Modern slavery in Norway
Global Slavery Index 2023
Country Snapshot

Figure 1. Prevalence of modern slavery across Europe and Central Asia

The scale of modern slavery
According to the Global Slavery Index 2023, an estimated 0.5 in every thousand people were in modern slavery in Norway at any point in 2021. In other words, 3,000 people experienced forced labour or forced marriage in Norway in 2021. Norway ranks 159th globally and 46th 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, the level of inequality, disenfranchised groups, and effects of conflict. On a scale of 0 to 100, with 100 being the highest vulnerability to modern slavery, Norway is rated as 1 and has below average vulnerability for the region. Vulnerability is highest in terms of access to basic needs.

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

Government response to modern slavery
The government of Norway scored 63 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 Norway to modern slavery by government response milestone, compared with the regional average

Priority Recommendations for the government of Norway:

1. Criminalise forced labour in line with international conventions.
2. Ensure victims of modern slavery are not detained for immigration violations by establishing screening for victims and providing victim identification training for immigration and law enforcement officials.
3. Develop an evidence-based National Action Plan in coordination with relevant stakeholders to tackle modern slavery.

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