This quarter saw a 15% increase in labour abuse cases and a significant 49% rise in the number of potential labour abuse victims indicated.

December showed the lowest number of new modern slavery cases this year, but in contrast, saw the highest number of potential victims (PVs) reported (895) in any one month in 2022.

178 referrals were made to UK Wide agencies such as the National Crime Agency and HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC).
In quarter four, the total number of calls decreased by 6% on the whole. October saw 618 calls, whilst call numbers peaked in November with 650 before decreasing to 524 in December. October had the highest number of webforms (353), decreasing to 219 in November and 145 in December (145). App submissions in quarter four were lower than in other quarters; October had five app submissions, gradually increasing through November and peaking in December at 11.

The number of modern slavery cases opened this quarter decreased by 6% from quarter three (624 down from 664). The highest number of modern slavery cases were opened in November (226).

Of significant note, although December recorded the lowest number of new modern slavery cases opened, it also saw the highest number of PVs reported (895) in any one month in 2022. Overall, however, the number of PVs recorded across the quarter decreased by 3%.

Labour abuse cases increased by 15%, while the number of potential labour abuse victims rose by 39%.
The number of modern slavery cases opened this quarter decreased by 6% compared to quarter three (624 down from 664). Of significant note, although December recorded the lowest number of new modern slavery cases opened, it saw the highest number of PVs reported (895) in any one quarter this year. Labour abuse cases increased by 15%. Labour exploitation and criminal exploitation decreased this quarter by 17% and 8%, respectively. Cases involving "various" exploitation types increased by 48%. "Various" is selected when more than one type of exploitation is reported. Cases with "unknown" exploitation type may result from a technical assistance call with a professional dealing with a victim where the specific details of the exploitation type are not disclosed on the call.

Indicators of modern slavery reported to the Helpline include, but are not limited to, passport or document confiscation, little or no pay, debt bondage, isolation, monitoring, and physical abuse. The Helpline continues to field a significant number of reports of potential labour abuse, which may include failure to pay national minimum wage, employment contract concerns, inability to take breaks or leave, dangerous working conditions and harassment at the workplace. General information cases may relate to requests for Helpline materials and media interviews.

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Referrals and signposts increased by 4% overall from the prior quarter. Signposts increased by 1% (1333 to 1340). Referrals to statutory bodies increased by 14% (476 to 545), while referrals to local authorities rose by 14% (7 to 8) from the last quarter. Consistent with previous quarters, referrals were predominantly to police and government entities for investigation or first responder requests. These include actions on non-modern slavery cases, which may be made for other crimes indicated or safeguarding concerns. Cases may have more than one referral or signpost.

The distribution of caller proximity types in modern slavery cases was broadly in line with the previous quarter. Where the proximity of caller was a victim self-report numbers decreased by 5%. However, there was a 2% increase in contacts who were in direct contact with PVs. Of the modern slavery cases reported, these involved a report from the victim themselves (24% of contact types) or someone in direct contact with the PV (42% of contact types, up from quarter three). Reports from individuals in indirect contact decreased by 33% from the prior quarter. Callers in “direct contact” with a victim may include an NGO, friends or family of the PVs, health professional, police, or social services. “Indirect contact” is recorded where the caller knows of the situation or the individual involved. “Observation of suspicious activity” refers to third party tip offs, where often limited information is known.

Drug crime was the highest recorded criminal exploitation type in Q3 at 65% (31 cases), an increase of 6% from Q2, followed by Begging with 15% (7 cases) and shoplifting seen in 1 case (2%).

There were 9 cases classed as “other”. This can include cuckooing, fraud and theft.

The gender of PVs is recorded by the Helpline when this is provided by the caller. If the caller is unable to specify the gender of indicated victims, “unknown” is recorded (43% this quarter). Female was the most commonly reported gender at 32%, Males made up 25% and there was 1 transgender female recorded.

PVs’ ages are recorded based on caller information. If the caller does not know the age of the victim, “unknown” is recorded. In all cases, the Helpline seeks to establish if a minor is involved in a situation. The overall proportion of minors was 28% lower compared to the previous quarter (92 - 72 PVs).
The Helpline may receive multiple calls about one case. This section includes cases reported in England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland as well as cases where caller speaks in general terms about a case in the UK but did not specify a particular country or location. Callers may be calling from the UK or another country.

Along with calls on modern slavery cases, the 1032 calls reported above may also be for non-modern slavery, labour abuse, or general information cases with a reported caller location in the United Kingdom.

**UK: common potential victim nationalities**

- Romania: 58
- India: 109
- Vietnam: 46
- Nepal: 3
- China: 35

Consistent with all previous quarters, labour exploitation remains the most frequently reported type of exploitation in UK modern slavery cases, making up almost half of all recorded cases. The overall percentage distribution of types of exploitation continues to remain relatively static, broadly mirroring the distribution patterns of previous quarters. Notably, Indian was the most commonly reported nationality this quarter (109 PVs), in contrast with the previous three quarters where Romanian nationals were the most prevalent. There were 51 PVs recorded as minors, and adult males were the most frequently recorded demographic this quarter (246).

**victim demographics: age, gender**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Adult</th>
<th>Minor</th>
<th>Unknown</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>246</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>123</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>123</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transgender</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>123</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>123</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
England

855 Calls relating to cases in England
274 Online reports
14 App submissions
350 Cases of modern slavery
87 Cases of labour abuse
1028 Potential victims of modern slavery
427 Potential victims of labour abuse

The Helpline may receive multiple calls about one case. Calls relating to cases of modern slavery reportedly occurring in England are recorded above, even though the caller may be calling from another country. Sometimes callers speak in general terms about cases in England but may not specify a particular area or location.

