

Poverty & Equity Brief

Africa Western & Central

Mali

October 2020

Poverty remains high in Mali with 42.1 percent of the population living below the national poverty line. This is equivalent to 8.3 million poor in 2018/19. From 2011 to 2018/19, poverty declined by a mere 2 percentage points. Therefore, despite strong annual economic growth performance averaging 5 percent, poverty reduction has been relatively weak over the last decade. The Gini index decreased from 40 to 36 over the same period.

The COVID-19 crisis has negatively impacted poverty. In a best case scenario, where the outbreak continues to abate and the economy recovers through the second half of 2020, the poverty rate will increase by 1 percentage point to 43 percent in 2020. In the short term, this is equivalent to a decrease in aggregate consumption by 2 percent and an overall increase in the absolute number of poor by 200,000 individuals.

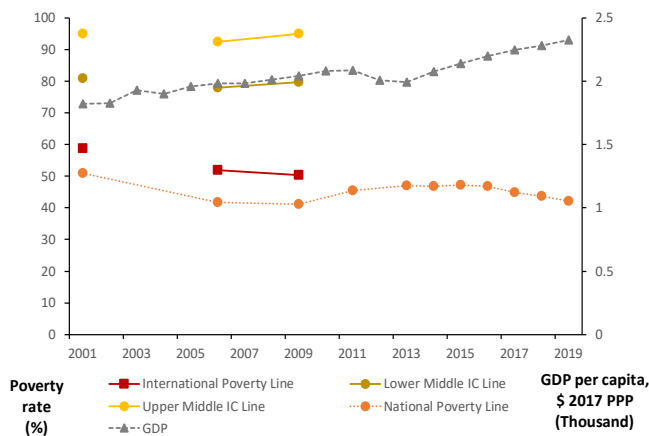
Households feel the impact of COVID-19 on their work status, whether salaried workers or self-employed. For example, in June 2020, about 11 percent of household members lost their jobs due to the pandemic. This proportion is slightly down compared to May 2020 when it was about 13 percent. In addition, 5.1 percent of households with family businesses reported loss of income due to the coronavirus pandemic. This proportion has increased slightly compared to that observed in May (4.9 percent). These households work mainly in the service (84.4 percent) and agricultural (15.6 percent) sectors.

While households report a negative impact of COVID-19 measures, households close to poverty threshold are the most vulnerable to food insecurity. Food insecurity experienced by households decreased during the month of June 2020 compared to May 2020. Worries of not having enough to eat due to lack of resources or money is the most mentioned cause of food insecurity by households. This was experienced by 46.5 percent of households in June against 53.3 percent in May. The pandemic was the cause of hunger in 72.5 percent of households in June against 71.0 percent in May.

POVERTY	Number of Poor (million)	Rate (%)	Period
National Poverty Line	8.3	42.1	2019
International Poverty Line 408.9 in CFA franc (2009) or US\$1.90 (2011 PPP) per day per capita	7.3	50.3	2009
Lower Middle Income Class Poverty Line 688.7 in CFA franc (2009) or US\$3.20 (2011 PPP) per day per capita	11.6	79.8	2009
Upper Middle Income Class Poverty Line 1183.8 in CFA franc (2009) or US\$5.50 (2011 PPP) per day per capita	13.9	95.0	2009
Multidimensional Poverty Measure		81.1	2009
SHARED PROSPERITY			
Annualized Consumption Growth per capita of the bottom 40 percent		2.24	2006-2009
INEQUALITY			
Gini Index		33.0	2009
Shared Prosperity Premium = Growth of the bottom 40 - Average Growth		3.72	2006-2009
GROWTH			
Annualized GDP per capita growth		0.96	2006-2009
Annualized Consumption Growth per capita from Household Survey		-1.48	2006-2009
MEDIAN INCOME			
Growth of the annual median income/consumption per capita		0.49	2006-2009

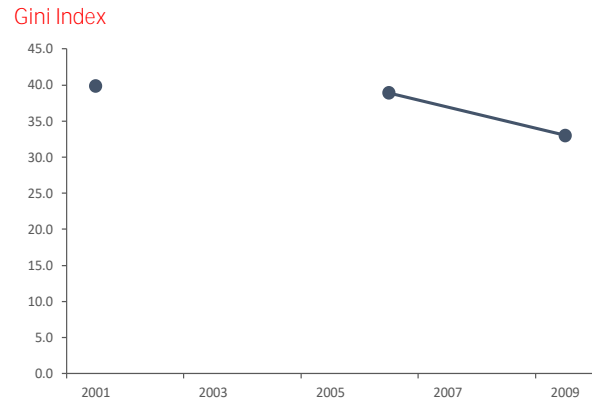
Sources: WDI for GDP, National Statistical Offices for national poverty rates, POVCALNET as of September 2020, and Global Monitoring Database for the rest.

POVERTY HEADCOUNT RATE, 2001-2019



Source: World Bank using ELIM/SSAPOV/GMD

INEQUALITY TRENDS, 2001-2009



Source: World Bank using ELIM/SSAPOV/GMD

KEY INDICATORS

	International Poverty Line(%)		Relative group (%)		Multidimensional Poverty Measures: (% of population)
	Non-Poor	Poor	Bottom 40	Top 60	
Urban population				N/A	Monetary poverty (Consumption)
Rural population				N/A	Daily consumption less than US\$1.90 per person
Males				N/A	
Females				N/A	Education
0 to 14 years old				N/A	At least one school-aged child is not enrolled in school
15 to 64 years old				N/A	No adult has completed primary education
65 and older				N/A	
Without education (16+)				N/A	Access to basic infrastructure
Primary education (16+)				N/A	No access to limited-standard drinking water
Secondary education (16+)				N/A	No access to limited-standard sanitation
Tertiary/post-secondary education (16+)				N/A	No access to electricity

Source: World Bank using ELIM/SSAPOV/GMD

Source: World Bank using ELIM/SSAPOV/GMD

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

POVERTY DATA AND METHODOLOGY

Three household surveys are available that are comparable with similar concepts and definitions. In 2001, 2006, and 2009 EMEP/ELIM surveys collected comparable consumption data from which poverty estimates were derived. Since 2011, the EMOP surveys series fielded and collected consumption information using concepts and definitions different than the EMEP/ELIM. Therefore, poverty estimates before and after 2009 cannot be compared. These comparability and methodological issues made it difficult to monitor poverty indicators over time using the national poverty line. However, the recent harmonized WAEMU 2018/19 household survey confirmed the accuracy of the EMOP survey.

With the support of the "Mali's Improving statistical System-P160977", the national accounts have been updated in 2020 which improves the quality of macroeconomic aggregates products. In addition, the Enterprise census under implementation will help rebase the national accounts. Coverage and methodology of the annual agricultural survey, dependence on external resources for performing specific operations, weak access to data following the low quality of archiving, and lack of a real dissemination policy are also being addressed in the statistical project.

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.