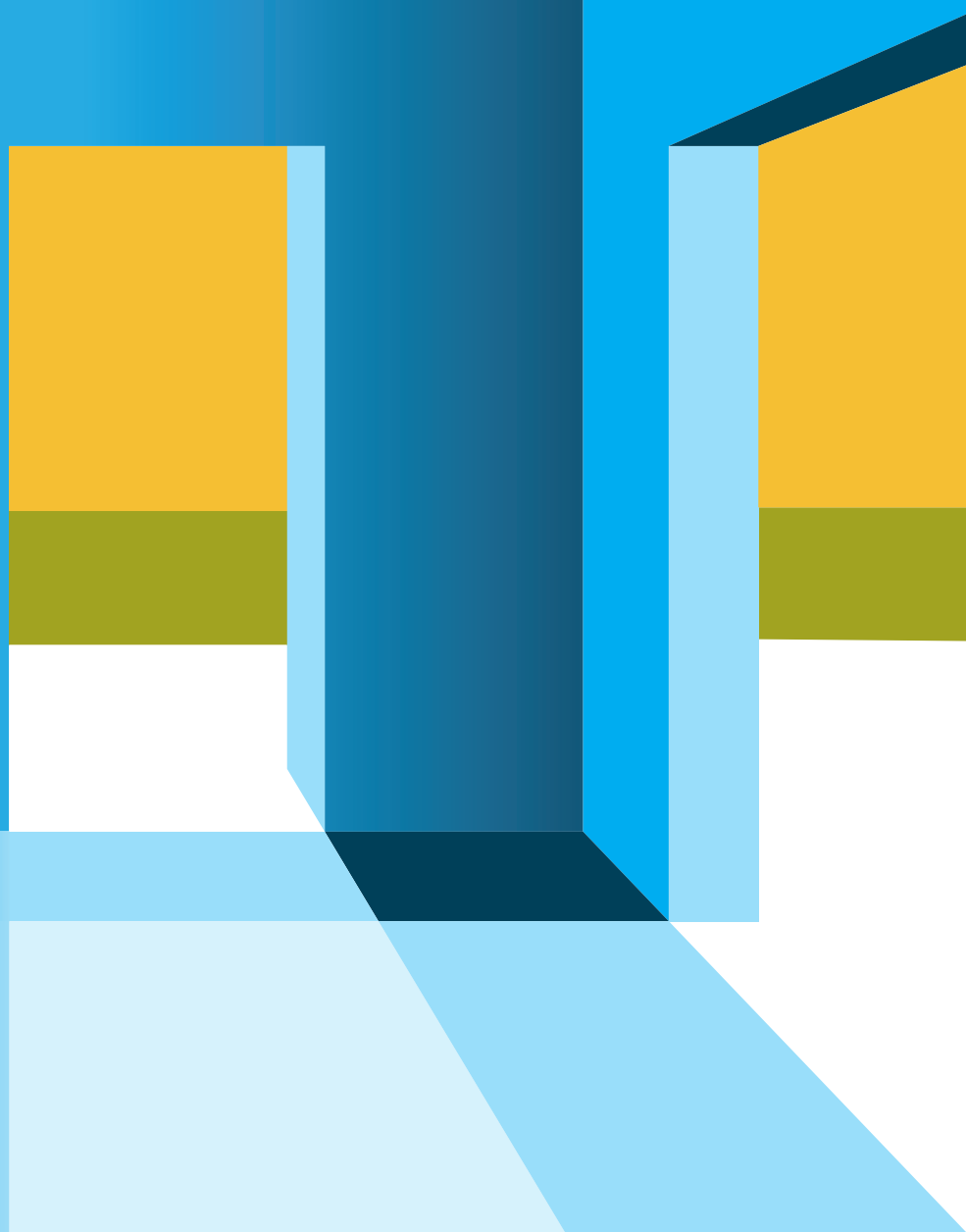# POVERTY IN THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA

2006 – 2016

Revised and New Data

August 2017

POVERTY IN THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA
2006 – 2016
Revised and New Data

GOVERNMENT
OF THE REPUBLIC
OF SERBIA

SOCIAL INCLUSION AND
POVERTY REDUCTION
UNIT

СРБИЈЕ
РЗС
STATISTICAL OFFICE OF THE
REPUBLIC OF SERBIA

Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

**Swiss Agency for Development
and Cooperation SDC**

NOTE: This analysis does not represent official views of the Government of the Republic of Serbia. All terms used in the text in the masculine gender denote both males and females.

Table of Contents

Introduction

In accordance with its mandate, the Social Inclusion and Poverty Reduction Unit of the Government of the Republic of Serbia regularly reports on the development of poverty and inequality in the Republic of Serbia. Given the scale of absolute poverty, it remains important for regular monitoring and reporting, as well as for formulating relevant policies.

Data processing was performed by the Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia as the competent institution. We owe special gratitude to Nataša Mijakovac, Head of the Unit for Consumption and Living Standard Statistics.

Since 2015, in line with the recommendation of the European Statistical Agency – Eurostat, the Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia has applied the Classification of Individual Consumption by Purpose at the five-digit level, instead of four-digit level. These changes have affected the data from previous years; hence, the Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia has also revised the data on personal consumption development in the period 2009–2014.

These methodological changes as of 2015, as well as the revision of data for the past years, have also affected the data on absolute poverty; therefore, the Social Inclusion and Poverty Reduction Unit of the Government of the Republic of Serbia has developed this publication with a view to providing methodologically consistent poverty data series for the period 2006-2016.

This publication is aimed at informing policy-makers, as well as the general public, about the development of poverty and inequality in the Republic of Serbia, to improve the understanding of poverty factors and to affect the improvement of the most vulnerable population's living standard more efficiently through social and overall economic policy measures.

Although the methodological changes and the revision carried out have led to data alterations, the key conclusions on the vulnerability level, primary vulnerability factors and profile of the poor remain unchanged compared to the data before these changes took place. Population outside major cities, households headed by persons with no or low education, unemployed or inactive remain the most vulnerable. Multi-person households and households with children are especially vulnerable.

Key Findings

In 2016, the poverty line stood at RSD 11,694 per equivalent adult per month, and 7.3% of the Republic of Serbia's population had consumption below this level.

Poverty remained significant throughout the observed period and no significant downward trend was recorded. About half a million people were not able to meet the basic subsistence needs. Although, in absolute terms, the number of poor individuals recorded a slight decrease, this development was primarily due to Serbia's population decline, and to a lesser extent to a reduction in poverty incidence.

Compared to the research carried out to date, the latest methodological changes did not have a significant impact on the profile of the poor; thus, poverty remained primarily concentrated in non-urban areas, especially in the Southern and Eastern Serbia Region, among individuals living in households whose heads had no/low education, were unemployed and inactive. Poverty is more common in multi-person households and more pronounced among children and youth.

Poverty line sensitivity analysis indicates that the share of individuals with extremely low consumption (below 80% of the poverty line) decreased considerably, and that the proportion of the poor with consumption up to 95% of the poverty line was substantial.

This also indicates that poverty depth and poverty severity were decreased in the observed period, which is also a positive trend.

Consumption inequality in the observed years exhibited a slight decrease, placing Serbia among countries with a relatively even consumption distribution, in global terms. The consumption of the richest 20% was about four times higher than that of the poorest 20%. In regional terms, the Šumadija and Western Serbia Region notably recorded a somewhat more even distribution compared to all other regions.

In 2016, social transfers (excluding pensions) reduced the absolute poverty incidence by 26.3%. Without social transfers, 9.9% of the population would have been poor. If pensions are included in social transfers, the impact on poverty is even more significant. Without pensions and social transfers, in 2016, the consumption of approximately one third of the population would have fallen short of the level needed to meet the subsistence needs. If households had not supplemented their consumption by goods produced for own use, 8.7% of the population, i.e. about 95 thousand people more, would have been poor in 2016.

Methodological Notes

Since 2006, poverty calculation in the Republic of Serbia has been based on the data of the Household Budget Survey, which has been conducted in accordance with international standards and recommendations of Eurostat, the International Labour Organization and the United Nations since 2003. The methodology for the calculation of absolute poverty indicators has been defined in cooperation with the World Bank[1].

Absolute poverty analysis is based on household consumption, since this aggregate is considered to be a more reliable measure of living standard than household income, owing to its characteristics such as its stability and comprehensiveness over a longer period of time. On the other hand, income is prone to short-term fluctuation and often underestimated, as households do not always provide accurate information on their income levels and sources.

The absolute poverty line is defined as consumption required to satisfy the minimum, basic subsistence needs, and comprises two components: the food line or extreme poverty line, and other household expenditure, such as expenditure on clothing and footwear, housing, health care, education, transport, communication, recreation and culture etc. The absolute poverty line thus defined was calculated in 2006 and adjusted for inflation (measured by the consumer price index) for each subsequent year.

In line with the Eurostat recommendation, the Classification of Individual Consumption by Purpose (COICOP) at the five-digit level, instead of four-digit level, has been in use since 2015.

The alignment of this Classification, used in the HBS, price statistics (PPP and HCPI) and national accounts (final household consumption) at the five-digit level has resulted in methodological changes in the HBS.

The change in the Classification level has led to changes in the questionnaire in 2015. The changes concern the questionnaire items on household cash expenditures on semi-durable goods, durable goods and services; instead of the four-digit level, these items now monitor the five-digit level of the COICOP and enable more detailed coverage of household expenditures; as a result, the data for 2015 are not comparable to those for 2014 (data for the groups Food and non-alcoholic beverages and Alcoholic beverages and tobacco

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[1] Vukmirović, D. and Smith Govoni, R. (ed.), (2008) Living Standards Measurement Study: Serbia 2002–2007, Belgrade: Publikum [Online], available at:
http://socijalnoukljucivanje.gov.rs/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/Living-Standards-Measurement-Study-Serbia-2002-%E2%80%93-2007.pdf
Social Inclusion and Poverty Reduction Unit, Government of the Republic of Serbia (2007) Second Progress Report
on the Implementation of the Poverty Reduction Strategy in Serbia, Belgrade: Social Inclusion and Poverty Reduction Unit, Government of the Republic of Serbia [Online], available at:
http://socijalnoukljucivanje.gov.rs/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/Second-Progress-Report-on-PRS-Implementation-pdf.pdf
TThe World Bank Group, Choosing and Estimating Poverty Indicators [Online] August 2017. Available at:
http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/TOPICS/EXTPOVERTY/EXTPA/0,,contentMDK:20242881~isCURL:Y~menuPK:492130~pagePK:148956~piPK:216618~theSitePK:430367,00.html

were not affected by these changes). The methodological changes have also affected the data from previous years; hence, the Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia (SORS) has revised the data on personal consumption development in the period 2009–2014.

