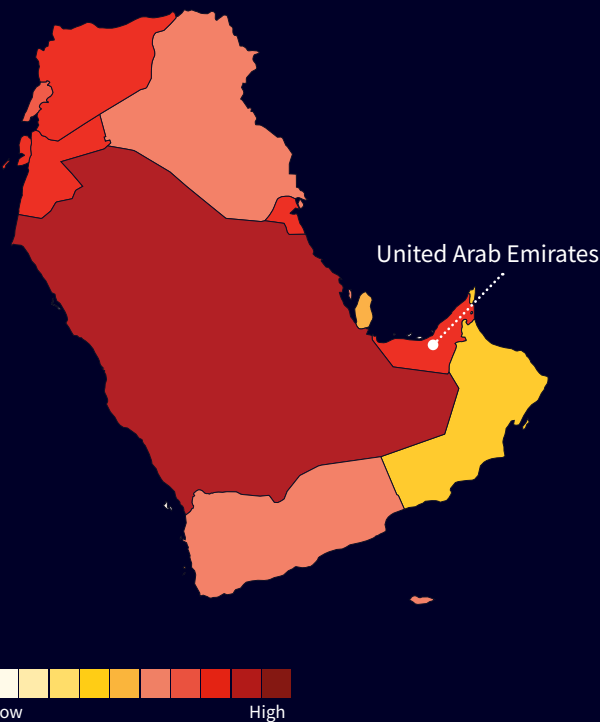


# Modern slavery in United Arab Emirates

## Global Slavery Index 2023 Country Snapshot



**Figure 1.**  
Prevalence of modern slavery across the Arab States



### KEY STATS

Population (2021) 9,890,400

GDP per capita, PPP (Current Intl \$) \$66,766

**13.4**

PREVALENCE OF MODERN SLAVERY per 1,000 people

**132,000**

NUMBER OF PEOPLE LIVING IN MODERN SLAVERY

**40/100**

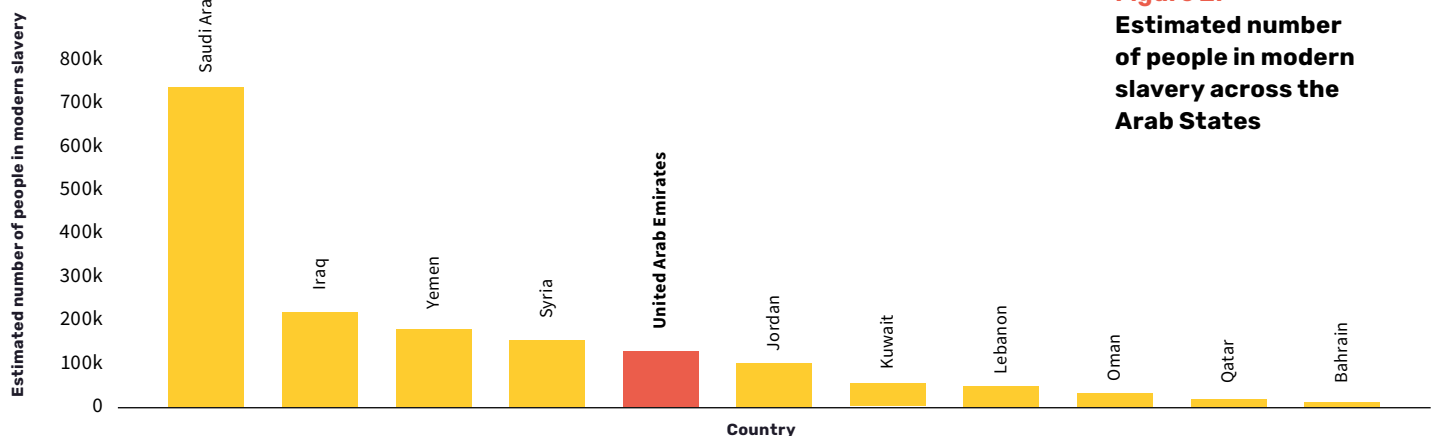
VULNERABILITY TO MODERN SLAVERY

**50/100**

GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO MODERN SLAVERY

### The scale of modern slavery

According to the Global Slavery Index 2023, an estimated 13.4 in every thousand people were in modern slavery in United Arab Emirates at any point in 2021. In other words, 132,000 people experienced forced labour or forced marriage in United Arab Emirates in 2020. United Arab Emirates ranks 7th globally and 2nd within the Arab States.



**Figure 2.**  
Estimated number of people in modern slavery across the Arab States

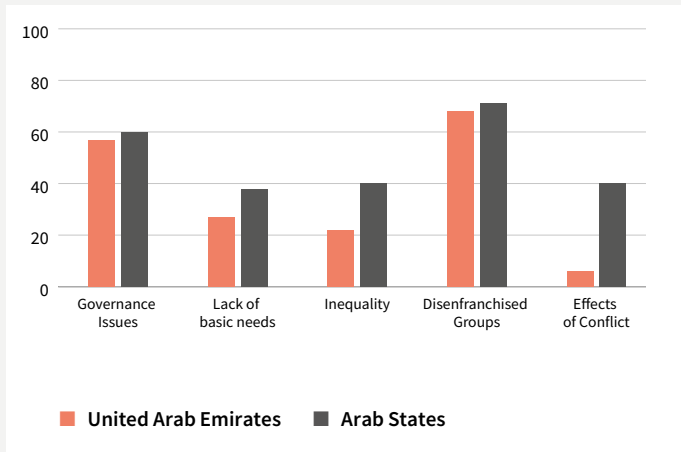
# Modern slavery in United Arab Emirates

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 to modern slavery, United Arab Emirates is rated as 40 and has below average vulnerability for the region. Vulnerability is highest in terms of disenfranchised groups.

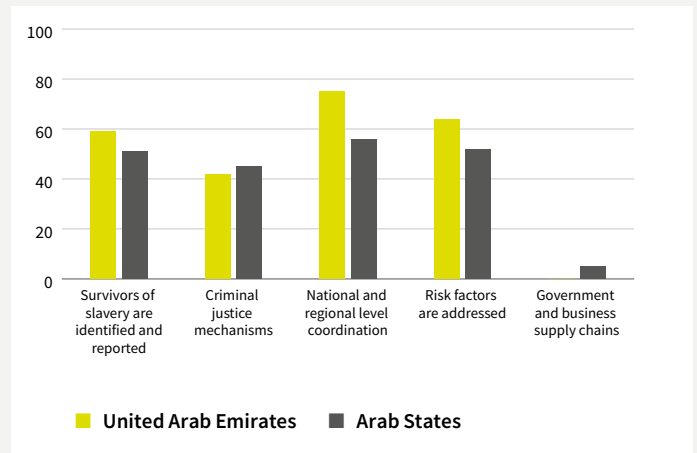
**Figure 3.** Vulnerability of United Arab Emirates to modern slavery by dimension of vulnerability, compared to the regional average



## Government response to modern slavery

The government of United Arab Emirates 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 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.** Response of the government of United Arab Emirates to modern slavery by government response milestone, compared with the regional average



## Priority Recommendations for the government of United Arab Emirates:

- 1 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.
- 2 Criminalise commercial sexual exploitation of children in line with international conventions.
- 3 Increase the legal age of marriage for males and females to 18 years without exceptions.

**THE GLOBAL SLAVERY INDEX 2023**

**WALK FREE**

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