Modern slavery in Belarus
Global Slavery Index 2023
Country Snapshot

KEY STATS
Population (2021) 9,449,321
GDP per capita, PPP (Current Intl $) $20,238

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prevalence of Modern Slavery</th>
<th>Number of People Living in Modern Slavery</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11.3</td>
<td>107,000</td>
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<tr>
<th>Vulnerability to Modern Slavery</th>
<th>Government Response to Modern Slavery</th>
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<td>41/100</td>
<td>47/100</td>
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The scale of modern slavery
According to the 2023 Global Slavery Index, an estimated 11.3 in every thousand people were in modern slavery in Belarus at any point in 2021. In other words, 107,000 people experienced forced labour or forced marriage in Belarus in 2021. In terms of prevalence of modern slavery, Belarus ranks 16th globally and 8th within Europe and Central Asia.
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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, Belarus is rated as 41 and has above average vulnerability for the region. Vulnerability is highest in terms of disenfranchised groups.

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

Government response to modern slavery

The government of Belarus scored 47 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 identification and support of survivors and the least action on addressing risk in government and business supply chains.

Figure 4.
Response of the government of Belarus to modern slavery by government response milestone, compared with the regional average

Priority Recommendations for the government of Belarus:

1. Immediately end state-imposed forced labour by amending the Criminal Code and Code on Administrative Offences, which allow for compulsory labour in prisons, administrative detention, and in medical labour centres.

2. Criminalise forced labour in line with international conventions.

3. Criminalise human trafficking in line with international conventions.