



	Youth unemployment		Female-headed households	Pension contributors			Public expenditure on pensions			Average pension % of average wage
	Male % of male labor force ages 15–24 2003–05 ^a	Female % of female labor force ages 15–24 2003–05 ^a		% of total 2004–07 ^a	Year	% of labor force	% of working-age population	Year	% of GDP		Year
Afghanistan	..	..	..		..	..	2005	0.5		..
Albania	..	..	..	2004	48.9	33.0	2005	5.4		..
Algeria	43	46	..	2002	36.7	22.1	2002	3.2		..
Angola	..	..	..		..	..		..		..
Argentina	22 ^b	28 ^b	..	2004	35.0	25.9	2007	8.0	2000	43.8
Armenia	..	..	36	2002	64.4	48.3	2004	3.4	2007	20.3
Australia	11 ^b	11 ^b	..	2005	92.6	69.6	2004	4.9		..
Austria	11	10	..	2005	96.4	68.7	2005	14.7		..
Azerbaijan	..	..	25	2007	36.8	30.2	2000	3.3	2006	24.3
Bangladesh	7	6	10	2004	2.8	2.1	2001	0.5		..
Belarus	..	..	54	1992	97.0	94.0	2002	12.1	2002	41.6
Belgium	21	19	..	2005	94.2	61.6	2003	11.0		..
Benin	..	..	23	1996	4.8	..	2006	1.5		..
Bolivia	..	..	..	2002	10.1	7.8	2000	4.5		..
Bosnia and Herzegovina	..	..	..	2004	36.0	27.0	2004	8.8		..
Botswana	..	..	..		..	..		..		..
Brazil	14 ^b	23 ^b	..	2004	52.6	39.1	2004	12.6		..
Bulgaria	23	21	..	1994	64.0	63.0	2005	8.9	2004	42.9
Burkina Faso	..	..	..	1993	3.1	3.0	1992	0.3		..
Burundi	..	..	..	1993	3.3	3.0	1991	0.2		..
Cambodia	..	..	24		..	..		..		..
Cameroon	..	..	24	1993	13.7	11.5	2001	0.8		..
Canada	14 ^b	11 ^b	..	2005	90.5	71.4	2004	4.8		..
Central African Republic	..	..	..	2004	1.5	1.3	2004	0.8		..
Chad	..	..	20	1990	1.1	1.0	1997	0.1		..
Chile	15	21	..	2003	58.0	35.2	2001	2.9	2006	53.5
China	..	..	..	2005	20.5	17.2	1996	2.7		..
Hong Kong, China	14	8	..		..	..		..		..
Colombia	12	19	19	2006	24.5	18.8	2006	2.7		..
Congo, Dem. Rep.	..	..	21		..	..		..		..
Congo, Rep.	..	..	23	1992	5.8	5.6	2004	0.9		..
Costa Rica	11	22	..	2004	55.3	37.6	2006	2.4		..
Côte d'Ivoire	..	..	..	1997	9.3	9.1	1997	0.3		..
Croatia	21 ^c	28 ^c	..	2007	75.2	51.0	2007	11.3	2005	32.4
Cuba	..	..	46		..	..	1992	12.6		..
Czech Republic	19	19	..	2007	84.5	67.3	2005	9.4	2005	40.7
Denmark	6	10	..	2007	94.4	86.9	2005	8.5		..
Dominican Republic	..	..	35	2000	31.0	20.7	2000	0.8		..
Ecuador	12 ^b	21 ^b	..	2004	27.0	20.8	2002	2.5		..
Egypt, Arab Rep.	..	..	12	2004	55.5	27.7	2004	4.1		..
El Salvador	13	9	..	2005	29.8	19.7	2006	1.9		..
Eritrea	..	..	..		..	..	2001	0.3		..
Estonia	16	15	..	2004	95.2	68.6	2003	6.0	2007	35.4
Ethiopia	4	11	23		..	..	2007	0.3		..
Finland	21	19	..	2005	88.7	67.2	2005	8.0		..
France	21 ^b	25 ^b	..	2005	89.9	61.4	2005	14.0		..
Gabon	..	..	..	1995	15.0	14.0		..		..
Gambia, The	..	..	..	2003	3.8	2.9		..		..
Georgia	27	31	..	2004	29.9	22.7	2004	3.0	2003	13.0
Germany	16	14	..	2005	88.2	65.5	2005	12.6		..
Ghana	..	..	..	2004	9.1	7.1	2002	1.3		..
Greece	18	35	..	2005	85.2	58.5	2005	12.0		..
Guatemala	..	..	..	2005	24.0	18.0	2005	1.0		..
Guinea	..	..	17	1993	1.5	1.8		..		..
Guinea-Bissau	..	..	..	2004	1.9	1.5	2005	2.1		..
Haiti	..	..	44		..	..		..		..

