

Goal 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere

Target 1.2: By 2030, reduce at least by half the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions

Indicator: 1.2.2: Proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions

Institutional information

Organization(s):

The World Bank, UNICEF, UNDP

Concepts and definitions

Definition:

The following four series are used to monitor the SDG 1.2.2.

- 1) Official multidimensional poverty headcount, by sex, and age (% of population)
 - The percentage of people who are multidimensionally poor
- 2) Average number of deprivations (intensity)
 - The average percentage of dimensions in which poor people are deprived
- 3) Official multidimensional poverty headcount (% of total households)
 - The percentage of households who are multidimensionally poor
- 4) Multidimensional deprivation for children (% of population under 18)
 - The percentage of children who are simultaneously deprived in multiple dimensions of well-being

Rationale:

Poverty has traditionally been defined as the lack of money. However, the poor themselves consider their experience of poverty much more broadly. A person who is poor can suffer multiple disadvantages at the same time – for example, they may have poor health or malnutrition, a lack of clean water or electricity, poor quality of work or little schooling. Focusing on one factor alone, such as income, is not enough to capture the true reality of poverty. Therefore, multidimensional poverty measures described above have been developed to create a more comprehensive picture by looking at multiple dimensions such as health, education, living standards. Official multidimensional poverty headcount (% population), official multidimensional poverty headcount (% of total households) and multidimensional deprivation for children (% of population under 18) are all about the headcount ratio trying to capture how many people, households, or children in the entire pool are regarded as multidimensionally poor. On the other hand, average number of deprivation tries to capture the depth of multidimensional poverty. For instance, if there are 18 indicators to capture different dimensions of poverty, a person or a household is considered to be deprived if they are shown to be deprived in at least 4 indicators. Therefore, the person who is deprived in 5 indicators, and the person who is deprived in 15 indicators are considered to be both multidimensionally poor. The 'intensity' of the poverty is different between these two people, which is captured by the average number of deprivation.

Concepts:

Official multidimensional poverty headcount is calculated by each country using different methodologies. The most commonly used method is Alkire Foster (AF) methodology which identifies dimensions, typically health, education and living standards and several indicators in each dimension. The unit of analysis could

be either individual or household. The individuals or households are considered as multidimensionally poor if they are deprived in multiple indicators exceeding certain thresholds.

On the other hand, EU countries and North Macedonia use a completely different approach to measure the multidimensional poverty using the concept of "people at risk of poverty or social exclusion" (AROPE). AROPE consists of three indicators, and people will be considered as "at risk of poverty or social exclusion" if they are "at risk of poverty" or "severely materially deprived" or "living in a household with a very low work intensity".

Multidimensional deprivation for children is calculated based on the methodology called as Multiple Overlapping Deprivation Analysis (MODA). A child is considered multidimensionally poor if s/he is simultaneously deprived in multiple dimensions. It also identifies dimensions and indicators under each dimension, and has a similar structure with the AF methodology. However, it is strikingly different in that it focuses on the life-cycle of children and creates different sets of dimensions and indicators for different age groups, for instance, 0-4, 5-11, 12-14, 15-17, and conducts analysis separately for each age group. In the global SDG database, the multidimensional poverty headcount (%) for overall 0-17 age range has been used.

Comments and limitations:

It should be clearly noted that data in the above-mentioned series are not comparable across countries. For instance, AF methodology and AROPE are fundamentally very different, and although both produce some headcount ratio of people who are considered as "multidimensionally poor", their definition of multidimensionality of poverty is utterly different, and so should not be compared. Also, even when they use the same approach, such as, AF, AROPE or MODA, the numbers are not comparable across countries, as the important parameters to calculate the figures such as the number of indicators, the weight allocated to each indicator, how to divide the age group of children are tailored to the country specific context. Furthermore, even in the same country, if the methodology is different, the number should not be compared. For instance, some countries calculate child multidimensional poverty headcount by using both AF and MODA methodologies, but their numbers could be very different as the dimensions and indicators used in both approaches differ significantly. To overcome these comparability issues, UNDP produces global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI), which is the product of multiplying multidimensional headcount and average number of deprivations using the same dimensions and indicators covering more than 100 countries. However, most of these numbers are not officially approved by each country, and sometimes the nationally calculated MPI is different from the global MPI due to some difference of the parameters, therefore, in this platform, the global MPI is not included in the Global SDG Database.

