Modern slavery in Kenya
Global Slavery Index 2023
Country Snapshot

The scale of modern slavery
According to the 2023 Global Slavery Index, an estimated 5.0 in every thousand people were in modern slavery in Kenya at any point in 2021. In other words, 269,000 people experienced forced labour or forced marriage in Kenya in 2021. In terms of prevalence of modern slavery, Kenya ranks 88th globally and 20th within Africa.

**KEY STATS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Population (2021)</th>
<th>53,771,300</th>
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<tr>
<td>GDP per capita, PPP (Current intl $)</td>
<td>$4,587</td>
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| PREVALENCE OF MODERN SLAVERY per 1,000 people | 5.0 |
| NUMBER OF PEOPLE LIVING IN MODERN SLAVERY | 269,000 |

| VULNERABILITY TO MODERN SLAVERY | 66/100 |
| GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO MODERN SLAVERY | 46/100 |

**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, Kenya is rated as 66 and has above average vulnerability for the region. Vulnerability is highest in terms of disenfranchised groups.

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

Government response to modern slavery
The government of Kenya scored 46 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 identification and support of survivors and the least action on addressing risk in government and business supply chains.

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

Priority Recommendations for the government of Kenya

1. Ensure support services are available for all victims of modern slavery, regardless of gender, age, nationality, or sexuality.

2. Enforce legislation recognising that victims should not be treated as criminals for conduct that occurred while under control of their exploiter.

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.