Ending Multidimensional Child Poverty:

Four Measurement Strategies

5 December 2019, Geneva
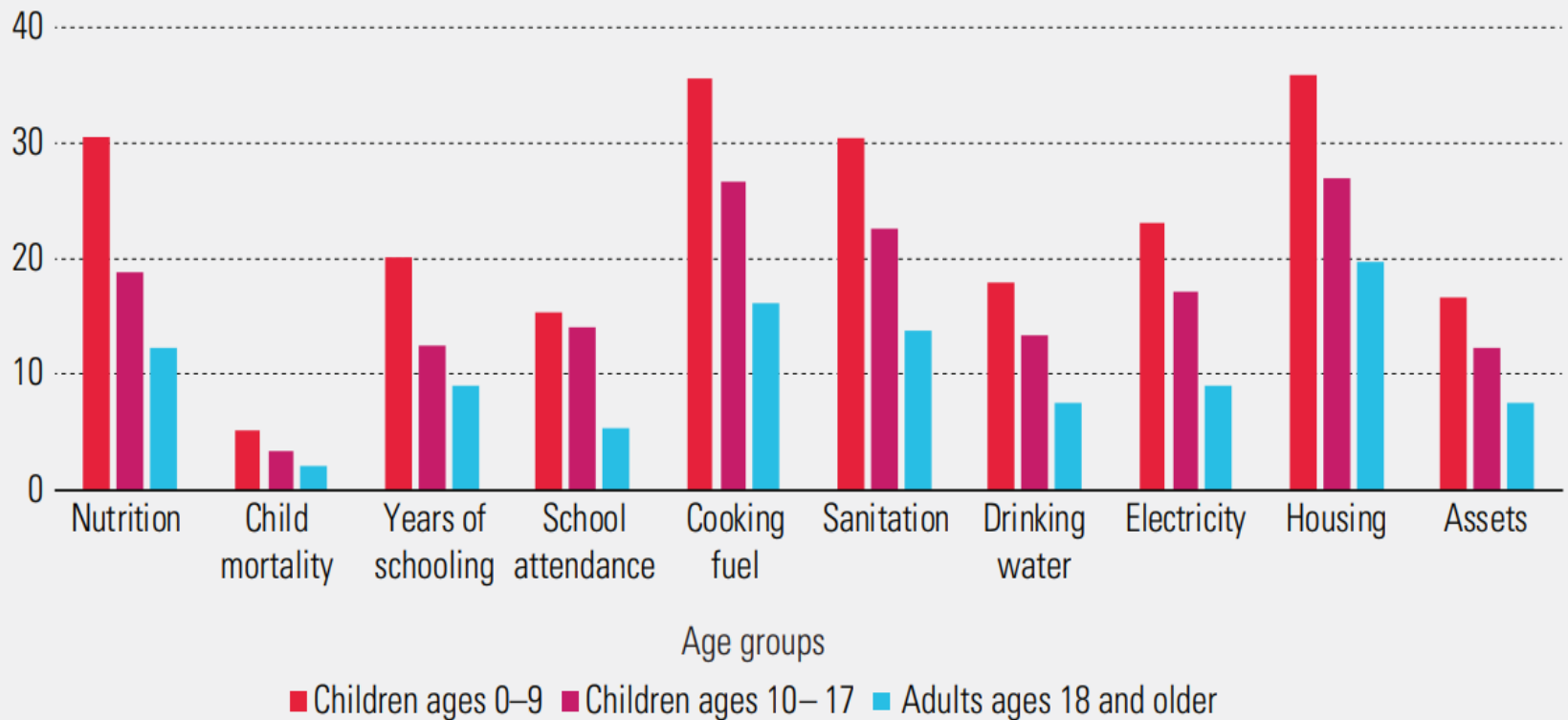
Children Bear the Greatest Burden

- **One in three children is MPI poor** compared to one in six adults
- Children are worse off in every indicator, compared to adults

Share of individuals who are multidimensionally poor and deprived (percent)

Age groups

■ Children ages 0–9 ■ Children ages 10– 17 ■ Adults ages 18 and older

Why Use an MPI to Monitor Child Poverty?

