Modern slavery in Pakistan
Global Slavery Index 2023
Country Snapshot

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

The scale of modern slavery
According to the 2023 Global Slavery Index, an estimated 10.6 in every thousand people were in modern slavery in Pakistan at any point in 2021. In other words, 2,349,000 people experienced forced labour or forced marriage in Pakistan in 2021. In terms of prevalence of modern slavery, Pakistan ranks 18th globally and 4th within Asia and the Pacific.

KEY STATS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prevalence of Modern Slavery per 1,000 people</th>
<th>Number of People Living in Modern Slavery</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10.6</td>
<td>2,349,000</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Vulnerability to Modern Slavery

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Estimated Number of People in Modern Slavery</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>80/100</td>
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Government Response to Modern Slavery

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Estimated Number of People in Modern Slavery</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>37/100</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The scale of modern slavery

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

Population (2021) 220,892,331
GDP per capita, PPP (Current intl $) $5,426
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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, Pakistan is rated as 80 and has above average vulnerability for the region. Vulnerability is highest in terms of effects of conflict.

Figure 3.
Vulnerability of Pakistan to modern slavery by dimension, compared to the regional average

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

Government response to modern slavery
The government of Pakistan scored 37 out of 100 in their response to modern slavery. This places the government’s response below the average regional response. Of the five areas of response assessed (milestones), the government has taken most action on national and regional coordination of the response to modern slavery and least action on addressing risk in government and business supply chains.

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

Priority Recommendations for the government of Pakistan

1. Criminalise commercial sexual exploitation of children in line with international conventions.

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

3. Strengthen legal assistance and long-term support of victims to avoid re-victimisation during the criminal process.