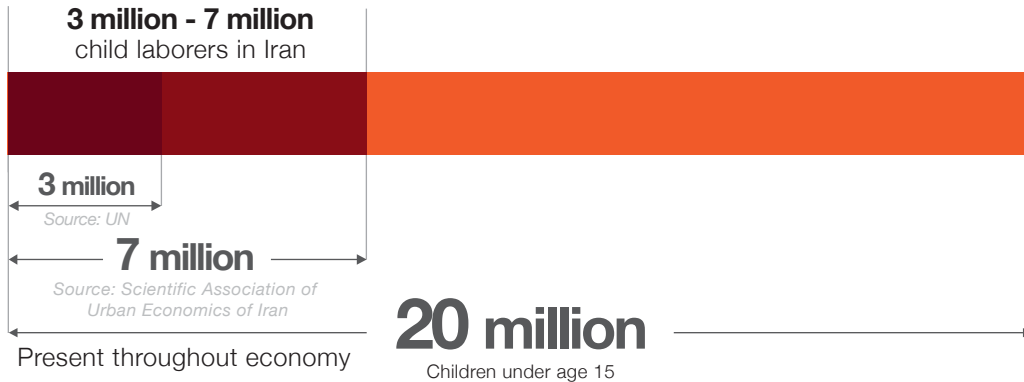
- China
- + Congo
- + Nigeria
- + Pakistan
- + Saudi
- + Sudan
- + USA
- + Yemen

Iran executed more than **TWICE** as many child offenders as the other **eight countries combined** between 1990 and 2017

Source: Amnesty International

Child labor

Work that deprives children of their childhood, interferes with their schooling, and is harmful to their physical, mental, social or moral development (ILO)



Why so prevalent in Iran?

- Weak legal and regulatory environment**
- Labor Code says under age 15 can't work, but not enforced**
- Workplaces with less than 10 employees exempt from most regulations** (which may account for 50% of workplaces)
- Large undocumented Afghan population vulnerable to exploitation**

High-risk sectors

Carpet and rug weaving | Waste disposal | Textile work | Mining | Brickmaking |
Masonry | Construction | Chemical production | Domestic work | Street vendors



Migrant/refugee children

3 million
(mostly Afghan)
migrants/refugees
in Iran

2 million
of these
migrants/refugees
are undocumented

1.5 million
of these
migrants/refugees
are children

Children of 2 million
undocumented migrants
used widely for child labor

These children are highly
vulnerable to forced labor,
human trafficking and the
sex trade

Since 2015, undocumented children
are allowed to register at school,
but many are not registered due to
fears of deportation or financial
constraints

420,000
of these children
are registered in
school

Source: Iranian government

Street children

highly vulnerable to:

