

# Poverty & Equity Brief

Sub-Saharan Africa

## Sudan

April 2020

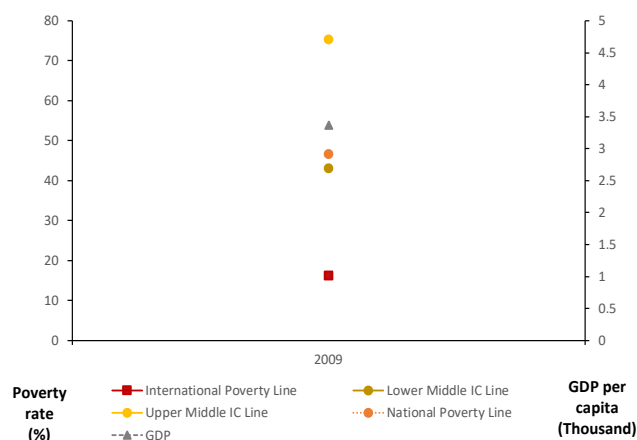
The most recent official estimates of poverty in Sudan are based on the 2014/15 National Household Budget and Poverty Survey (NHBPS). At the time, an estimated 36.1 percent of Sudan's population had levels of per capita expenditure below the national poverty line. The World Bank is currently finalizing a poverty report that estimates poverty headcount using the international poverty lines (IPL) of \$1.90 and \$3.2 per person per day (standards for extreme poverty and global poverty, respectively). In the meantime, World Bank published poverty numbers for Sudan are based on the 2009 survey. In 2009 an estimated 46.5 percent of Sudan's population, 15.6 million Sudanese, had levels of per capita expenditure below the national poverty line (NPL). When measured against the World Bank's international poverty line (IPL) of \$1.90 per person per day (2011 PPP), 16.2 percent of the population was deemed poor. When poverty was measured against international poverty lines for lower and of upper middle-income countries (\$3.2 and \$5.5 per person per day), 43.0 percent and 75.2 percent were deemed poor, respectively. The ongoing economic crisis, exacerbated by COVID-19, is expected to lead to higher poverty rates. The outlook for poverty remains negative. Poverty rates, also reflecting the growth impact of the COVID-19 outbreak, are projected to increase by 2022 to 18.3 percent at \$1.90/day PPP, and 53.5 percent at \$3.20/day PPP. High inflation, shortage of fuel and other basic commodities are expected to continue having negative effects on living conditions. The impending economic stabilization reforms are expected to take time to deliver positive results.

In 2009, the incidence of poverty in rural areas, where close to two thirds of the population live, was significantly higher than in urban areas. Disparities were also pronounced across localities. For instance, at roughly 70 percent against the NPL, the incidence of poverty in Northern Darfur was about three times higher than in the capital Khartoum. A Gini index of 35.4 suggests that inequality was moderate compared to other countries in Sub-Saharan Africa. While analysis of the 2014/15 household survey data is being finalized, poverty numbers based on that survey would not reflect the current macroeconomic imbalances and adjustment measures in Sudan. Thus, current poverty and inequality numbers remain unclear, but the 2018 food price hikes are estimated to have worsened poverty, inequality, and overall economic welfare situation.

POVERTY	Number of Poor (million)	Rate (%)	Period
National Poverty Line	15.6	46.5	2009
International Poverty Line 2.1 in Sudanese pound (2009) or US\$1.90 (2011 PPP) per day per capita	5.5	16.2	2009
Lower Middle Income Class Poverty Line 3.6 in Sudanese pound (2009) or US\$3.20 (2011 PPP) per day per capita	14.5	43.0	2009
Upper Middle Income Class Poverty Line 6.1 in Sudanese pound (2009) or US\$5.50 (2011 PPP) per day per capita	25.4	75.2	2009
Multidimensional Poverty Measure		68.2	2009
SHARED PROSPERITY			
Annualized Income or Consumption Growth per capita of the bottom 40 percent		N/A	N/A
INEQUALITY			
Gini Index		35.4	2009
Shared Prosperity Premium = Growth of the bottom 40 - Average Growth		N/A	N/A
GROWTH			
Annualized GDP per capita growth		3.64	2011-2016
Annualized Income or 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

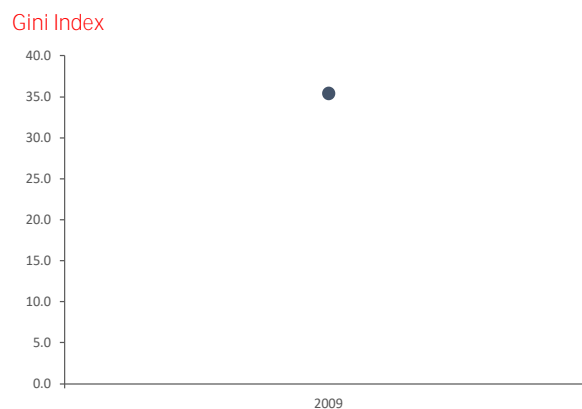
Sources: WDI for GDP, National Statistical Offices for national poverty rates, POVCALNET as of February 2020, and Global Monitoring Database for the rest.

## POVERTY HEADCOUNT RATE, 2009



Source: World Bank using NBHS/SSAPOV/GMD

## INEQUALITY TRENDS, 2009



Source: World Bank using NBHS/SSAPOV/GMD

## KEY INDICATORS

Distribution among groups: 2009	International Poverty Line(%)		Relative group (%)		Multidimensional Poverty Measures (% of people):	2009
	Non-Poor	Poor	Bottom 40	Top 60		
Urban population	95	5	21	79	<b>Monetary poverty (Consumption)</b>	
Rural population	78	22	51	49	Daily consumption less than US\$1.90 per person	16.2
Males	84	16	40	60	<b>Education</b>	
Females	84	16	40	60	At least one school-aged child is not enrolled in school	33.8
0 to 14 years old	80	20	47	53	No adult has completed primary education	48.9
15 to 64 years old	87	13	35	65	<b>Access to basic infrastructure</b>	
65 and older	87	13	34	66	No access to limited-standard drinking water	N/A
Without education (16+)	82	18	44	56	No access to limited-standard sanitation	N/A
Primary education (16+)	88	12	34	66	No access to electricity	65.9
Secondary education (16+)	95	5	21	79		
Tertiary/post-secondary education (16+)	98	2	9	91		

Source: World Bank using NBHS/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

The World Bank's IPL is anchored in the NPLs of very poor developing countries. These lines are inflated to 2011 using countries' consumer price indexes (CPIs), converted to US dollars using the 2011 PPP exchange rates, and then averaged, resulting in an IPL of approximately \$1.90 a day. This line is then converted back into the local currency unit of each country before CPIs are applied to update the value for the survey year. For Sudan, this results in an IPL of 2.0 Sudanese pounds per person per day in 2009.

Sudan's NPL, at 3.8 Sudanese pounds per day, is considerably higher than the IPL, reflecting the relative nature of national assessments of who is considered poor. It is based on the cost-of-basic-needs method: a food consumption basket that is deemed representative of the diets of the bottom 60 percent of the population is calculated and then scaled to yield a caloric intake considered adequate for humans. The price of this basket is the food component of the NPL. To arrive at the overall NPL, the food component is divided by the food expenditure share of households for which the value of food consumption is close to the food poverty line. Lastly, adjustments are made to account for price differences between rural and urban areas.

## 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.