# Modern slavery in Australia

Global Slavery Index 2023 Country Snapshot



# <section-header>

## **KEY STATS**

Population (2021) 25,499,881 GDP per capita, PPP (Current intl \$) \$53,317

1.6

**PREVALENCE OF MODERN SLAVERY** per 1,000 people 41,000

NUMBER OF PEOPLE LIVING IN MODERN SLAVERY

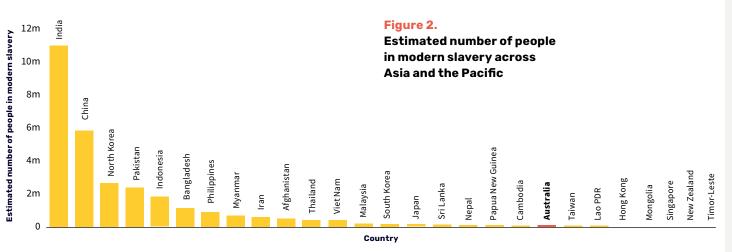
7/100

VULNERABILITY TO MODERN SLAVERY 67/100

GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO MODERN SLAVERY

# The scale of modern slavery

According to the 2023 Global Slavery Index, an estimated 1.6 in every thousand people were in modern slavery in Australia at any point in 2021. In other words, 41,000 people experienced forced labour or forced marriage in Australia in 2021. In terms of prevalence of modern slavery, Australia ranks 149th globally and 26th within Asia and the Pacific.



# Modern slavery in Australia

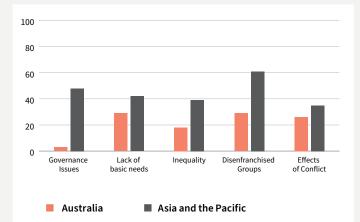
Global Slavery Index 2023 Country Snapshot

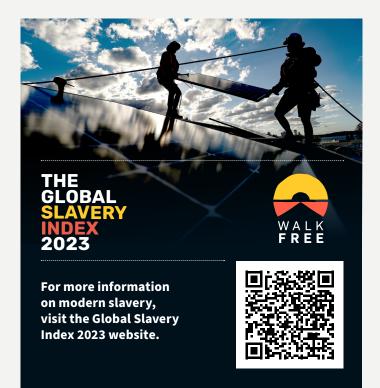
# Vulnerability to modern slavery

How vulnerable a country's people are to modern slavery is dependent on a range of factors which reflect the strength of governance, access to basic needs, inequality, disenfranchised groups, and effects of conflict. On a scale of 0 to 100, with 100 being the highest vulnerability to modern slavery, Australia is rated as 7 and has below average vulnerability for the region. Vulnerability is highest in terms of disenfranchised groups.

### Figure 3.

Vulnerability of Australia to modern slavery by dimension, compared to the regional average



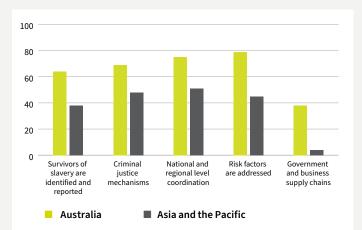


# Government response to modern slavery

The government of Australia scored 67 out of 100 in their response to modern slavery. This places the government's response above the average regional response. Of the five areas of response assessed (milestones), the government has taken most action on addressing risk factors of modern slavery and least action on addressing risk in government and business supply chains.

### Figure 4.

Government of Australia's responses to modern slavery by milestone, compared with the regional average



# Importing risk of modern slavery

Australia imported US\$17.4 billion worth of goods at-risk of modern slavery. This includes:



# **Priority Recommendations** for the government of Australia



Increase the legal age of marriage for males and females to 18 years without exceptions.

Enact legislation recognising that victims
should not be treated as criminals for conduct that occurred while under control of their exploiter and ensure the law is enforced.

Remove laws or policies that prevent or make it difficult for workers to leave abusive employers without risking loss of their visa, deportation, and/or loss of security deposits.

Suggested citation: Walk Free 2023, *Global Slavery Index 2023*, Minderoo Foundation. Available from: https://www.walkfree.org/global-slavery-index/