

Brief analysis of results of the sample statistical survey on “Street children”

Main socio-demographic characteristics of the interviewed street children

The main purpose of the statistical survey on “Street children” was to find the reasons for why children were at the street, the types of jobs of the street children as well as dangers that threaten them.

208 street children of Baku city were covered by the statistical survey – 165 boys and 43 girls. The number of boys among interviewed children is prevailed and share of boys made 79 per cent.

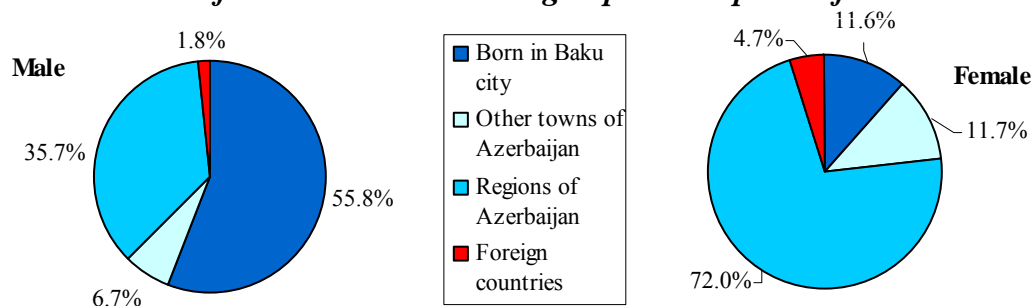
Sex and age of the children

Age	Total		of which				As % to total		
			boys		girls				
	person	%	person	%	person	%	total	boys	girls
Children aged 9-17 years old - total	208	100,0	165	79,3	43	20,7	100,0	100,0	100,0
of which:									
9	6	100,0	2	33,3	4	66,7	2,9	1,2	9,3
10	17	100,0	12	70,6	5	29,4	8,2	7,3	11,6
11	15	100,0	10	66,7	5	33,3	7,2	6,1	11,6
12	21	100,0	19	90,5	2	9,5	10,1	11,5	4,6
13	24	100,0	21	87,5	3	12,5	11,5	12,7	7,0
14	27	100,0	21	77,8	6	22,2	13,0	12,7	14,0
10-14	104	100,0	83	79,8	21	20,2	50,0	50,3	48,8
15	30	100,0	25	83,3	5	16,7	14,5	15,2	11,6
16	34	100,0	28	82,4	6	17,6	16,3	17,0	14,0
17	34	100,0	27	79,4	7	20,6	16,3	16,3	16,3
15-17	98	100,0	80	81,6	18	18,4	47,1	48,5	41,9

Only every second child has given a positive answer to the question if they had birth certificate or identification card. Every tenth child has answered, that they had no such document, and 40 percent knew nothing about its presence.

More than half of the interviewed children had arrived to Baku from other towns and regions of the country or abroad. 56 percent of boys and 12 percent of girls were Baku born, respectively 42 and 84 percent came from other regions of country.

Distribution of the children according to previous place of residence



From number of Baku born children's each of fifth lives in the capital of Azerbaijan for 2-3 years, each second – about 4-7 years, and each fourth – more than 7 years.

During the survey 35 per cent of children attended school and almost all of them went to school every day. The rest of interviewed children didn't attend school. Either they had stopped receiving of the compulsory secondary education or in general they never studied. 39 interviewed children or each seventh boy and each third girl never attended school.

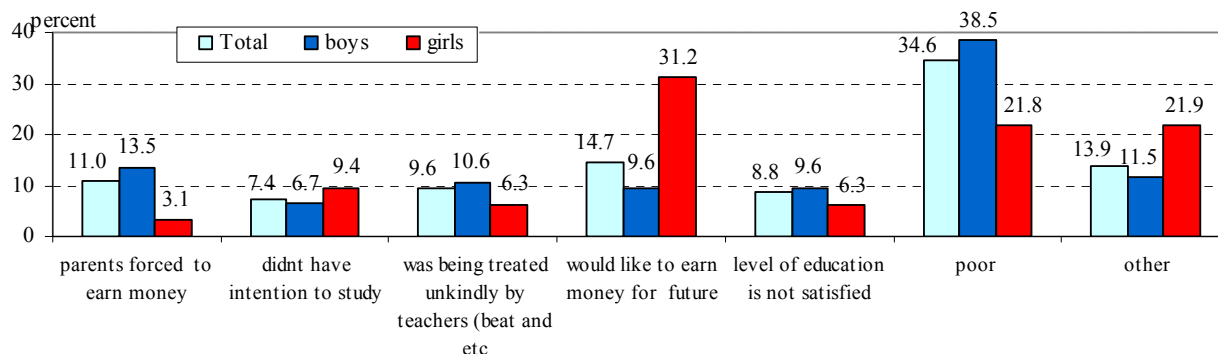
Distribution of the children according to education level

