Measurement of subjective poverty in the Republic of Belarus

Group of Experts on Measuring Poverty and Inequality
Geneva, Switzerland, 8-9 December 2022
Poverty assessment concepts

1. Absolute poverty
2. Relative poverty
3. Subjective poverty
4. Deprivation poverty
Poverty assessment concepts (2/2)

Absolute poverty

• Households (population) with average per capita disposable resources below the national poverty line
• National poverty line – minimum subsistence budget

Relative poverty

• Households (population) with average per capita disposable resources below the relative poverty line
• Relative poverty line – 60% of median of average per capita disposable resources on average for the country calculated with the equivalence scale
Concepts of subjective poverty

«How are the members of your household satisfied with their money income?»

• completely dissatisfied
• satisfied
• dissatisfied
• completely satisfied

«How would you assess the level of the material well-being of your household this year?»

• very low (poor)
• somewhat higher than average
• somewhat lower than average
• high (rich)
• average
Household poverty indicators

(2/1)

(% of total households)

- Absolute poverty
- Relative poverty
- Subjective poverty (assessment of the income level)
Household poverty indicators (2/2)

(2021; % of total households of corresponding group)

- **Total households**
- **Households without children**
- **of which consisting of:**
  - 1 person
  - 2 and more persons
- **Households with children**
- **of which with:**
  - 1 child
  - 2 children
  - 3 and more children

- **Absolute poverty**
- **Subjective poverty (assessment of the income level)**
- **Subjective poverty (assessment of the material well-being)**

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Composition of poor households

(2021; % of total poor households)

- **Absolute poverty**
- **Subjective poverty (assessment of the income level)**
- **Subjective poverty (assessment of the material well-being)**

- Households without children
- Households with children
Subjective poverty of households based on the level of average per capita income

(2021; % of total households of corresponding group)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ratio of average per capita disposable resources to the minimum subsistence budget (MSB)</th>
<th>% of total households</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&lt; MSB</td>
<td>23.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-2 MSB</td>
<td>11.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-3 MSB</td>
<td>7.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-4 MSB</td>
<td>5.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt; 4 MSB</td>
<td>3.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Subjective perceptions of poverty

- Actual income (per household member), rubles per month
- Income required to satisfy minimum needs (per household member), rubles per month

0.9 MSB
1.8 MSB

2.1 times

0.9 MSB
3.2 MSB

1.4 times

2.3 MSB
Deprivation poverty

- **Housing conditions deprivations**
  - No central heating and lack of money to buy fuel;
  - Lack of money to pay for housing and utilities

- **Material well-being deprivations**
  - Lack of money to buy meat and fish products (or their vegetarian equivalent), to buy new outer clothing and footwear, durable goods, essential medicines and medical devices, to connect to the Internet;
  - Inability to pay unexpected expenses

- **Deprivations of households with children**
  - Lack of money to buy fruit regularly, to buy new clothing and footwear, outdoor leisure goods, to pay for organized cultural events
Household poverty rate
(% of total households)

Absolute poverty
Deprivation poverty

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Thank you!