Modern slavery in Poland
Global Slavery Index 2023
Country Snapshot

**KEY STATS**

- **Population (2021)**: 37,846,605
- **GDP per capita, PPP (Current Intl $)**: $34,287

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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>5.5</strong></th>
<th><strong>209,000</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PREVALENCE OF MODERN SLAVERY per 1,000 people</td>
<td>NUMBER OF PEOPLE LIVING IN MODERN SLAVERY</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>19/100</strong></th>
<th><strong>55/100</strong></th>
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<td>VULNERABILITY TO MODERN SLAVERY</td>
<td>GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO MODERN SLAVERY</td>
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**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 Poland at any point in 2021. In other words, 3,000 people experienced forced labour or forced marriage in Poland in 2021. Poland ranks 80th globally and 26th within Europe and Central Asia.

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

**Figure 2.** Estimated number of people in modern slavery across 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, Poland is rated as 19 and has below average vulnerability for the region. Vulnerability is highest in terms of disenfranchised groups.

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

Government response to modern slavery
The government of Poland scored 55 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 Poland to modern slavery by government response milestone, compared with the regional average

Priority Recommendations for the government of Poland:

1. Immediately end state-imposed forced labour by amending or appealing sections of the Penal Code of 1997, which provides for the penalty of restriction of liberty, including the obligation to perform unpaid or controlled work for social purposes (section 136(4), section 137, section 196, section 212 and 226 (1), section 216, and section 226(3)).

2. Repeal section 123(a) of the Executive Penal Code, as amended in 2016, which allows a director of a prison to permit a convict to work for a public institution or an entity of public benefit for free up to 90 hours per month, with the written consent of the convict or upon the written request of the convict.

3. Increase the legal age of marriage for males and females to 18 years without exceptions.

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