	Age groups	Total		Never attended school		Graduated 1, 2, 3 or 4 classes		Graduated 5, 6, 7, 8 or 9 classes		Graduates of the 10 class	
		person	%	person	%	person	%	person	%	person	%
Total	9-17	208	100,0	39	18,8	36	17,2	111	53,4	22	10,6
boys		165	100,0	25	15,1	26	15,8	95	57,6	19	11,5
girls		43	100,0	14	32,6	10	23,2	16	37,2	3	7,0
Total	9	6	100,0	1	16,7	5	83,3	-	-	-	-
boys		2	100,0	-	-	2	100,0	-	-	-	-
girls		4	100,0	1	25,0	3	75,0	-	-	-	-
Total	10-14	104	100,0	38	36,5	18	17,3	48	46,2	-	-
boys		83	100,0	25	30,1	13	15,7	45	54,2	-	-
girls		21	100,0	13	61,9	5	23,8	3	14,3	-	-
Total	15-17	98	100,0	-	-	13	13,3	63	64,3	22	22,4
boys		80	100,0	-	-	11	13,8	50	62,4	19	23,8
girls		18	100,0	-	-	2	11,1	13	72,2	3	16,7

It is necessary to note, that from total number of children never going to school, 77 percent could read and write. In total number of interviewed street children, share of children who are not able to read and write was 4 percent.

Children, who had interrupted the compulsory secondary education or never studied, indicated poverty as the main reason of deviation from school. Other indicated reasons was parents force them to earn money, they more threatened unkindly by children or nonfulfilment of task.

Distribution of the children according to reasons of non-attendance of the school



Family and housing aspects of position of street children

The characteristic of the families of the interviewed children indicates that problems of families contribute to the children being on the street. From 208 interviewed street children 94 percent had families. Only 61 per cent of children had full family, i.e. father and mother. About one third of respondents were children from incomplete families (there was only mother or father). Five children had only relatives (grandfather, grandmother, uncle, aunt), eleven children had no family, and one girl had no information about her own family.

Based on the survey results it was clear that 90 percent of interviewed children had brothers and sisters, families had on average two children under 18 years old (including interviewed child).

Composition of the families of interviewed children

	Total		of which				As % to total		
	total	%	boys		girls		Total	boys	girls
			total	%	total	%			
Total	208	100,0	165	79,3	43	20,7	100,0	100,0	100,0
<i>of which:</i>									
- both parents	126	100,0	100	79,4	26	20,6	60,6	60,6	60,4
- only mother	55	100,0	44	80,0	11	20,0	26,4	26,7	25,6
- only father	10	100,0	9	90,0	1	10,0	4,8	5,5	2,3
- other relatives	5	100,0	3	60,0	2	40,0	2,4	1,8	4,7
- have no families	12	100,0	9	75,0	3	25,0	5,8	5,4	7,0

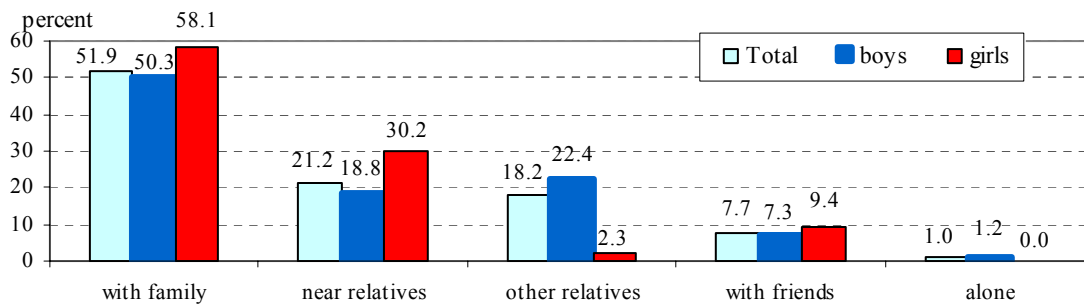
One of the reasons of the children being on street was financial problems of their families. Out of 126 children having both parents, only 9 percent had parents that both worked. 75 percent of all children had either mother or father working. The parents of each fifth child did not work at all.

