





construction sector factsheet

Q4 2022 – Q3 2023

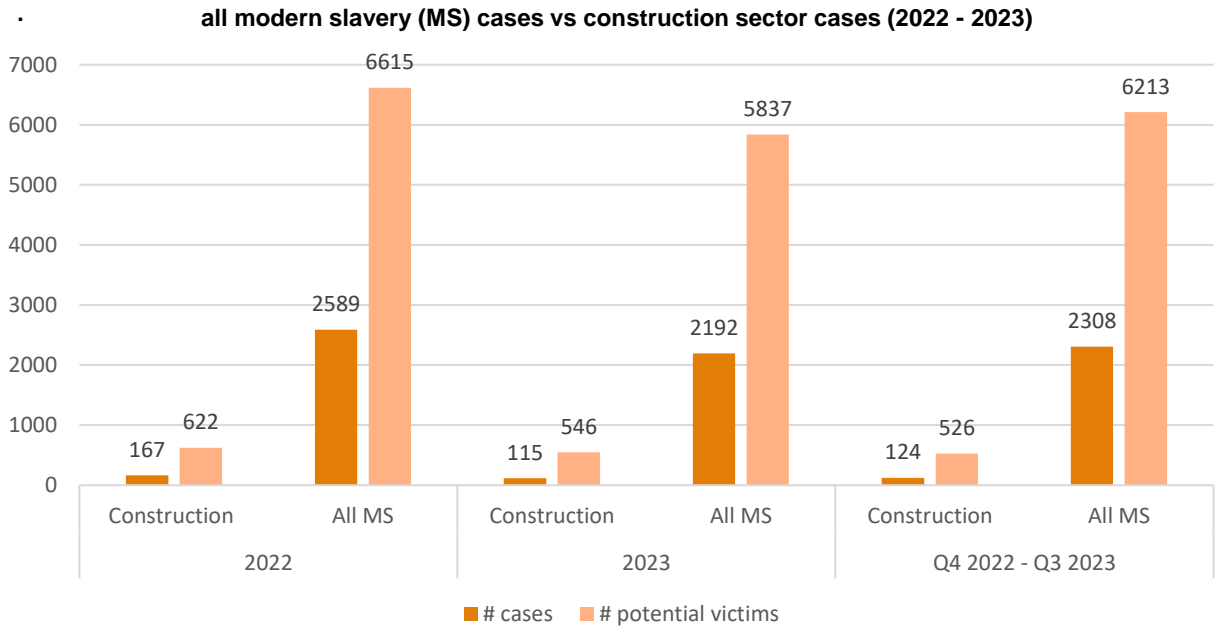
key points

- The construction sector ranks third among the top five industries for reported labour exploitation.
- There were 124 modern slavery cases with 526 potential victims indicated between the fourth quarter of 2022 and the third quarter of 2023 (12 months).
- Indian was the most recorded nationality of potential modern slavery victims indicated in the United Kingdom during this timeframe, closely followed by Romanian and Chinese.
- Tied accommodation and Confinement/restricted movement were the most frequently reported methods of control.
- Job offers were the most frequently reported recruitment tactic.

Q4 2022 – Q3 2023

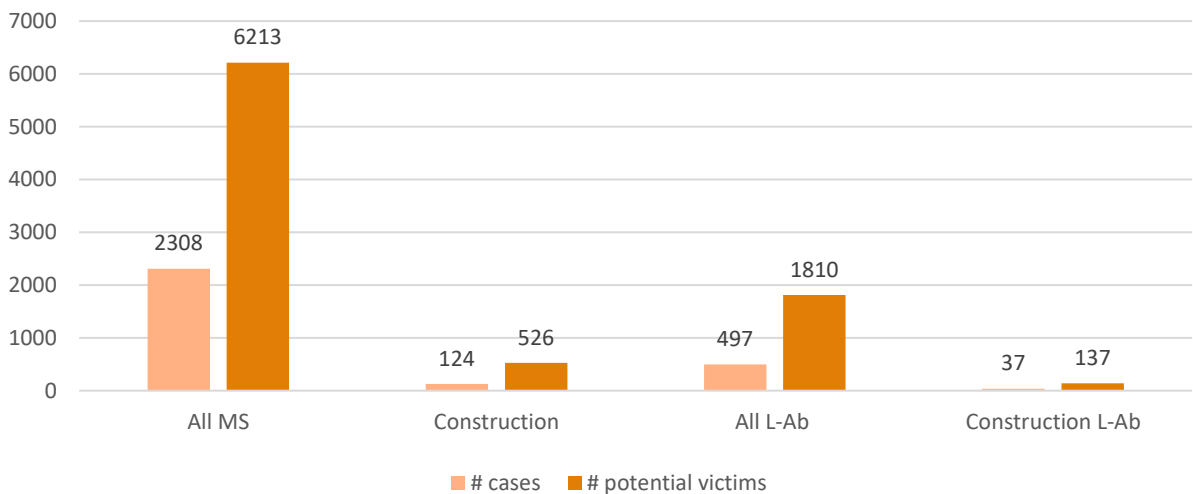
	124	Cases of modern slavery
	526	Potential victims of modern slavery
	37	Cases of Labour abuse
	137	Potential victims of Labour abuse

