Modern slavery in Democratic Republic of the Congo
Global Slavery Index 2023
Country Snapshot

According to the 2023 Global Slavery Index, an estimated 4.5 in every thousand people were in modern slavery in Republic of the Congo at any point in 2021. In other words, 407,000 people experienced forced labour or forced marriage in Republic of the Congo in 2021. In terms of prevalence of modern slavery, Republic of the Congo ranks 97th globally and 25th within Africa.

KEY STATS
Population (2021) 89,561,404
GDP per capita, PPP (Current int'l $) $1,142

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PREVALENCE OF MODERN SLAVERY</th>
<th>NUMBER OF PEOPLE LIVING IN MODERN SLAVERY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>407,000</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VULNERABILITY TO MODERN SLAVERY</th>
<th>GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO MODERN SLAVERY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>94/100</td>
<td>36/100</td>
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The scale of modern slavery

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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, on a scale of 0 to 100, with 100 being the highest vulnerability, Republic of the Congo is rated as 94 and has above average vulnerability for the region. Vulnerability is highest in terms of effects of conflict.

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

Government response to modern slavery
The government of Republic of the Congo scored 36 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 the least action on addressing risk in government and business supply chains.

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

Priority Recommendations for the government of Democratic Republic of the Congo

1. Criminalise human trafficking in line with international conventions.

2. 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.

3. Enact and enforce laws that criminalise corruption in the public sector.

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