This revision is principally aimed at enhancing data quality and obtaining comparable data by overcoming the impact of the said methodological changes.

The data revision is a result of the application of objectivised statistical methods of data analysis and forecasting (regression analysis, linear trend), on the basis of which an expert assessment of consumption development by individual consumption groups and regions has been performed. The revised data on households' individual consumption have a direct bearing on poverty incidence, as well as other poverty indicators, which requires a revision of absolute poverty data for the said period.

More detailed methodological explanations of the modality of defining and setting the poverty line, equivalence scales, and other matters concerning the Household Budget Survey are available in the following publications and papers:

Matković, G. (2014). Measuring Poverty – Theoretical Concepts, Status and Recommendations on Serbia, Belgrade: Social Inclusion and Poverty Reduction Unit of the Government of the Republic of Serbia [Online], available at:
http://socijalnoukljucivanje.gov.rs/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/Measuring-Poverty-Theoretical-Concepts-Status-and-Recommendations.pdf

Mijatović, B. (2015) Poverty in Serbia 2011, 2012 and 2013, Belgrade: Social Inclusion and Poverty Reduction Unit of the Government of the Republic of Serbia [Online], available at:
http://socijalnoukljucivanje.gov.rs/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/Poverty-in-Serbia-2011-2012-and-2013.pdf

Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia, Household Budget Survey methodology [Online], available at:
http://www.stat.gov.rs/WebSite/userFiles/file/Apd/SMET/SMET005010C.pdf

Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia, Household Budget Survey questionnaire for 2017 [Online], available at:
http://www.stat.gov.rs/WebSite/userFiles/file/Apd/OBR/Upitnik za domacinstvo i clanove domacinstva (APD-1).pdf

Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia, Household Budget Survey diary for 2017, [Online], available at:
http://www.stat.gov.rs/WebSite/userFiles/file/Apd/OBR/Upitnik za domacinstvo i clanove domacinstva (APD-1).pdf

Key Poverty Indicators

I n 2016, the poverty line stood at RSD 11,694 per equivalent adult per month; this value is a result of regular annual adjustment for the amount of inflation since 2006, when the line was originally constructed. Each person whose monthly consumption is below this level falls into the absolutely poor category.

It is assumed that, within households, resources are shared and used jointly; thus, each subsequent adult in a household, according to the OECD equivalence scale, "spends" 0.7 times the amount an adult would "spend" if he/she lived alone. The weight of 0.5 applies to a child up to the age of 14. For instance, in 2016, a four-member household (two adults and two children up to the age of 14) was considered poor if its monthly consumption was below RSD 31,574.

Poverty incidence cannot be said to have decreased significantly over the entire observed period 2006–2016. In 2016, the last year observed, 7.3% of the population was absolutely poor, while the reductions in the absolutely poor population were primarily a result of population decline. The consumption of approximately half a million people was not sufficient to meet the basic subsistence needs.

As the poverty incidence values available to us are obtained from a sample, rather than form a survey of the entire population, they are described with certain probability. If we decide to accept the probability that our actual poverty incidence value falls within a certain interval in 95% of the cases, then the assessment has a 95% confidence interval.

It could be said with a 95% probability that the poverty incidence in 2016 obtained by surveying the entire population would be in the 6.3% to 8.3% interval, i.e. we could state with that level of probability that between 6.3% and 8.3% of the population was absolutely poor.

Compared to 2006, we could state with 95% probability that a significant fall occurred in 2008 and 2012 (the years without overlapping confidence intervals), whereas for the other years we cannot be certain whether any statistically significant changes in the scale of poverty occurred.

Data on poverty depth (intensity) show how far off the poor population's consumption is from the poverty line. It measures the poverty deficit of the entire population, and

also indicates the resources required, assuming perfect targeting, to eliminate poverty entirely. In the observed period, poverty depth steadily decreased.

At the same time, a decrease in poverty severity (the measure showing inequality among the poor by assigning more weight to the poorest) was recorded as well.

Chart 1. Poverty incidence, lower and upper limit of 95% confidence interval, 2006–2016

Table 1. Absolute poverty in the Republic of Serbia

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Poverty line, per equivalent adult per month, RSD	6,221	6,625	7,401	8,022	8,544	9,483	10,223	11,020	11,340	11,556	11,694
Poverty incidence	**8.8**	**8.3**	**6.1**	**6.6**	**7.6**	**6.6**	**6.3**	**7.4**	**7.6**	**7.4**	**7.3**
Poor population	703,976	642,047	467,311	504,470	566,408	485,407	459,615	524,908	534,044	515,663	492,306
Population	7,985,174	7,777,425	7,702,918	7,613,208	7,456,107	7,343,047	7,303,771	7,096,115	7,064,646	6,927,866	6,755,343

Table 2. Poverty incidence, standard error, lower and upper limit of 95% confidence interval (95% CI)

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Poverty incidence	8.8	8.3	6.1	6.6	7.6	6.6	6.3	7.4	7.6	7.4	7.3
Standard error	(0.63)	(0.62)	(0.52)	(0.58)	(0.60)	(0.56)	(0.56)	(0.62)	(0.50)	(0.48)	(0.49)
Lower and upper limit of 95% confidence interval (95% CI)	(7.6 - 10.1)	(7.0 - 9.5)	(5.0 - 7.1)	(5.5 - 7.8)	(6.4 - 8.8)	(5.5 - 7.7)	(5.2 - 7.4)	(6.2 - 8.6)	(6.6 - 8.5)	(6.5 - 8.4)	(6.3 - 8.3)

Table 3. Poverty depth and severity in the Republic of Serbia, 2006-2016

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Poverty depth (poverty gap), %	2.1 SE (0.23)	1.9 SE (0.21)	1.2 SE (0.13)	1.5 SE (0.17)	1.5 SE (0.18)	1.1 SE (0.12)	1.4 SE (0.18)	1.6 SE (0.16)	1.4 SE (0.12)	1.2 SE (0.11)	1.2 SE (0.13)
Poverty severity, %	0.8 SE (0.13)	0.7 SE (0.11)	0.4 SE (0.06)	0.5 SE (0.08)	0.5 SE (0.08)	0.3 SE (0.05)	0.5 SE (0.09)	0.5 SE (0.08)	0.4 SE (0.05)	0.4 SE (0.05)	0.4 SE (0.08)

Poverty Profile

Territorial and regional distribution

Poverty is twice as common in non-urban areas. The regional breakdown reveals a significant deviation of the Southern and Eastern Serbia Region, which recorded the highest poverty incidence values throughout the observed period. The Belgrade Region consistently had the lowest poverty incidence; the convergence of the Vojvodina and Šumadija and Western Serbia Regions with the Belgrade Region was identified as a positive trend in the observed period.

Chart 2. **Poverty incidence by settlement type**

- – · – · – **Non-urban Area**
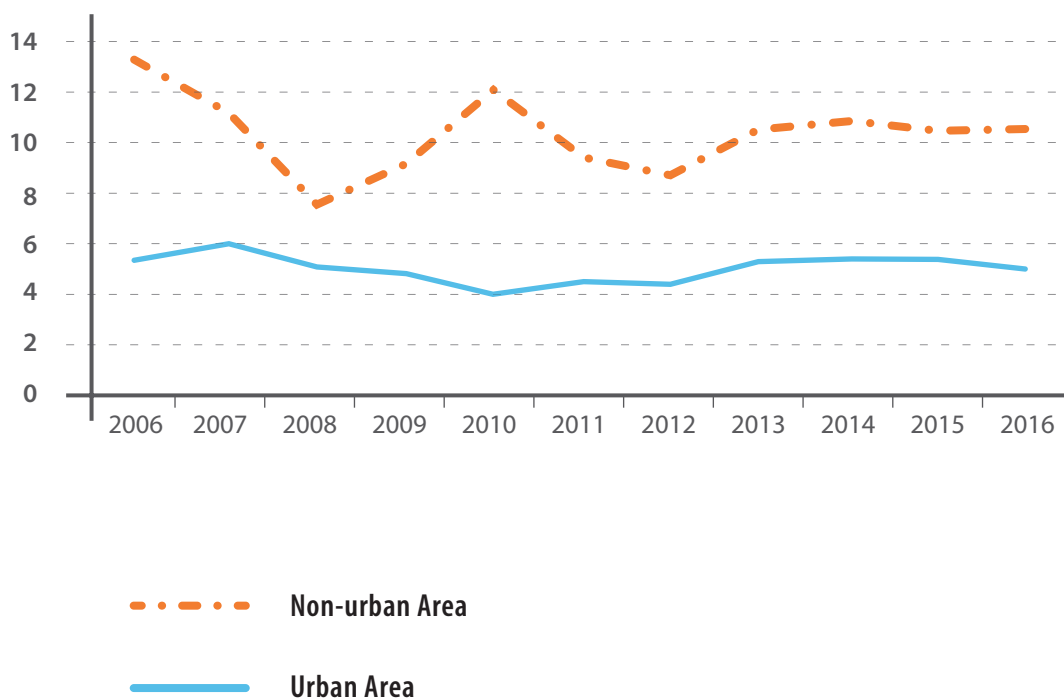
──────── **Urban Area**

Chart 3. Poverty incidence by region

Legend:
- ———— Belgrade region
- □ □ □ □ □ Vojvodina region
- — ·· — ·· — Southern and Eastern Serbia region
- ▪▪▪▪▪▪▪ Šumadija and Western Serbia region
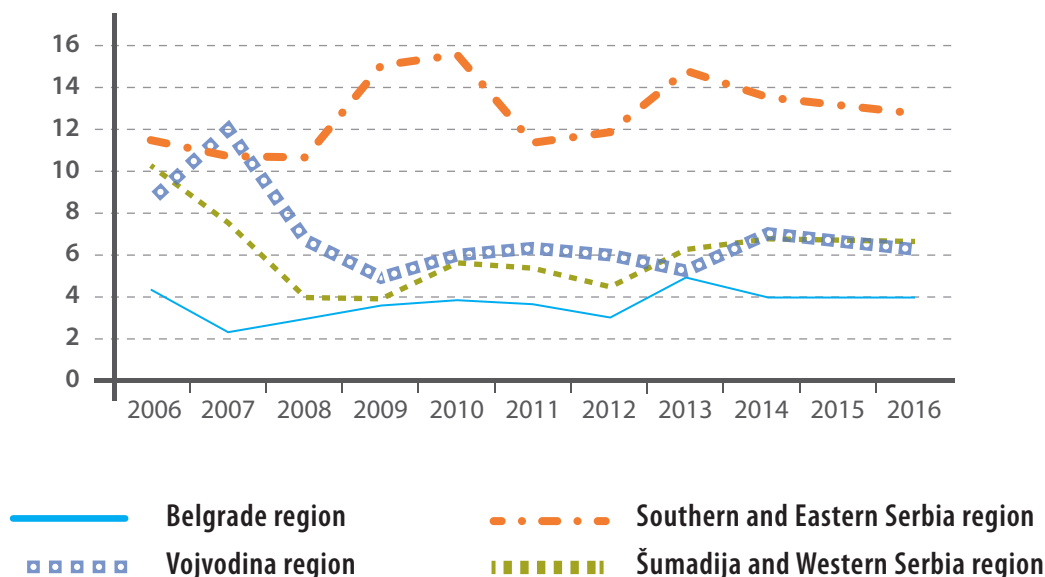
Table 4. Absolute poverty by settlement type, 2006-2016