Methodology

Computation Method:

Official multidimensional poverty headcount (% of population)

First, we describe the AF methodology. Initially, the dimensions and indicators should be chosen. In the standard approach of the AF methodology, the dimension consists of health, education and living standards. Health consists of two indicators; nutrition and child mortality. Education consists of two indicators; years of schooling and school attendance. Living standards contain six indicators which are cooking fuel, drinking water, sanitation, electricity, housing and assets. Therefore, in this case, there are three dimensions and ten indicators.

After dimensions and indicators are chosen, a deprivation cut-off is set for each indicator. In the above example, it would yield a set of 10 binary variables for every person - the value of 1 if the individual is deprived in that indicator and 0 otherwise. Once the set of binary variables is calculated, each person is assigned a deprivation score denoted as c , indicating the proportion of deprivations weighted by the relative

importance of each indicator. The deprivation score c is defined to take values ranging between 0 (indicating that the person does not experience any weighted deprivations) and 1 (indicating that they experience weighted deprivations in all the 10 indicators). Then to identify people who suffer multidimensional poverty in the country, the deprivation score c is compared to a poverty cut-off point. All people suffering deprivations in a number of weighted deprivations equal to or greater than this cut-off are identified as multidimensionally poor. Further details on AF methodology can be found [here](#). It should be noted that although the country adopts AF methodology to measure multidimensional poverty, the sets of dimensions and indicators could be different country by country, as they would be tailored to specific contexts of each country. For the detailed methodology used to calculate the country-specific multidimensional poverty indicators, please refer to the official documentation through the links listed at the end.

Secondly, we describe the AROPE methodology. As mentioned above, the AROPE consists of three indicators, which are "at risk of poverty" or "severely materially deprived" or "living in a household with a very low work intensity". The "at risk of poverty rate" is the share of people with an equivalised disposable income below the at-risk-of-poverty threshold, which is set at 60% of the national median equivalised disposable income after social transfers. The equivalised disposable income is the total income of a household, after tax and other deductions, that is available for spending or saving, divided by the number of household members converted into equalised adults; household members are equalised or made equivalent by weighting each according to their age, using the so-called modified OECD equivalence scale. For poverty indicators, the equivalised disposable income is calculated from the total disposable income of each household divided by the equivalised household size. The income reference period is a fixed 12-month period (such as the previous calendar or tax year) for all countries except the UK for which the income reference period is the current year and Ireland for which the survey is continuous and income is collected for the last twelve months.

Material deprivation refers to a state of economic strain and durables, defined as the enforced inability (rather than the *choice* not to do so) to pay unexpected expenses, afford a one-week annual holiday away from home, a meal involving meat, chicken or fish every second day, the adequate heating of a dwelling, durable goods like a washing machine, colour television, telephone or car, being confronted with payment arrears (mortgage or rent, utility bills, hire purchase installments or other loan payments). The material deprivation rate is an indicator in EU-SILC that expresses the inability to afford some items considered by most people to be desirable or even necessary to lead an adequate life. The indicator distinguishes between individuals who cannot afford a certain good or service, and those who do not have this good or service for another reason, e.g., because they do not want or do not need it. The indicator adopted by the Social protection committee measures the percentage of the population that cannot afford at least three of the following nine items: 1) to pay their rent, mortgage or utility bills; 2) to keep their home adequately warm; 3) to face unexpected expenses; 4) to eat meat or proteins regularly; 5) to go on holiday; 6) a television set; 7) a washing machine; 8) a car; 9) a telephone. Severe material deprivation rate is defined as the enforced inability to pay for at least four of the above-mentioned items.

The indicator "persons living in households with very low work intensity" is defined as the number of persons living in a household where the members of working age worked less than 20 % of their total potential during the previous 12 months. The work intensity of a household is the ratio of the total number of months that all working-age household members have worked during the income reference year and the total number of months the same household members theoretically could have worked in the same period. A working-age person is a person aged 18-59 years, with the exclusion of students in the age group between 18 and 24 years. Households composed only of children, of students aged less than 25 and/or people aged 60 or more are completely excluded from the indicator calculation. Further details on AROPE methodology can be found [here](#).

