

Poverty & Equity Brief

Africa Western & Central

Chad

April 2023

Poverty and vulnerability are pervasive in Chad, with 42.3 percent of people living below the national poverty line based on the 2018 national Household Consumption and Informal Sector Survey. Extreme poverty (US\$2.15/ day per capita, 2017 PPP) also remains high in the country and is expected to have significantly increased from 30.9 percent in 2018 to 32.4 percent in 2020.

Data from two rounds of High-frequency Surveys implemented in 2021 suggest that the COVID-19 pandemic deteriorated households' livelihoods and increased poverty. Two-thirds of households experienced a disruption in the work of at least one of their members and one out of five Chadians who were employed before the outbreak lost their job. More than half of private transfer-receiving households reported a decline in the amount of transfers they receive. In addition, households' access to basic services has also been constrained since the outbreak. Chad ranked 190th out of 191 countries on the Human Development Index in 2021. While economic growth has started to recover, Households are unfortunately being negatively impacted by the current food inflation.

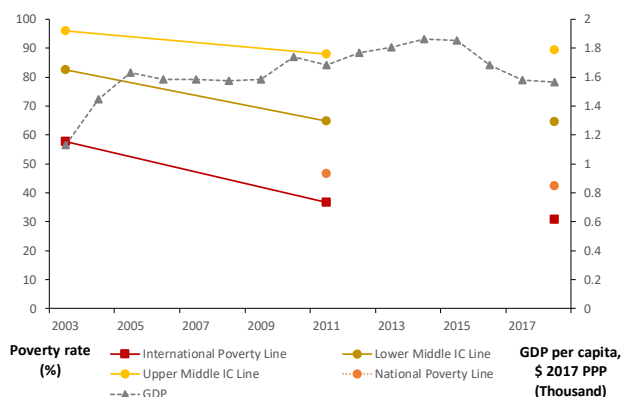
Food products became scarce in local markets in 2022 partly due to the uneven regional rains during the last raining season. The Russia-Ukraine war exacerbated the situation, and the resulting high food inflation increased the risk of food insecurity and poverty in the country. Indeed, extreme poverty is expected to have increased from 32.4 percent in 2020 to 38.7 percent in 2022. The population in extreme poverty is expected to have increased by an additional 623,943 between 2021 and 2022, to 6.9 million. Extreme poverty in Chad is a rural phenomenon (47.4 percent of rural population are extreme poor) but there are significant regional disparities (59 percent in Tandjile against 7 percent in Ennedi Ouest). The poor have a higher number of children, low education, and volatile farming conditions. Inequality is expected to have remained relatively stable, with a Gini of 34 since 2020.

Chad declared a national food emergency in June 2022. The situation was worsened by unprecedented floods during the lean season which affected over 340,000 people and destroyed 2,700 hectares of crops and farming land. Food insecurity currently affects 2.1 million people (12.1 percent of the population). Cereal production for 2022-2023 is estimated at 2.9 million tons with a gross deficit of 443,950 tons. In addition, security restrictions in the fragile areas of the country negatively impact the livelihoods of poor and vulnerable households. These mounting challenges are particularly worrisome given the low coverage of social protection programs that limit the space of support to the poorest households in mitigating the impact of these crises.

POVERTY	Number of Poor (million)	Rate (%)	Period
National Poverty Line	6.5	42.3	2018
International Poverty Line 530.2 in CFA franc (2018) or US\$2.15 (2017 PPP) per day per capita	4.8	30.9	2018
Lower Middle Income Class Poverty Line 900.1 in CFA franc (2018) or US\$3.65 (2017 PPP) per day per capita	10.1	64.6	2018
Upper Middle Income Class Poverty Line 1689.3 in CFA franc (2018) or US\$6.85 (2017 PPP) per day per capita	14.0	89.4	2018
Multidimensional Poverty Measure		79.3	2018
SHARED PROSPERITY			
Annualized Income or Consumption Growth per capita of the bottom 40 percent		N/A	N/A
INEQUALITY			
Gini Index		37.5	2018
Shared Prosperity Premium = Growth of the bottom 40 - Average Growth		N/A	N/A
GROWTH			
Annualized GDP per capita growth		-2.83	2013-2018
Annualized Income or Consumption Growth per capita from Household Survey		N/A	N/A
MEDIAN INCOME			
Growth of the annual median income/consumption per capita		N/A	N/A

Sources: WDI for GDP, National Statistical Offices for national poverty rates, PIP as of April 2023, and Global Monitoring Database for the rest.

