




SOUTH AFRICA

55,291,225
POPULATION*

\$13,359
GDP (PPP)* 

158,000



ESTIMATED NUMBER OF PEOPLE LIVING IN MODERN SLAVERY*

52.2/100



VULNERABILITY TO MODERN SLAVERY*

*Global Slavery Index 2023 data. For more information on their findings, visit [GlobalSlaveryIndex.org](https://www.Globalslaveryindex.org)

TRAFFICKING IN SOUTH AFRICA

As reported over the past five years, human traffickers exploit domestic and foreign victims in South Africa and also exploit victims from South Africa abroad. Traffickers recruit people from poor countries and poor and/or rural areas within South Africa to urban centers, such as Johannesburg, Cape Town, Durban, and Bloemfontein, where they then force these victims into sex trafficking and forced labor in domestic service, criminal activities, and agriculture.

Syndicates, often dominated by Nigerians, facilitate trafficking in the commercial sex industry. To a lesser extent, syndicates recruit South African women to Europe and Asia, where traffickers force some into commercial sex, domestic service, or drug smuggling. Traffickers sometimes employ forced drug use to coerce sex trafficking victims.

Traffickers increasingly hail from Nigeria, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Cameroon. Mozambican crime syndicates facilitate trafficking from the eastern border of the Kruger National Park, using the same route to facilitate other illicit crimes.*





SOUTH AFRICA TEAM

Our vice president of Africa anti-trafficking and our South Africa project manager are both headquartered in Johannesburg.

This innovative team is not only working to expand transit monitoring within the country but has also piloted a new app called The Freedom App, which is designed to empower people to help them determine if a job opportunity is legitimate.

LJI SOUTH AFRICA IMPACT SINCE 2016

1,352

INTERCEPTS

9

ARRESTS

1

STATION

8

STAFF

OUR TIMELINE

2016

Love Justice South Africa is established and starts one transit monitoring station in April. In August, LJI South Africa launches its first investigations team.

2018

Our South Africa team grows as we strategically hire our vice president of Africa anti-trafficking, start two more transit monitoring stations in country, and prepare to expand throughout Africa.

2020

Our teams on the ground pivot to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic by finding and feeding more than 8,430 individuals in South Africa on the brink of starvation. Additionally our teams launch The Freedom App to empower people to better flag illegitimate or unsafe job opportunities to prevent trafficking situations.

2023

For various strategic reasons, Love Justice begins to relocate its international headquarters from South Asia to South Africa.

