

2. Estimated number of population in modern slavery

The Global Slavery Index also provides insight into the estimated absolute numbers of people in modern slavery, in 162 countries. When the estimated number of enslaved people is considered in absolute terms as a single factor, the country ranking shifts considerably.

The countries with the highest numbers of enslaved people are **India, China, Pakistan, Nigeria, Ethiopia, Russia, Thailand, Democratic Republic of Congo, Myanmar** and **Bangladesh**. Taken together, these countries account for 76% of the total estimate of 29.8 million in modern slavery.

The country with the largest estimated number of people in modern slavery is **India**, which is estimated to have between 13,300,000 and 14,700,000 people enslaved. The India country study suggests that while this involves the exploitation of some foreign nationals, by far the largest proportion of this problem is the exploitation of Indians citizens within India itself, particularly through debt bondage and bonded labour.

The country with the second highest absolute numbers of enslaved is **China**, with an estimated 2,800,000 to 3,100,000 in modern slavery. The China country study⁵ suggests that this includes the forced labour of men, women and children in many parts of the economy, including domestic servitude and forced begging, the sexual exploitation of women and children, and forced marriage.

The country with the third highest absolute number in modern slavery is **Pakistan**, with an estimated 2,000,000 to 2,200,000 people in modern slavery.

Table 3: Ten countries with highest estimated number of population in modern slavery

Country Name	Population ^a	Estimate of population in modern slavery	Lower range of estimate	Upper range of estimate
India	1,236,686,732	13,956,010	13,300,000	14,700,000
China	1,350,695,000	2,949,243	2,800,000	3,100,000
Pakistan	179,160,111	2,127,132	2,000,000	2,200,000
Nigeria	168,833,776	701,032	670,000	740,000
Ethiopia	91,728,849	651,110	620,000	680,000
Russia	143,533,000	516,217	490,000	540,000
Thailand	66,785,001	472,811	450,000	500,000
Democratic Republic of the Congo	65,705,093	462,327	440,000	490,000
Myanmar	52,797,319	384,037	360,000	400,000
Bangladesh	154,695,368	343,192	330,000	360,000

⁵ Available on the website: www.globallslaveryindex.org

^a All data from World Bank: <http://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP.POP.TOTL/Countries?display=default>

14 million
2 million

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