Modern slavery in Ecuador
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 7.6 in every thousand people were in modern slavery in Ecuador at any point in 2021. In other words, 135,000 people experienced forced labour or forced marriage in Ecuador in 2021. In terms of prevalence of modern slavery, Ecuador ranks 43rd globally and 6th within the Americas.

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

KEY STATS
Population (2021) 17,643,060
GDP per capita, PPP (Current intl $) $10,890

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PREVALENCE OF MODERN SLAVERY</th>
<th>NUMBER OF PEOPLE LIVING IN MODERN SLAVERY</th>
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VULNERABILITY TO MODERN SLAVERY
GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO MODERN SLAVERY

48/100
51/100

Ecuador

Population (2021): 17,643,060
GDP per capita, PPP (Current intl $): $10,890
Prevalence of modern slavery: 7.6 per 1,000 people
Number of people living in modern slavery: 135,000
Vulnerability to modern slavery: 48/100
Government response to modern slavery: 51/100
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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, Ecuador is rated as 48 and has above average vulnerability for the region. Vulnerability is highest in terms of disenfranchised groups.

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

**Government response to modern slavery**
The government of Ecuador scored 51 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 least action on addressing risk in government and business supply chains.

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

**Priority Recommendations for the government of Ecuador**

1. Criminalise human trafficking 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. Enact and enforce laws that criminalise corruption in the public sector.

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