

271 million people moved out of poverty in India in 10 years: UN report

The 2018 Global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) is an internationally comparable measure of acute poverty for 105 countries, covering 5.7 billion people (approximately 75% of the global population). It is a valuable complement to income poverty measures as the MPI captures the simultaneous deprivations that each person experiences in ten indicators.

Key Findings:

- 1.34 billion people live in multidimensional poverty in the 105 developing countries for which the 2018 global MPI is estimated. This represents 23.3%-nearly a quarter of the population of the 105 countries for which the 2018 MPI is calculated.
- Multidimensional poverty is found in all developing regions of the world, but it is particularly acute in Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia.
- Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia accounts together for 83% of all the multi-dimensionally poor people in the world- more than 1.1 billion.
- Two-thirds of all multi-dimensionally poor people live in middle-income countries. 892 million people in middle-income countries experience deprivations in nutrition, schooling, and sanitation just like those in low-income countries.
- The level of global child is staggering: children account for virtually half (49.9%) of the world's poor. Worldwide, over 666 million children live in multidimensional poverty.

MPI Poverty by World Region

Developing Regions	MPI	Headcount Ratio	Intensity	Number of Poor People	Population coverage by MPI
Arab States	0.098	19.2%	50.8%	65.7	85%
East Asia and the Pacific	0.025	5.9%	43.1%	117.7	94%
Eastern Europe and Central Asia	0.009	2.4%	38.3%	3.5	43%
Latin America and the Caribbean	0.042	10.1%	41.8%	52.3	81%
South Asia	0.143	31.3%	45.8%	545.9	95%
Sub-Saharan Africa	0.317	57.8%	54.9%	559.6	99%

Source: PHD Research Bureau, data compiled from Global Multidimensional Poverty Index 2018

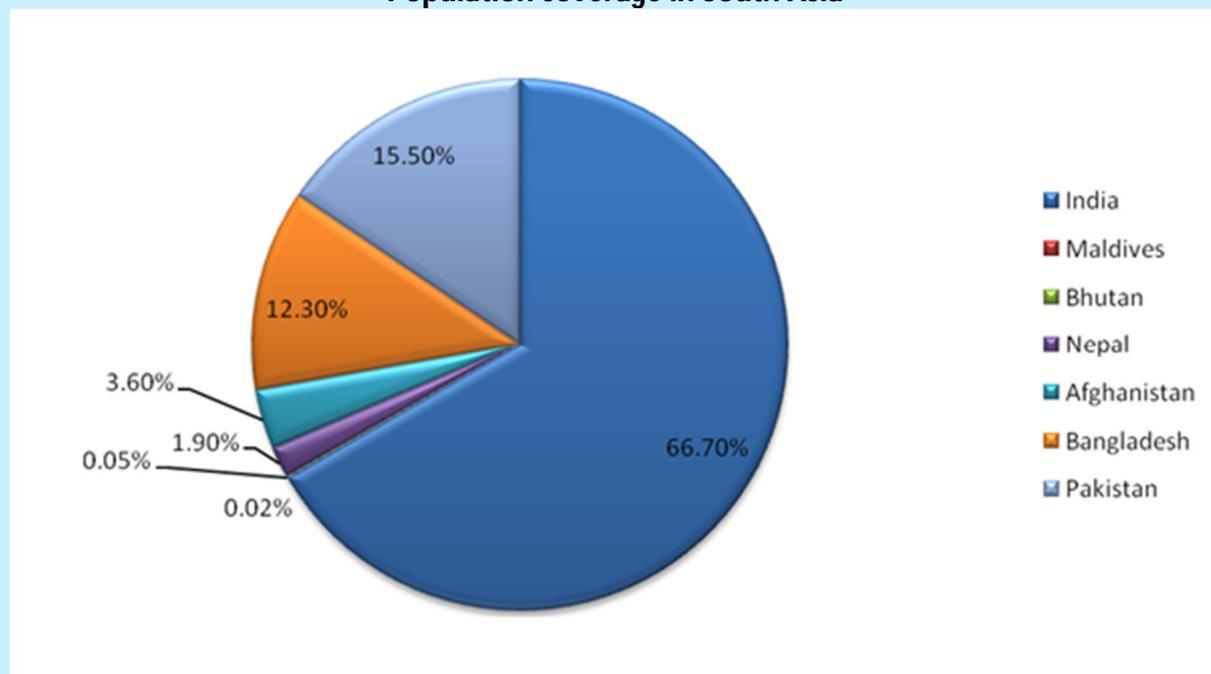
India's Outlook

In India, 271 million people moved out of poverty between 2005-6 and 2015-16, but the country still has the largest number of people living in multidimensional poverty in the world (364 million people). India has cut its poverty rate from 55% to 28% in ten years. This has parallels with the phenomenal level of poverty reduction achieved in China a decade or so earlier.

In 2005-06 there were 292 million poor children in India, and there has been a 47% decrease or a 136 million fewer children growing up in multi-dimensional poverty. In 2015-16, the four poorest states-Bihar, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh-were still home to 196 million MPI poor people-over half of all the MPI poor people in India. Across nearly every state, poor nutrition is the largest contributor to multi-dimensional poverty, responsible for 28.3% of India's MPI. Insufficient access to clean water and child mortality contribute least, at 2.8% and 3.3% respectively.

Within India, 40.04 million people live in district where more than 60% of people are poor-20.8 million live in the poorest district in Bihar, 10.6 million in the poorest district in Uttar Pradesh and the remainder in the poorest district in Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh and Odisha.

Population coverage in South Asia



Source: PHD Research Bureau, data compiled from Global Multidimensional Poverty Index 2018

Among South Asian countries, only Maldives has a lower headcount ratio than India at 1.9 per cent, with Nepal (35.3), Bangladesh (41.1), and Pakistan (43.9) having higher incidences of multidimensional poverty.

Globally, around 1.3 billion people live in multidimensional poverty, which is almost a quarter of the population of the 104 countries for which the 2018 MPI is calculated. Of

these 1.3 billion, almost half — 46 per cent — are thought to be living in severe poverty and are deprived in at least half of the dimensions covered in the MPI. “Although the level of poverty – particularly in children — is staggering so is the progress that can be made in tackling it. In India alone some 271 million have escaped multidimensional poverty in just 10 years.

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