



## ► Global Facts and Figures on Forced Labour

How many people are trapped in forced labour?<sup>1</sup>

**27.6 million**

people are in situations of forced labour. That's 3.5 people for every thousand in the world.

**17.3 million**

are in the private economy (excluding commercial sexual exploitation).

**15.8 million**  
are men and boys

**15% of adults in forced labour are migrant workers** despite accounting for only around 5% of the global workforce.<sup>2</sup> They are **three times more likely to be in forced labour than non-migrant workers.**

**3.3 million**  
are children

**11.8 million**  
are women and girls

Where does forced labour occur?

over **50%**

of forced labour occurs in upper-middle income or high-income countries. Lower-middle income countries account for 32% and low-income countries account for 16%.

**3.6 million**

**4.1 million**

**0.9 million**

**3.8 million**

**15.1 million**

■ Total forced labour<sup>3</sup>

### Main economic sectors



**32% (5.5 million)**

Services (such as trade, transport and hospitality except domestic work)



**18.7% (3.2 million)**

in manufacturing



**16.3% (2.8 million)**

in construction



**12.3% (2.1 million)**

in agriculture

## How does it occur?

Forced labour consists of two important elements: absence of free and informed consent (involuntariness) and presence of coercion (to prevent an individual from leaving a situation or to compel them to work). In most cases of forced labour, multiple forms are present.



### Top 5 manifestations of involuntariness<sup>4</sup>



**51.3%**

Excessive overtime, on-call work or more hours than initially agreed to



**47.8%**

Very low or no wages



**43.4%**

Type of work different to initially agreed



**29.6%**

Job is of different nature from that specified during recruitment



**27.8%**

No freedom to leave or change employer



### Top 5 manifestations of coercion<sup>5</sup>



**36.3%**

Non-payment of wages



**20.8%**

Abuse of vulnerability



**19.3%**

Some form of direct threat



**9.6%**

Financial penalties



**5.1%**

Debt manipulation

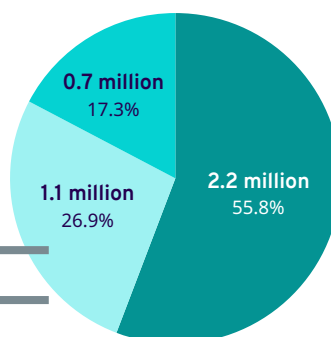
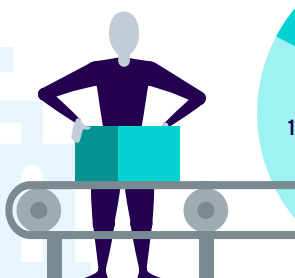


♀ Women are more affected than men

♂ Men are more affected than women

## State-imposed forced labour

**14% or 3.9 million**  
of all those in forced labour are in state-imposed forced labour



### State-imposed forced labour takes a variety of different forms

- Abuse of compulsory prison labour
- Abuse of conscription
- Forced labour for economic development, and abuse of the obligation to perform work beyond normal civic obligations or minor communal services

### References

- <sup>1</sup> ILO Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No.29), refers to "all work or service which is exacted from any person under the menace of any penalty and for which the said person has not offered himself voluntarily".
- <sup>2</sup> Forced labour in the private economy (excludes forced commercial sexual exploitation and state-imposed forced labour).
- <sup>3</sup> Includes forced commercial sexual exploitation and state-imposed forced labour.
- <sup>4</sup> Refers to lack of voluntariness in taking the job or accepting the working conditions.
- <sup>5</sup> Refers to the application of some form of coercion – i.e., penalty or threat of a penalty – to prevent an individual from leaving a situation or to otherwise compel work.

All figures taken from ILO, Walk Free, and IOM. 2022. Global estimates on modern slavery: Forced labour and forced marriage. Available here: [https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/@ed\\_norm/@ipecc/documents/publication/wcms\\_854733.pdf](https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/@ed_norm/@ipecc/documents/publication/wcms_854733.pdf)

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