Modern slavery in Guinea-Bissau
Global Slavery Index 2023
Country Snapshot

The scale of modern slavery

According to the 2023 Global Slavery Index, an estimated 4.5 in every thousand people were in modern slavery in Guinea-Bissau at any point in 2021. In other words, 9,000 people experienced forced labour or forced marriage in Guinea-Bissau in 2021. In terms of prevalence of modern slavery, Guinea-Bissau ranks 98th globally and 26th within Africa.

KEY STATS

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<table>
<thead>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Population (2021)</td>
<td>1,967,998</td>
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<tr>
<td>GDP per capita, PPP ($)</td>
<td>$1,949</td>
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<tr>
<td>PREVALENCE OF MODERN SLAVERY per 1,000 people</td>
<td>4.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>NUMBER OF PEOPLE LIVING IN MODERN SLAVERY</td>
<td>9,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>VULNERABILITY TO MODERN SLAVERY</td>
<td>80/100</td>
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<tr>
<td>GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO MODERN SLAVERY</td>
<td>33/100</td>
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Figure 1. Estimated prevalence of modern slavery across Africa

Figure 2. Estimated number of people living in modern slavery across Africa
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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, Guinea-Bissau is rated as 80 and has above average vulnerability for the region. Vulnerability is highest in terms of governance issues.

Figure 3.
Vulnerability of Guinea-Bissau to modern slavery by dimension, compared to the regional average

Government response to modern slavery
The government of Guinea-Bissau scored 33 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 addressing risk factors of modern slavery and the least action on addressing risk in government and business supply chains.

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

Priority Recommendations for the government of Guinea-Bissau

1. Criminalise forced labour in line with international conventions.
2. Criminalise human trafficking in line with international conventions.
3. Increase the legal age of marriage for males and females to 18 years without exceptions.