Assessing vulnerability and security

	Youth unemployment		Female-headed households % of total 2004-07 ^a	Pension contributors			Public expenditure on pensions			Average pension % of average wage
	Male % of male labor force ages 15-24 2003-05 ^a	Female % of female labor force ages 15-24 2003-05 ^a		Year	% of labor force	% of working-age population	Year	% of GDP	Year	
Honduras	5 ^b	11 ^b	26	2006	16.1	12.4	1994	0.6	..	..
Hungary	20	19	..	2007	93.0	62.6	2005	11.1	2005	39.8
India	10 ^b	11 ^b	14	2004	9.0	5.7	2007	2.0	..	..
Indonesia	25	34	..	2002	15.5	11.3	..	..	..	..
Iran, Islamic Rep.	20	32	..	2001	35.1	20.0	2000	1.1	..	..
Iraq	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ireland	9	7	..	2005	88.0	63.9	2003	3.4	..	..
Israel	17	19	..	1992	82.0	63.0	1996	5.9	..	..
Italy	22	27	..	2005	92.4	58.4	2005	14.7	..	..
Jamaica	22	36	41	2004	17.4	12.6	1996	..	..	..
Japan	10 ^b	7 ^b	..	2005	95.3	75.0	2005	9.5	..	..
Jordan	..	..	..	2004	32.2	18.6	2001	2.2	..	..
Kazakhstan	13	16	..	2004	33.8	26.4	2004	4.9	2003	24.9
Kenya	..	..	..	2005	8.0	6.7	2003	1.1	..	..
Korea, Dem. Rep.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Korea, Rep.	12	9	..	2005	78.0	55.0	2005	2.0	..	..
Kuwait	..	..	..	..	..	..	1990	3.5	..	..
Kyrgyz Republic	14	18	25	2006	42.2	28.9	2006	4.8	2003	27.5
Lao PDR	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Latvia	12	14	..	2003	92.4	66.5	2002	7.5	2005	33.1
Lebanon	..	..	..	2003	33.1	19.9	2003	2.1	..	..
Lesotho	..	..	37	2005	5.7	3.6	..	..	..	..
Liberia	..	..	31	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Libya	..	..	..	2004	65.5	38.1	2001	2.1	..	..
Lithuania	16	15	..	2004	79.7	56.0	2003	6.8	2005	30.9
Macedonia, FYR	63	62	8	2000	63.8	38.9	2006	8.5	2006	55.0
Madagascar	7	7	22	1993	5.4	4.8	1990	0.2	..	..
Malawi	..	..	25	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Malaysia	..	..	..	2000	65.0	..	1999	6.5	..	..
Mali	..	..	12	1990	2.5	2.0	1991	0.4	..	..
Mauritania	..	..	..	1995	5.0	4.0	1992	0.2	..	..
Mauritius	21	34	..	2000	51.4	33.6	1999	4.4	..	..
Mexico	6	7	..	2002	34.5	22.7	2005	0.9	..	..
Moldova	19	18	34	2000	60.6	43.1	2003	8.0	2003	20.9
Mongolia	20	21	17	2002	61.4	49.1	2002	5.8	..	..
Morocco	16	14	17	2003	22.4	12.8	2003	1.9	..	..
Mozambique	..	..	..	1995	2.0	2.1	1996	0.0	..	..
Myanmar	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Namibia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nepal	..	..	23	2003	2.1	1.4	2003	0.3	..	..
Netherlands	10	10	..	2005	90.3	70.4	2005	8.4	..	..
New Zealand	9 ^b	10 ^b	..	..	..	..	2005	7.2	..	..
Nicaragua	11	16	..	2005	17.9	11.5	1996	2.5	..	..
Niger	..	..	19	2006	1.3	1.2	2006	0.7	..	..
Nigeria	..	..	..	2005	1.7	1.2	1991	0.1	..	..
Norway	13	12	..	2005	90.8	75.7	2003	8.4	..	..
Oman	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pakistan	11	15	10	2004	6.4	4.0	1993	0.9	..	..
Panama	19	30	..	1998	51.6	40.7	1996	4.3	..	..
Papua New Guinea	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Paraguay	12 ^b	21 ^b	..	2004	11.6	9.1	2001	1.2	..	..
Peru	21 ^b	21 ^b	22	2003	16.3	12.3	2000	2.6	..	..
Philippines	15	19	..	2007	20.8	15.5	1993	1.0	..	..
Poland	37	39	..	2005	84.9	54.5	2005	14.1	2007	47.1
Portugal	14	19	..	2005	91.4	71.9	2004	10.4	..	..
Puerto Rico	25 ^b	21 ^b	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..



