



Summary publication “Multidimensional Poverty in Curaçao : a comparative MPI assessment for 2011, 2017 and 2023”

What is the Multidimensional Poverty Index?

The Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) shows the extent of poverty in a country. It does not look at income alone. The MPI also considers other important aspects of daily life in which people may experience deprivation. These are conditions necessary to live a good and dignified life.

By taking this broader view of poverty, problems that often remain hidden when only income is considered become visible.

Which aspects does the MPI include?

The MPI consists of four main dimensions:

1. Health
2. Education
3. Living standards
4. Living conditions

Each dimension includes several indicators that are important for people's well-being. These include school attendance, quality of employment, access to clean water and electricity, and access to ICT devices.

How many people in Curaçao were multidimensionally poor in 2011, 2017 and 2023?

- **2011:** 5.4% of the total population
- **2017:** 9.4% of the total population
- **2023:** 7.9% of the total population

Between 2011 and 2023, the share of people experiencing multidimensional poverty increased. The highest level was reached in 2017, followed by a slight decline in 2023.

In how many areas were people in Curaçao deprived?

- **2011:** 30.5% of the indicators
- **2017:** 30.3% of the indicators
- **2023:** 31.2% of the indicators

This shows that over the years, people in Curaçao have continued to experience deprivation in roughly the same proportion of life domains.

Has the MPI increased, decreased, or remained stable?

The MPI scores were:

- **2011:** 1.6
- **2017:** 2.9
- **2023:** 2.5

There was a clear increase in the MPI between 2011 and 2017. Although the score declined between 2017 and 2023, it remains higher than in 2011. This means that more people than before are experiencing poverty across multiple life dimensions simultaneously.

Which dimensions contributed most to poverty?

- In 2011 and 2017, the quality of employment (part of Living Standards) contributed most to poverty.
- In 2023, physical functioning (part of Health) was the largest contributing factor.
- ICT (part of Education) was one of the main contributors in all years.

What is the difference between geozones and neighborhoods?

A geozone is a digital or virtual boundary used to collect and analyze data, for example for research purposes. A neighborhood is a physical residential area defined by its environment, residents, and social interactions. A geozone may include multiple neighborhoods and is often larger than a single neighborhood.

Which geozones and neighborhoods had the highest MPI in 2023?

Geozones with the highest MPI:

1. Paradijs
2. Scharloo
3. Wishi
4. Otrobanda
5. Westpunt

Paradijs and Wishi contribute the most to total poverty on the island, mainly because they have relatively large populations.

Neighborhoods with the highest MPI:

1. Vers
2. Wishi
3. Rif near Otrobanda
4. Seru Otrobanda
5. De Savaan

Although these neighborhoods have high MPI scores, larger neighborhoods such as Brievengat, Ser'i Papaya, and Suffisant contribute more to total poverty due to their larger populations.

What are the main findings of the report?

1. In 2023, fewer people are income-poor compared to 2011 and 2017, but more people are multidimensionally poor. This means that despite having a stable income, people still experience deprivation in areas such as health, education, and ICT.
2. Compared to 2011, many more households in 2023 are vulnerable to poverty and face moderate or even severe deprivation.