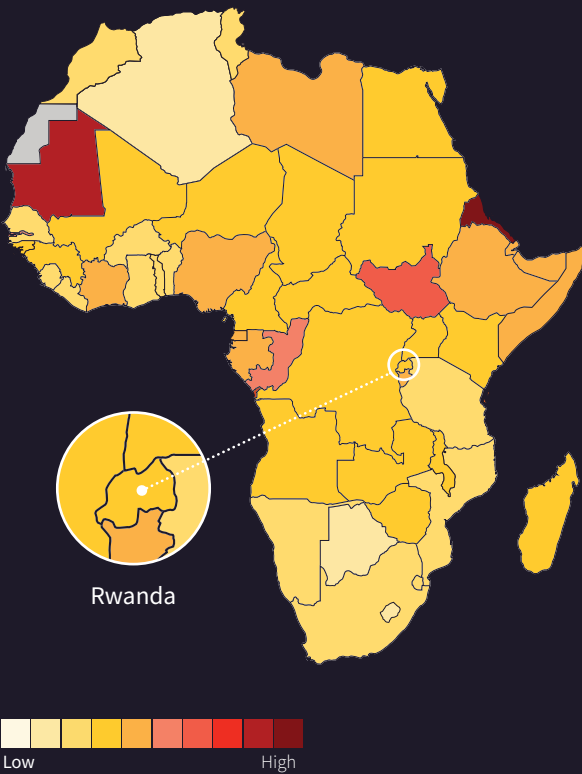


Modern slavery in Rwanda

Global Slavery Index 2023 Country Snapshot



Figure 1.
Estimated prevalence of modern slavery across Africa



KEY STATS

Population (2021) 12,952,209

GDP per capita, PPP (Current intl \$) \$2,214

4.3

PREVALENCE OF MODERN SLAVERY
per 1,000 people

55,000

NUMBER OF PEOPLE LIVING IN MODERN SLAVERY

53/100

VULNERABILITY TO MODERN SLAVERY

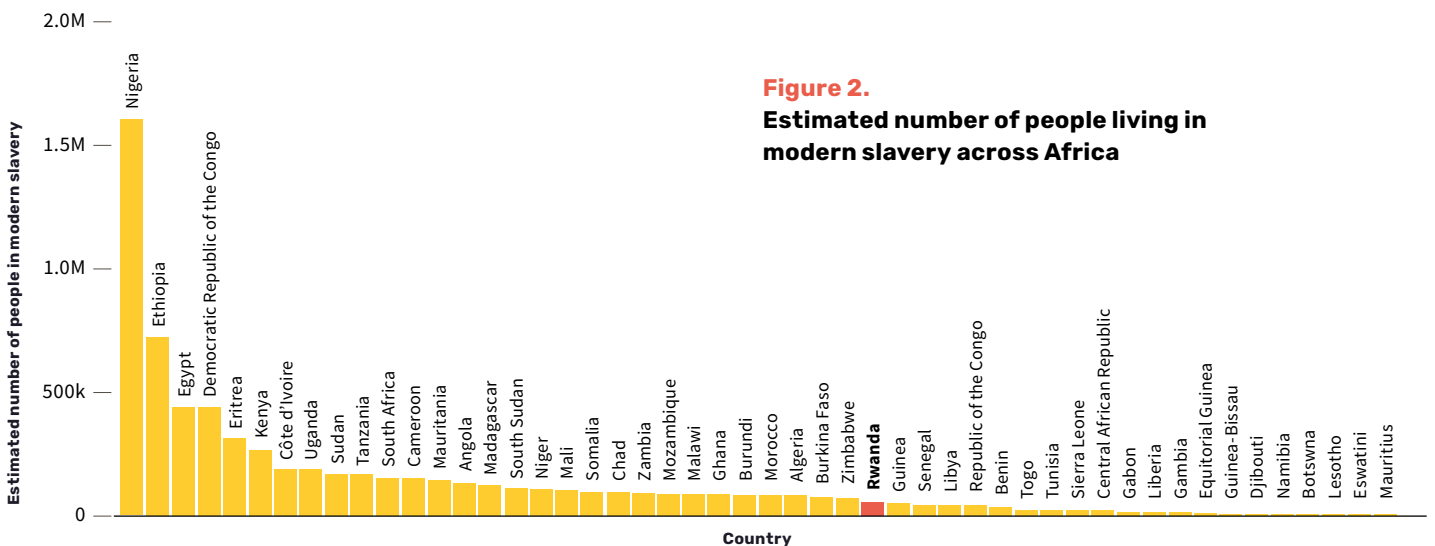
50/100

GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO MODERN SLAVERY

The scale of modern slavery

According to the 2023 Global Slavery Index, an estimated 4.3 in every thousand people were in modern slavery in Rwanda at any point in 2021. In other words, 55,000 people experienced forced labour or forced marriage in Rwanda in 2021. In terms of prevalence of modern slavery, Rwanda ranks 101st globally and 28th within Africa.

Figure 2.
Estimated number of people living in modern slavery across Africa



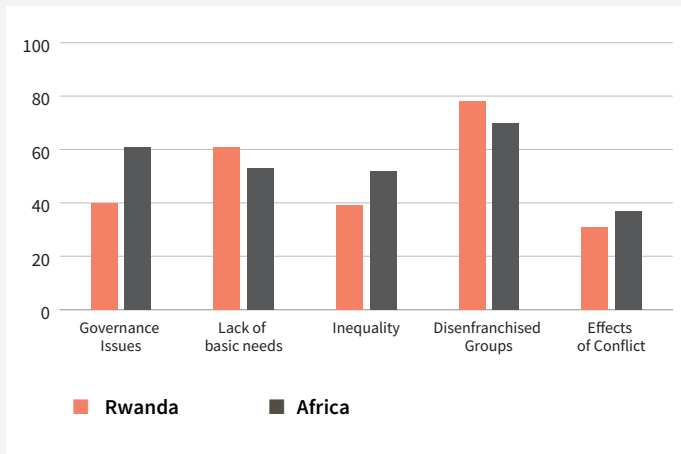
Modern slavery in Rwanda

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, Rwanda is rated as 53 and has below average vulnerability for the region. Vulnerability is highest in terms of disenfranchised groups.

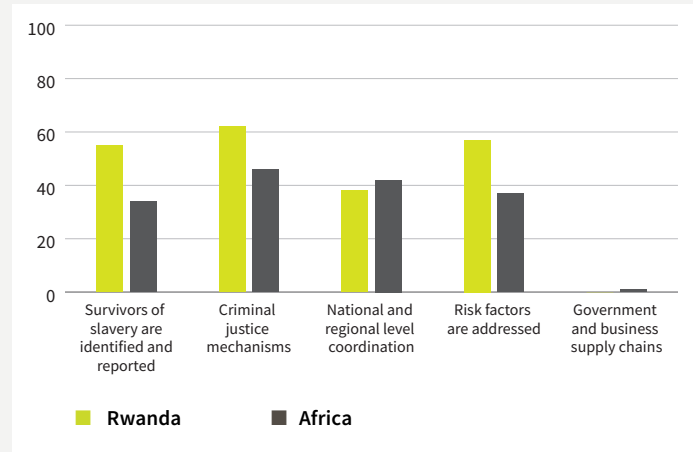
Figure 3.
Vulnerability of Rwanda to modern slavery by dimension, compared to the regional average



Government response to modern slavery

The government of Rwanda scored 50 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 the least action on addressing risk in government and business supply chains.

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



Priority Recommendations for the government of Rwanda

- 1 Immediately end state-imposed forced labour by amending 50(8) of Law No. 34/2010 to stop compulsory labour in prisons for the development of themselves, the country, or the prison. Amend sections 116, 136, 451, 462, 463, 468, and 469 of the Penal Code to remove prison labour as a consequence for peacefully expressing political views. Amend sections 2(2), 3, and 13 of Act No. 53/2007 of 17 November 2007 on community work, which go beyond the exception for minor communal services by including large-scale compulsory participation in Umuganda and involve infrastructure construction.
- 2 Ensure support services are available for all victims of modern slavery, regardless of gender, age, nationality, or sexuality.
- 3 Enforce legislation recognising that victims should not be treated as criminals for conduct that occurred while under control of their exploiter.

THE GLOBAL SLAVERY INDEX 2023

WALK FREE

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