Sexual/physical **abuse**

Infectious and sexually transmitted **diseases**

Trafficking for labor and sex trade



Estimated at 200,000



Mostly in urban centers



Often used as trash sifters

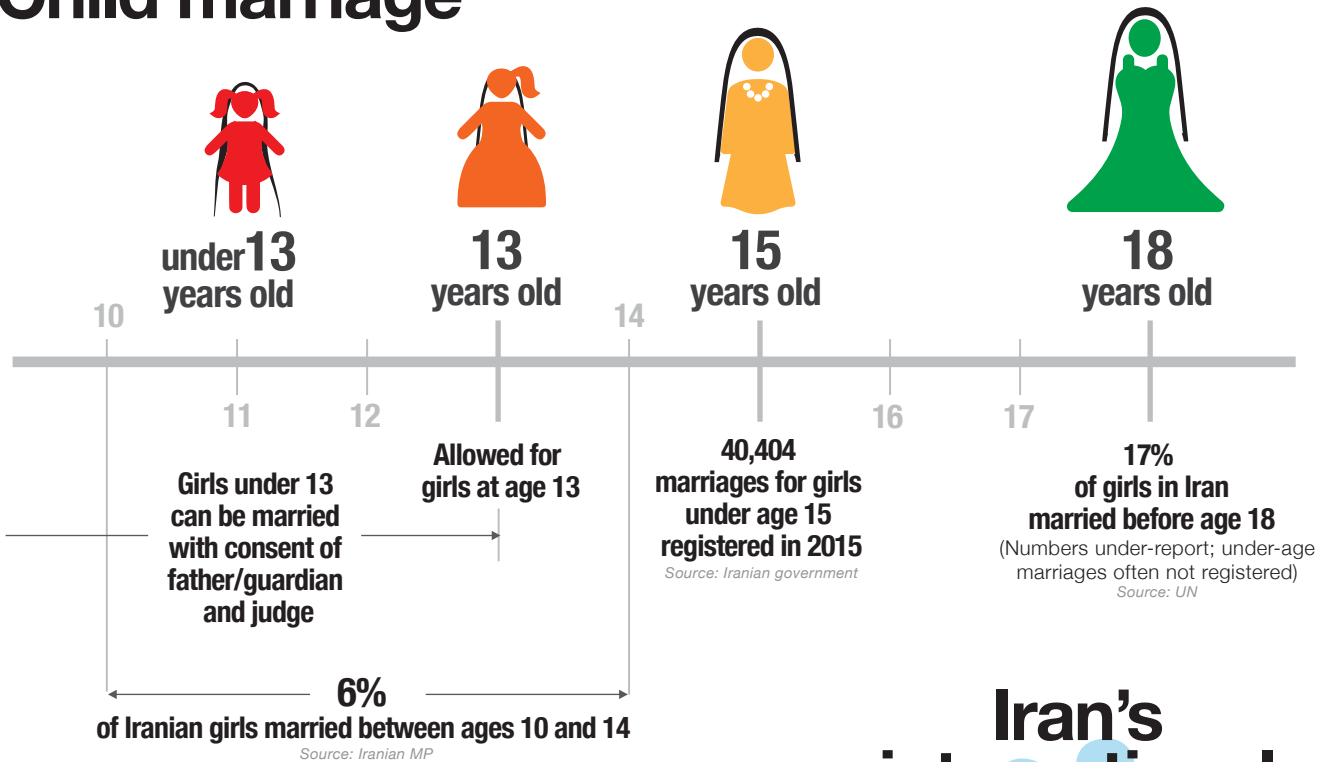


Half are children of Afghan migrants



Come from families with drug addiction, illness, poverty

Child marriage



Iran's international commitments

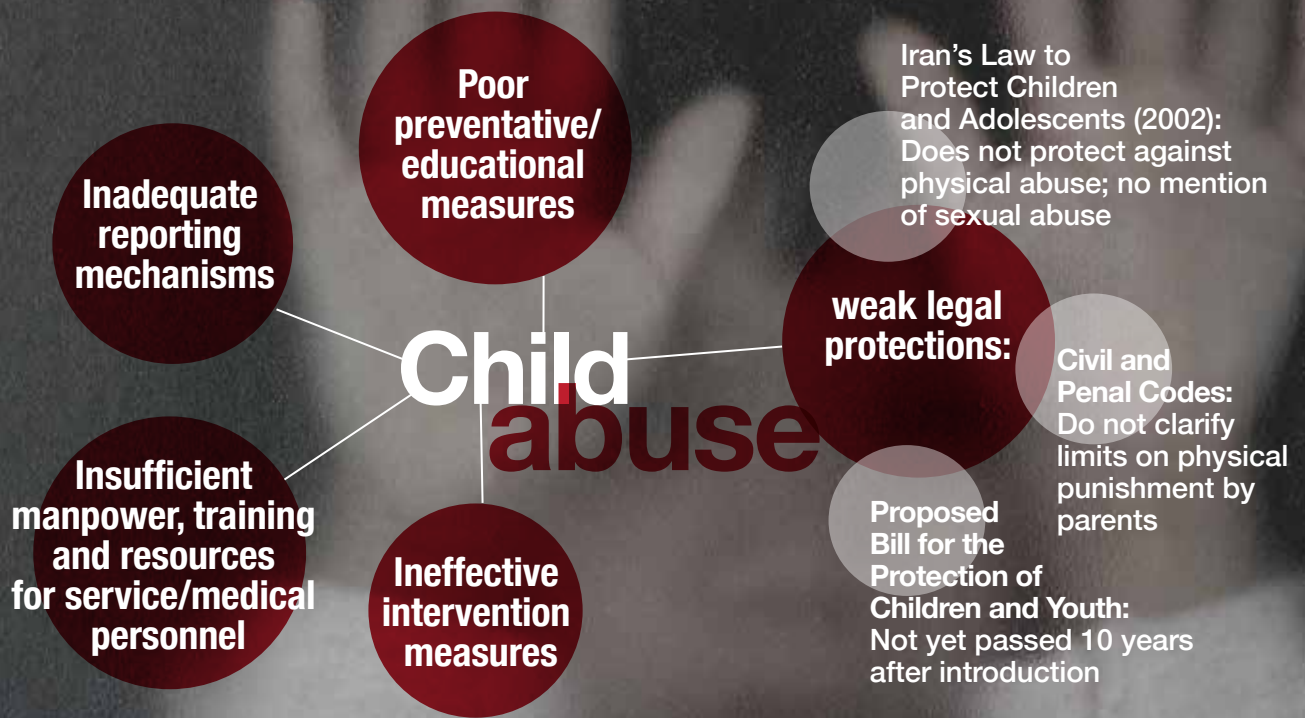
Iran is a State Party to the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) (1994) but will not apply any provision "incompatible with Islamic laws or [domestic] legislation"