Average number of deprivations (intensity)

The multidimensional headcount is a useful measure, but it does not increase if poor people become more deprived. Because of that, we need a different set of measures, which is the average number of deprivations, also known as intensity. Intensity is calculated by adding up the proportion of total deprivations each person suffers and dividing by the total number of poor persons. For example, if say person 1 suffers 4 out of 6 deprivations and person 2 suffers 6 out of 6, and then the intensity will be calculated as $(4/6 + 6/6)/2 = 5/6$.

Official multidimensional poverty headcount (% of total households)

The calculation methodology is the same as the AF methodology described above, except for that the unit of analysis is household instead of individuals.

Multidimensional deprivation for children (% of population under 18)

In order to measure multidimensional poverty based on the MODA methodology, dimensions of children's well-being that best reflect the situation of poverty in the country should be defined. Each dimension of well-being is measured by a set of indicators based on available data. The selection of indicators and dimensions should be guided by data availability and relevance to children's needs and rights in each country's context. Given the life cycle approach emphasizing that children have different needs throughout the different phases of their childhood development, the selection of dimensions as well as the findings and results are disaggregated by age groups. Then a deprivation threshold is set for each indicator so that a child can be classified as either deprived or non-deprived in each indicator. For the multidimensional deprivation analysis, the number of dimensions in which a child is deprived is counted and then the percentage of children suffering from zero, one, two, three, etc deprivations is presented to see the distribution of deprivation. A cut-off point, or "deprivation threshold" (k) is used to define whether the child is multidimensionally poor or not and based on that, the percentage of multidimensionally poor children is calculated. It is important to note that a country-specific analysis is carried out adjusting the choice of dataset, age groups, dimensions, indicators and thresholds to better reflect each country's context and so the results presented in one country are not comparable with the findings of other countries on multidimensional poverty. Further details on MODA methodology can be found [here](#).

Disaggregation:

Official multidimensional poverty headcount (% population) is disaggregated by sex and age. The age band for official multidimensional poverty headcount for children is mostly 0-17, but some countries have different age definition for children, such as 0-15 in El Salvador.

Treatment of missing values:

- [At country level](#)

The treatment of missing values differs from survey to survey. For details, please refer to the official documentation through the links listed at the end.

- [At regional and global levels](#)

No estimation by international agencies has been implemented for missing values in this data.

Regional aggregates:

Since the data for indicator 1.2.2 are based on the national definitions of poverty – and the methodologies used to produce them are different, as described in the “comments and limitations” section, data are not comparable across countries. Thus regional and global aggregates are not produced.

Sources of discrepancies:

In the process of producing the global MPI described above, the UNDP also produces the multidimensional poverty headcount. However, this number often differs from the nationally produced multidimensional poverty headcount as they use the different dimensions, indicators and cut-off points.

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| Thailand | | | | | | | | □ | | |
| Zambia | | | | | | ⊙ | | | | |

Color Legend

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| ⊙ | Multidimensional deprivation for children |

Calendar

Data collection:

Data release:

EU countries and some Latin American countries such as Costa Rica and Ecuador conduct the survey and produce multidimensional indicators every year, but most of the developing countries, especially African countries have published multidimensional measurement only once in the last 10 years, or spasmodically

when the funding was available. Therefore, for these countries, it is difficult to state definitely when the next data is available.

Data providers

Following is the list of national data providers responsible for producing the data at the national level.