PERIOD 2006-2010

		2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Poverty incidence	urban area	**5.3**	**6.0**	**5.0**	**4.8**	**4.1**
	non-urban area	**13. 3**	**11.2**	**7.5**	**9.0**	**12.1**
Population	urban area	4,462,419	4,420,760	4,375,224	4,307,337	4,187,256
	non-urban area	3,522,755	3,356,694	3,372,694	3,305,871	3,268,851
Poor population	urban area	236,889	264,947	219,202	207,453	171,793
	non-urban area	467,087	377,099	248,109	297,017	394,615

PERIOD 2011-2016

		2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Poverty incidence	urban area	**4.4**	**4.3**	**5.3**	**5.3**	**5.4**	**5.1**
	non-urban area	**9.4**	**8.7**	**10.5**	**10.9**	**10.5**	**10.5**
Population	urban area	4,043,793	4,034,964	4,202,798	4,238,339	4,113,949	3,992,283
	non-urban area	3,299,254	3,268,807	2,893,317	2,826,339	2,813,917	2,763,060
Poor population	urban area	176,463	174,348	222,514	226,033	221,374	201,699
	non-urban area	308,944	285,267	302,394	308,011	298,289	290,607

Table 5. Absolute poverty by region, 2006-2016

		2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Poverty incidence	**Belgrade region**	4.3	2.4	2.9	3.8	3.8	3.7	3.1	4.9	4.0	3.9	4.0
	Vojvodina region	8.7	11.9	6.8	4.9	5.9	6.2	6.1	5.2	6.8	6.5	6.3
	Šumadija and Western Serbia Region	10.2	7.6	4.0	3.9	5.7	5.4	4.5	6.3	6.7	6.6	6.6
	Southern and Eastern	11.4	11.0	11.0	15.0	16.0	11.0	12.0	15.0	14.0	13.0	13.0
	Central Serbia (excl. the Belgrade Region)	10.7	9.0	7.0	8.8	10.1	7.9	7.7	9.8	9.6	9.6	9.3
Population	**Belgrade region**	1,711,656	1,733,291	1,674,909	1,639,864	1,578,707	1,509,631	1,507,729	1,700,676	1,621,436	1,579,764	1,583,594
	Vojvodina region	2,131,778	2,065,460	2,039,102	2,079,573	2,023,920	1,919,840,	2,040,488	1,926,447	1,910,649	1,830,032	1,747,144
	Šumadija and Western Serbia Region	2,315,239	2,258,66	2,184,995	2,172,421	2,134,864	2,227,791	2,101,129	2,009,160	2,024,069	1,917,156	1,917,789
	Southern and Eastern	1,826,502	1,720,009	1,803,912	1,721,350	1718,616	1,685,785	1,654,425	1,459,832	1,508,492	1,580,915	1,506,816
	Central Serbia (excl. the Belgrade Region)	4,414,740	3,978,674	3,988,907	3,893,771	3,853,480	3,913,576	3,755,554	3,468,992	3,532,561	3,498,070	3,424,605
Poor Population	**Belgrade region**	73,701	40,966	48,434	59,238	59,724	56,327	46,251	83,281	64,680	62,377	62,687
	Vojvodina region	186,328	244,965	138,859	101,701	118,853	118,233	124,438	100,175	129,946	118,961	110,746
	Šumadija and Western Serbia Region	235,856	173,320	86,456	85,167	120,880	119,890	94,266	127,479	135,285	126,581	126,488
	Southern and Eastern	208,091	183,796	193,562	258,364	266,951	190,957	194,660	213,973	204,133	207,744	192,385
	Central Serbia (excl. the Belgrade Region)	443,947	356,116	280,017	343,531	387,331	310,847	288,926	341,452	339,418	334,325	318,873

Breakdown of the poor population by sex and age

Given the assumption of even distribution of consumption within a household (i.e. the fact that one household cannot contain a poor and a non-poor person), differences in poverty by sex are primarily driven by single-person households and households consisting of persons of the same sex. For this reason, it is not possible to identify significant disparities in poverty by sex.

By age, the status of children was worse than that of adults in all the observed years. Although the disparities between child and adult poverty decreased discernibly, this is primarily a result of the deteriorating status of those aged over 65 and over 75.

Chart 4. **Child and adult poverty incidence**

Children 0-18

Adults
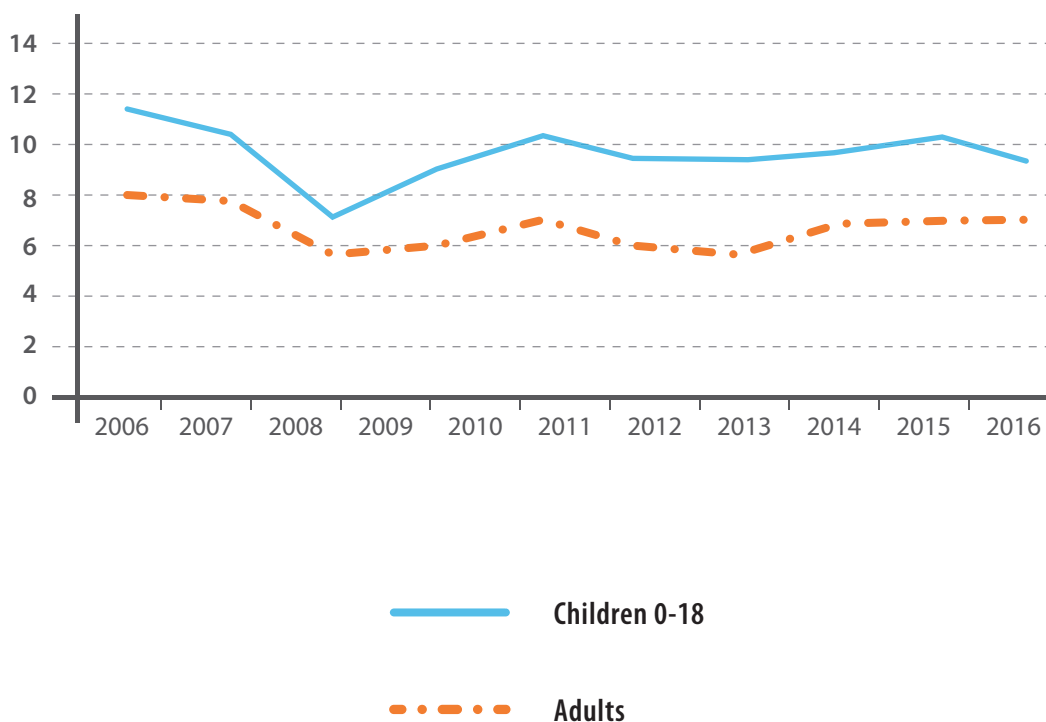
Chart 5. Poverty incidence by age
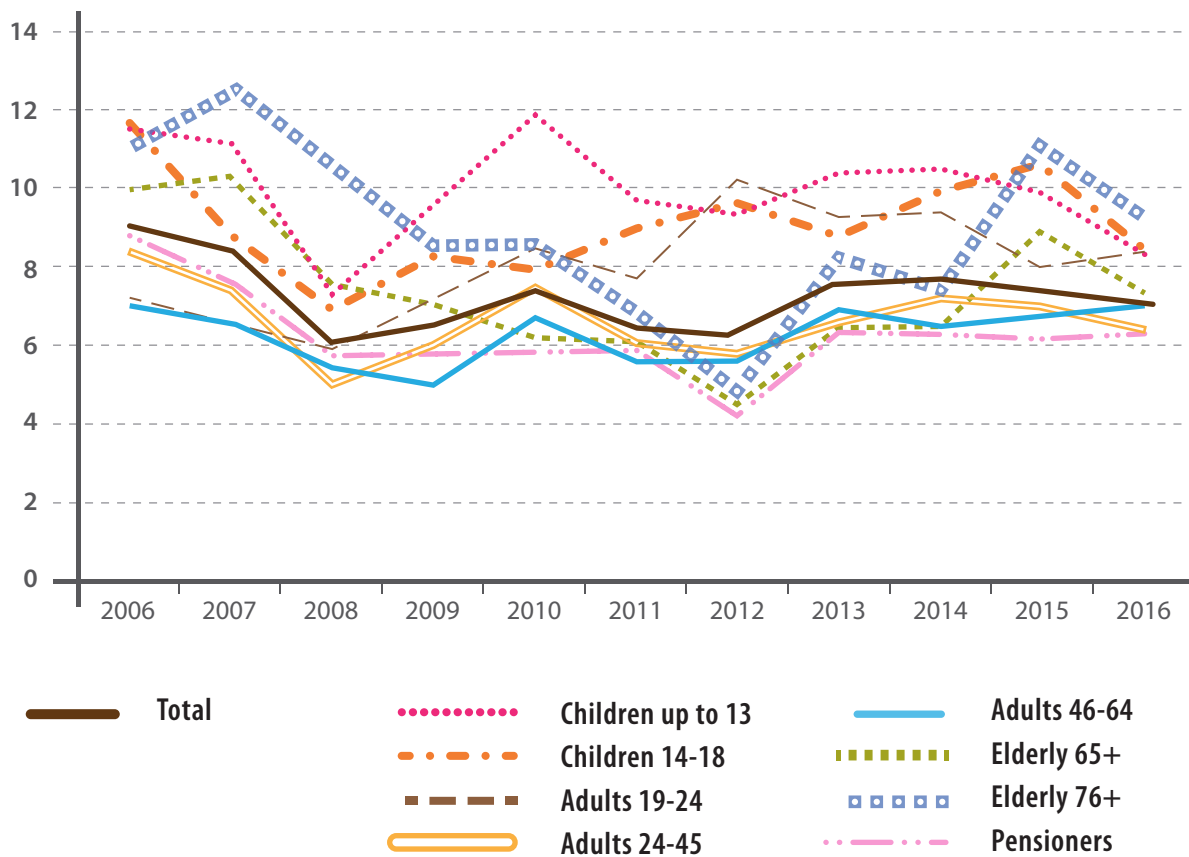
Table 6. Poverty incidence by age

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Total	**8.8**	**8.3**	**6.1**	**6.6**	**7.6**	**6.6**	**6.3**	**7.4**	**7.6**	**7.4**	**7.3**
Children 0 - 18	**11.6**	**10.5**	**7.1**	**9.2**	**10.6**	**9.5**	**9.5**	**9.9**	**10.4**	**9.4**	**8.4**
Adults	**8.1**	**7.8**	**5.8**	**6.1**	**7.0**	**6.0**	**5.7**	**6.9**	**7.0**	**7.1**	**7.1**
Children up to 13	11.6	11.2	7.3	9.7	11.9	9.7	9.4	10.4	10.5	9.9	8.4
Children 14-18	11.7	8.8	6.9	8.3	7.9	9.0	9.7	8.8	9.9	10.6	8.5
Adults 19-24	7.2	6.6	5.9	7.2	8.5	7.7	10.2	9.3	9.4	8.0	8.4
Adults 25-45	8.4	7.4	5.0	6.0	7.5	6.1	5.8	6.6	7.2	7.0	6.4
Adults 46-64	7.0	6.6	5.4	5.0	6.7	5.6	5.6	6.9	6.5	6.8	7.0
Elderly 65+	10.0	10.3	7.5	7.1	6.2	6.1	4.4	6.4	6.5	8.9	7.4
Elderly 76+	11.1	12.5	10.6	8.6	8.6	7.0	4.8	8.2	7.4	11.1	9.3

Poverty by household type

Households with six and more members were affected by poverty significantly above average. Of all poor people, approximately a quarter lived in households with six or more members. In recent years, a trend of growing poverty was observed among individuals living in two- and three-member households.

