



MEXICO

125,890,949

POPULATION*

\$17,877

GDP (PPP)*



341,000



ESTIMATED NUMBER OF PEOPLE LIVING IN MODERN SLAVERY*

57.31/100



VULNERABILITY TO MODERN SLAVERY*

*Global Slavery Index 2018 data. For more information on their findings, visit [GlobalSlaveryIndex.org](https://www.global-slavery.com)

TRAFFICKING IN MEXICO

Mexico received a Tier 2 Ranking in the 2021 TIP Report, and the federal government does not fully meet the minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking but is making significant efforts to do so. Mexico is a source, destination, and transit location for human trafficking. Positioned between the United States and Central America, Mexico becomes a funnel for persons hoping to find employment in the United States.

Literature and interviews both assert that sex trafficking makes up the vast majority of the human trafficking seen in the country. Sex tourism is a major platform for exploitation; victims are typically brought to work in hotels, restaurants, and bars in tourist destinations. Victims are often lured in by false job offers, but traffickers also use the “lover boy” deception technique; their victims are eventually forced into prostitution (often run by family rings). Sex trafficking routes look different in different states in Mexico, which is explained in the following sections.

Labor trafficking also exists, however. Mexican men, women, and children are exploited in forced labor in agriculture, domestic servitude, childcare, manufacturing, mining, food processing, construction, tourism, forced begging, and street vending in Mexico and the United States. Day laborers and their children are the primary victims of forced and child labor in Mexico’s agricultural sector; migrating from the poorest states to the agricultural regions to harvest vegetables, coffee, sugar, and tobacco; receiving little or no pay, healthcare, or time off, and, in the case of children, being denied education.