| Country | Source |
|--------------------|--|
| Afghanistan | National Statistics and Information Authority (NSIA) |
| Angola | National Statistics Institute (INE) of Angola |
| Armenia | Statistical Committee of Republic of Armenia |
| Austria | EUROSTAT |
| Belgium | EUROSTAT |
| Bhutan | National Statistics Bureau |
| Bulgaria | EUROSTAT |
| Burundi | Burundi Institute of Statistics and Economic Studies |
| Chile | Ministerio de Desarrollo Social |
| Columbia | National Administrative Department of Statistics (DANE) |
| Costa Rica | The National Institute of Statistics and Census of Costa Rica |
| Croatia | EUROSTAT |
| Cyprus | EUROSTAT |
| Dominican Republic | Ministry of Economy, Planning and Development |
| Ecuador | National Institute of Statistics and Census (INEC), Ministry of Social Development Coordination and National Secretary of Planning and Development |
| Egypt | The Ministry of Social Solidarity (MoSS), the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics (CAPMAS) |
| El Salvador | Secretaría Técnica y de Planificación Presidencia |
| Estonia | EUROSTAT |
| Finland | EUROSTAT |
| Germany | EUROSTAT |
| Ghana | Ghana Statistical Service, National Development Planning Commission |
| Greece | EUROSTAT |
| Guinea | INSTITUT NATIONAL DE LA STATISTIQUE |
| Guinea Bissau | La Direction Generale du Plan, Instituto Nacional de Estatística (INE) |
| Hungary | EUROSTAT |
| Ireland | EUROSTAT |
| Italy | EUROSTAT |
| Lithuania | EUROSTAT |
| Luxembourg | EUROSTAT |
| Mali | Institut National de la Statistique (INSTAT), La Cellule Technique de Coordination du Cadre Stratégique de Lutte contre la Pauvreté (CT-CSCLP) |
| Malta | EUROSTAT |
| Mexico | Consejo Naciola de Evaluacion de la Política de Desarrollo Social (CONEVAL) |
| Morocco | The high commission of planning |
| Mozambique | Ministry of Economics and Finance - Directorate of Economic and Financial Studies |
| Nepal | National Planning Commission |
| Netherlands | EUROSTAT |
| North Macedonia | State Statistical Office |
| Pakistan | Ministry of Planning Development & Reform |
| Philippines | Philippine Statistics Authority |
| Poland | EUROSTAT |
| Romania | EUROSTAT |
| Rwanda | National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda |
| Seychelles | National Bureau of Statistics |
| Slovenia | EUROSTAT |
| Sweden | EUROSTAT |

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| Thailand | National Economic and Social Development Council (NESDC) |
| Zambia | Ministry of National Development Planning |

Data compilers

The World Bank, UNICEF, and UNDP

References

| Country | Reference |
|--------------------|---|
| Afghanistan | Official publication: https://www.nsia.gov.af:8080/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/A-MPI-2019-full-report-English-1.pdf ; |
| Angola | Official publication: Childhood in Angola - A Multidimensional Analysis of Child Poverty https://www.unicef.org/esaro/UNICEF-Angola-2018-A-Multidimensional-Analysis-of-Child-Poverty.pdf |
| Armenia | (2010-2017) Official publication: Social Snapshot and Poverty in Armenia: Statistical and analytical report, 2018 (https://www.armstat.am/en/?nid=82&id=2095); Methodological documentation: The Many Faces of Deprivation: A Multidimensional Approach to Poverty in Armenia (http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/111701504028830403/The-many-faces-of-deprivation-a-multidimensional-approach-to-poverty-in-Armenia) (2013-2017) Official publication: https://www.armstat.am/file/article/poverty_2018_english_2.pdf (2018) Official publication: Social Snapshot and Poverty in Armenia, 2019 https://armstat.am/am/?nid=82&id=2217 ; Methodological documentation: The Many Faces of Deprivation: A Multidimensional Approach to Poverty in Armenia (http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/111701504028830403/The-many-faces-of-deprivation-a-multidimensional-approach-to-poverty-in-Armenia) |
| Austria | Official publication: https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/data/database https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents/3217494/9940483/KS-02-19-165-EN-N.pdf ; Methodological documentation: People at risk of poverty and social exclusion (AROPE) , https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/EU_statistics_on_income_and_living_conditions_(EU-SILC)_methodology_-_Europe_2020_target_on_poverty_and_social_exclusion |
| Belgium | Official publication: https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/data/database https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents/3217494/9940483/KS-02-19-165-EN-N.pdf ; Methodological documentation: People at risk of poverty and social exclusion (AROPE) , https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/EU_statistics_on_income_and_living_conditions_(EU-SILC)_methodology_-_Europe_2020_target_on_poverty_and_social_exclusion |
| Bhutan | Official publication: Bhutan Multidimensional Poverty Index 2017 http://www.nsb.gov.bt/publication/files/pub0mu6061yd.pdf ; |
| Bulgaria | Official publication: https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/data/database https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents/3217494/9940483/KS-02-19-165-EN-N.pdf ; Methodological documentation: People at risk of poverty and social exclusion (AROPE) , https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/EU_statistics_on_income_and_living_conditions_(EU-SILC)_methodology_-_Europe_2020_target_on_poverty_and_social_exclusion |
| Burundi | Official publication: https://www.ilo.org/surveyLib/index.php/catalog/2153/download/18083 , https://www.unicef.org/esa/sites/unicef.org.esa/files/2018-09/UNICEF-Burundi-2017-Child-Poverty.pdf |