Results of the survey have shown that families of 40 percent of children lived outside the Baku city. The family of each third boy and 70 percent of girls lived in other towns and regions of the country. The greatest share was families living in Yevlakh region (8 percent), as well as Barda, Aghdash (6 percent) and Akhsu (5 percent) regions of the country.

It is important to note that each second family of interviewed children has changed the residence since 1988, i.e. after events around the Nagorno-Karabakh area of Azerbaijan when new category of migrants has appeared in the country - refugees and IDPs. This fact also has played an important role in the occurrence of street children in Azerbaijan.

Half of interviewed children have not lost contact with the home. At the moment of the interview 52 percent of respondents lived with their families. A part of children lived with relatives (39 percent) or with friends (8 percent).

Distribution of the children according to where and with whom do they live



The majority (57 percent) of the interviewed children lived in rented dwellings with their family or with relatives. The survey has shown that conditions of residents of girls and boys considerably differ. 75 percent of girls and 53 percent of boys lived in a rented apartment, correspondingly 7 and 36 percent- in a separate flat, 16 and 7 percent - in a hostel, 2 and 1.2 percent - shared apartment.

Distribution of the children according to living conditions

	Age groups	Total		of which lived									
				Separate apartment		Shared apartment		Rent		Hostel		Abandoned houses	
		nəfər	%	nəfər	%	nəfər	%	nəfər	%	nəfər	%	nəfər	%
Total	9-17	208	100,0	62	29,8	3	1,4	119	57,2	19	9,2	5	2,4
boys		165	100,0	59	35,8	2	1,2	87	52,7	12	7,3	5	3,0
girls		43	100,0	3	7,0	1	2,3	32	74,4	7	16,3	-	-
Total	9	6	100,0	-	-	-	-	4	66,7	2	33,3	-	-
boys		2	100,0	-	-	-	-	2	100,0	-	-	-	-
girls		4	100,0	-	-	-	-	2	50,0	2	50,0	-	-
Total	10-14	104	100,0	31	29,8	1	1,0	61	58,6	10	9,6	1	1,0
boys		83	100,0	29	34,9	-	-	46	55,4	7	8,4	1	1,3
girls		21	100,0	2	9,5	1	4,8	15	71,4	3	14,3	-	-
Total	15-17	98	100,0	31	31,7	2	2,0	54	55,1	7	7,1	4	4,1
boys		80	100,0	30	37,5	2	2,5	39	48,8	5	6,2	4	5,0
girls		18	100,0	1	5,6	-	-	15	83,3	2	11,1	-	-

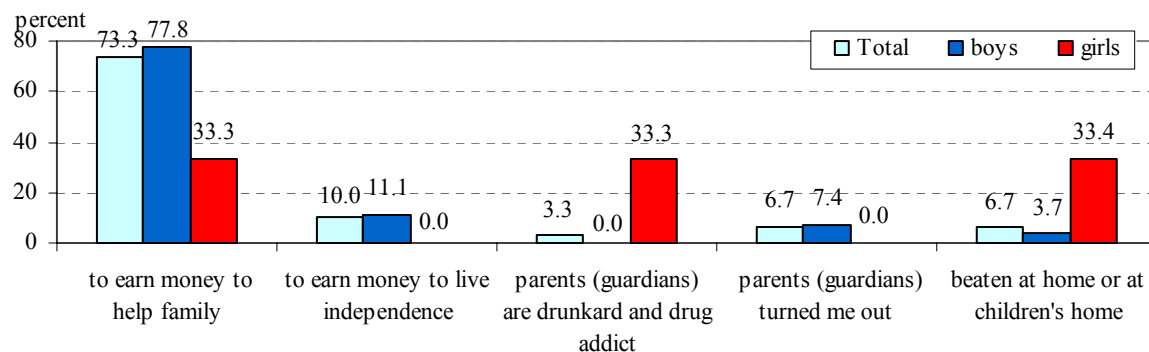
It is necessary to note that the basic part of the street children having family, preferred to live constantly with them. 85 percent of children having family answered that they live either in their family or with relatives. The share among girls was 93 percent, and among boys - 83 percent.

