

Poverty & Equity Brief

Sub-Saharan Africa

Guinea

April 2020

Poverty remains widespread in Guinea. The poverty rate at the national poverty line has hovered around 55 percent between 2002 and 2012, with a slight dip in 2007. The lack of poverty reduction at the national level is a result of the low economic growth over this period, although results vary somewhat across sub-national regions. Following the outbreak of Ebola in 2014 and the decrease in commodity prices that undermined economic growth, poverty and living standards are expected to have worsened. Simulations using population census data suggest a likely increase in national poverty to nearly 58 percent in 2014, with both urban and rural areas experiencing increased poverty. Due to a high population growth rate (around 3 percent per year), the population living in poverty was projected to have increased to 6 million in 2014, representing a net increase of 1.5 million relative to 2002.

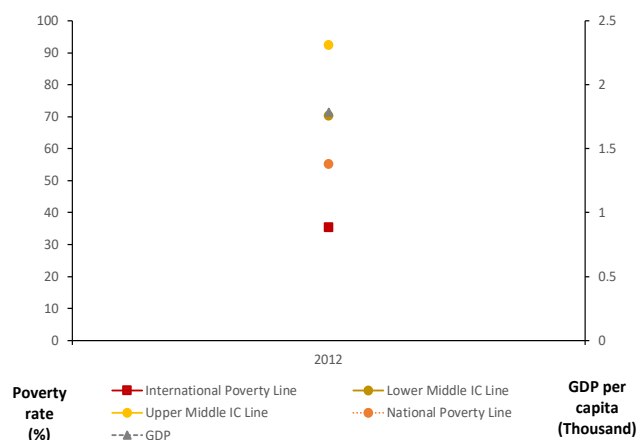
Projections based on GDP per capita growth suggest that the percentage of the population living below the international poverty line (US\$1.90 per day, 2011 PPP) has declined from 35 percent in 2012 to about 24 percent in 2019. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, real GDP growth for 2020 has been revised downward to 3.1 percent and the extreme poverty rate is projected to remain unchanged. However, the severity and persistence of the covid-19 outbreak are still uncertain, and the containment measures and resulting market disruptions can have dire impacts on household welfare and poverty, including loss of income, reduced purchasing power, and inadequate access to health and education services.

Shared prosperity has been limited based on national welfare measures. The average per capita consumption for the poorest 40 percent of the population increased slightly between 2007 and 2012, yielding positive measures of the shared prosperity index and shared prosperity premium. However, most of the population distribution including the poor, experienced no change or a decline in consumption during this period, especially in urban areas. Inequality was steady over this period when measured using spatially deflated consumption.

POVERTY	Number of Poor (million)	Rate (%)	Period
National Poverty Line	6.2	55.2	2012
International Poverty Line 5631.6 in Guinean franc (2012) or US\$1.90 (2011 PPP) per day per capita	3.8	35.3	2012
Lower Middle Income Class Poverty Line 9484.8 in Guinean franc (2012) or US\$3.20 (2011 PPP) per day per capita	7.5	70.3	2012
Upper Middle Income Class Poverty Line 16301.9 in Guinean franc (2012) or US\$5.50 (2011 PPP) per day per capita	9.8	92.3	2012
Multidimensional Poverty Measure		63.0	2012
SHARED PROSPERITY			
Annualized Consumption Growth per capita of the bottom 40 percent		N/A	N/A
INEQUALITY			
Gini Index		33.7	2012
Shared Prosperity Premium = Growth of the bottom 40 - Average Growth		N/A	N/A
GROWTH			
Annualized GDP per capita growth		1.53	2007-2012
Annualized Consumption Growth per capita from Household Survey		N/A	N/A
MEDIAN INCOME			
Growth of the annual median income/consumption per capita		N/A	N/A

Sources: WDI for GDP, National Statistical Offices for national poverty rates, POVCALNET as of February 2020, and Global Monitoring Database for the rest.

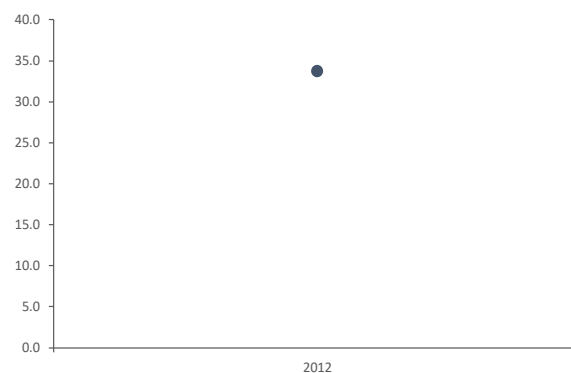
POVERTY HEADCOUNT RATE, 2012



Source: World Bank using ELEP/SSAPOV/GMD

INEQUALITY TRENDS, 2012

Gini Index



Source: World Bank using ELEP/SSAPOV/GMD

KEY INDICATORS

Distribution among groups: 2012	International Poverty Line(%)		Relative group (%)		Multidimensional Poverty Measures (% of people):	2012
	Non-Poor	Poor	Bottom 40	Top 60		
Urban population	87	13	16	84	Monetary poverty (Consumption)	
Rural population	54	46	52	48	Daily consumption less than US\$1.90 per person	35.3
Males	65	35	40	60	Education	
Females	65	35	40	60	At least one school-aged child is not enrolled in school	7.7
0 to 14 years old	60	40	45	55	No adult has completed primary education	53.7
15 to 64 years old	69	31	36	64	Access to basic infrastructure	
65 and older	66	34	40	60	No access to limited-standard drinking water	31.2
Without education (16+)	63	37	43	57	No access to limited-standard sanitation	65.7
Primary education (16+)	69	31	34	66	No access to electricity	74.9
Secondary education (16+)	83	17	20	80		
Tertiary/post-secondary education (16+)	94	6	7	93		

Source: World Bank using ELEP/SSAPOV/GMD

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Notes: N/A missing value, N/A* value removed due to less than 30 observations

POVERTY DATA AND METHODOLOGY

Data collection is not regular in Guinea, and there is generally a lag of five years or more between two surveys. Moreover, there is a comparability issue. Except for the two ELEP – Enquête Légère pour l'Evaluation de la Pauvreté (2007 and 2012) – which are designed to be comparable, the comparison with other surveys (1994 and 2002–2003) is not possible because they were designed differently. Addressing the comparability issue using the survey-to-survey imputation methods allowed us to estimate the poverty incidence for 2002–2003 at 55.4 percent rather than 49.1 percent. A new household survey, Enquête Harmonisé sur les Conditions de Vie des Ménages, was fielded from July 2018 to June 2019, and a revised poverty measurement methodology will be utilized.

The GINI estimates in the PEB are computed from consumption that considers spatial price differences and would be different from those using nominal consumption.

HARMONIZATION

The numbers presented in this brief are based on the SSAPOV database. SSAPOV is a database of harmonized nationally representative household surveys managed by Sub-Saharan Team for Statistical Development. It contains more than 100 surveys covering 45 out of the 48 countries in the SSA region. The four countries not covered in the database are Eritrea, Equatorial Guinea, and Somalia. Terms of use of the data adhere to agreements with the original data producers.