Between 2022 and 2023, both the total number of modern slavery cases and those reported within the construction sector declined. However, the proportions of modern slavery cases and potential victims within the construction sector remain unchanged, consistently accounting for approximately 5-6% of all modern slavery cases and 8-9% of total potential victim numbers.



Between the fourth quarter of 2022 and third quarter of 2023, reported cases of modern slavery within the construction sector accounted for 5% (124) of all modern slavery cases and 8% (526) of all potential victims. Labour abuse cases within the construction sector show a similar distribution pattern: 7% of all labour abuse cases and 8% of all labour abuse potential victims.

distribution of modern slavery (MS) and Labour abuse (L-Ab): overall cases vs construction sector (Q4 2022 – Q3 2023)



top five sectors for Labour exploitation

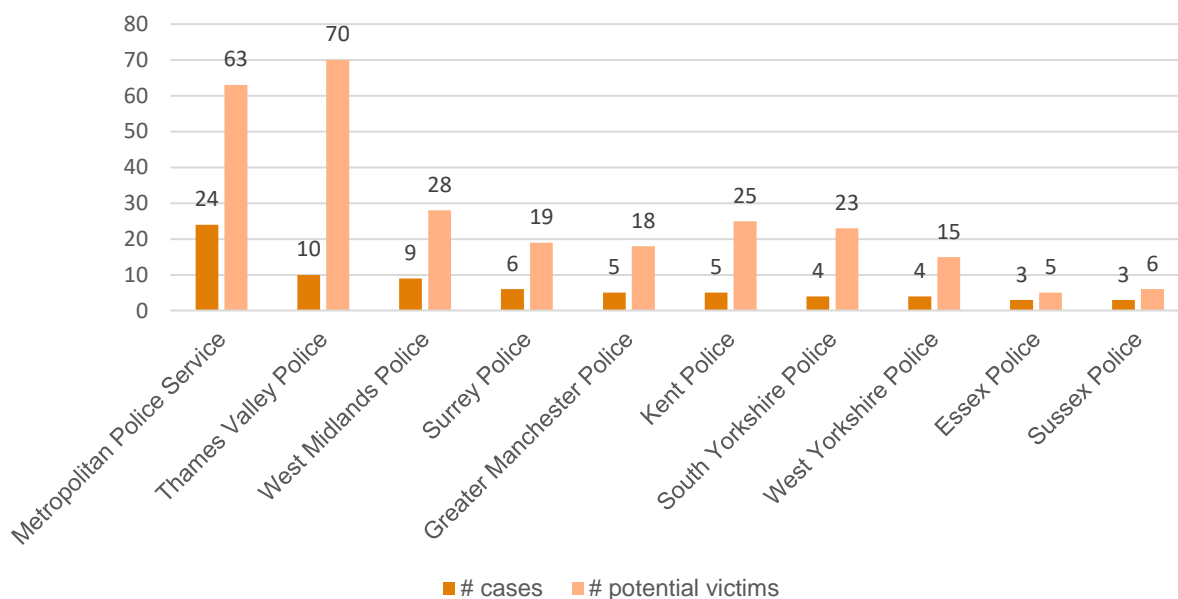
The construction sector ranked third for both the number of cases where Labour exploitation is reported and the number of potential victims.

