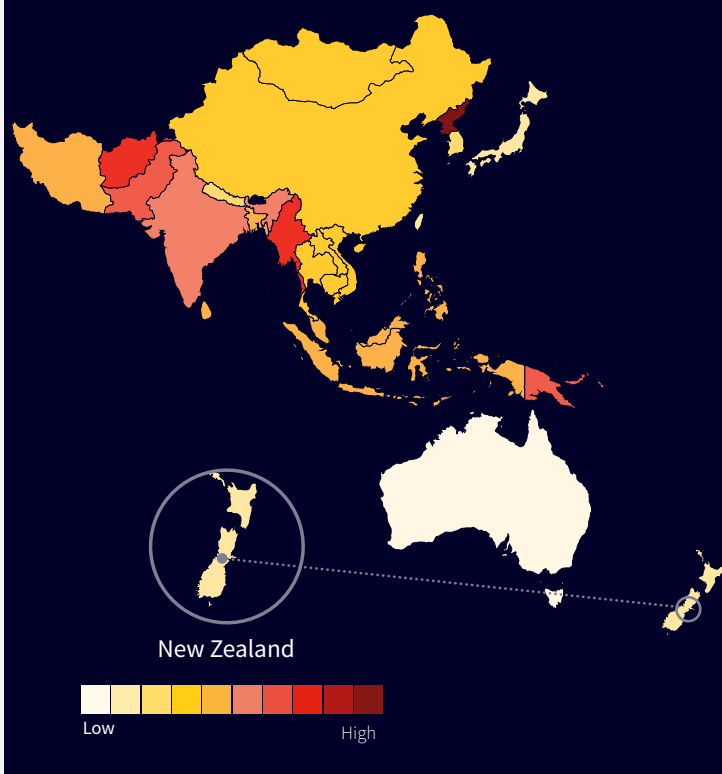


# Modern slavery in New Zealand

## Global Slavery Index 2023 Country Snapshot



**Figure 1.**  
Prevalence of modern slavery  
across Asia and the Pacific



### KEY STATS

**Population (2021)** 4,822,233

**GDP per capita, PPP (Current intl \$)** \$44,658

**1.6**

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

**8,000**

**NUMBER OF PEOPLE LIVING  
IN MODERN SLAVERY**

**8/100**

**VULNERABILITY TO  
MODERN SLAVERY**

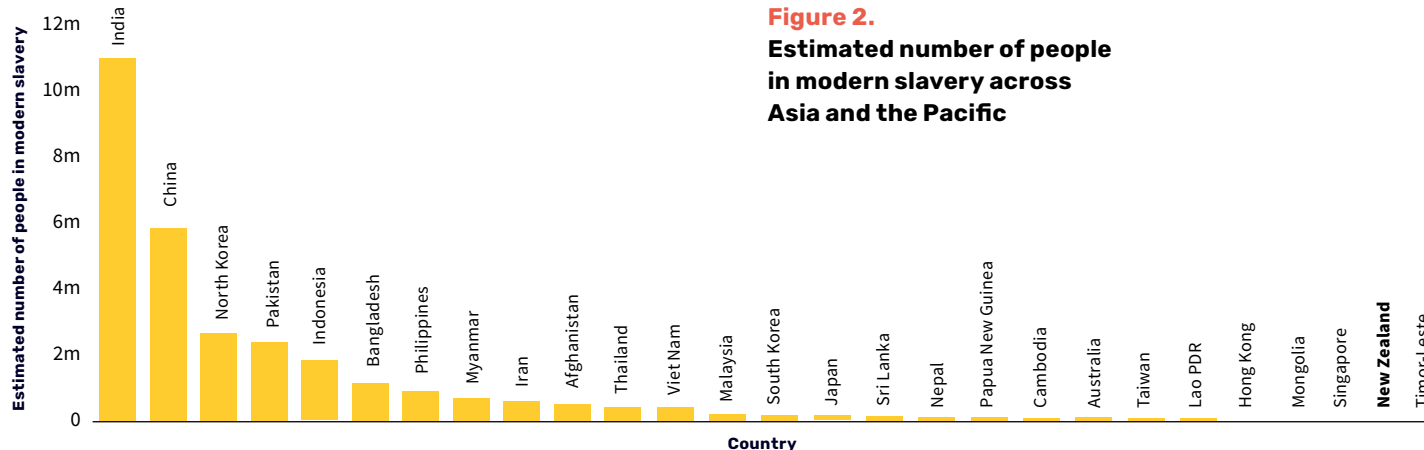
**54/100**

**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 New Zealand at any point in 2021. In other words, 8,000 people experienced forced labour or forced marriage in New Zealand in 2021. In terms of prevalence of modern slavery, New Zealand ranks 148th globally and 25th within Asia and the Pacific.

