



***Poverty***

- **Poverty** is the deprivation of food, shelter, money and clothing that occurs when people cannot satisfy their basic needs. Poverty can be understood simply as a lack of money, or more broadly in terms of barriers to everyday life.



# Causes of Poverty

Poverty is the result of diverse and interrelated causes that unite in the following groups:

- economic (unemployment, low wages, low productivity and lack of competitiveness of the sector),
- socio-medical (disability, old age, high levels of morbidity)
- demographic (single-parent families, a large number of dependents in the family)
- educational-(lack of education, lack of training),
- political (military conflicts and forced migration)
- regional-geographical (the uneven development of regions).

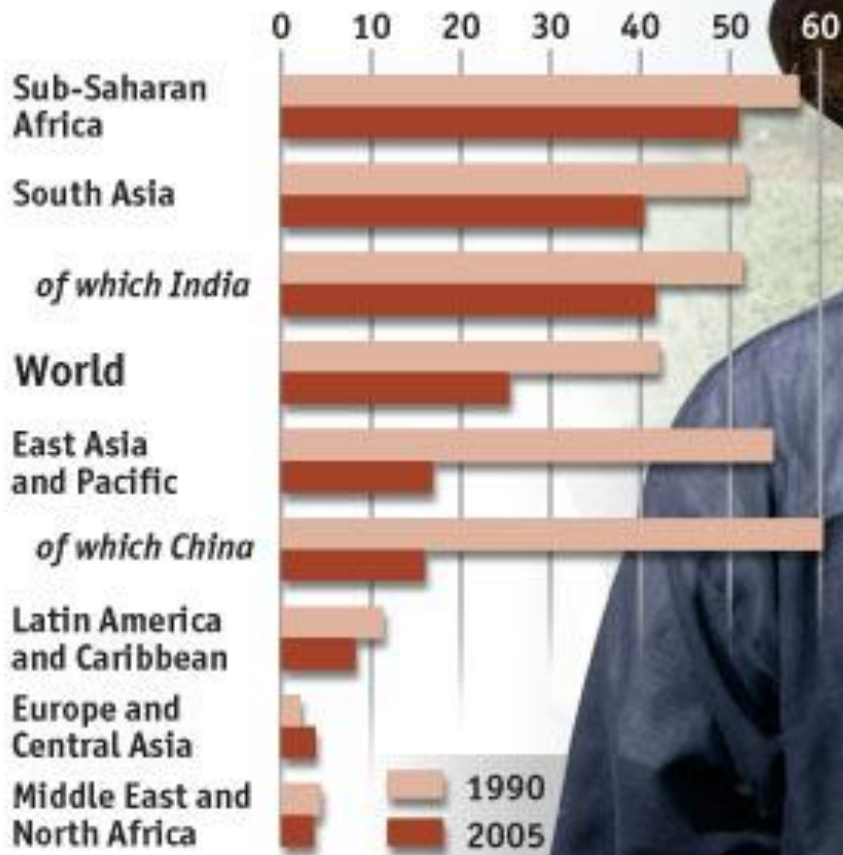




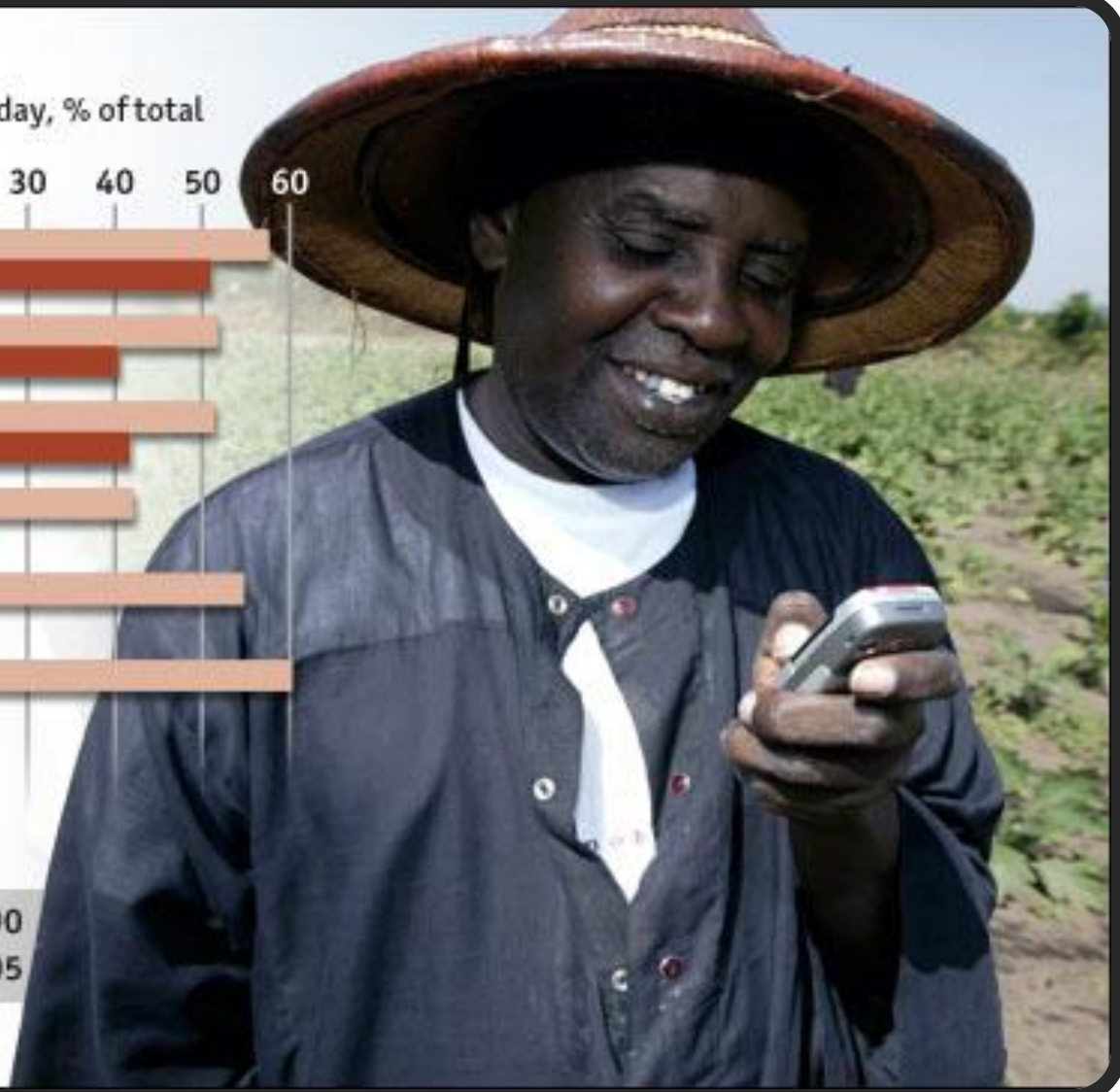
# World poverty

## Poverty

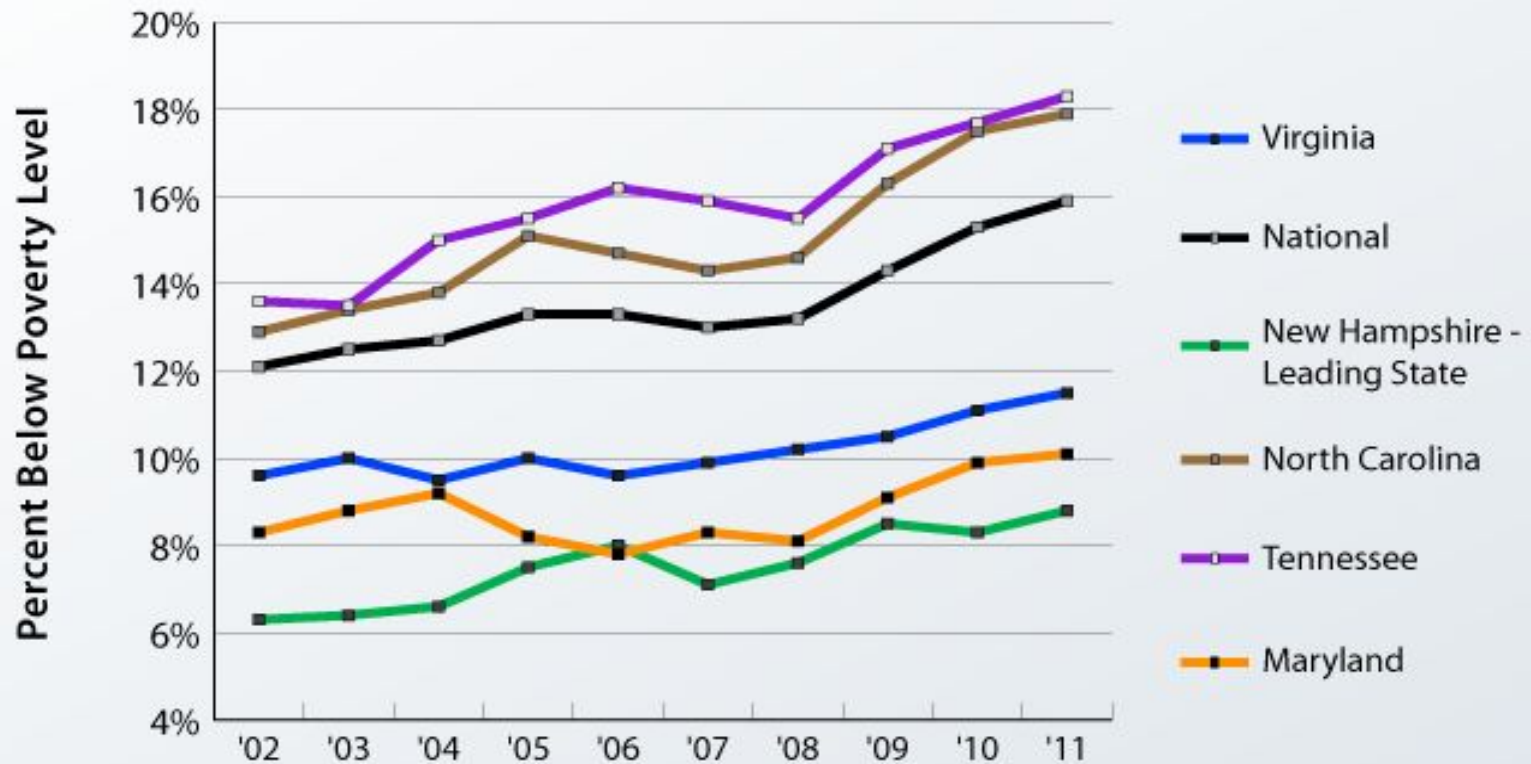
People living on less than \$1.25 a day, % of total