MPIs provide **robust statistical measurement of poverty** with built-in avenues for policy recommendations, while being:

- Accurate and Replicable
- Informative for policy design
- Useful to monitor progress
- Easy to Understand
- Complementary to existing tools
- Nationally owned and operated

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Measuring Multidimensional Child Poverty

Household-level Measures

1. Include key **child indicators** in National MPI

2. **Disaggregate** the National MPI by age

Individual-level Measures

1. Do **intrahousehold analysis** of MPI (age, gender)

2. Use a Child MPI that **directly links** to National MPI
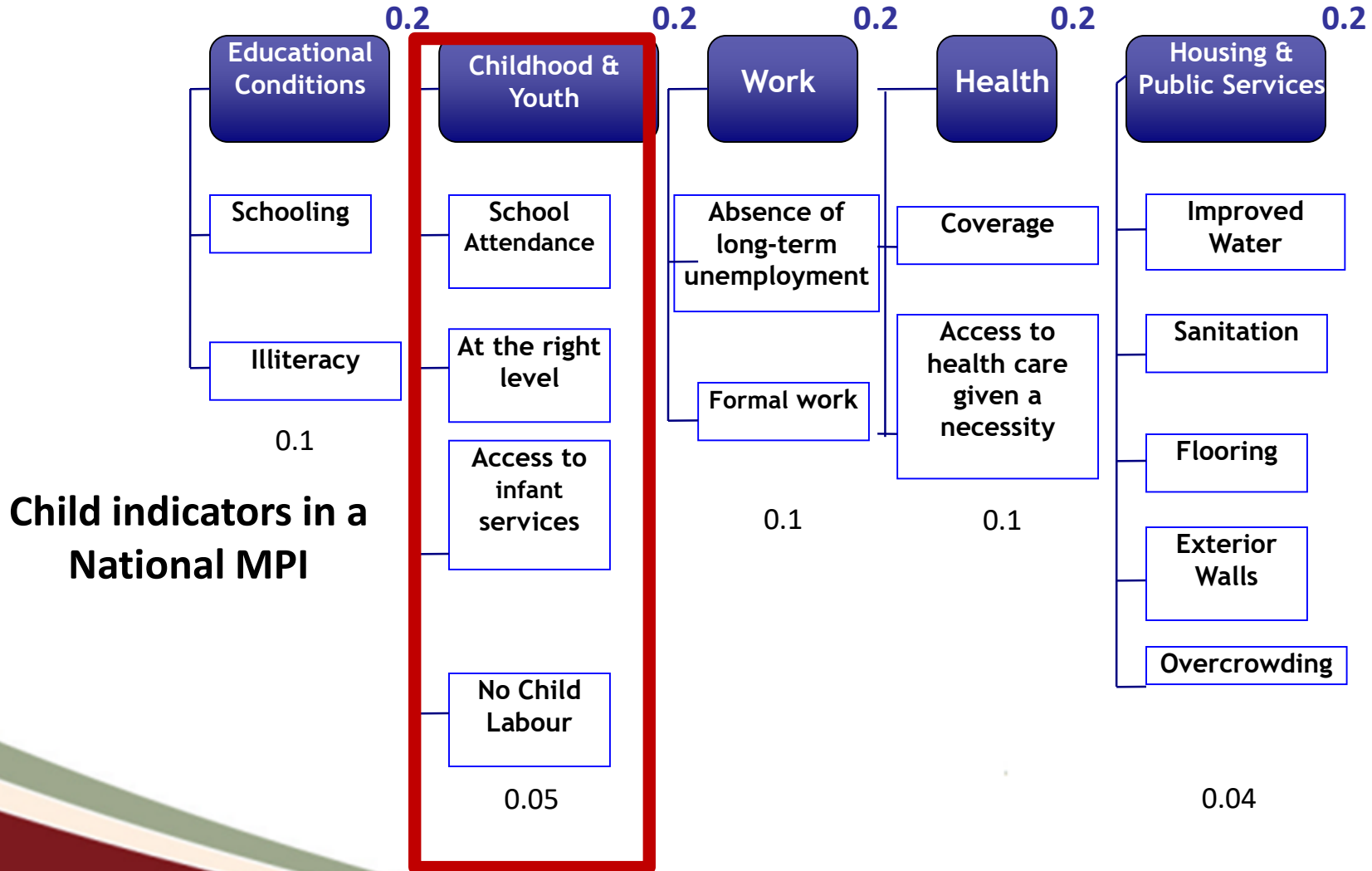
1. Include key child indicators in National MPI