	Youth unemployment		Female-headed households	Pension contributors			Public expenditure on pensions			Average pension % of average wage
	Male % of male labor force ages 15–24 2003–05 ^a	Female % of female labor force ages 15–24 2003–05 ^a		% of total 2004–07 ^a	Year	% of labor force	% of working-age population	Year	% of GDP		Year
Romania	21	18	..	2007	53.4	36.3	2003	6.9	2005	41.5
Russian Federation	..	..	..	..	..	..	2004	5.8	2003	29.2
Rwanda	..	..	34	2004	4.8	4.1	..	..	..	..
Saudi Arabia	..	..	..	..	..	..	1998	0.2	..	..
Senegal	..	..	23	2003	5.3	3.9	2003	1.3	..	..
Serbia	..	..	29	2003	46.0 ^d	32.2 ^d	2003	12.4 ^d	..	..
Sierra Leone	..	..	..	2004	4.6	3.6	..	..	..	..
Singapore	4	6	..	2000	70.0	..	1996	1.4	..	..
Slovak Republic	31	29	..	2003	78.5	55.3	2005	6.5	2005	44.7
Slovenia	11	12	..	1995	86.0	68.7	2003	10.1	2005	44.3
Somalia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
South Africa	56	65	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Spain	17	24	..	2005	91.0	63.2	2005	10.4	2006	58.6
Sri Lanka	20 ^b	37 ^b	..	2004	35.6	22.2	2002	2.0	..	..
Sudan	..	..	19	1995	12.1	12.0	..	..	..	..
Swaziland	..	..	48	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sweden	23	22	..	2005	91.0	72.3	2005	11.4	..	..
Switzerland	9	9	..	2005	100.0	79.1	2005	9.2	2000	40.0
Syrian Arab Republic	..	..	..	2004	17.4	11.4	2004	1.3	..	..
Tajikistan	..	..	..	..	..	..	1996	3.0	2003	25.7
Tanzania	..	..	25	1996	2.0	2.0	..	..	..	..
Thailand	5	5	30	2005	27.2	21.8	..	..	..	..
Timor-Leste	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Togo	..	..	..	1997	15.9	15.0	1997	0.6	..	..
Trinidad and Tobago	..	..	..	2004	55.6	..	1996	0.6	..	..
Tunisia	31	29	..	2004	45.3	25.4	2003	4.3	..	..
Turkey	19	19	..	2007	55.0	30.5	2003	3.2	2007	61.3
Turkmenistan	..	..	..	..	..	..	1996	2.3	..	..
Uganda	..	..	30	2004	10.7	9.3	2003	0.3	..	..
Ukraine	15	14	..	2007	68.2	47.4	2005	15.4	2007	48.3
United Arab Emirates	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
United Kingdom	13	10	..	2005	92.7	71.4	2005	7.6	..	..
United States	12 ^b	10 ^b	..	2005	92.5	72.5	2003	7.3	2006	29.2
Uruguay	25	35	..	2004	55.0	44.3	2007	10.0	..	..
Uzbekistan	..	..	18	..	..	..	2005	6.5	2005	40.0
Venezuela, RB	24	35	..	2004	31.8	23.8	2001	2.7	..	..
Vietnam	4	5	..	2005	13.2	10.8	1998	1.6	..	..
West Bank and Gaza	39	45	..	2000	18.8	7.8	2001	0.8	..	..
Yemen, Rep.	..	..	..	2005	10.0	5.5	1999	0.9	..	..
Zambia	..	..	..	2000	5.9	4.9	2006	0.2	..	..
Zimbabwe	..	..	38	1995	12.0	10.0	2002	2.3	..	..
World	.. W	.. W	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Low income	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Middle income	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Lower middle income	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Upper middle income	21	26	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Low & middle income	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
East Asia & Pacific	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Europe & Central Asia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Latin America & Carib.	14	21	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Middle East & N. Africa	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
South Asia	11	12	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sub-Saharan Africa	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
High income	14	13	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Euro area	18	21	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

a. Data are for the most recent year available. b. Limited coverage. c. Data are for 2007. d. Includes Montenegro.

