

HOW ARE THAILAND'S CHILDREN?

Thailand has ratified (pledged to follow) the UN Convention on the Rights of

the Child. This means that Thailand must respect the rights of the child and listen to what children have to say. Are the rights of the child respected in Thailand? You and other children in Thailand are the experts.



28.7 MILLION CHILDREN

69.7 million people live in Thailand. 14.7 million are children, and circa 4 million of the children under five years old.



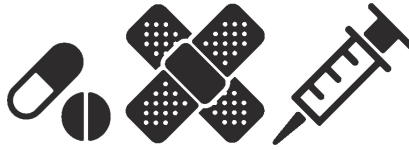
NAME AND NATIONALITY

From the day you are born you have the right to have a name and to be registered as a citizen in your country. More than 1 million children are born every year in Thailand. About 10,000 are never registered. There is no documented proof that they exist!



SURVIVE AND GROW

You have the right to life. Thailand must do all it can to allow children to survive and develop. 6,444 children in Thailand die every year before the age of 5, usually due to causes that could have been prevented.



HEALTH AND HEALTH CARE

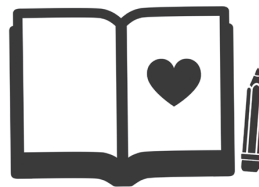
You have the right to food, clean water, medical care and the right to privacy when consulting an adult about any health problem. Almost all children in Thailand have access to clean water and adequate sanitation facilities, and use water from improved water sources. In 2016, Thailand was first country in Asia to eliminate mother-to-child transmission of HIV and syphilis.



A HOME, CLOTHING, FOOD AND SECURITY

You have the right to a home, food, clothing, education, health care and security. An estimated 14 percent of children in Thailand live in extreme poverty with less than

1.25 US-dollar (39 Tjai Baht) a day to live on. Migrant children and children from minorities are especially vulnerable.



EDUCATION

You have the right to go to school. Primary and secondary schools should be free for everyone. 8 out of 10 children in Thailand go to school, but some of them leave school too early.



PROTECTION AGAINST VIOLENCE

You have the right to protection against all forms of violence, including neglect, maltreatment and abuse. Only 58 countries have forbidden all forms of corporal punishment for children. Many still allow caning in schools. Thailand has not forbidden corporal punishment.



HAZARDOUS CHILD LABOUR

You have the right to be protected against both economic exploitation and work that is hazardous to your health or which prevents you from going to school. All work is prohibited for children under 12. Some children are forced into the worst forms of child labour, such as being debt slaves, in agriculture or used for commercial sexual exploitation. It is estimated that around 1,302,267 aged 5-14 in Thailand have to work.



YOUR VOICE MUST BE HEARD

You have the right to say what you think about any issue that affects you. The adults should listen to the child's opinion before they make decisions, which must always be made in the best interest of the child!