(Note: These numbers includes cases where construction was listed as an industry within cases classified as "various," indicating modern slavery occurring across multiple industries.)

	number of cases	number of potential victims
1	Services	Care sector
2	Care sector	Services
3	Construction	Construction
4	Hospitality	Hospitality
5	Agriculture	Agriculture

Within the UK, the Metropolitan Police Service recorded the highest number of construction sector cases (24) and second-highest number of potential victims (63). Thames Valley Police recorded the highest number of potential victims (70) and the second-highest number of construction cases (10).

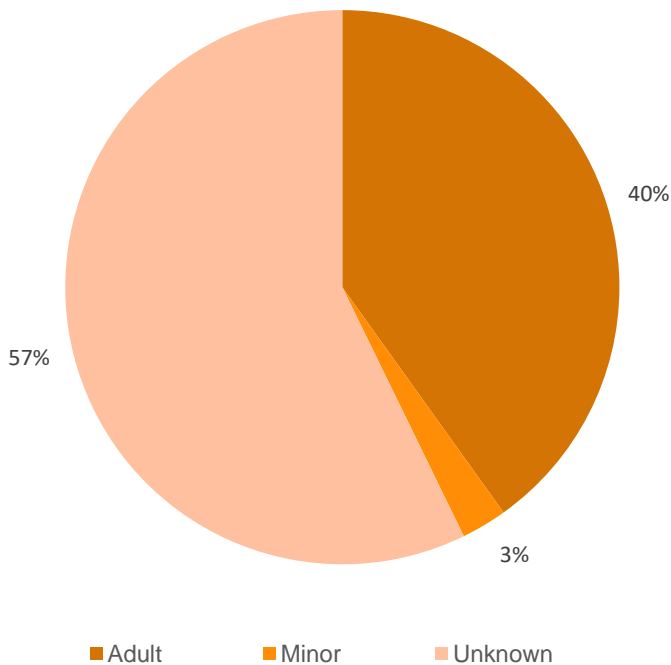
breakdown of modern slavery construction cases and potential victims by top 10 police force region



The number of potential victims across the top ten police force regions broadly mirrors the pattern shown by case numbers. However, Hertfordshire Police, who ranked #14 recorded only two cases of modern slavery within the construction sector; yet indicated 47 potential victims – the third-highest number recorded in the UK. Beyond UK cases, a further 25 cases were reported that occurred internationally, accounting for 161 potential victims.

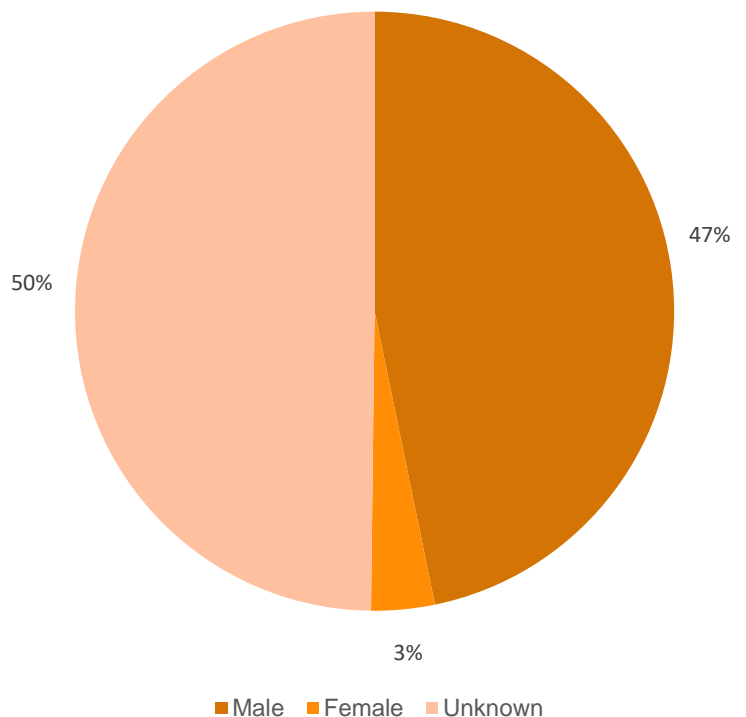
The Helpline captures the age and gender of potential victims if provided by the caller. If not specified, "unknown" is recorded.