Chart 6. Poverty incidence by household type
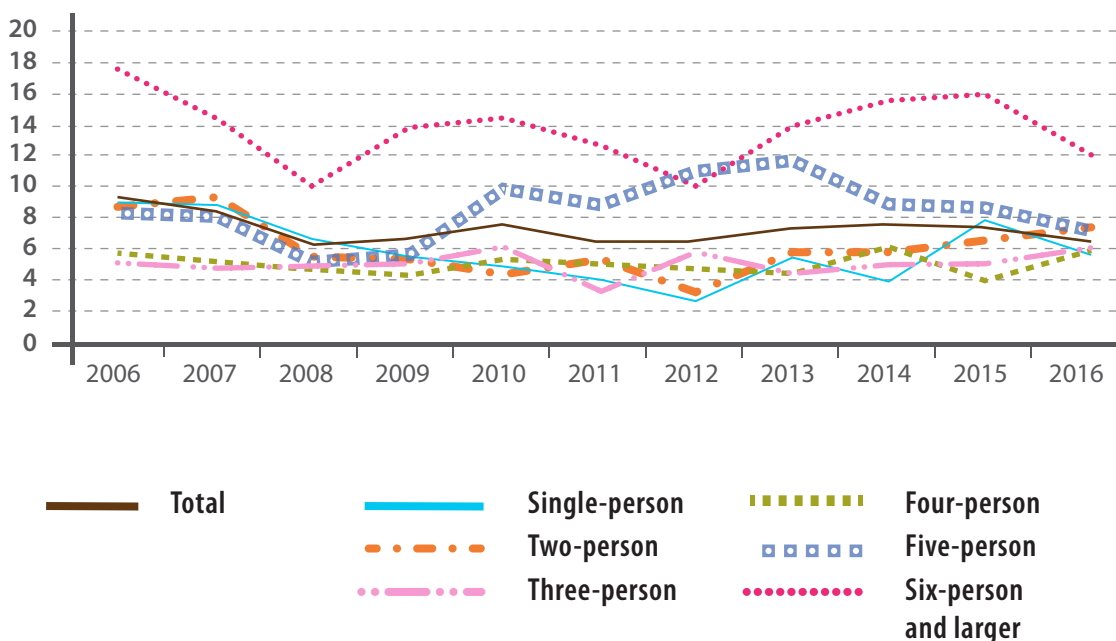
Table 7. Poverty incidence by household type

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Total	**8.8**	**8.3**	**6.1**	**6.6**	**7.6**	**6.6**	**6.3**	**7.4**	**7.6**	**7.4**	**7.3**
Single-person	8.6	8.8	6.6	5.5	4.9	4.0	2.7	5.4	3.9	7.9	5.8
Two-person	8.7	9.2	5.5	5.2	4.4	5.3	3.3	5.7	5.8	6.7	7.3
Three-person	5.2	4.9	5.1	5.0	6.1	3.3	5.8	4.5	5.0	5.1	5.9
Four-person	5.7	5.3	4.7	4.3	5.3	5.0	4.7	4.5	6.0	3.9	5.6
Five-person	8.3	8.1	5.2	5.5	9.8	8.8	10.9	11.6	8.9	8.7	7.3
Six-person and larger	17.3	14.4	10.0	13.7	14.3	12.7	10.1	14.0	15.4	15.8	12.1

Educational attainment of household head and poverty

Low educational attainment remained the key poverty factor. On average, poverty was over ten times more common among individuals living in households whose head was without complete primary education compared to those living in households whose head had higher education. Approximately 60% of all poor lived in households whose head had primary education at most, while their share in the population structure.

Chart 7. Poverty incidence by educational attainment of household head

	Non-university higher education		Incomplete primary education
	University-level higher education		Primary education
			Secondary education
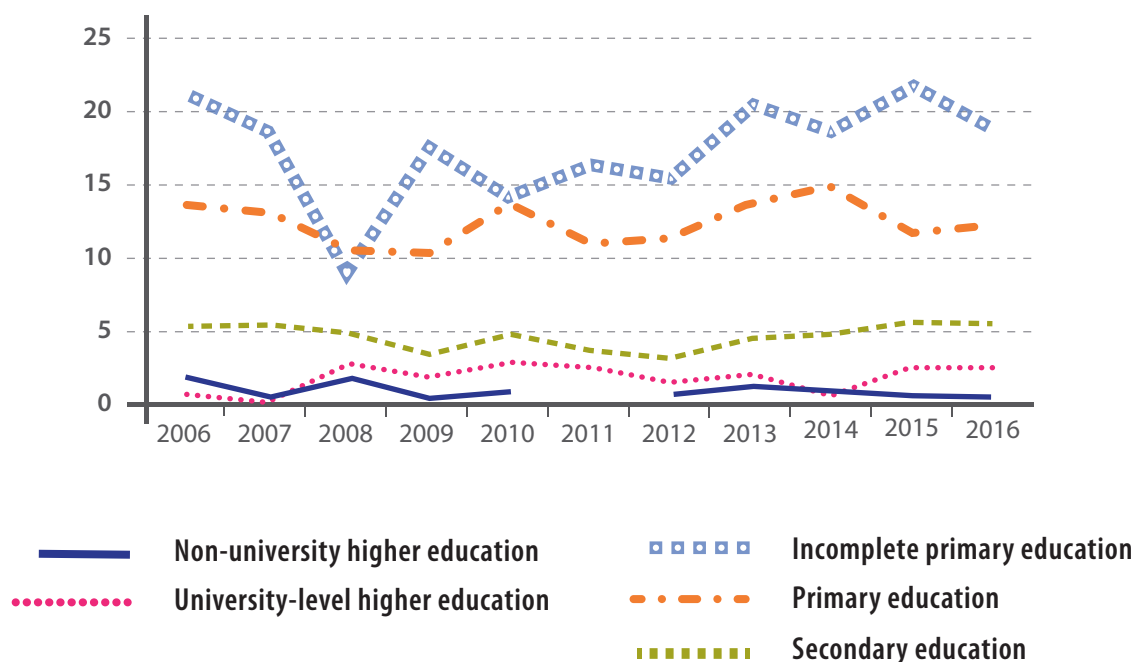
Table 8. Poverty incidence by educational attainment of household head

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Incomplete primary education	21.0	18.8	9.0	17.4	14.3	16.5	15.6	20.5	18.8	21.8	19.0
Primary education	13.7	13.2	10.5	10.4	13.7	11.0	11.4	13.8	14.9	11.8	12.2
Secondary education	5.5	5.4	4.8	3.6	4.7	3.7	3.3	4.5	4.8	5.6	5.5
Non-university higher education	0.6	0.1	2.7	2.0	2.8	2.5	1.6	2.0	0.7	2.5	2.5
University-level higher education	1.8	0.4	1.9	0.4	0.7	-	0.8	1.1	0.7	0.5	0.5

Socio-economic status of household head and poverty

Beside education, labour market status is another decisive poverty factor. Individuals living in households whose heads were unemployed and inactive were between four and five times more likely to be poor than individuals living in households whose heads were employed, although employment itself did not necessarily lift all individuals out of poverty (3% of individuals living in households with employed heads were poor).

Chart 8. Poverty incidence by socio-economic status of household head
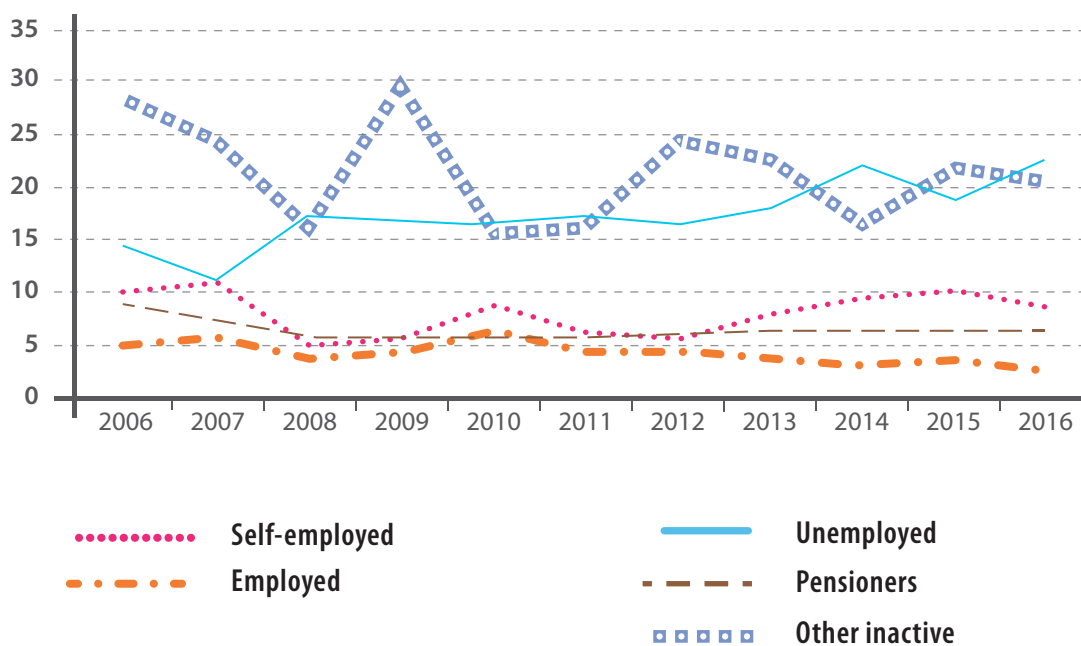
Table 9. Poverty incidence by socio-economic status of household head