Distribution of the children according to duration of living in outside home (stay over night)

	Total	of which	
		boys	girls
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0
- always at home (with family and relatives)	84,7	82,7	92,5
- outside home during summer period	11,3	12,3	7,5
- outside home for weeks (until one month)	1,5	1,9	-
- always outside home	1,0	1,3	-
- outside home 2-3 times in a week	0,5	0,6	-
- find difficulty to answer	1,0	1,2	-

The reason - "To earn money to help the family"-was indicated by every three out of four children living outside home seasonally or constantly.

***Distribution of the children according to reasons for living
(spend the night) in outside home***



During summer of 2007, 80 percent of all interviewed children spent their nights with their family or with relatives. 14 percent often spent their nights in closed down buildings or at friends. A part of children lived in abandoned houses, in cellars or in deserted houses (6 percent). One boy spent the night under open-air.

Children try to live with their families at relatives or at friends during winter time. The share of children spending the nights with their families or relatives during last winter was 82 percent and at friends - 11 percent. The rest spent the night in deserted houses, closed down buildings, cellars or garrets.

Characteristics of labor of the street children

According to results of the survey, all interviewed children had sources of income. If gathering of bottles, salvage and begging is considered as job, almost all interviewed children can be seen as working children. Half of interviewed children were earning money by washing cars (25 %) or begging (25 %).

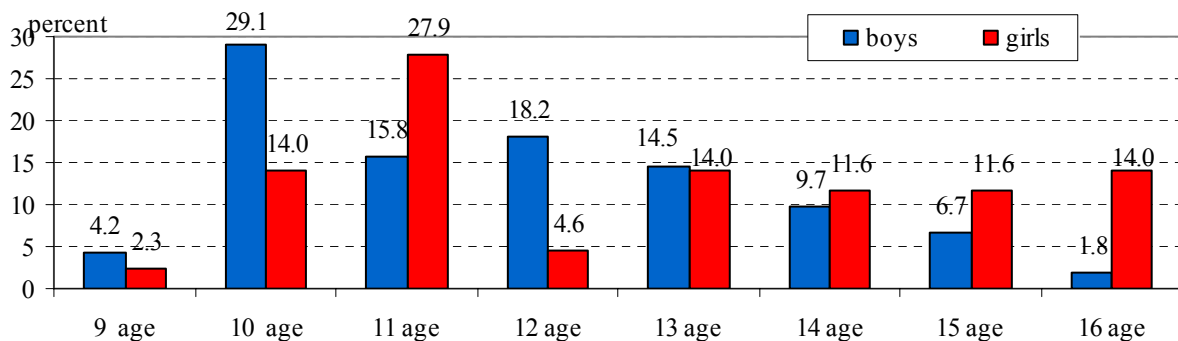
***Distribution of the children according
to sources of income***

	Total	of which	
		boys	girls
- Employed	80,3	88,5	48,8
- Money receives from parents	2,4	-	11,6
- Humanitarian aid, compensation and pension	88,5	90,9	79,1
- Illegal casual incomes	42,3	35,7	67,5

A survey result has shown that the average age of children when starting a job at the street was 10-11 years. 45 percent of the children started that age.

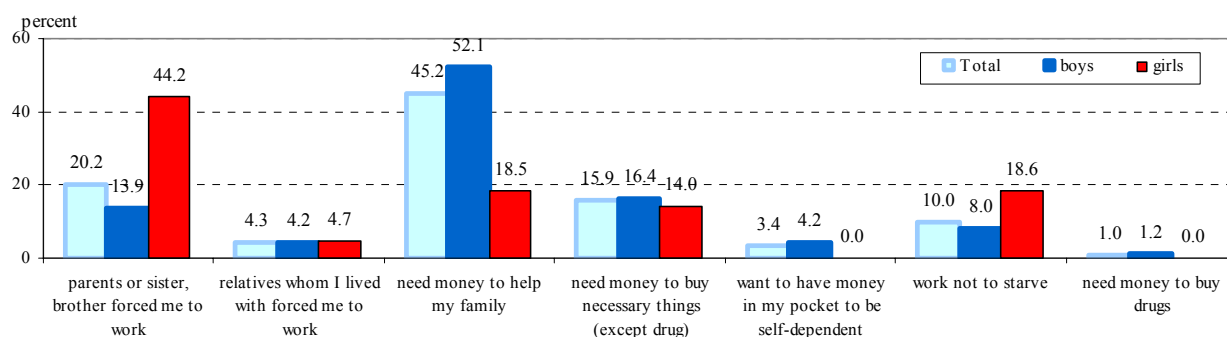
Boys started to work at earlier ages, than girls. The greatest part of the interviewed boys (29 percent) started to work at the age of 10 years. Only 14 percent of the girls started to work at this age. 28 percent of the interviewed girls started to work at age of 11 years.

