Modern slavery in Zimbabwe
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 Zimbabwe at any point in 2021. In other words, 74,000 people experienced forced labour or forced marriage in Zimbabwe in 2021. In terms of prevalence of modern slavery, Zimbabwe ranks 90th globally and 21st within Africa.

KEY STATS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>14,862,927</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Population (2021)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GDP per capita, PPP</td>
<td>$2,251</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5.0
PREVALENCE OF MODERN SLAVERY per 1,000 people

74,000
NUMBER OF PEOPLE LIVING IN MODERN SLAVERY

75/100
VULNERABILITY TO MODERN SLAVERY

27/100
GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO MODERN SLAVERY

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 Zimbabwe at any point in 2021. In other words, 74,000 people experienced forced labour or forced marriage in Zimbabwe in 2021. In terms of prevalence of modern slavery, Zimbabwe ranks 90th globally and 21st within Africa.
Modern slavery in Zimbabwe
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, Zimbabwe is rated as 75 and has above average vulnerability for the region. Vulnerability is highest in terms of disenfranchised groups.

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

Government response to modern slavery
The government of Zimbabwe scored 27 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 Zimbabwe’s responses to modern slavery by milestone, compared with the regional average

Priority Recommendations for the government of Zimbabwe

1. Immediately end state-imposed forced labour by amending section 76(1) of the Prisons Act (Cap. 7:11) and section 66(1) of the Prisons (General) Regulations 1996 to remove compulsory prison labour.

2. Criminalise human trafficking in line with international conventions.

3. 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.

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