Modern slavery in Portugal
Global Slavery Index 2023
Country Snapshot

KEY STATS
Population (2021) 10,196,707
GDP per capita, PPP (Current Intl $) $34,177

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PREVALENCE OF MODERN SLAVERY</th>
<th>NUMBER OF PEOPLE LIVING IN MODERN SLAVERY</th>
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<td>3.8 per 1,000 people</td>
<td>39,000 people</td>
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<tr>
<th>VULNERABILITY TO MODERN SLAVERY</th>
<th>GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO MODERN SLAVERY</th>
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<td>6/100</td>
<td>67/100</td>
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The scale of modern slavery

According to the Global Slavery Index 2023, an estimated 3.8 in every thousand people were in modern slavery in Portugal at any point in 2021. In other words, 39,000 people experienced forced labour or forced marriage in Portugal in 2021. Portugal ranks 113th globally and 31st 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, Portugal is rated as 6 and has below average vulnerability for the region. Vulnerability is highest in terms of disenfranchised groups.

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

Government response to modern slavery
The government of Portugal scored 67 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 Portugal to modern slavery by government response milestone, compared with the regional average

Priority Recommendations for the government of Portugal:
1. Criminalise forced labour in line with international conventions.
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.