Examples:

- Child school attendance
- Correct grade for age (school lag)
- Not in Education Employment or Training-NEET
- Malnutrition
- Child labour
- Early childhood education/care

Can also be a **Childhood and Youth Dimension** (e.g. National-MPI Colombia)

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MPI-Colombia
Childhood as a dimension

Child indicators in a National MPI

2. **Disaggregate** National MPI by age

Usually possible to disaggregate **those who live in poor households** by 0-17, 18+ years.
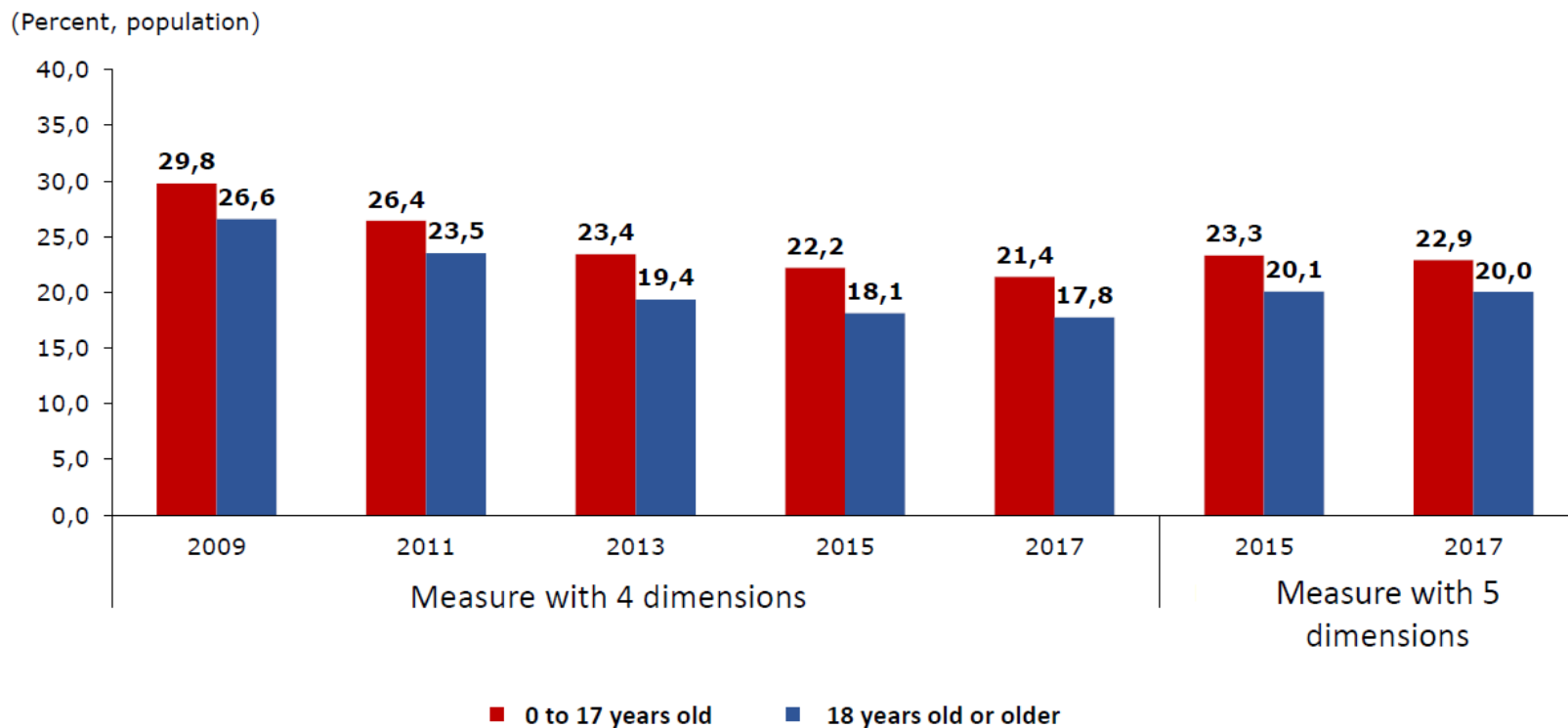
Key Analytical Strategies:

- Compare level of MPI/H for children vs adults
- What % of all poor people are children?

Note: both depends upon the structure of MPI

Age disaggregation: Chile's National MPI

% of children living in multidimensional poverty is more than the % of adults in multidimensional poverty, 2009-2017

(Percent, population)

Measure with 4 dimensions | Measure with 5 dimensions

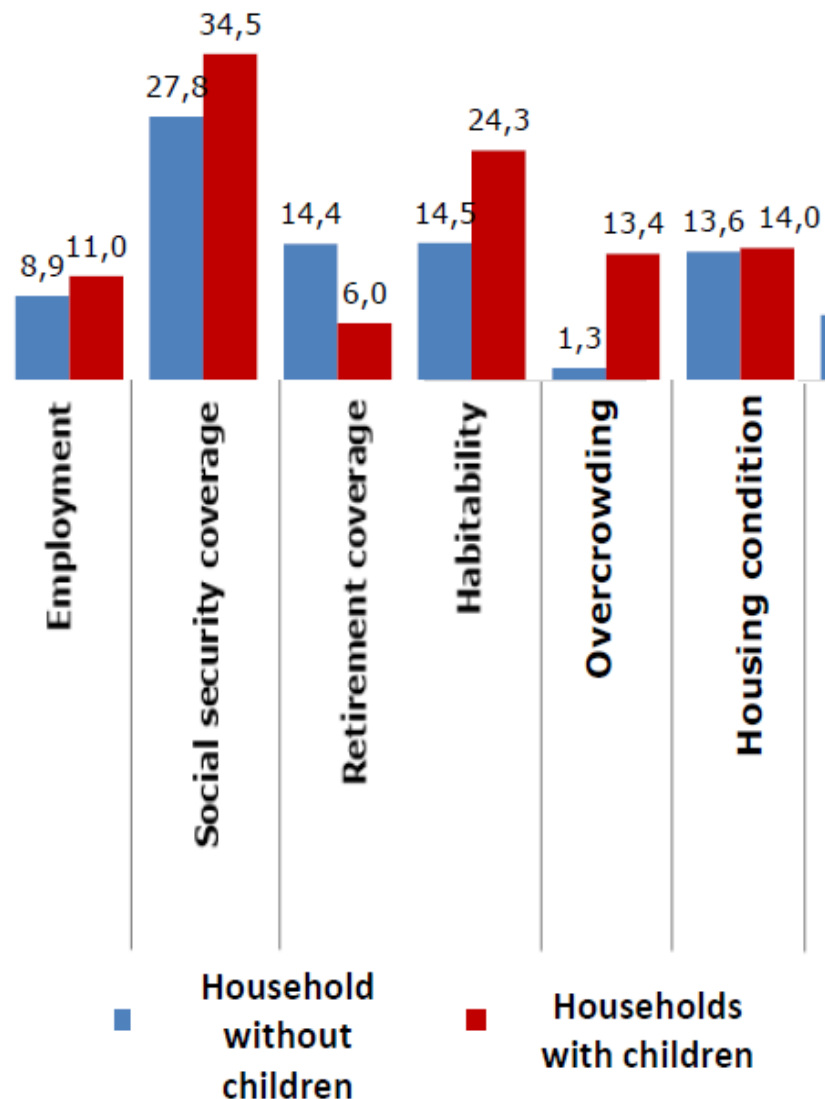- 0 to 17 years old
- 18 years old or older

