



National Bureau of Statistics



International  
Labour  
Organization

# ► Forced Labour in Nigeria - At a glance

Results from the Nigeria child labour  
and forced labour survey 2022

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**Forced Labour** as described in the 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”.

## Forced labour legal framework



### ILO Convention or Protocol

- Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29)
- Abolition of Forced Labour Convention, 1957 (No. 105)
- Protocol of 2014 to the Forced Labour Convention, 1930
- ILO Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182)
- Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, 2000



### Ratification status

- ☒ In force
- ☒ In force
- ☐ Not ratified
- ☒ In force
- ☒ In force



### Ratification date

- 17 October 1960
- 17 October 1960
- 
- 2 October 2002
- 28 June 2001

► **Forced labour headline figures****617,503**

individuals were in  
**forced labour**  
in their current job in 2022



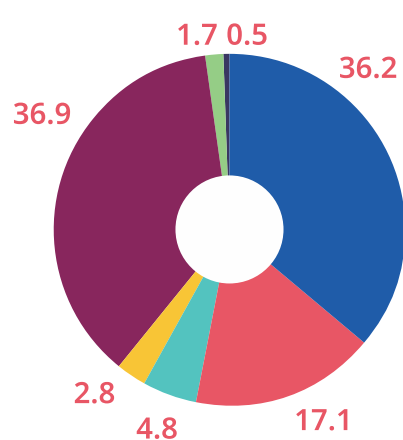
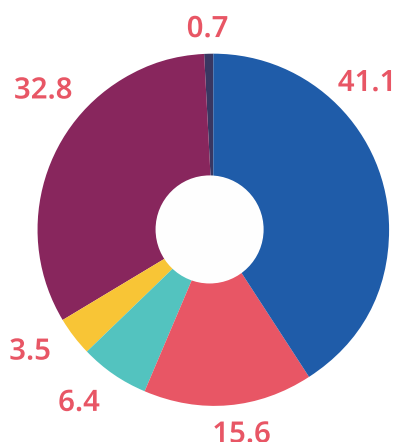
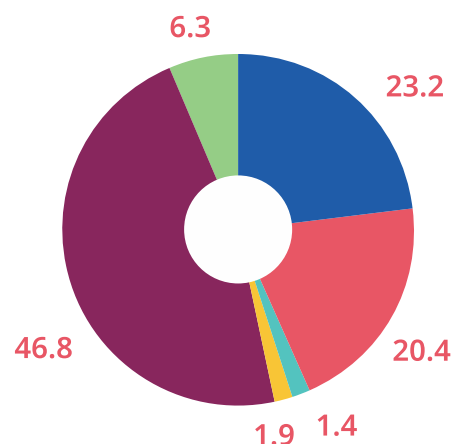
**5.2** out of  
**every 1,000** individuals  
were in forced labour in their  
current job in 2022