Distribution of the children receiving income according to age of starting to work



It is necessary to note that the majority of the children worked with the purpose to support their families – parents, brothers, sisters or relatives. The reason “to support family” was indicated by every second boy (52 percent) as the main reason. 14 percent of interviewed children were forced to work by parents or brothers and sisters. “Need money to buy necessary things (except drug) (16 percent)”, “work not to starve” (8 percent) were among other reasons. 44 percent of the girls were forced to work by parents or brothers and sisters; 19 percent – “work not to starve”, 18 percent – “to earn money for supporting families”, 14 percent – “need money to buy necessary things (except drugs)”, 5 percent – “relatives whom they lived with forced to work”.

Distribution of the children according to reasons to work



The job carried out by street children is related with their sex. Boys basically did manual work. About one third of the interviewed boys had been engaged in washing cars, 18 percent - collecting scraps, 10 percent – loader. The most common type of activity among children was panhandling: 61 percent of girls and 16 percent of boys were engaged with it.

Distribution of the children according to type of job

	<i>Total</i>	<i>of which</i>	
		<i>boys</i>	<i>girls</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>100,0</i>	<i>100,0</i>	<i>100,0</i>
- manual handling, loader	7,7	9,7	-
- helping to street traders	13,9	13,3	16,2
- cleaning work and trade places	9,6	9,7	9,3
- guarding of goods	1,9	2,4	-
- washing cars	24,5	30,9	-
- gathering and delivering of glass bottles, wastes (mackle papers, metals and etc)	15,5	18,2	4,7
- beg	25,0	15,8	60,5
- others	1,9	-	9,3

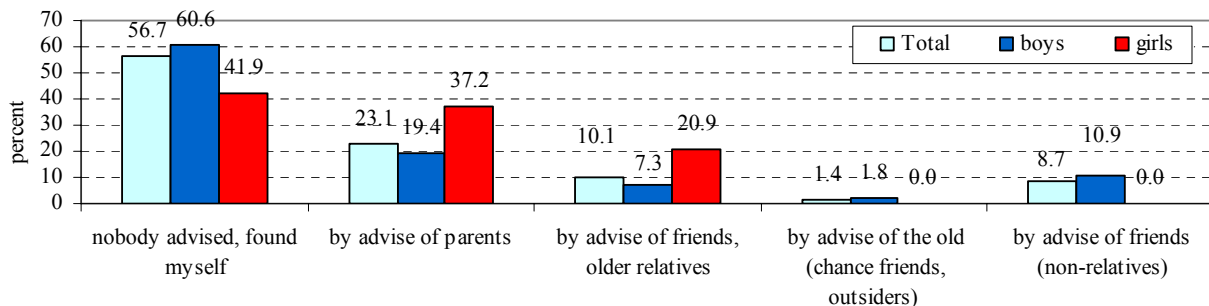
The majority of the interviewed children worked during daytime. About two third of the boys and 81 percent of the girls were engaged with labor activity during the day. Other children worked during the day and night time. More than half of boys and girls worked 7-8 hours per day, 33 percent - 5-6 hours, 14 percent - 9-10 hours.

Almost all girls have indicated that it is hard for them to work (81 percent) and many said got tired (23 percent). Among boys this indicator

made respectively 63 and 37 percent. 2 percent of the girls did not get tired during work.

The results of interview have shown that in most cases children have found work themselves. However, about every fourth respondent was "employed" by their parents, every tenth - by friends of family or relatives.

***Distribution of the children on how do they find this work
and who advise it to them***



The majority of the children (70 percent) had organized their own work, without any leader. The part of children have worked as group without leader (18 percent), other part – as group with leader (12 percent).

In general all interviewed children (92 percent) indicated that the main reason of their labor activity was money.

