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Հրանտ Մաթևոսյանի
Հիմնադրամ
HRANT MATEVOSSIAN FOUNDATION

POLICY BRIEF

● for Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Armenia

NATIONAL MULTIDIMENSIONAL POVERTY INDEX

National Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) is a country-specific poverty measure tailored to each country's unique situation, building upon the methodology of "Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative". This index alters the conventional approach of measuring poverty solely through monetary means. Instead, exploring poverty through 5 dimensions, including (1) basic needs, (2) housing, (3) education, (4) labor, and (5) health, allows a more comprehensive and locally context-specific understanding of poverty. This policy brief summarizes some highlights

from the descriptive analysis of indicators where deprivation level of at least 50% was observed in Lori, Shirak, and Tavush marzes. This is then followed by short- & mid-term and long-term policy recommendations.

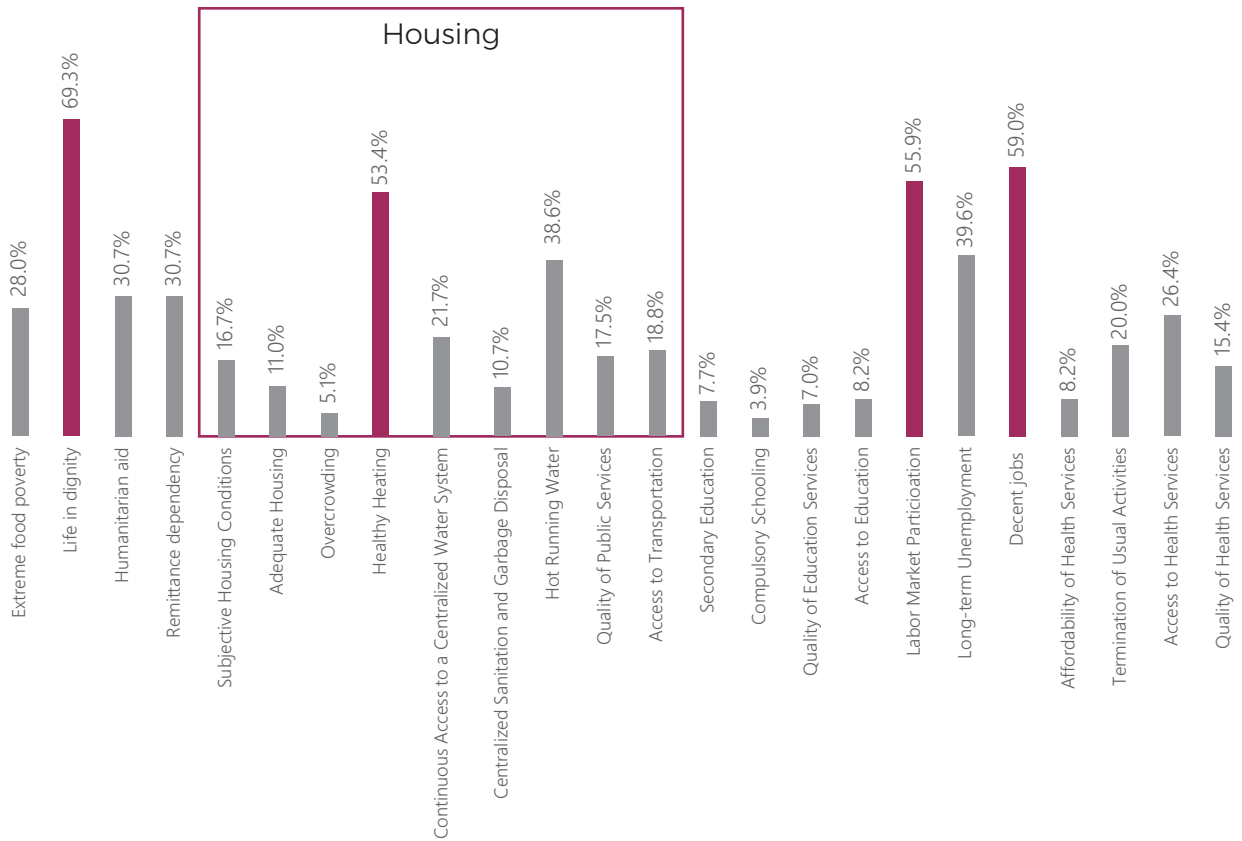
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KEY RESEARCH INSIGHTS