**36.2%**

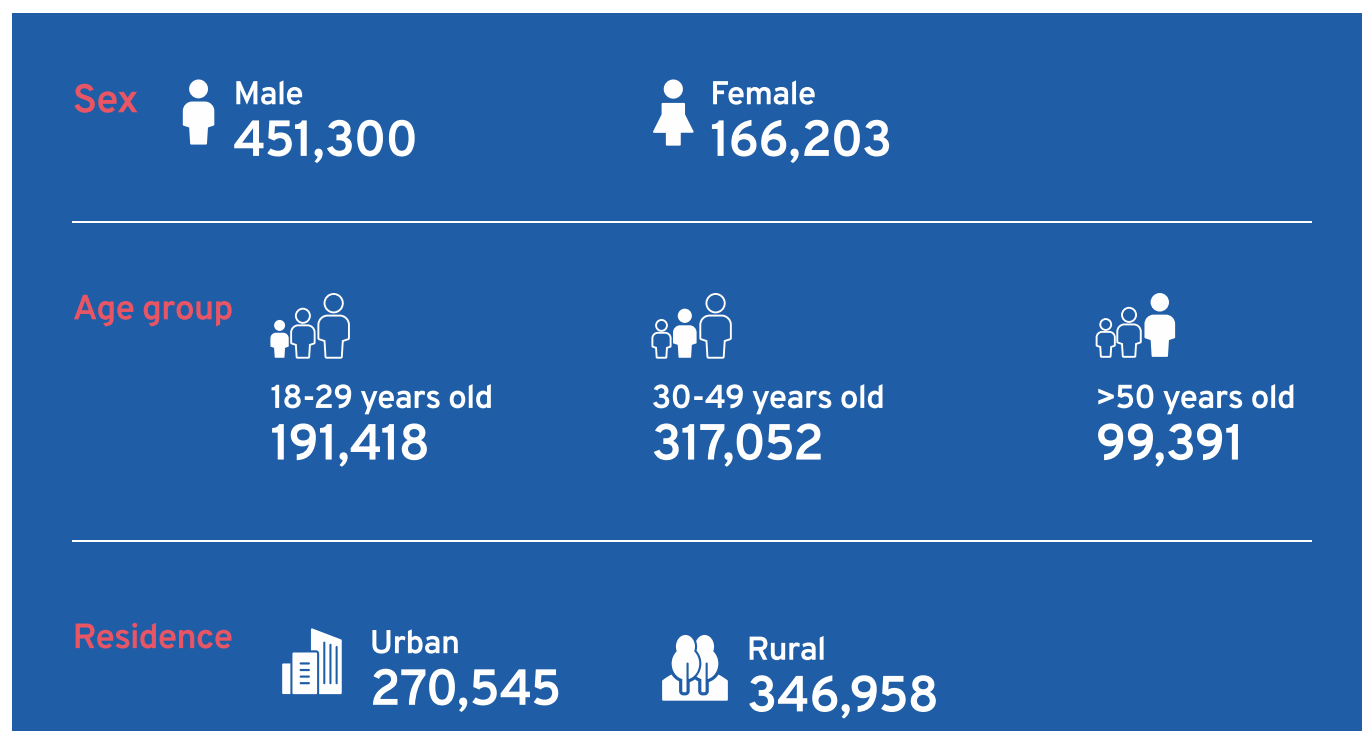
of individuals in forced  
labour in their current  
job are found in the  
agricultural sector

**36.9%**

of individuals in forced  
labour in their current job  
are found in the service  
sector, other than  
domestic work

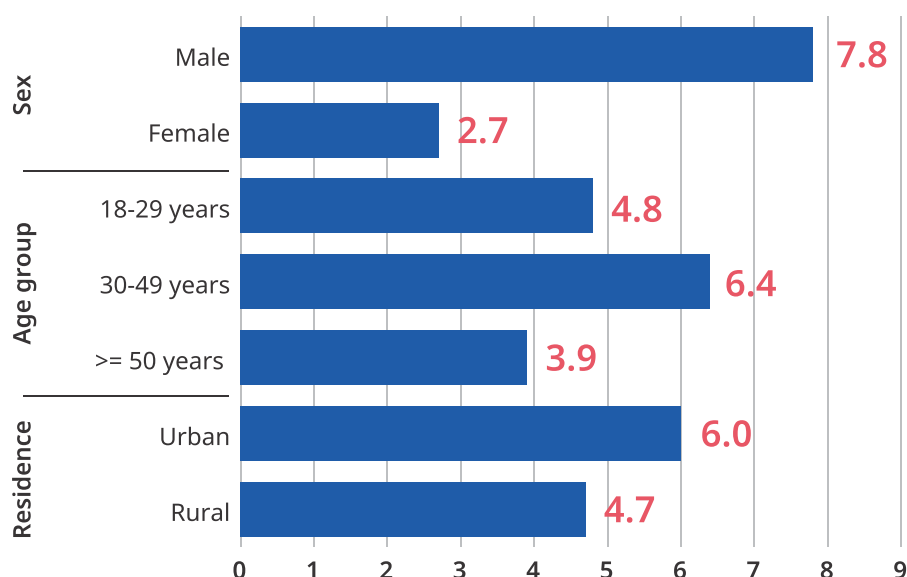
*Percentage distribution of people in forced labour***Total****Male****Female**