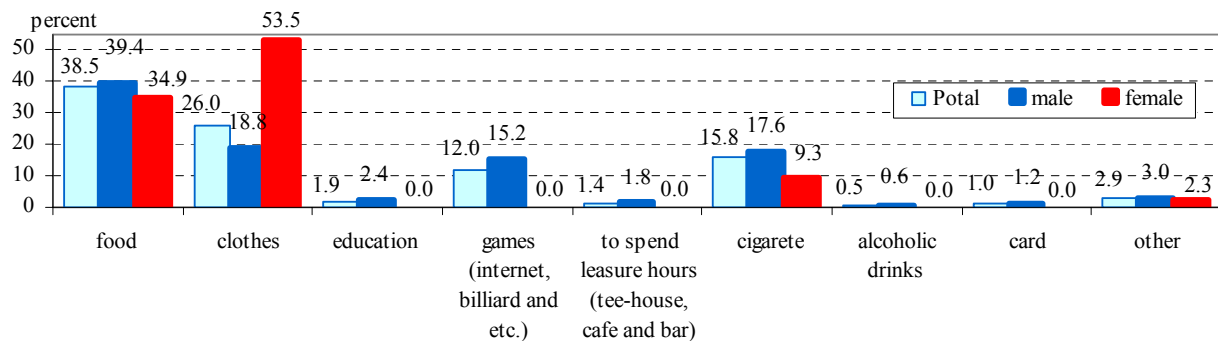
Rules of payment by employer (owner)

	Total	of which	
		boys	girls
- Only money	91,8	92,1	90,7
- Only food (excluding alcoholic drinks, cigarettes)	1,9	1,8	2,3
- Both money and food (excluding alcoholic drinks, cigarettes)	8,2	7,9	9,4
- In kind	1,4	1,8	-
- Other	8,7	6,1	18,6

Four out of every five boys and girls have indicated that one week prior to survey their income at average made 3-5 manat per day. 3 percent of boys and 12 percent of girls had 1-2 manat of daily income, 15 percent of boys and 9 percent of girls – 6-10 manat.

Boys and girls use their money, which they earn, differently. 39 percent of the boys and 35 percent of the girls had spent money on food products. The girls have spent more than half of money for purchasing of clothes, but boys – only fifth part; for sigarettes respectively 9 and 18 percent.

Distribution of children according to how do they spend their earnings



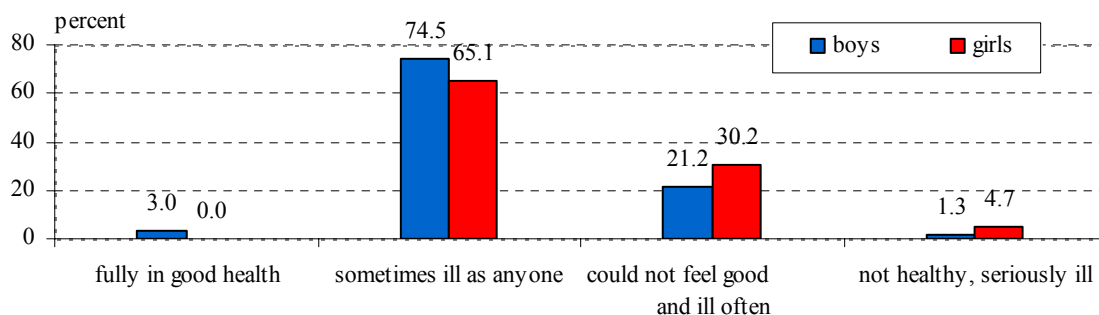
The sex differences of the child were observed in amount of expenditures spent for food and non-food products. Boys more often spend (53 percent) for these purposes 2 manat per day, and girls (58 percent) - 3 manat. As a whole, almost all children (96 percent) spent for these purposes no more than 2-3 manat per day.

Providing of the children with different humanitarian assistance was indicated by 89 percent of children. The day center for street children "Light Home" was among these organizations. The children couldn't remember the name of the other organizations that have provided them with humanitarian aids.

Health and safety of the street children

According to survey results it is clear that the life style of the street children affects their health. Only 3 percent of boys considered themselves in good health. No girls had considered themselves in fully good health.