Age disaggregation: Chile's National MPI

Zooming in from the 19 total indicators, we can see households with children have serious deprivations in:

- Social Security Coverage,
- Habitability, and
- Overcrowding

When compared to households without children, 2017.

	Household without children	Households with children
Employment	8,9	11,0
Social security coverage	27,8	34,5
Retirement coverage	14,4	6,0
Habitability	14,5	24,3
Overcrowding	1,3	13,4
Housing condition	13,6	14,0

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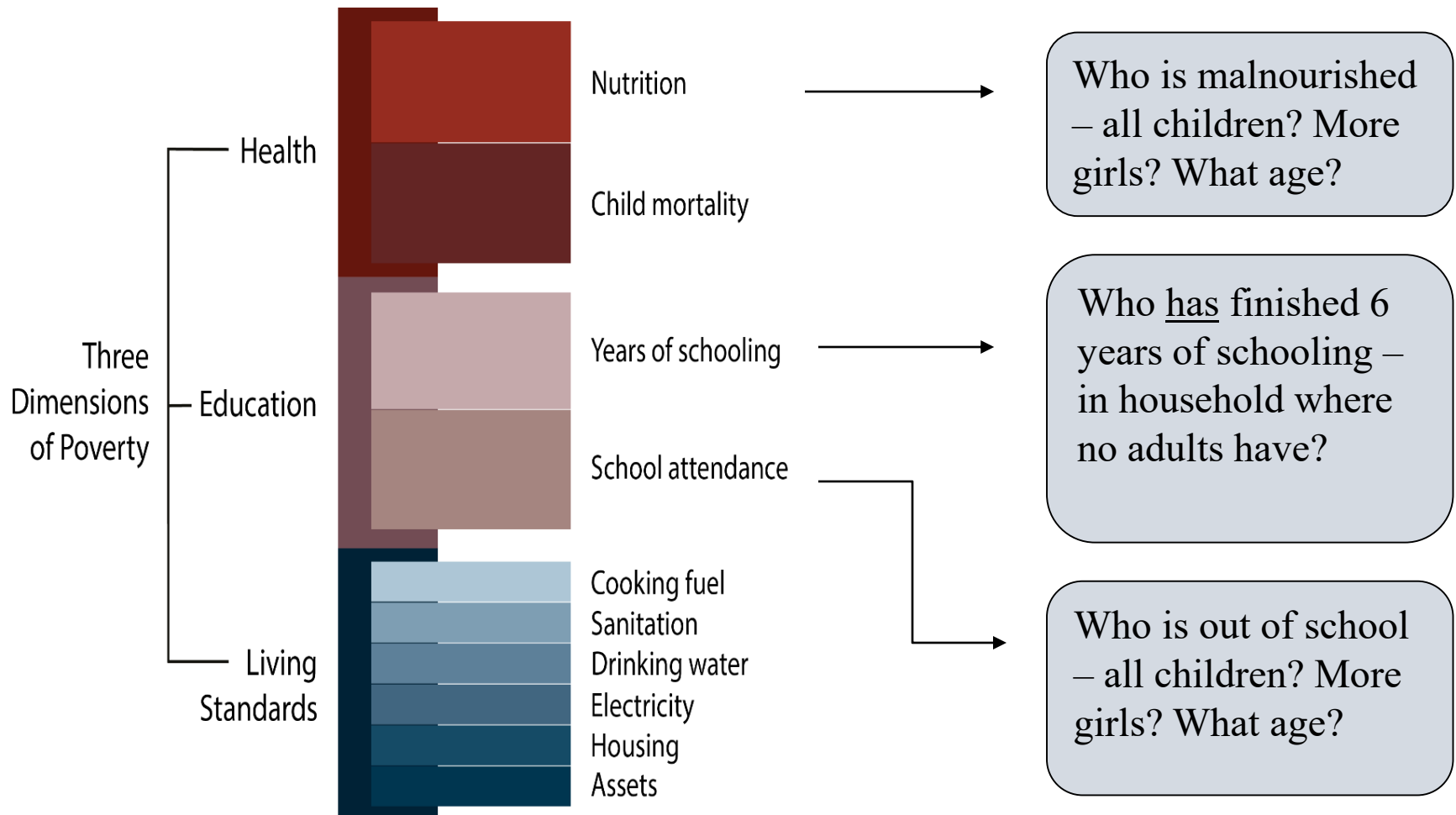
3. Do <u>Intrahousehold Analysis</u> of MPI