**Figure 2.**  
Estimated number of people  
in modern slavery across  
Asia and the Pacific



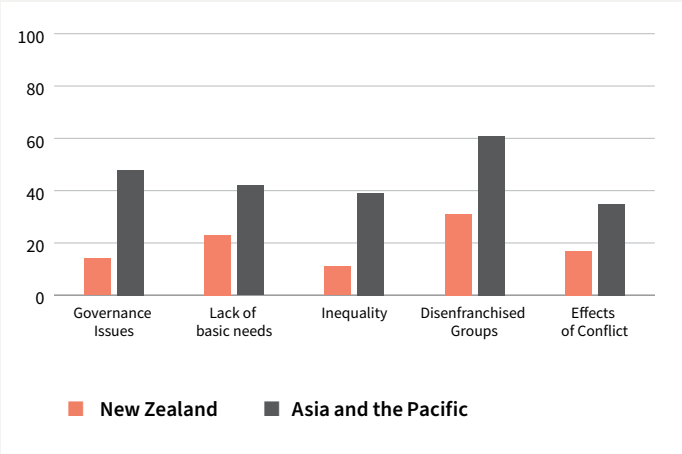
# Modern slavery in New Zealand

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, New Zealand is rated as 8 and has below average vulnerability for the region. Vulnerability is highest in terms of disenfranchised groups.

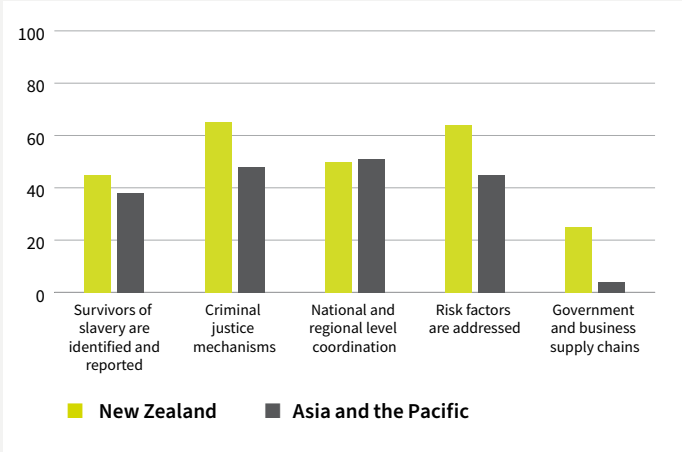
**Figure 3.**  
Vulnerability of New Zealand to modern slavery by dimension, compared to the regional average



## Government response to modern slavery

The government of New Zealand scored 54 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 effective criminal justice mechanisms and least action on addressing risk in government and business supply chains.

**Figure 4.**  
Government of New Zealand’s responses to modern slavery by milestone, compared with the regional average



## Priority Recommendations for the government of New Zealand

- 1** Amend the definition of trafficking under section 98D of the Crimes Act so that deception or coercion is not required to constitute the crime of child trafficking, and criminalise forced labour, in line with international standards.
- 2** Amend the Marriage Act to set the minimum age of marriage at 18 without exception, removing provisions in law that allow a family court judge to permit marriage for children aged 16 and 17 years.
- 3** Enact modern slavery legislation which includes a mandatory due diligence obligation and duty to act if modern slavery is found.

A promotional banner for the Global Slavery Index 2023. It features a silhouette of two people carrying a large solar panel on a rooftop against a blue sky with clouds. The text includes the title 'THE GLOBAL SLAVERY INDEX 2023', the 'WALK FREE' logo, and a QR code linking to more information.

**THE GLOBAL SLAVERY INDEX 2023**

**WALK FREE**

For more information on modern slavery, visit the Global Slavery Index 2023 website.