## ► Number of individuals in forced labour



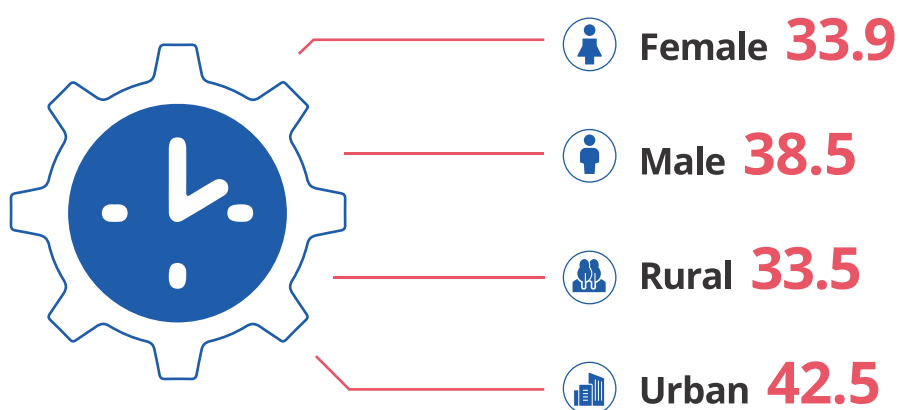
## ► Number of individuals per thousand in forced labour, by sex, age group and residence

Men are more likely to be victims of forced labour than women. While 7.8 of every thousand men are in forced labour, 2.7 of every thousand women are in forced labour. Forced labour is also more prevalent among adults in urban areas than those living in rural areas.







## ► Time intensity of forced labour

*Average of weekly working hours by individuals in forced labour*



*Average of weekly working hours by individuals in forced labour, by sex, residence and branch of economic activity*

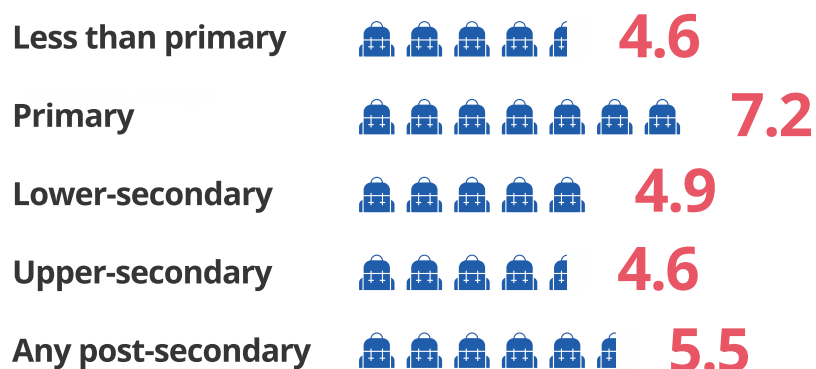
	 Male	 Female	 Rural	 Urban
Agriculture	27.2	15.5	31.4	23.3
Manufacturing	46.7	40.2	46.6	41.9
Construction	32.7	60.0	31.9	39.5
Mining and quarrying	35.9	15.0	20.7	37.9
Services other than domestic work	50.3	44.0	50.8	45.1
Domestic work	0	7.6	7.5	0

## ► Prevalence of forced labour

### *Number of individuals per thousand in forced labour, by education level*

Overall, the prevalence of forced labour is similar across education levels for all groups except for individuals with a primary education level. This result shows that even highly educated individuals could be at risk of falling into situations of forced labour.

The prevalence of forced labour is highest among individuals with primary education, for which 7.2 of every thousand individuals are in a situation of forced labour. This may be partially explained by the fact that individuals with only a primary education are not as well protected by their skills as the medium and highly more educated individuals.



### *Number of individuals per thousand in forced labour, by marital status*

Married adults are slightly more likely to be in forced labour than unmarried individuals. With forced labour prevalence at 5.8 per every thousand individuals among married adults as compared to 4.1 per every thousand individuals among unmarried adults.