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Self-employed	10.2	10.9	5.1	5.5	8.8	6.3	5.5	8.1	9.7	10.1	8.4
Employed	5.2	5.3	3.9	4.4	6.0	4.0	4.0	3.6	3.2	3.4	2.8
Unemployed	14.7	10.9	16.9	17.0	16.5	16.9	16.7	18.0	21.8	19.0	22.5
Pensioners	8.8	7.6	5.7	5.8	5.8	5.9	4.2	6.3	6.3	6.2	6.3
Other inactive	28.2	24.2	15.5	29.3	15.5	16.2	24.6	22.4	16.6	21.7	20.4

Sensitivity Analysis of Absolute Poverty

Sensitivity analysis is aimed at showing the scale of poverty incidence variation that occurs when the poverty line is raised or lowered by a given percentage. For instance, in 2016, raising the absolute poverty line by 20% would increase poverty incidence by 47% (from 7.3% to 10.7%), while lowering the absolute poverty line by the same percentage would decrease poverty incidence by 70% (from 7.3% to only 2.2%). The sensitivity of the line is higher when the poverty line is lowered than when it is increased, which indicates a higher frequency (density) of people immediately below the poverty line. **In the observed years, the proportion of people facing extreme forms of poverty** (people whose consumption was 80% and 90% of the poverty line) **was reduced.**

Chart 9. **Sensitivity analysis of absolute poverty**

		120%				95%
		110%				90%
		105%				80%
		Poverty incidence (baseline = 100%), %				
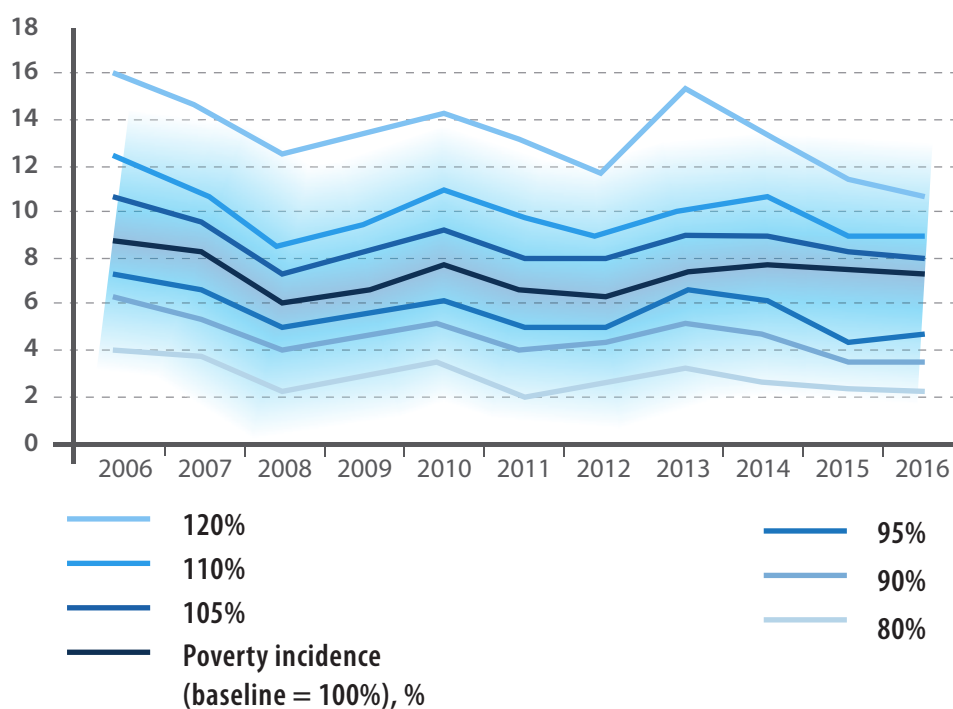
Table 10. **Sensitivity analysis of absolute poverty**

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
120%	16.1	14.5	12.5	13.3	14.3	13.2	11.5	15.3	13.5	11.4	10.7
110%	12.4	10.9	8.7	9.5	10.9	9.8	9.0	10.2	10.6	9.0	8.9
105%	10.7	9.8	7.3	8.2	9.2	8.1	7.9	8.9	8.8	8.3	8.1
Poverty incidence (baseline = 100%), %	**8.8**	**8.3**	**6.1**	**6.6**	**7.6**	**6.6**	**6.3**	**7.4**	**7.6**	**7.4**	**7.3**
95%	7.3	6.7	5.0	5.7	6.2	5.1	5.1	6.4	6.3	4.4	4.7
90%	6.3	5.5	3.9	4.6	5.2	4.0	4.3	5.0	4.6	3.6	3.6
80%	4.1	3.8	2.3	3.0	3.6	2.1	2.7	3.2	2.6	2.3	2.2

Inequality in the Republic of Serbia

In this section, consumption inequality is monitored through two indicators: the Gini co-efficient (which measures inequality in the population as a whole and takes values from 0 to 1, or from 0 to 100, where 0 indicates full consumption equality of all individuals, and 1 or 100 denotes absolute concentration of all consumption in one individual) and the consumption quintile share ratio (the ratio of the consumption of the richest 20% to that of the poorest 20% of the population).

In the observed period, both indicators exhibited a slight decrease, placing Serbia among countries with a relatively even consumption distribution[2]. The Šumadija and Western Serbia Region notably recorded a somewhat more even consumption distribution compared to all other regions.

Tabel 11. Gini coefficient

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Republic of Serbia	27.94	27.10	26.05	26.24	27.03	25.38	26.76	26.90	26.65	25.54	26.13
Belgrade Region	26.89	25.39	26.17	26.90	26.32	24.40	25.59	27.48	26.52	26.97	27.85
Vojvodina Region	29.34	28.59	27.16	24.92	26.89	24.96	27.36	24.83	26.43	26.58	26.19
Šumadija and Western Serbia Region	26.80	25.50	23.18	23.42	24.89	23.09	23.15	24.68	24.74	23.52	24.58
Southern and Eastern Serbia Region	27.53	25.79	25.50	27.46	27.41	23.83	26.55	25.92	26.44	23.83	25.00

Table 12. Consumption quintile share ratio, s80/s20

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Republic of Serbia	4.16	3.99	3.80	3.70	3.90	3.60	3.93	4.00	3.90	3.70	3.89
Belgrade Region	4.36	3.85	3.74	3.81	3.74	3.41	3.61	4.27	3.82	3.88	4.20
Vojvodina Region	4.19	4.28	3.92	3.65	3.97	3.71	4.25	3.63	3.93	3.99	3.98
Šumadija and Western Serbia Region	3.99	3.86	3.53	3.21	3.51	3.13	3.17	3.43	3.52	3.32	3.59
Southern and Eastern Serbia Region	4.08	3.66	3.79	4.03	3.80	3.54	3.87	3.59	3.78	3.35	3.75

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2   The World Bank Group. DataBank; Poverty and Equity [Online] August 2017. Available at: http://databank.worldbank.org/data/reports.aspx?source=poverty-and-equity-database

Effectiveness of Social Transfers

Social transfers have a significant impact on poverty incidence reduction. The calculation of social transfers includes the following income components, according to the Household Budget Survey questionnaire[3] :

- receipt of benefits under health insurance (sick pay and the like),

- maternity and childcare leave,

- social assistance, allowances and other benefits under social protection (financial social assistance, attendance allowance, birth grant and the like),

- receipt of benefits under cash support to unemployed and temporarily unemployed persons,

- individual or survivor disability benefit and disability supplements, war-disabled civilians and war veterans,

- receipt of alimony, maintenance,

- child allowance,

- student scholarships, compensation to secondary vocational school students, rewards and the like.

The effectiveness of social transfers is calculated by comparing the poverty incidence before the receipt of social transfers and the poverty incidence after the receipt of social transfers. The poverty incidence before the receipt of social transfers is calculated on the basis of consumption less social transfers.

In 2016, social transfers reduced the poverty incidence by 26.3%, i.e. 9.9% of the population would have been poor without social transfers (pensions not included). In absolute terms, about 170 thousand people more would have been in poverty.

The impact of social transfers (excluding pensions) on poverty reduction is the highest in the Belgrade and Vojvodina Regions, and the lowest in the Southern and Eastern Serbia Region.

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[3] Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia, Household Budget Survey questionnaire for 2017 [Online] August 2017. Available at:
http://www.stat.gov.rs/WebSite/userFiles/file/Apd/OBR/Upitnik%20za%20domacinstvo%20i%20clanove%20domacinstva%20(APD-1).pdf

If pensions are included in social transfers, the impact on poverty is even more significant. Without pensions and other social transfers, in 2016, the consumption of approximately one third of the population would have fallen short of the level needed to meet the subsistence needs.

The combined impact of pensions and other social transfers on poverty reduction is the highest in the Belgrade Region, and the lowest in the Southern and Eastern Serbia Region.

The calculation of pensions includes:

• pensions (old-age, survivor, pension supplements and the like),
• foreign pensions.