Distribution of the children according to health state

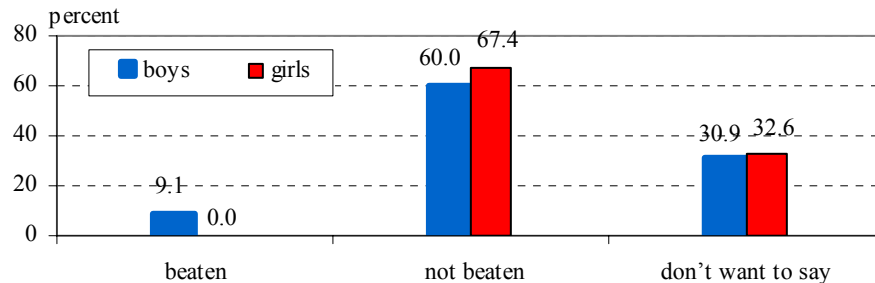


Nine out of ten children had no information on IIV/AIDS, as well as sexually transmitted diseases.

The main factor keeping the children healthy is sufficient feeding. More than half of interviewed girls and two thirds of boys indicated that they didn't consume sufficient amount of food.

Besides illnesses, some street children are faced with other dangers. Two of every three girls and 60 percent of boys medicaled that during work they had been beaten.

Distribution of the children according to cases of beaten during work



Two of every three children indicated that there were no cases of sexual harassments from the adults in relation to them. The others didn't answer to this question.

To the question on "have you ever been forced to give anybody a part of your money?" two of every five interviewed children indicated that they were not forced to give part of money under threat, and every eighth – gave to parents or relatives.

Distribution of the children according to cases to be forced to give anybody a part of earned money

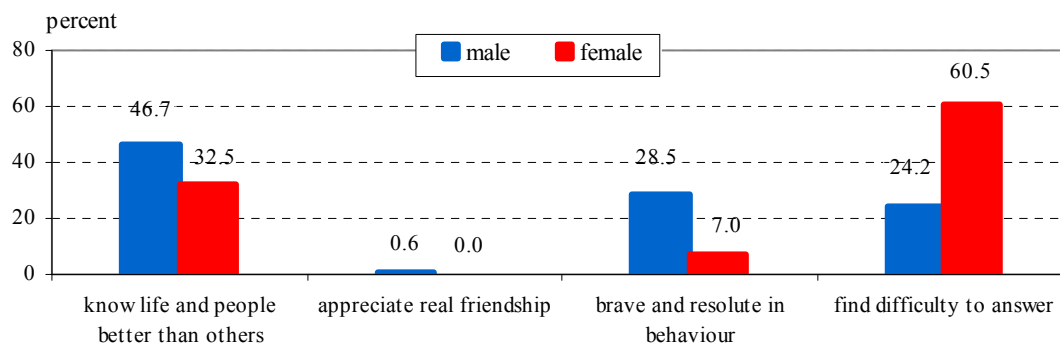
	Total	of which	
		boys	girls
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0
<i>of which:</i>			
- parents or sister-brother	5,8	6,1	4,7
- relatives	7,2	6,7	9,3
- racket	5,8	4,8	9,3
- nobody	39,4	40,0	37,2
- don't want to say	41,8	42,4	39,5

The main aims of life of the street children

The Street children feeling threat to health, life and safety, have to adapt to the environment. Therefore, question on "what is the difference between you and your coevals living with their parents in well-provided

family?” 44 percent of children think that they know a life and people better than other. A quarter of children think that they are bravery and more resolute than others. One third of interviewed children found it difficult to answer this question.

Distribution of the children according to difference between them and their coevals living with their parents in well-provided family



According to the interviews it was clear that a majority of the children were not satisfied with their own situation in society and to question “If you were proposed condition to live and study, would you refuse street life and job?”, the majority part of the girls (91 per cent) and boys (83 percent) answered that they would like to leave the street life.

Distribution of the children according to refuse street life and job if they were proposed conditions to live and study