Select indicators that draw on individual child data

Restrict the sample to children, respecting sample design

Go back to micro-data and analyse it:

- What % of deprived children are girls/boys?
- What % of deprived children are MPI poor vs non-poor?
- Within a household, are all children deprived, or only some – if so, what age, gender?
- What other household deprivations do poor children experience?
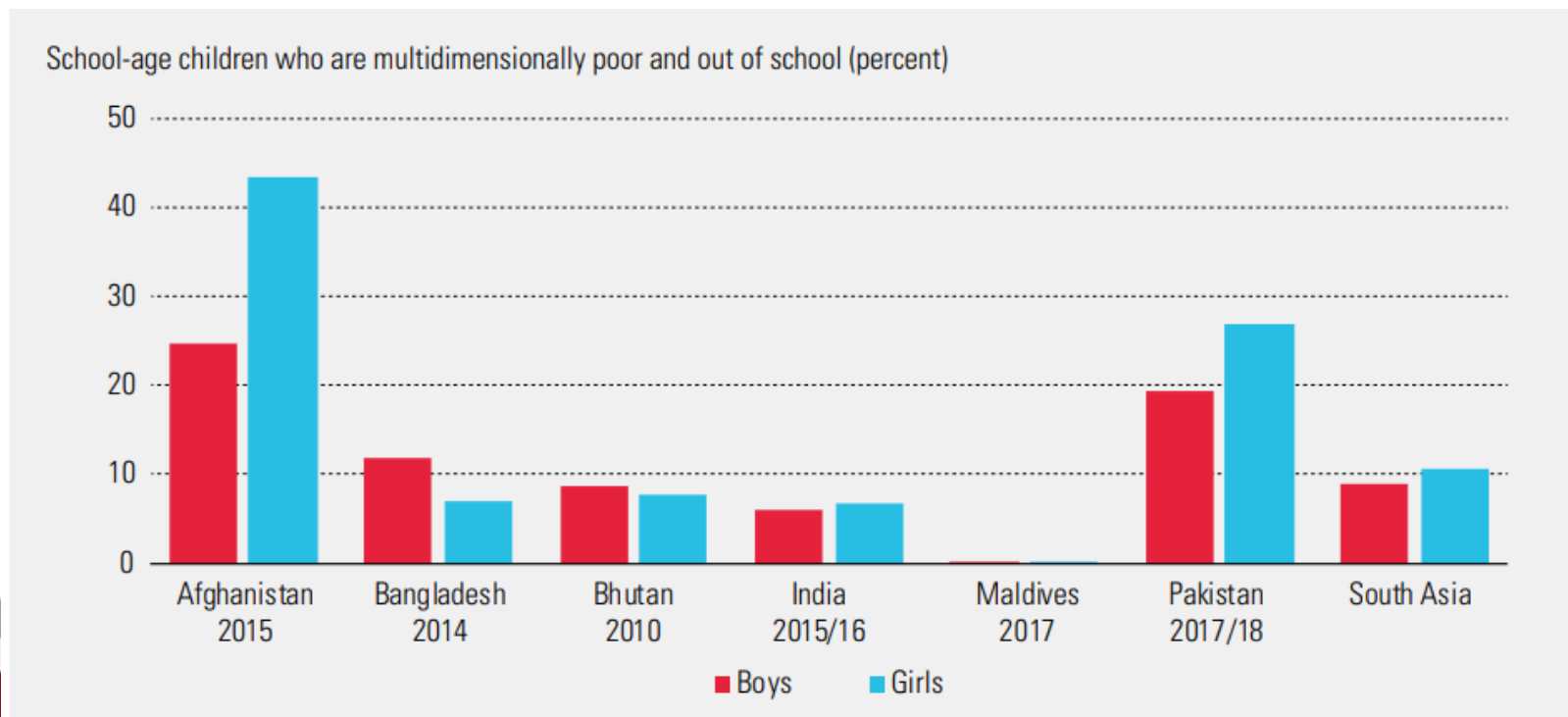
A Look inside the MPI households