Along with calls on modern slavery cases, the 855 calls reported above may also be for non-modern slavery, labour abuse, or general information cases with a reported caller location of England.

The total number of modern slavery cases in England decreased by 7% (378-350) from the preceding quarter. Domestic servitude cases increased from the prior quarter by 10% whilst accounting for only 6% of all modern slavery cases.

Sexual exploitation increased by 7%, accounting for 23% of all modern slavery cases. Labour exploitation remains the highest proportion of modern slavery cases at 49% (171) despite decreasing by 14% from quarter three.

The overall percentage distribution of types of exploitation remained broadly static, following a similar distribution pattern to that of the previous quarter.

374 Referrals to police forces
8 Referrals to local authorities

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England: common potential victim nationalities

- Unknown: 616
- India: 109
- Romania: 58
- Vietnam: 45
- China: 34
- Ghana: 17
- Tanzania: 14
- England: 11
- Philippines: 9
- Pakistan: 8
- Nigeria: 8
- Brazil: 8
- Thailand: 7
- Bangladesh: 6
- Lithuania: 6
- Ukraine: 5
- Czech...: 5
- Hungary: 5
- Sri Lanka: 5
- Bosnia and...: 5
- Poland: 4
- Nepal: 3
- Bulgaria: 3
- Spain: 3
- Uganda: 3

The nationality of 616 modern slavery PVs was recorded as unknown.

The highest number of recorded PVs were from India and Romania, switching position in the top two from last quarter. Vietnamese and Chinese PVs remain in the top five nationalities.

Notably, no PVs from Zimbabwe feature in the top ten this quarter with only two PVs recorded.

England: potential victim demographics - age, gender

- Male: 275
- Female: 181
- Transgender: 1
- Unknown: 71
- Male: 20
- Female: 15
- Unknown: 15
- Male: 54
- Female: 105
- Unknown: 341
Labour exploitation accounted for 46% of modern slavery cases, sexual exploitation made up 40%, and criminal exploitation accounted for 7%. There was one reported case of domestic servitude this quarter. No cases of financial exploitation were reported. The nationality of recorded PVs was different to the previous quarter, with PVs reported from Malaysia, Poland, and Brazil. Male adults represented the highest proportion of PVs at 26%, followed closely by unknown females at 23%.
Cases of modern slavery reported to have occurred in Wales this quarter decreased from 18 to 6. The number of labour abuse cases remained static at 4 cases, with a 13% increase in labour abuse victims (8-9). Referrals to police forces nearly halved, decreasing from 23 to 12. Consistent with last quarter, labour exploitation was the highest reported type of modern slavery, making up 50% of all modern slavery cases.

All PVs reported were of unknown nationality. No victims were recorded as minors this quarter.

In quarter four, female adults accounted for the highest number of victims in Wales with a known gender, making up 27% of all PVs.
In Northern Ireland, quarter four had a slight decrease in modern slavery cases (6-4) from quarter three. The number of modern slavery PVs more than halved again this quarter, decreasing from 11 in quarter three to 4 in quarter four.

Recorded nationalities in quarter four differed from the two previous quarters entirely, with only one PV nationality known (Somalian) and 3 unknown PVs recorded. There were an equal amount of adult male and female PVs recorded in quarter four and no minors reported.

The nationality of 3 potential victims was recorded as unknown.

In Northern Ireland, quarter four had a slight decrease in modern slavery cases (6-4) from quarter three. The number of modern slavery PVs more than halved again this quarter, decreasing from 11 in quarter three to 4 in quarter four.

Recorded nationalities in quarter four differed from the two previous quarters entirely, with only one PV nationality known (Somalian) and 3 unknown PVs recorded. There were an equal amount of adult male and female PVs recorded in quarter four and no minors reported.
### Referrals to UK-Wide Agencies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Exploitation</th>
<th>Labour</th>
<th>Sexual</th>
<th>Criminal</th>
<th>Domestic</th>
<th>Financial</th>
<th>Various</th>
<th>Unknown</th>
<th>Total # of Victims</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>National Crime Agency</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GLAA</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UKVI</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Border Force</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HMRC</td>
<td>16</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>86</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Exploitation</th>
<th>GLAA</th>
<th>HMRC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total # of Labour Abuse Case Referrals</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total # of Victims</td>
<td>335</td>
<td>103</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

When all cases are included, including reports of labour abuse, 56 referrals were sent to HRMC; 62 to the GLAA; 25 to the NCA; 33 to UKVI and 2 to Border Force.

For cases presenting low indicators of modern slavery (labour exploitation), the Helpline refers both to law enforcement as well as to GLAA and/or HMRC. Other reasons for making GLAA and/or HMRC referrals on modern slavery cases may include that the exploitation is taking place in a GLAA regulated sector or additional information has been provided to the Helpline on a case following initial referral.
The above statistics relate to cases outside the UK or an unknown location

Outside of the modern slavery cases shown in the table, the Helpline also received calls regarding general information and non-modern slavery cases from various countries. The number of modern slavery cases or PVs when summed by country may not equal the total number of modern slavery cases, because a single case (or victim) may report exploitation in multiple countries.

Disclaimer: This report represents a summary of the calls received into the UK-wide Modern Slavery & Exploitation Helpline between October and December 2022. It is not intended to provide a comprehensive assessment of Modern Slavery in the UK. The number of potential modern slavery cases and PVs indicated are based on the information provided to the Helpline at the time of the contact. The Helpline does not corroborate or seek to prove the information provided.

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