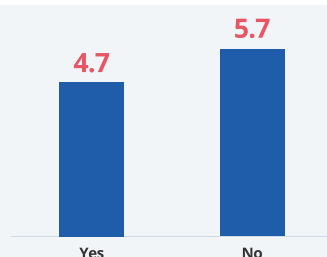
## ► Number of individuals per thousand in forced labour by household background factors

### Household income quintile



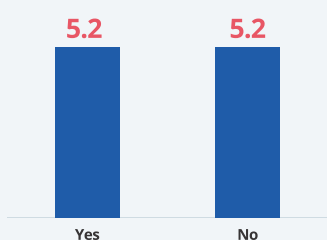
Although there are not substantial differences across income quintiles, the results suggest that poverty is only one of the factors pushing people into forced labour.

### Landowner household



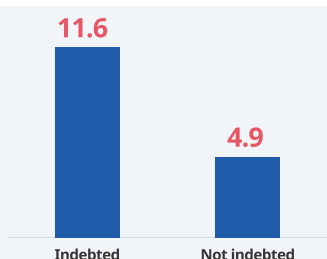
The prevalence of forced labour is slightly lower for individuals from land owning households (4.7 per thousand) than for individuals from landless households (5.7 per thousand).

### Livestock owner household



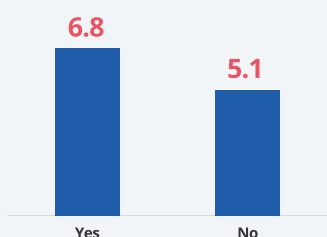
There is no difference in forced labour prevalence between individuals coming from households that own livestock versus individuals from households that do not own livestock.

### Household indebtedness



11.6 per thousand of individuals from indebted households are in forced labour, as compared to 4.9 per thousand from households without debt. This confirms that vulnerable households, which are more likely to borrow, are also at higher risk of having a member in forced labour.

### Household received social benefits

















The prevalence of forced labour is higher (6.8 per thousand) among members of households who have received a social benefit than among those who have not received any benefits (5.1 per thousand). This result is in line with other research indicating that the social protection system suffers from weak targeting and insufficient resources.

## ► Circumstances leading to involuntary work

### *Percentage of individuals in forced labour in their current job experiencing circumstances that could give rise to involuntary work, by condition and sex*















Among individuals in forced labour in their current job the most common circumstance of involuntariness experienced was being made to work with no freedom or limited freedom to terminate their work contract. This was followed by being made to stay at their job longer than agreed to without consent, which was experienced by 26.8 per cent of individuals in forced labour in their current job.

		Male		Female	Total
Made to work with no or limited freedom to terminate the work contract		27.9		33.7	29.7
Made to stay in the job longer than agreed without consent		26.8		26.5	26.7
Made to work for other employers without agreement		8.3		5.9	7.5
Made to perform a different job than specified during recruitment without consent		6.7		4.7	6.1
Made to work for no or very low wages below that agreed		2.2		11.7	5.1
Made to work in hazardous conditions without protective equipment		5.9		3.2	5.1
Made to take a job by a third person different from initially agreed		4.9		2.3	4.1

## ► Forms of coercion

### *Percentage of individuals in forced labour in their current job, by form of coercion and sex*

Of individuals in forced labour in their current job the most common form of coercion was withholding of payment of wages or benefits which was experienced by 35.2 per cent of individuals.

		Male		Female	Total
Because you are waiting for payment of due wages or other promised benefits		34.1		37.6	35.2
Because your employer knows you have no other option to survive		13.7		13.6	13.6
Because your employer/recruiter threatens you with dismissal, deportation or legal action		11.0		11.7	11.2
Because you are under constant surveillance		9.5		10.1	9.7
Because you did not have access to your documents such as ID, passport, residence permit, travel documents etc.		7.8		8.5	8.0
Because you fear threats and violence against your family, relatives, or close associates		6.7		4.1	5.9
Because your work permit renewal is done by your employer		5.07		4.4	4.9

Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work Branch  
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