age of potential victims of modern slavery



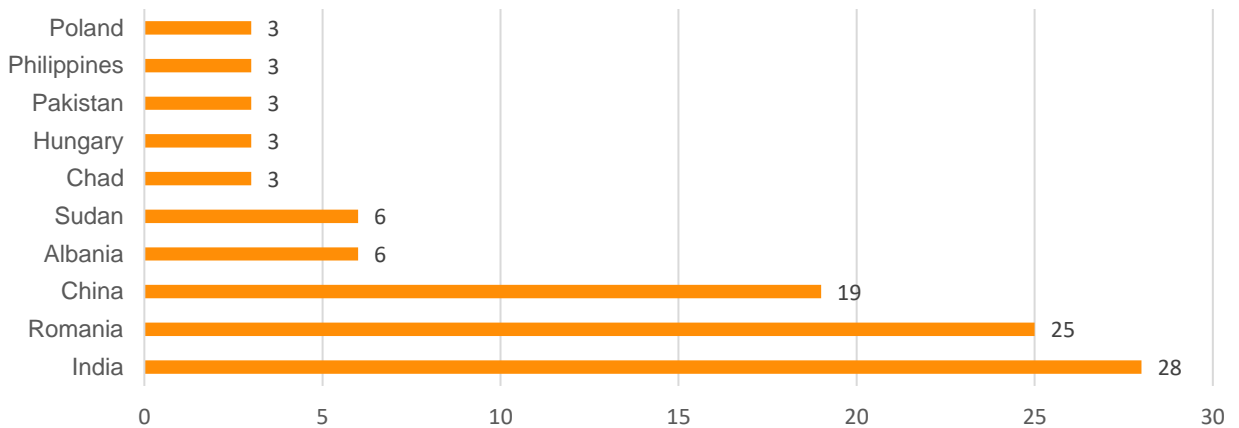
In the analysed timeframe, male victims accounted for 47% of total potential victims recorded (when unknowns are included), while adults accounted for 40%. Where only gender was known, 3% were female. Where only age was known, 3% of victims were minors.

gender of potential victims of modern slavery



Interestingly, where both age and gender are known, 82% of potential victims indicated were male adults, highlighting this specific demographic as the most frequently reported. No female minors were recorded during this period.

potential victim nationality

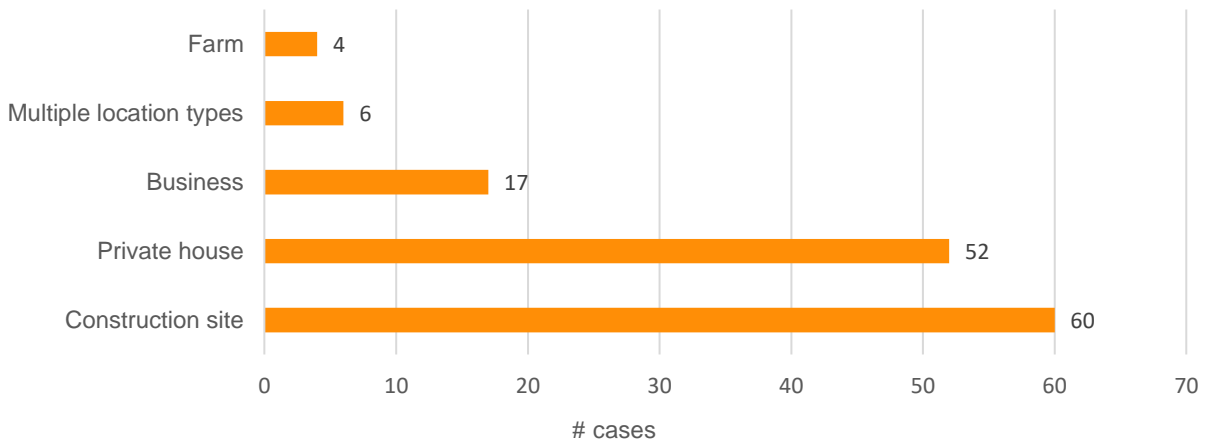


Where nationality was known, Indian, Romanian and Chinese were most prevalent, accounting for 21%, 19% and 14% of potential victims, respectively.

Additionally, potential victims from 22 other nationalities were also indicated.