Table 13. Effectiveness of social transfers

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Poverty incidence, %	8.8	8.3	6.1	6.6	7.6	6.6	6.3	7.4	7.6	7.4	7.3
Poverty incidence before social transfers. %											
Consumption less social transfers											
Republic of Serbia	**11.2**	**10.3**	**7.7**	**8.3**	**9.9**	**8.4**	**8.3**	**10.3**	**11.4**	**10.5**	**9.9**
	SE (0.69)	SE (0.67)	SE (0.57)	SE (0.63)	SE (0.67)	SE (0.62)	SE (0.64)	SE (0.69)	SE (0.65)	SE (0.55)	SE (0.56)
	95% CI (9.9-12.6)	95% CI (8.9-11.6)	95% CI (6.5-8.8)	95% CI (7.1-9.6)	95% CI (8.6-11.3)	95% CI (7.1-9.6)	95% CI (7.0-9.6)	95% CI (8.9-11.6)	95% CI (10.1-12.7)	95% CI (9.4-11.6)	95% CI (8.8-11.0)
Belgrade Region	6.0	3.9	3.6	4.5	5.3	4.2	3.8	6.8	8.4	6.8	6.3
Vojvodina Region	12.9	14.4	8.5	7.4	8.6	8.1	9.3	9.5	9.3	10.8	9.3
Šumadija and Western Serbia Region	11.9	9.4	5.6	5.5	7.6	7.1	6.1	8.3	10.3	8.9	9.1
Southern and Eastern Serbia Region	13.4	12.8	13.0	16.7	18.7	13.9	14.0	17.9	18.6	16.0	15.4
Consumption less social transfers and pensions											
Republic of Serbia	**33.3**	**34.8**	**33.2**	**37.9**	**39.7**	**37.9**	**34.5**	**38.2**	**36.5**	**34.8**	**34.4**
	SE (0.88)	SE (0.97)	SE (0.88)	SE (0.91)	SE (0.96)	SE (0.99)	SE (1.02)	SE (1.01)	SE (0.96)	SE (0.86)	SE (0.82)
	95% CI (31.5-35.0)	95% CI (32.9-36.7)	95% CI (31.5-35.0)	95% CI (36.1-39.8)	95% CI (37.7-41.6)	95% CI (36.0-39.9)	95% CI (32.4-36.5)	95% CI (36.2-40.2)	95% CI (34.6-38.4)	95% CI (33.1-36.6)	95% CI (32.8-36.0)
Belgrade Region	31.6	32.4	36.3	41.2	40.8	39.8	31.7	35.9	36.9	35.9	36.4
Vojvodina Region	32.9	36.6	29.8	33.2	36.0	31.5	32.0	33.5	33.7	34.8	33.1
Šumadija and Western Serbia Region	30.8	31.8	28.5	32.1	33.7	35.8	29.0	33.6	31.3	28.6	32.4
Southern and Eastern Serbia Region	38.4	39.0	40.0	47.9	50.2	46.5	47.0	53.4	46.6	41.4	36.4

Table 14. **Poverty incidence reduction after social transfers**

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Republic of Serbia	-21.4	-19.4	-20.8	-20.5	-23.2	-21.4	-24.1	-28.2	-33.3	-29.5	-26.3
Belgrade Region	-28.3	-38.5	-19.4	-20.0	-28.3	-11.9	-18.4	-27.9	-52.4	-42.6	-36.5
Vojvodina Region	-32.6	-17.4	-20.0	-33.8	-31.4	-23.5	-34.4	-45.3	-26.9	-39.8	-32.3
Šumadija and Western Serbia Region	-14.3	-19.1	-28.6	-29.1	-25.0	-23.9	-26.2	-24.1	-35.0	-25.8	-27.5
Southern and Eastern Serbia Region	-14.9	-16.4	-17.7	-10.2	-17.1	-18.7	-15.7	-17.9	-27.4	-18.1	-16.9

Table 15. **Poverty incidence reduction after social transfers and pensions**

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Republic of Serbia	-73.6	-76.1	-81.6	-82.6	-80.9	-82.6	-81.7	-80.6	-79.2	-78.7	-78.8
Belgrade Region	-86.4	-92.6	-92.0	-91.3	-90.7	-90.7	-90.2	-86.4	-89.2	-89.1	-89.0
Vojvodina Region	-73.6	-67.5	-77.2	-85.2	-83.6	-80.3	-80.9	-84.5	-79.8	-81.3	-81.0
Šumadija and Western Serbia Region	-66.9	-76.1	-86.0	-87.9	-83.1	-84.9	-84.5	-81.3	-78.6	-76.9	-79.6
Southern and Eastern Serbia Region	-70.3	-72.6	-73.3	-68.7	-69.1	-75.7	-74.9	-72.5	-71.0	-68.4	-64.8

Poverty Reduction Impact of Goods Produced for Own Use

The consumption of goods produced within the household for its own use may be a significant parameter in the assessment of the population's real standard of living. This source of real consumption increase may be a significant factor for fighting poverty.

Although the impact of this consumption source was reduced in recent years, it remained significant in poverty reduction, especially in the Vojvodina and Šumadija and Western Serbia Regions (without this consumption source, poverty would have been 20-25% higher in these two regions in 2016).

In 2016, 8.7% of the population, i.e. about 95 thousand people more would have been poor if households had not supplemented their consumption by producing goods for their own use.

In addition to its poverty reduction impact, own production of goods also has a positive impact on inequality indicators, in particular the consumption quintile share ratio, primarily by increasing the poorer households' total consumption.

Throughout the period under consideration, it was observed that the impact of own production on poverty reduction weakened. This weakening did not result from the change in the methodology, but rather from the fact that households decreasingly engaged in this type of production, which can be explained by the change in the demographic structure.

Table 16. Poverty reduction impact of goods produced for own use

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Poverty incidence, %	8.8	8.3	6.1	6.6	7.6	6.6	6.3	7.4	7.6	7.4	7.3
Poverty incidence (excluding the consumption of goods produced for own use), by regions, %											
	15.0	13.5	10.4	12.1	12.0	12.8	10.6	10.9	10.8	9.3	8.7
Republic of Serbia	SE (0.88)	SE (0.85)	SE (0.66)	SE (0.79)	SE (0.81)	SE (0.81)	SE (0.77)	SE (0.79)	SE (0.67)	SE (0.58)	SE (0.56)
	95% CI (13.2-16.8)	95% CI (11.8-15.2)	95% CI (9.1-11.7)	95% CI (10.5-13.7)	95% CI (10.4-13.6)	95% CI (11.1-14.4)	95% CI (9.1-12.1)	95% CI (9.4-12.5)	95% CI (9.5-12.2)	95% CI (8.2-10.5)	95% CI (7.6-9.8)
Belgrade Region	5.3	3.6	3.2	4.3	4.5	4.4	3.4	5.5	5.2	4.5	4.3
Vojvodina Region	12.7	15.7	11.1	9.7	9.4	10.0	10.1	6.4	9.3	8.9	8.4
Šumadija and Western Serbia Region	20.1	15.2	9.5	11.6	11.4	15.0	9.9	10.8	10.5	8.6	8.3
Southern and Eastern Serbia Region	20.4	18.5	17.5	23.3	22.6	20.4	18.7	23.4	19.2	15.5	14.1
GINI COEFFICIENT WITHOUT THE CONSUMPTION OF GOODS PRODUCED FOR OWN USE											
Republic of Serbia	30.07	29.39	27.95	28.30	28.83	27.90	28.61	28.47	28.06	26.87	27.33
CONSUMPTION QUINTILE SHARE RATIO, S80/S20, WITHOUT THE CONSUMPTION OF GOODS PRODUCED FOR OWN USE											
Republic of Serbia	4.9	4.7	4.3	4.3	4.4	4.2	4.4	4.4	4.3	4.1	4.2

Table 17. Poverty reduction impact of goods produced for own use

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Republic of Serbia	-41.3	-38.5	-41.3	-45.5	-36.7	-48.4	-40.6	-32.1	-29.6	-20.4	-16.1
Belgrade Region	-18.9	-33.3	-9.4	-16.3	-15.6	-15.9	-8.8	-10.9	-23.1	-13.3	-7.0
Vojvodina Region	-31.5	-24.2	-38.7	-49.5	-37.2	-38.0	-39.6	-18.8	-26.9	-27.0	-25.0
Šumadija and Western Serbia Region	-49.3	-50.0	-57.9	-66.4	-50.0	-64.0	-54.5	-41.7	-36.2	-23.3	-20.5
Southern and Eastern Serbia Region	-44.1	-42.2	-38.9	-35.6	-31.4	-44.6	-36.9	-37.2	-29.7	-15.5	-9.2

Glossary

- **Absolute poverty**

  Absolute poverty entails the inability to meet the essential, minimum, basic needs.

  Whether a person is poor or not is established by comparing one's consumption or consumption per equivalent adult with the absolute poverty line.

  Basic living requirements are defined based on the food basket necessary for satisfying the minimum needs for a certain quantity and structure of calories (2,288 calories per day) and other expenditures.

- **Absolute poverty (threshold) line**

  The absolute poverty line is defined as the fixed consumption required to satisfy minimum livelihood, adjusted over time only for changes in prices.

  The absolute poverty line, calculated in 2006 on the basis of the food line plus the sum of other expenditures (clothing, footwear, housing, health care, education, transport, recreation, culture, other goods and services), was adjusted for inflation (consumer price index) for each subsequent year.

  Equivalent adult is defined according to the OECD scale (weight assigned to the first adult member of household = 1, other adults = 0.7, children under 14 = 0.5).

- **Absolute poverty incidence**

  The absolute poverty incidence indicates the share of individuals in a society who are unable to meet their basic needs and whose income/consumption is below the poverty threshold (line).

- **Poverty gap (depth)**

Poverty gap (depth) shows how far off the poor population's consumption/income is from the poverty line. The total deficit (gap) indicates the amount of funds required, assuming perfect targeting, to raise all poor individuals' consumption/income to the level of the poverty threshold.

- **Poverty severity**

Poverty severity (poverty gap squared) considers not only the distance from the poverty line, but also the inequality among the poor, by placing higher weight on those households that are further away from the poverty line.

- **Quintile share ratio**

Income quintile share ratio is the measure of inequality that shows the relative position of the population in the bottom quintile of equivalised income/consumption to that of the population in the top quintile of income distribution, by comparing the total equivalised income of the highest income/consumption quintile (20% of the population with the highest equivalised income) with that of the lowest income/consumption quintile (20% of the population with the lowest equivalised income).

- **Gini coefficient**

The Gini coefficient measures inequality across the entire income/consumption distribution. It takes values from 0 to 1 (or 100, depending on the notation used), where 0 indicates entirely equal distribution of income/consumption, while 1 or 100 denotes entirely unequal distribution of income/consumption.

- **Social transfers**

The definition of social transfers in this publication is based on the Household Budget Survey questionnaire[4] . The calculation of social transfers includes the following income components: (1) health insurance related benefits (sick pay and the like), (2) maternity and child-care leave, (3) social assistance, allowances and other social welfare benefits (financial social assistance, attendance allowance, birth grant and the like), (4) income support benefits for unemployed and temporarily unemployed persons, (5) individual or survivor disability benefit and disability supplements, war-disabled civilians and war veterans, (6) receipt of alimony, maintenance, (7) child allowance, (8) student scholarships, compensation to students training in skilled trades, rewards and the like

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[4] Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia. Household Budget Survey questionnaire for 2017 [Online] August 2017. Available at:
http://www.stat.gov.rs/WebSite/userFiles/file/Apd/OBR/Upitnik%20za%20domacinstvo%20i%20clanove%20domacinstva%20(APD-1).pdf

- **Income from the production of goods for own use**

Income from the production of goods for own use refers to the value of food and beverages produced within a household and consumed for its own use. The value of these products represents their market value.