Ratified the Optional Protocol on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography (2007) but implementation severely lacking

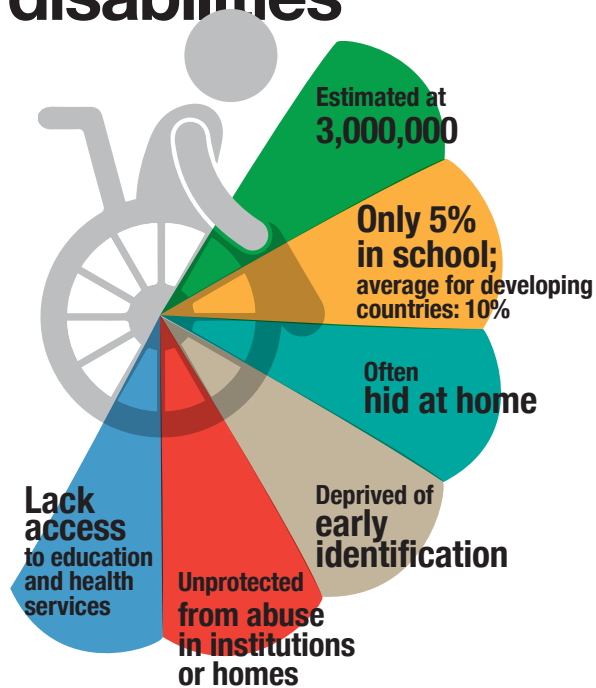
Signs of progress: citizenship laws

New law pending that allows mother to pass citizenship on to her children regardless of father's nationality

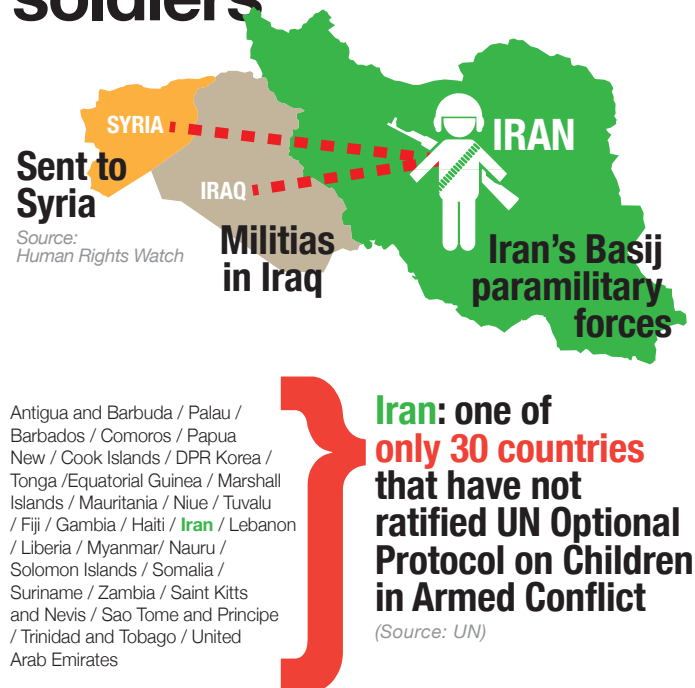




Children with disabilities



Child soldiers



LGBTQ youth

Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer youth face severe legal/social discrimination

- **Same-sex relations punishable by flogging/execution**
- **Victims of violence in homes, schools, communities; unable to seek protection without risking prosecution**