Source: World Bank



## Poverty Rates, By State



# Child poverty

**Child poverty** refers to the phenomenon of children living in poverty. This applies to children that come from poor families or orphans being raised with limited, or in some cases absent, state resources. Children that fail to meet the minimum acceptable standard of life for the nation where that child lives are said to be poor. In developing countries these standards are lower and when combined with the increased number of orphans the effects are more extreme.





A close-up photograph of a child's bare foot resting on a weathered wooden plank. The foot is positioned on the right side of the frame. Scattered around the foot and across the wooden plank are several pink rose petals. The background is softly blurred, showing more petals and the lower leg of the child.

About 15 million children, one out of every four,  
live below the official poverty line.

At least 22% of Americans under the age of 18 and 25% under age 12  
are hungry or at the risk of being hungry.

Everyday 2,660 children are born into poverty, 27 die because of it.

Children and families are the fastest growing group in the  
homeless population, representing 40%.





# Housing

- Poverty increases the risk of homelessness. Slum-dwellers, who make up a third of the world's urban population, live in a poverty no better, if not worse, than rural people, who are the traditional focus of the poverty in the developing world, according to a report by the United Nations. There are over 100 million street children worldwide.



# Social aspects

Economic aspects of poverty focus on material needs, typically including the necessities of daily living, such as food, clothing, shelter, or safe drinking water. Poverty in this sense may be understood as a condition in which a person or community is lacking in the basic needs for a minimum standard of well-being and life, particularly as a result of a persistent lack of income.

Analysis of social aspects of poverty links conditions of scarcity to aspects of the distribution of resources and power in a society and recognizes that poverty may be a function of the diminished "capability" of people to live the kinds of lives they value. The social aspects of poverty may include lack of [access to information](#), education, health care, or political power.

Poverty may also be understood as an aspect of unequal [social status](#) and inequitable social relationships, experienced as social exclusion, dependency, and diminished capacity to participate, or to develop meaningful connections with other people in society. Such social exclusion can be minimized through strengthened connections with the mainstream, such as through the provision of [relational care](#) to those who are experiencing poverty.



There are several relationships between intolerable economic inequality and war. Today 2.7 billion people live on less than \$2 a day - 1.1 billion on less than \$1 per day. 18 million of our fellow humans die each year from poverty-related causes. In 2006, 1.1 billion people lacked safe drinking water, and water borne diseases killed an estimated 1.8 million people.





**END POVERTY NOW!**

GCAP Philippines




# HOW TO END POVERTY

EIGHT MILLION  
PEOPLE DIE EACH  
YEAR BECAUSE THEY  
ARE TOO POOR  
TO STAY ALIVE.  
A PROVOCATIVE  
PLAN ON HOW WE  
CAN SAVE THEM

BY JEFFREY D. SACHS







Poverty is a global problem, and one to which there is no single solution. In general, people are poor because they are stuck in circumstances which don't allow them to get ahead. There are many programs designed to stop poverty. In some cases, according to the Brookings Institute, a non-profit public policy organization, these programs actually cause more poverty because benefit recipients become less motivated to find ways to increase their income. Programs that work the best for the long term are those which not only solve an immediate need, but also provide the means for recipients to continue reaping program benefits for the rest of their lives.



# What is needed to end poverty?

- First, geographic endowments do matter for prosperity and we do have policy recipes at hand to address the most pressing problems of the world's poorest countries such as high prevalence of disease, lack of access to clean water, and poor agricultural yields.
- Second, we need to be aware of the limits of the current policy recipes and need to focus much more on developing appropriate institutional reforms that can convert development aid into sustained economic growth.



We need  
to reframe the question.  
Instead of alleviating poverty,  
we need  
to be creating wealth.

- Andrew Mwenda

*The End*