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Annexes

Table A1. Confidence intervals by settlement type and region

		2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Republic of Serbia – urban area	Lower limit of 95% confidence interval (95% CI)	4.0	4.6	3.7	3.5	2.9	3.1	3.1	4.0	4.1	4.3	4.1
	Upper limit of 95% confidence interval (95% CI)	6.6	7.4	6.3	6.1	5.3	5.7	5.5	6.6	6.5	6.5	6.0
Republic of Serbia – non-urban area	Lower limit of 95% confidence interval (95% CI)	11.0	9. 1	5. 7	7.0	9.9	7.5	6.7	8.3	9.1	8.7	8.7
	Upper limit of 95% confidence interval (95% CI)	15.6	13.3	9.3	11.0	14. 3	11.3	10.7	12.7	12.7	12.3	12.4
Belgrade Region	Lower limit of 95% confidence interval (95% CI)	1.7	1.4	1.7	2.0	2.2	1.7	1.8	2.7	2.1	2.0	2.6
	Upper limit of 95% confidence interval (95% CI)	6.9	3.4	4.1	5.2	5.4	5.7	4.4	7.1	5.9	5.8	5.4
Vojvodina Region	Lower limit of 95% confidence interval (95% CI)	6.4	9. 2	4. 5	3. 00	3.7	4.2	3.7	3.2	5.2	4.6	4.6
	Upper limit of 95% confidence interval (95% CI)	11.0	14.6	9.1	6.8	8.1	8.2	8.5	7.2	8.4	8.4	8.1
Šumadija and Western Serbia Region	Lower limit of 95% confidence interval (95% CI)	7.8	5.1	2.6	2.6	3.6	3.5	3.0	4.2	4.8	5.0	4.7
	Upper limit of 95% confidence interval (95% CI)	12.6	10.1	5. 4	5.2	7.8	7.3	6.0	8.4	8.6	8.2	8.4
Southern and Eastern Serbia Region	Lower limit of 95% confidence interval (95% CI)	8.6	7. 8	8.0	11. 2	12. 3	8.3	8.9	11.2	10.8	10.7	10.3
	Upper limit of 95% confidence interval (95% CI)	14.2	13.6	13.4	18.8	18.7	14.3	14.7	18.2	16.2	15.5	15.2
Central Serbia (excluding the Belgrade Region)	Lower limit of 95% confidence interval (95% CI)	8.8	7.1	5.5	7.0	8.2	6.2	6.1	7.9	8.0	8.1	7.8
	Upper limit of 95% confidence interval (95% CI)	12.6	10.8	8.5	10.7	12.0	9.7	9.3	11.8	11.2	11.0	10.8

Table A2. Poor population profiles and breakdown

	2006			2007		
	% poor	Poor population breakdown	Total population breakdown	% poor	Poor population breakdown	Total population breakdown
REPUBLIC OF SERBIA	**8.8**			**8.3**		
Settlement type, %						
Urban area	5.3	33.7	55.9	6.0	41.3	56.8
Non-urban area	13.3	66.3	44.1	11.2	58.7	43.2
Regions, %						
Belgrade Region	4.3	10.5	21.4	2.4	6.4	22.3
Vojvodina Region	8.7	26.5	26.7	11.9	38.2	26.6
Šumadija and Western Serbia Region	10.2	33.4	29.0	7.6	26.8	29.0
Southern and Eastern Serbia Region	11.4	29.6	22.9	10.7	28.6	22.1
Sex, %						
Males	8.5	47.0	48.5	8.0	46.6	47.9
Females	9.1	53.0	51.5	8.5	53.4	52.1
Children/Adults, %						
Children 0-18	11.6	25.1	19.1	10.5	22.9	18.1
Adults	8.1	74.9	80.9	7.8	77.1	81.9
Age, %						
Children up to 13	11.6	22.7	16.8	11.2	16.8	12.3
Children 14-18	11.7	9.1	6.9	8.8	6.1	5.8
Adults 19-24	7.2	7.9	9.2	6.6	6.2	7.8
Adults 25-45	8.4	28.1	28.3	7.4	23.4	26.0
Adults 46-64	7.0	18.9	24.7	6.6	22.2	27.9
Elderly 65 and over	10.0	13.3	14.1	10.3	25.3	20.2
Elderly 76 and over	11.1	8.3	6.5	12.5	10.2	6.7
Age 0-65	8.5	79.7	82.5	7.7	76.1	81.3
Age 0-75	8.6	91.7	93.5	7.9	89.8	93.3
Household type, %						
Single-person	8.6	5.5	5.7	8.8	6.2	5.8
Two-person	8.7	14.5	14.8	9.2	19.6	17.5
Three-person	5.2	10.1	17.4	4.9	10.3	17.3
Four-person	5.7	17.4	27.1	5.3	16.1	25.1
Five-person	8.3	14.9	15.9	8.1	15.6	15.8
Six-person and larger	17.3	37.6	19.1	14.4	32.2	18.5
Education attainment of household head, %						
Incomplete primary education	21.0	39.5	16.6	18.8	35.3	15.4
Primary education	13.7	26.5	17.0	13.2	32.0	20.0
Secondary education	5.5	31.8	51.3	5.4	32.2	48.9
Non-university higher education	0.6	0.5	7.0	0.1	0.1	7.3
University-level higher education	1.8	1.7	8.1	0.4	0.4	8.4
Socio-economic status of household head, %						
Self-employed	10.2	17.7	15.3	10.9	23.4	17.7
Employed	5.2	21.8	36.9	5.3	21.1	33.0
Unemployed	14.7	11.8	7.1	10.9	9.3	7.0
Pensioners	8.8	36.7	36.9	7.6	35.6	38.7
Other inactive	28.2	12.0	3.8	24.2	10.6	3.6

Table A2. Poor population profiles and breakdown (continued)

	2008			2009		
	% poor	Poor population breakdown	Total population breakdown	% poor	Poor population breakdown	Total population breakdown
REPUBLIC OF SERBIA	**6.1**			**6.6**		
Settlement type, %						
Urban area	5.0	46.9	56.8	4.8	41.1	56.6
Non-urban area	7.5	53.1	43.2	9.0	58.9	43.4
Regions, %						
Belgrade Region	2.9	10.4	21.7	3.6	11.7	21.5
Vojvodina Region	6.8	29.7	26.5	4.9	20.2	27.3
Šumadija and Western Serbia Region	4.0	18.5	28.4	3.9	16.9	28.6
Southern and Eastern Serbia Region	10.7	41.4	23.4	15.0	51.2	22.6
Sex, %						
Males	6.1	49.2	48.6	6.7	48.9	48.2
Females	6.0	50.8	51.4	6.5	51.1	51.8
Children/Adults, %						
Children 0-18	7.1	21.2	18.0	9.2	25.1	18.0
Adults	5.8	78.8	82.0	6.1	74.9	82.0
Age, %						
Children up to 13	7.3	14.4	12.0	9.7	17.8	12.2
Children 14-18	6.9	6.9	6.1	8.3	7.3	5.8
Adults 19-24	5.9	7.4	7.6	7.2	8.6	7.8
Adults 25-45	5.0	21.1	25.8	6.0	23.0	25.3
Adults 46-64	5.4	25.0	28.2	5.0	21.4	28.4
Elderly 65 and over	7.5	25.2	20.3	7.1	21.9	20.5
Elderly 76 and over	10.6	12.0	6.9	8.6	9.5	7.4
Age 0-65	5.7	76.1	81.0	6.5	79.0	80.8
Age 0-75	5.7	88.0	93.1	6.5	90.5	92.6
Household type, %						
Single-person	6.6	6.9	6.3	5.5	5.7	6.9
Two-person	5.5	15.1	16.6	5.2	13.8	17.5
Three-person	5.1	16.0	19.1	5.0	12.8	16.9
Four-person	4.7	18.0	23.2	4.3	15.9	24.3
Five-person	5.2	14.6	17.0	5.5	12.9	15.6
Six-person and larger	10.0	29.4	17.8	13.7	38.9	18.8
Education attainment of household head, %						
Incomplete primary education	9.0	21.2	14.3	17.4	40.3	15.4
Primary education	10.5	31.7	18.3	10.4	28.7	18.3
Secondary education	4.8	41.3	52.1	3.6	28.6	52.1
Non-university higher education	2.7	3.1	6.9	2.0	1.9	6.4
University-level higher education	1.9	2.7	8.4	0.4	0.5	7.8
Socio-economic status of household head, %						
Self-employed	5.1	13.8	16.5	5.5	14.2	17.1
Employed	3.9	22.8	35.6	4.4	22.6	34.1
Unemployed	16.9	20.1	7.2	17.0	17.3	6.7
Pensioners	5.7	35.0	37.4	5.8	34.3	39.5
Other inactive	15.5	8.3	3.3	29.3	11.6	2.6

Table A2. Poor population profiles and breakdown (continued)

	2010			2011		
	% poor	Poor population breakdown	Total population breakdown	% poor	Poor population breakdown	Total population breakdown
REPUBLIC OF SERBIA	**7.6**			**6.6**		
Settlement type, %						
Urban area	4.1	30.3	56.2	4.4	36.4	55.1
Non-urban area	12.1	69.7	43.8	9.4	63.6	44.9
Regions, %						
Belgrade Region	3.8	10.5	21.2	3.7	11.6	20.6
Vojvodina Region	5.9	21.0	27.1	6.2	24.4	26.1
Šumadija and Western Serbia Region	5.7	21.3	28.7	5.4	24.7	30.3
Southern and Eastern Serbia Region	15.5	47.2	23.0	11.3	39.3	23.0
Sex, %						
Males	7.8	50.1	48.7	6.5	48.0	48.5
Females	7.4	49.9	51.3	6.7	52.0	51.5
Children/Adults, %						
Children 0-18	10.6	23.6	16.9	9.5	23.5	16.4
Adults	7.0	76.4	83.1	6.0	76.5	83.6
Age, %						
Children up to 13	11.9	17.8	11.4	9.7	16.3	11.1
Children 14-18	7.9	5.7	5.5	9.0	7.1	5.2
Adults 19-24	8.5	8.3	7.4	7.7	8.6	7.4
Adults 25-45	7.5	24.6	24.9	6.1	23.0	24.9
Adults 46-64	6.7	25.4	28.7	5.6	24.3	28.9
Elderly 65 and over	6.2	18.2	22.1	6.1	20.7	22.5
Elderly 76 and over	8.6	9.4	8.3	7.0	9.4	8.8
Age 0-65	7.9	82.4	79.2	6.8	80.5	78.8
Age 0-75	7.5	90.6	91.7	6.6	90.6	91.2
Household type, %						
Single-person	4.9	4.6	7.2	4.0	4.5	7.4
Two-person	4.4	11.0	18.8	5.3	15.9	19.7
Three-person	6.1	14.2	17.8	3.3	9.0	18.1
Four-person	5.3	15.6	22.4	5.0	17.4	22.9
Five-person	9.8	19.7	15.3	8.8	18.6	13.9
Six-person and larger	14.3	34.9	18.5	12.7	34.6	18.0
Education attainment of household head, %						
Incomplete primary education	14.3	28.8	15.3	16.5	35.1	14.0
Primary education	13.7	36.8	20.5	11.0	33.4	20.0
Secondary education	4.7	31.6	50.6	3.7	29.2	51.9
Non-university higher education	2.8	2.1	5.6	2.5	2.3	6.1
University-level higher education	0.7	0.7	8.0	-	-	8.0
Socio-economic status of household head, %						
Self-employed	8.8	17.9	15.4	6.3	16.7	17.4
Employed	6.0	24.0	30.2	4.0	18.0	30.1
Unemployed	16.5	19.5	9.0	16.9	21.1	8.3
Pensioners	5.8	32.8	42.6	5.9	37.1	41.3
Other inactive	15.5	5.8	2.8	16.2	7.1	2.9