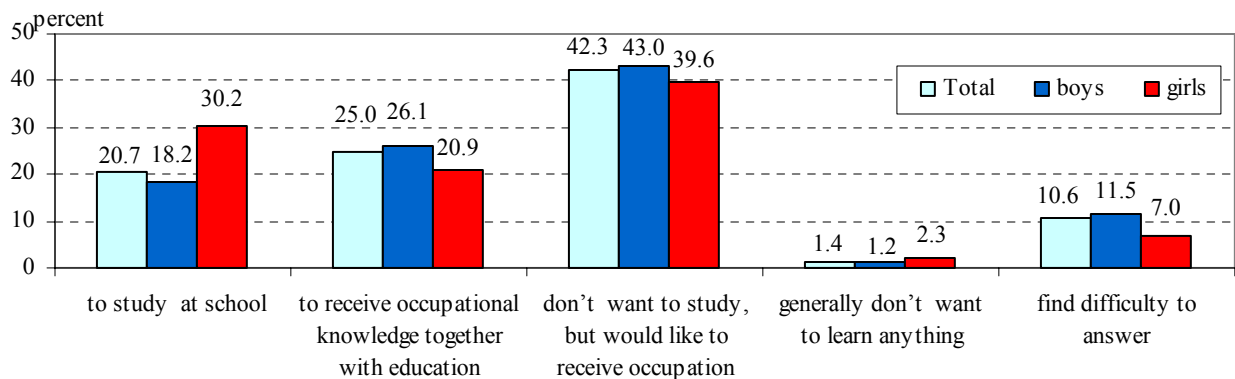
	Total	of which	
		boys	girls
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0
of which:			
- refuse	84,6	83,0	90,6
- refuse, but sometimes wanted to work for having a pocket money pocket money	13,9	16,4	4,7
- don't refuse	0,5	0,6	-
- other	1,0	-	4,7

According to the interview, the street children clearly recognize their own situation. It is possible to understand that the results of the answer to the question: “Imagine that your younger brother (sister) implements the job you are engaged in. What is your attitude to that?”. Half of the children gave a negative answer to that.

It is important to note, that all children, except one boy, consider themselves as a believer.

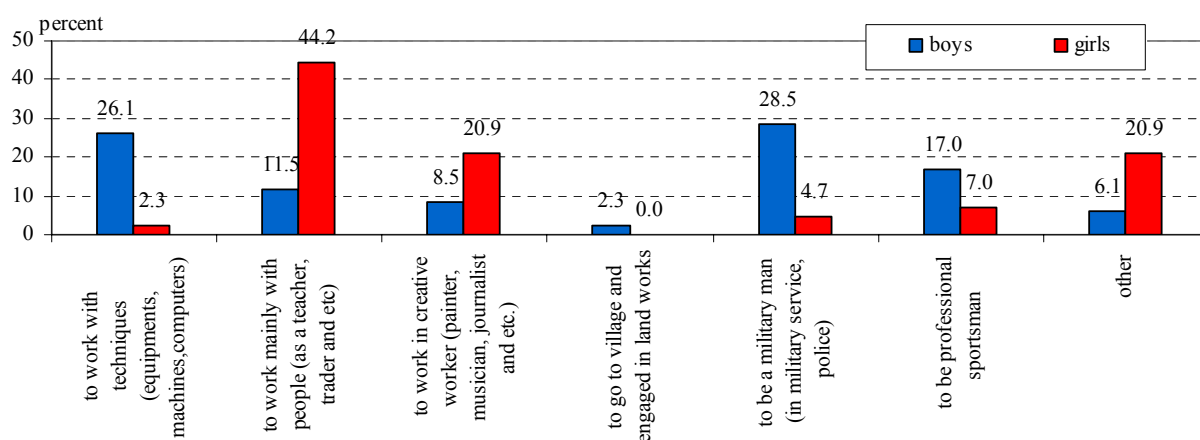
Only two children among interviewed children had any speciality. At the same time 69 percent of boys and 61 percent of girls would like to receive any profession during study or practice. 18 percent of boys and 30 percent of girls would like to finish a secondary compulsory school. One tenth of the interviewed children didn't know whether they want to have any speciality. Both among boys and among girls the share of those who does not want to have a profession or to study is insignificant.

***Distribution of children according to willing to obtain profession
(cooking, repair of motor car and etc.)***



The greatest part of boys (29 percent) want to be a military (at the police, army), and also to work with technics (idevices, cars, computers) - 26 percent, 17 percent want to be professional sportsmen, or to work with people (teacher, trade etc.) - 12 percent. Two out of every five girls would like to work as a teacher or in the sphere of trade, and every fifth - to be engaged in creative work (painter, musician, journalist and etc.).

Distribution of children according to their opinion for future and willing to work



At the same time, only every third boy and every fifth girl trust that their dreams will come true. Every fourth boy and every fourth girl didn't think that. Other children didn't want to answer this question.