About the data

As traditionally measured, poverty is a static concept, and vulnerability a dynamic one. Vulnerability reflects a household's resilience in the face of shocks and the likelihood that a shock will lead to a decline in well-being. Thus, it depends primarily on the household's assets and insurance mechanisms. Because poor people have fewer assets and less diversified sources of income than do the better-off, fluctuations in income affect them more.

Enhancing security for poor people means reducing their vulnerability to such risks as ill health, providing them the means to manage risk themselves, and strengthening market or public institutions for managing risk. Tools include microfinance programs, public provision of education and basic health care, and old age assistance (see tables 2.11 and 2.16).

Poor households face many risks, and vulnerability is thus multidimensional. The indicators in the table focus on individual risks—youth unemployment, female-headed households, income insecurity in old age—and the extent to which publicly provided services may be capable of mitigating some of these risks. Poor people face labor market risks, often having to take up precarious, low-quality jobs and to increase their household's labor market participation by sending their children to work (see tables 2.4 and 2.6). Income security is a prime concern for the elderly.

Youth unemployment is an important policy issue for many economies. Experiencing unemployment may permanently impair a young person's productive potential and future employment opportunities. The table presents unemployment among youth ages 15–24, but the lower age limit for young people in a country could be determined by the minimum age for leaving school, so age groups could differ across countries. Also, since this age group is likely to include school leavers, the level of youth unemployment varies considerably over the year as a result of different school opening and closing dates. The youth unemployment rate shares similar limitations on comparability as the general unemployment rate. For further information, see *About the data* for table 2.5 and the original source.

The definition of female-headed household differs greatly across countries, making cross-country comparison difficult. In some cases it is assumed that a woman cannot be the head of any household with an adult male, because of sex-biased stereotype. Caution should be used in interpreting the data.

Pension scheme coverage may be broad or even universal where eligibility is determined by citizenship,

residency, or income status. In contribution-related schemes, however, eligibility is usually restricted to individuals who have contributed for a minimum number of years. Definitional issues—relating to the labor force, for example—may arise in comparing coverage by contribution-related schemes over time and across countries (for country-specific information, see Hinz and Pallares-Miralles forthcoming). The share of the labor force covered by a pension scheme may be overstated in countries that do not try to count informal sector workers as part of the labor force.

Public interventions and institutions can provide services directly to poor people, although whether these interventions and institutions work well for the poor is debated. State action is often ineffective, in part because governments can influence only a few of the many sources of well-being and in part because of difficulties in delivering goods and services. The effectiveness of public provision is further constrained by the fiscal resources at governments' disposal and the fact that state institutions may not be responsive to the needs of poor people.

The data on public pension spending cover the pension programs of the social insurance schemes for which contributions had previously been made. In many cases noncontributory pensions or social assistance targeted to the elderly and disabled are also included. A country's pattern of spending is correlated with its demographic structure—spending increases as the population ages.

Definitions

- **Youth unemployment** is the share of the labor force ages 15–24 without work but available for and seeking employment.
- **Female-headed households** are the percentage of households with a female head.
- **Pension contributors** are the share of the labor force or working-age population (here defined as ages 15 and older) covered by a pension scheme.
- **Public expenditure on pensions** is all government expenditures on cash transfers to the elderly, the disabled, and survivors and the administrative costs of these programs.
- **Average pension** is the average pension payment of all pensioners of the main pension schemes divided by the average wage of all formal sector workers.

Data sources

Data on youth unemployment are from the ILO database Key Indicators of the Labour Market, 5th edition. Data on female-headed household are from Demographic and Health Surveys by Macro International. Data on pension contributors and pension spending are from Richard Paul Hinz and Montserrat Pallares-Miralles' *International Patterns of Pension Provision II* (forthcoming).