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| Chile | <p>(2011 and 2013) Official publication: http://observatorio.ministeriodesarrollosocial.gob.cl/documentos/Casen2013_Situacion_Pobreza_Chile.pdf; Methodological documentation: http://observatorio.ministeriodesarrollosocial.gob.cl/casen/casen_informes.php</p> <p>(2015) Official publication: http://observatorio.ministeriodesarrollosocial.gob.cl/casen-multidimensional/casen/docs/CASEN_2015_Situacion_Pobreza.pdf; Methodological documentation: http://observatorio.ministeriodesarrollosocial.gob.cl/casen-multidimensional/casen/metodologia.php</p> <p>(2017) Official publication: http://observatorio.ministeriodesarrollosocial.gob.cl/casen-multidimensional/casen/docs/Resultados_pobreza_Casen_2017.pdf; Methodological documentation: http://observatorio.ministeriodesarrollosocial.gob.cl/casen-multidimensional/casen/metodologia.php</p> |
| Columbia | <p>Official publication: https://www.dane.gov.co/files/investigaciones/condiciones_vida/pobreza/2018/bt_pobreza_multidimensional_18.pdf; Methodological documentation: https://www.dane.gov.co/files/acerca/Normatividad/CONPES-150.pdf</p> |
| Costa Rica | <p>(2010, 2011, 2014, 2016 and 2017) Official publication: Multidimensional poverty indicators according to planning area and region, July 2017. https://www.inec.go.cr/system/files_force/documentos-biblioteca-virtual/resultados_generales_sitio_web_enaho_2017_ipm_9oct17.xlsx?download=1</p> <p>(2012, 2013) Official publication: Poor households with deprivation in the indicators of the Multidimensional Poverty Index by planning region https://www.inec.go.cr/system/files_force/documentos/pobreza_y_presupuesto_de_hogares/pobreza/estadisticas/resultados/repobrezaenaho2012-01_0.xls?download=1</p> <p>(2015) Official publication: Poor households with deprivation in the indicators of the Multidimensional Poverty Index by planning region https://www.inec.go.cr/system/files_force/documentos/pobreza_y_presupuesto_de_hogares/pobreza/estadisticas/resultados/repobrezaenaho2012-01_0.xls?download=1 Methodological documentation: ENAHO 2015. Methodology: Multidimensional Poverty Index (IPM). Handbook. National Household Survey. https://www.inec.cr/sites/default/files/documentos/pobreza_y_presupuesto_de_hogares/pobreza/metodologias/mepobrezaenaho2015-01.pdf</p> <p>(2018) Official publication: Multidimensional poverty indicators according to planning area and region, July 2018. https://www.inec.go.cr/system/files_force/documentos-biblioteca-virtual/reenaho2018-ipm.xlsx?download=1</p> <p>(2019) Official publication: Multidimensional poverty indicators according to planning area and region, July 2019 https://www.inec.go.cr/system/files_force/documentos-biblioteca-virtual/reenaho2019-ipm.xlsx?download=1</p> |
| Croatia | <p>Official publication: https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/data/database https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents/3217494/9940483/KS-02-19-165-EN-N.pdf; Methodological documentation: People at risk of poverty and social exclusion (AROPE) , https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/EU_statistics_on_income_and_living_conditions_(EU-SILC)_methodology_-_Europe_2020_target_on_poverty_and_social_exclusion</p> |
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| Ecuador | Official publication: National Employment, Underemployment and Unemployment Survey (ENEMDU) 2019 https://www.ecuadorencifras.gob.ec/documentos/web-inec/POBREZA/2019/Diciembre-2019/Tabulados%20IPM-dic%202019.xlsx |
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| Guinea | Official publication : http://www.stat-guinee.org/images/Publications/INS/RGPH3/RGPH3_rapport_pauvrete.pdf |

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