Modern slavery in Dominican Republic
Global Slavery Index 2023
Country Snapshot

Figure 1. Prevalence of modern slavery across the Americas

The scale of modern slavery
According to the 2023 Global Slavery Index, an estimated 6.6 in every thousand people were in modern slavery in Dominican Republic at any point in 2021. In other words, 72,000 people experienced forced labour or forced marriage in Dominican Republic in 2021. In terms of prevalence of modern slavery, Dominican Republic ranks 63rd globally and 12th within the Americas.

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

KEY STATS
Population (2021) 10,847,904
GDP per capita, PPP (Current intl $) $17,934

6.6
PREVALENCE OF MODERN SLAVERY per 1,000 people

72,000
NUMBER OF PEOPLE LIVING IN MODERN SLAVERY

41/100
VULNERABILITY TO MODERN SLAVERY

46/100
GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO MODERN SLAVERY
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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 to modern slavery, Dominican Republic is rated as 41 and has below average vulnerability for the region. Vulnerability is highest in terms of disenfranchised groups.

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

Government response to modern slavery
The government of Dominican Republic scored 46 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 least action on addressing risk in government and business supply chains.

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

Priority Recommendations for the government of Dominican Republic

1. Criminalise forced labour in line with international conventions.
2. Ensure support services are available for all victims of modern slavery, regardless of gender, age, nationality, or sexuality.
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.