Modern slavery in Türkiye
Global Slavery Index 2023
Country Snapshot

KEY STATS
Population (2021) 84,339,067
GDP per capita, PPP (Current Intl $) $27,235

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<tr>
<th>Prevalence of Modern Slavery</th>
<th>Number of People Living in Modern Slavery</th>
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<td>15.6 per 1,000 people</td>
<td>1,320,000 people</td>
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Vulnerability to Modern Slavery
51/100

Government Response to Modern Slavery
49/100

The scale of modern slavery
According to the Global Slavery Index 2023, an estimated 15.6 in every thousand people were in modern slavery in Türkiye at any point in 2021. In other words, 1,320,000 people experienced forced labour or forced marriage in Türkiye in 2021. Türkiye ranks 5th globally and 1st 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, Türkiye is rated as 51 and has above average vulnerability for the region. Vulnerability is highest in terms of disenfranchised groups.

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

Government response to modern slavery
The government of Türkiye scored 49 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 Türkiye to modern slavery by government response milestone, compared with the regional average

Importing risk of modern slavery
Türkiye imported US $5.3 billion worth of goods at-risk of modern slavery. This includes:

- Electronics: US$3.2 billion
- Palm oil: US$900 million
- Garments: US$600 million
- Solar panels: US$400 million
- Cocoa: US$300 million

Priority Recommendations for the government of Türkiye:

1. Criminalise commercial sexual exploitation of children in line with international conventions.
2. Increase the legal age of marriage for males and females to 18 years without exceptions.
3. Regularly conduct labour inspections to identify modern slavery and ensure there is a sufficient number of labour inspectors to inspect all high-risk workplaces across the country.