South Asia in the global MPI 2019

One child in nine is MPI poor and lives in a household where some school-age children attend school, but others do not.

- 11% of South Asian girls are MPI poor and out of school.
- In Afghanistan, 44% of girls are.

School-age children who are multidimensionally poor and out of school (percent)

4. Child MPI that <u>directly links</u> to National MPI

Use the National MPI as it is

From the survey, construct 'new' child dimension(s)

Use multiple comparable indicators to cover children 0-17 years

Restrict the sample to children, survey-permitting

Compute the Child MPI – it **shows additional child-specific deprivations** of poor children. It also **identifies children who are not MPI poor but are child poor**.

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Nepal C-MPI*

Dimensions	Indicators	Weight National MPI (k=1/3)	Weight C-MPI (k=1/4)
Education	Years of Schooling	1/6	1/8
	Child School Attendance	1/6	1/8
Health	Child Mortality	1/6	1/8
	Nutrition	1/6	1/8
Living Standard	Electricity	1/18	1/24
	Improved Sanitation	1/18	1/24
	Improved Drinking Water	1/18	1/24
	Housing	1/18	1/24
	Cooking Fuel	1/18	1/24
	Assets Ownership	1/18	1/24
Child	**Child Development**		1/8
	Childhood Conditions		1/8

* Draws on work in progress

Nepal C-MPI Child Dimension

Indicator	Deprivation Cutoff	Weight
Child Development	**Nutrition (0-4 years old)**: undernourished in terms of weight-for-age. **Attendance (5-13 years old)**: not attending school. **Schooling and work (14-17 years old)**: not attending school AND is working AND (has less than 8 years of schooling OR is working under dangerous conditions)	1/8
Childhood Conditions	**Early Childhood Conditions (0-4 years old)**: **0-5m**: not exclusively breastfed; **6-23m**: has no vaccination card OR has never been vaccinated was never vaccinated; **24-35m**: has no toys OR was left alone or at the care of another child for more than 1 hour in the last week; **36-59m**: an adult member of the household did not engage with the child in 4 or more activities during the last week. **Older child conditions (5-17 years old)**: engaged in child labor, OR, if girl aged15-17, is or has ever been married OR has a child OR is pregnant.	1/8

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Observations and Challenges

A Child MPI should **not compete** with a National MPI – rather, a child focus should synergise & activate action.

Linking Child Poverty to a National MPI may be higher impact than building a stand-alone Child MPI:

- National MPIs are already understood, used, official

Strategic analyses leads to an **integrated approach**:

- Inserts a 'child' focus into standard conversations
- Adds gender, age, intra-household information
- Sometimes: enrich the MPI with a linked in-depth Child MPI.

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THANK YOU