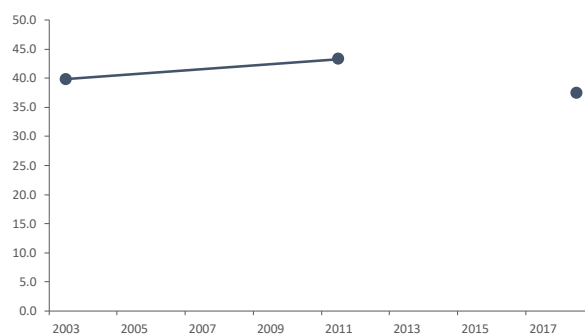
POVERTY HEADCOUNT RATE, 2003-2018



Source: World Bank using EHCVM/SSAPOV/GMD

INEQUALITY TRENDS, 2003-2018

Gini Index



Source: World Bank using EHCVM/SSAPOV/GMD

KEY INDICATORS

	International Poverty Line (%)		Relative group (%)		Multidimensional Poverty Measures: 2018	(% of population)
	Non-Poor	Poor	Bottom 40	Top 60		
Urban population					Monetary poverty (Consumption)	
Rural population					Daily consumption less than US\$2.15 per person	30.9
Males					Education	
Females					At least one school-aged child is not enrolled in school	N/A
0 to 14 years old					No adult has completed primary education	N/A
15 to 64 years old					Access to basic infrastructure	
65 and older					No access to limited-standard drinking water	N/A
Without education (16+)					No access to limited-standard sanitation	N/A
Primary education (16+)					No access to electricity	N/A
Secondary education (16+)						
Tertiary/post-secondary education (16+)						

Source: World Bank using EHCVM/SSAPOV/GMD

Source: World Bank using EHCVM/SSAPOV/GMD

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

POVERTY DATA AND METHODOLOGY

In 2018, the absolute poverty line as defined by the National Statistical Office, was set at 242,094 francs CFA per person per annum, once spatial and temporal disparities in prices of food are taken into consideration. It represents the consumption of food required to obtain 2,300 Kcal per day plus the average consumption of non-food items by a population around the food poverty line. Changes with respect to the 2011 household survey are significant, as they involve a new methodology to measure poverty, both in terms of the definition of the welfare aggregate and of the poverty line.

There has been recent progress in the production of consumption, welfare, and labor statistics with the 2018 national Household Consumption and Informal Sector Survey in Chad implemented seven years after the previous survey. With financial support from the World Bank through the Chad Statistical Development project, data collection of the second round was completed in the summer of 2022. Data cleaning is ongoing and will allow to produce update poverty number and key indicators for the country. This survey is part of a regional collaboration with eight other countries in the West African Economic and Monetary Union and will generate harmonized estimates for key indicators across these countries.

Note on new global poverty lines: Poverty data are now expressed in 2017 Purchasing Power Parity (PPP) prices, versus 2011 PPP in previous editions. As price levels across the world evolve, global poverty lines have to be periodically updated to reflect the increase of the value of the lines in nominal terms. The new global poverty lines of \$2.15, \$3.65, and \$6.85 reflect the typical national poverty lines of low-income, lower-middle-income, and upper-middle-income countries in 2017 prices. In addition to reflecting updates in nominal terms, upper-middle-income countries raised the standards by which they determine people to be poor from 2011 to 2017. Hence, the increase in the upper line is larger, and the population that does not meet the new standard is higher in most countries than it was with 2011 PPPs. See pip.worldbank.org.

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 three 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.