Modern slavery in Senegal
Global Slavery Index 2023
Country Snapshot

The scale of modern slavery
According to the 2023 Global Slavery Index, an estimated 2.9 in every thousand people were in modern slavery in Senegal at any point in 2021. In other words, 49,000 people experienced forced labour or forced marriage in Senegal in 2021. In terms of prevalence of modern slavery, Senegal ranks 129th globally and 40th within Africa.

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

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

Government response to modern slavery
The government of Senegal scored 40 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 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 Senegal’s responses to modern slavery by milestone, compared with the regional average

Priority Recommendations for the government of Senegal

1. Ensure support services are available for all victims of modern slavery, regardless of gender, age, nationality, or sexuality.
2. Regularly conduct labour inspections to identify modern slavery and ensure there is a sufficient number of labour inspectors to inspect all high-risk workplaces across the country.
3. Remove laws or policies that prevent or make it difficult for workers to leave abusive employers without risking loss of their visa, deportation, and/or loss of security deposits.

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