Table A2. **Poor population profiles and breakdown (continued)**

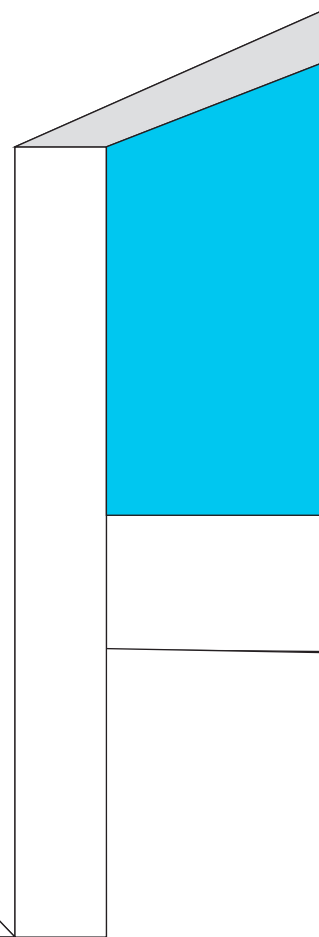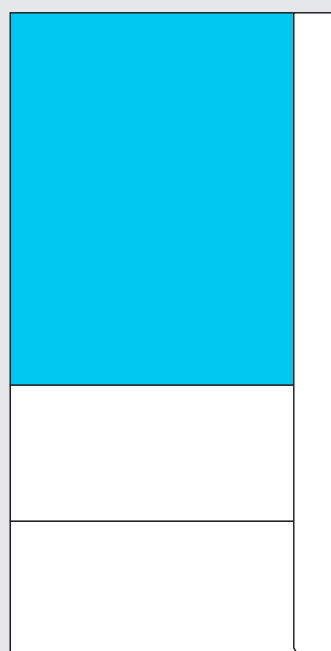|	2012			2013		
	% poor	Poor population breakdown	Total population breakdown	% poor	Poor population breakdown	Total population breakdown
REPUBLIC OF SERBIA	**6.3**			**7.4**		
Settlement type, %						
Urban area	4.3	37.9	55.2	5.3	42.4	59.2
Non-urban area	8.7	62.1	44.8	10.5	57.6	40.8
Regions, %						
Belgrade Region	3.1	10.1	20.6	4.9	15.9	24.0
Vojvodina Region	6.1	27.1	27.9	5.2	19.1	27.1
Šumadija and Western Serbia Region	4.5	20.5	28.8	6.3	24.3	28.3
Southern and Eastern Serbia Region	11.8	42.3	22.7	14.7	40.7	20.6
Sex, %						
Males	6.3	48.5	48.3	7.4	47.9	48.2
Females	6.3	51.5	51.7	7.4	52.1	51.8
Children/Adults, %						
Children 0-18	9.5	23.6	15.7	9.9	23.0	17.2
Adults	5.7	76.4	84.3	6.9	77.0	82.8
Age, %						
Children up to 13	9.4	15.8	10.6	10.4	16.9	12.0
Children 14-18	9.7	7.8	5.0	8.8	6.1	5.1
Adults 19-24	10.2	11.1	6.9	9.3	8.6	6.9
Adults 25-45	5.8	23.1	24.9	6.6	22.8	25.7
Adults 46-64	5.6	26.0	29.3	6.9	27.1	28.9
Elderly 65 and over	4.4	16.3	23.3	6.4	18.5	21.4
Elderly 76 and over	4.8	6.9	9.1	8.2	9.2	8.3
Age 0-65	6.8	84.6	78.5	7.6	83.3	80.6
Age 0-75	6.4	93.1	90.9	7.3	90.8	91.7
Household type, %						
Single-person	2.7	3.4	7.8	5.4	5.7	7.8
Two-person	3.3	10.3	19.6	5.7	14.5	19.0
Three-person	5.8	16.2	17.8	4.5	11.1	18.3
Four-person	4.7	17.1	23.0	4.5	14.3	23.5
Five-person	10.9	23.9	13.8	11.6	23.4	14.9
Six-person and larger	10.1	29.1	18.1	14.0	31.0	16.5
Education attainment of household head, %						
Incomplete primary education	15.6	33.4	13.4	20.5	29.4	10.6
Primary education	11.4	36.7	20.2	13.8	33.8	18.1
Secondary education	3.3	27.4	53.0	4.5	33.5	54.6
Non-university higher education	1.6	1.6	6.3	2.0	1.7	6.3
University-level higher education	0.8	0.9	7.1	1.1	1.6	10.4
Socio-economic status of household head, %						
Self-employed	5.5	14.4	16.4	8.1	15.8	14.5
Employed	4.0	17.0	26.9	3.6	16.1	33.6
Unemployed	16.7	26.6	10.1	18.0	24.9	10.2
Pensioners	-	29.2	43.3	6.3	32.5	38.1
Other inactive	24.6	12.8	3.3	22.4	10.7	3.6

Table A2. Poor population profiles and breakdown (continued)

	2014			2015		
	% poor	Poor population breakdown	Total population breakdown	% poor	Poor population breakdown	Total population breakdown
REPUBLIC OF SERBIA	**7.6**			**7.4**		
Settlement type, %						
Urban area	5.3	42.3	60.0	5.4	42.9	59.4
Non-urban area	10.9	57.7	40.0	10.5	57.1	40.6
Regions, %						
Belgrade Region	4.0	12.1	23.0	3.9	12.1	23.1
Vojvodina Region	6.8	24.3	27.0	6.5	23.1	26.4
Šumadija and Western Serbia Region	6.7	25.3	28.6	6.6	24.5	27.7
Southern and Eastern Serbia Region	13.5	38.3	21.4	13.1	40.3	22.8
Sex,%						
Males	7.7	49.0	48.2	7.5	49.2	48.8
Females	7.5	51.0	51.8	7.4	50.8	51.2
Children/Adults, %						
Children 0-18	10.4	24.0	17.5	9.4	21.2	16.9
Adults	7.0	76.0	82.5	7.1	78.8	83.1
Age,%						
Children up to 13	10.5	17.7	12.7	9.9	15.3	12.3
Children 14-18	9.9	6.4	4.9	10.6	6.2	4.7
Adults 19-24	9.4	8.3	6.7	8.0	6.9	6.9
Adults 25-45	7.2	25.2	26.4	7.0	22.9	25.9
Adults 46-64	6.5	24.3	28.3	6.8	24.4	28.5
Elderly 65 and over	6.5	18.2	21.1	8.9	24.3	21.7
Elderly 76 and over	7.4	7.9	8.1	11.1	12.6	8.5
Age 0-65	7.8	83.2	80.7	7.1	77.0	80.2
Age 0-75	7.6	92.1	91.9	7.1	87.4	91.5
Household type, %						
Single-person	3.9	4.1	8.0	7.9	9.1	8.6
Two-person	5.8	14.2	18.7	6.7	16.7	18.7
Three-person	5.0	12.3	18.7	5.1	13.6	19.8
Four-person	6.0	19.1	24.3	3.9	12.8	24.2
Five-person	8.9	15.9	13.5	8.7	16.3	13.9
Six-person and larger	15.4	34.3	16.9	15.8	31.6	14.9
Education attainment of household head, %						
Incomplete primary education	18.8	28.1	11.3	21.8	28.9	9.9
Primary education	14.9	35.8	18.2	11.8	27.5	17.4
Secondary education	4.8	34.6	54.3	5.6	40.5	54.0
Non-university higher education	0.7	0.5	5.9	2.5	2.3	7.0
University-level higher education	0.7	1.0	10.4	0.5	0.7	11.7
Socio-economic status of household head, %						
Self-employed	9.7	23.4	18.2	10.1	27.1	19.9
Employed	3.2	13.4	32.1	3.4	15.7	34.3
Unemployed	21.8	26.4	9.2	19.0	22.1	8.6
Pensioners	6.3	31.9	38.3	6.2	28.9	35.0
Other inactive	16.6	4.9	2.2	21.7	6.1	2.1

Table A2. **Poor population profiles and breakdown (continued)**

	2016		
	% poor	Poor population breakdown	Total population breakdown
REPUBLIC OF SERBIA	**7.3**		
Settlement type, %			
Urban area	5.1	41.0	59.1
Non-urban area	10.5	59.0	40.9
Regions,%			
Belgrade Region	4.0	12.7	23.4
Vojvodina Region	6.3	22.5	25.9
Šumadija and Western Serbia Region	6.6	25.7	28.4
Southern and Eastern Serbia Region	12.8	39.1	22.3
Sex,%			
Males	7.3	48.7	48.5
Females	7.3	51.3	51.5
Children/Adults, %			
Children 0-18	8.4	19.4	16.8
Adults	7.1	80.6	83.2
Age,%			
Children up to 13	8.4	13.8	12.0
Children 14-18	8.5	5.6	4.8
Adults 19-24	8.4	7.4	6.4
Adults 25-45	6.4	22.6	25.7
Adults 46-64	7.0	27.3	28.3
Elderly 65 and over	7.4	23.3	22.8
Elderly 76 and over	9.3	11.5	8.9
Age 0-65	7.2	77.9	78.9
Age 0-75	7.1	88.5	91.1
Household type, %			
Single-person	5.8	7.8	9.7
Two-person	7.3	19.9	19.7
Three-person	5.9	15.1	18.8
Four-person	5.6	16.9	22.1
Five-person	7.3	14.0	13.9
Six-person and larger	12.1	26.3	15.8
Education attainment of household head, %			
Incomplete primary education	19.0	27.0	10.4
Primary education	12.2	30.3	18.1
Secondary education	5.5	39.5	52.6
Non-university higher education	2.5	2.4	7.0
University-level higher education	0.5	0.8	11.9
Socio-economic status of household head, %			
Self-employed	8.4	22.8	19.7
Employed	2.8	12.8	33.0
Unemployed	22.5	26.8	8.7
Pensioners	6.3	31.8	36.5
Other inactive	20.4	5.8	2.1

**POVERTY IN THE
REPUBLIC OF SERBIA**
2006–2016

Revised and New Data

August 2017