However, nationality remained unknown for 395 potential victims.

type of location



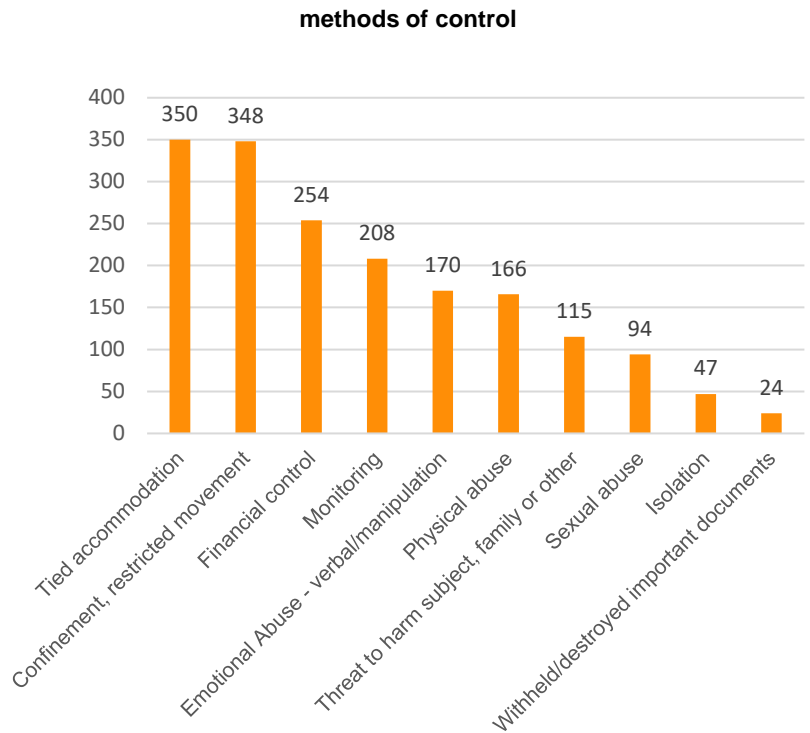
Among the top five locations of exploitation within the construction sector, construction sites were most frequently reported, in just under 50% of cases (60 instances). Private houses followed closely at 42% of cases (52). Businesses and farms were also reported as locations, along with cases where exploitation occurred at multiple locations.

Note: multiple locations of exploitation may be indicated in one case or situation.

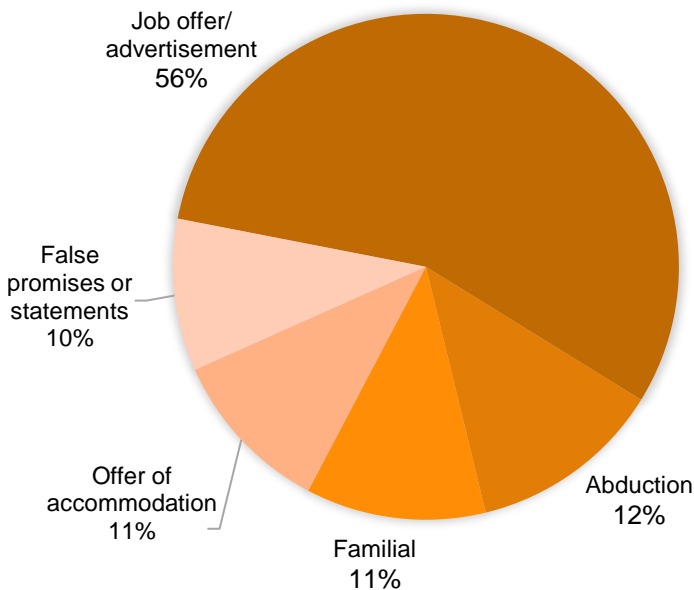
For construction sector cases, the most common methods of control indicated were:

- Tied accommodation (350 instances)
- Confinement or restricted movement (348, primarily observed in transportation to and from work sites)
- Financial control (254)
- Monitoring (208); and
- Emotional/physical abuse (170).

Note: multiple control methods may be indicated in one case or situation.



recruitment tactics



For construction sector cases, the most frequent reported recruitment tactics were:

- Job offers (63 instances)
- Abduction (14, primarily observed in international cases)
- Using a familial relationship (13)
- Offers of accommodation (12); and
- False promises or statements (11).

Note: multiple recruitment tactics may be indicated in one situation.