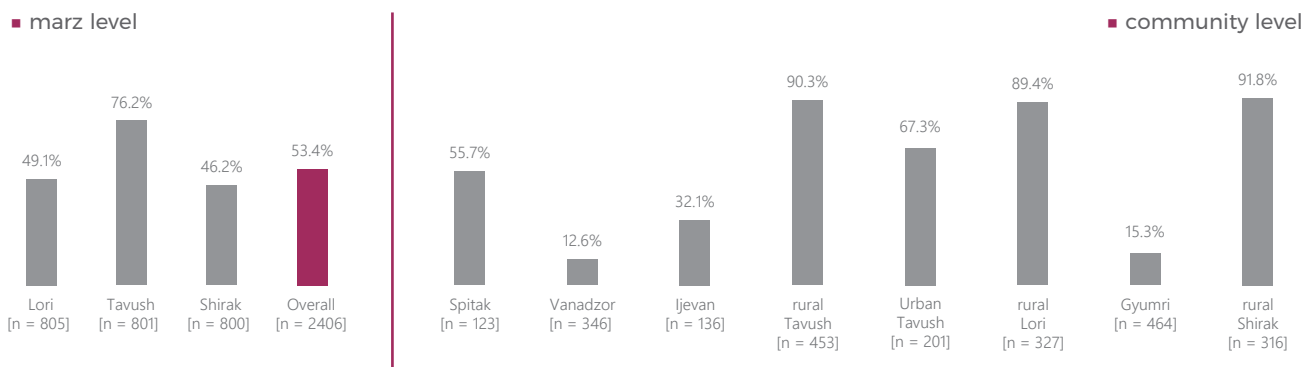
MPI Dimensions by Indicators

Among the 24 indicators, deprivation is highest in life in dignity, healthy heating, labor market participation and decent jobs. *Share of deprived households on marz level is as follows:*



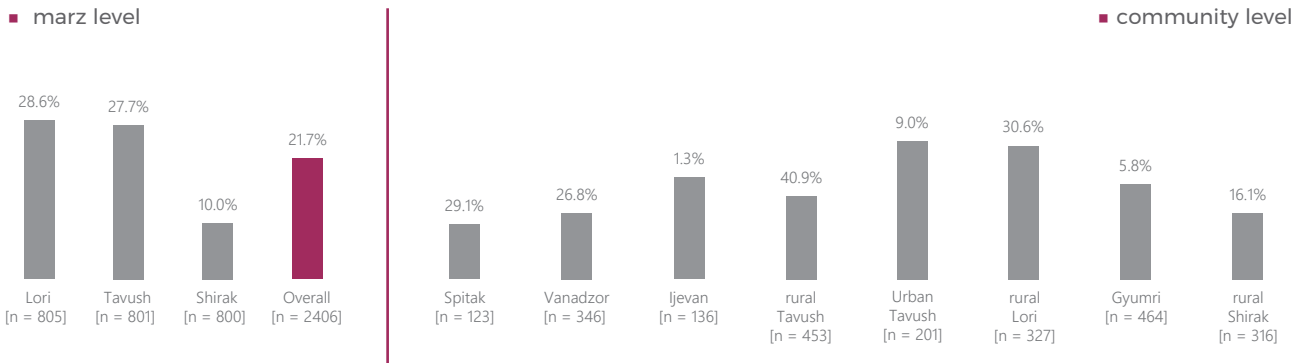
Healthy Heating

The healthy heating indicator referred to households whose main source of heating was considered to be detrimental to health. Households that were heated with oil and diesel, wood, or any source other than central heating, electricity, natural gas, or liquefied gas were considered deprived. *Share of deprived households on marz and community levels is as follows:*



Centralized Sanitation and Garbage Disposal

The centralized sanitation and garbage disposal indicator referred to households that did not have access to a centralized sanitation compound or household garbage disposal using either a rubbish evacuation system or dust-cart collection. Households that used other means of garbage disposal or did not have a functioning centralized sanitation compound were considered deprived. *Share of deprived households on marz and community levels is as follows:*

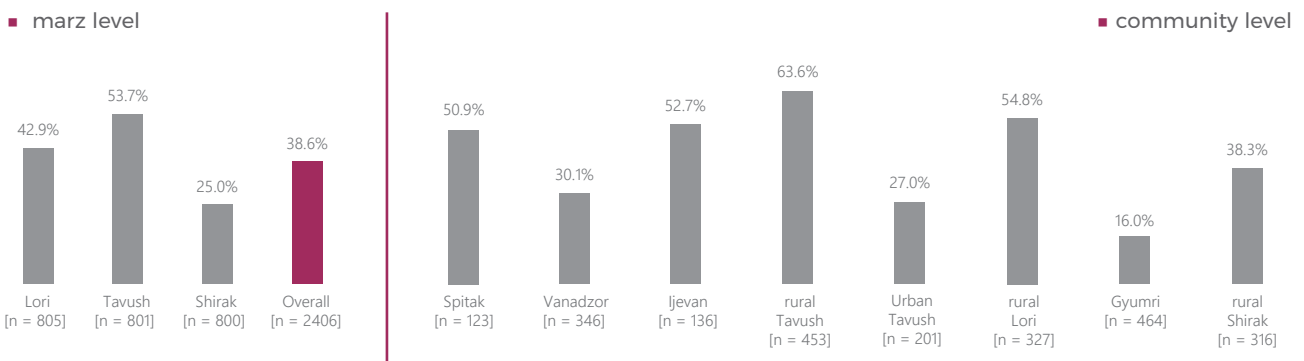


RECOMMENDATIONS

Issues with Housing prevail as main problems in the HHs across the marzes. Continuous access to centralized water system was revealed to be more problematic for Lori (28.6%, with 30.6% for rural Lori) and Tavush (27.7%, with 40.9% for rural Tavush) than for Shirak (10%). For urban areas, Spitak (29.1%) and Vanadzor (26.8%) HHs reported issues with continuous access to centralized water systems. For Shirak, garbage removal was reported as an important issue (35.5% deprivation for rural Shirak). Rural Shirak HHs reported most deprivation (37.6%) with quality of public services (water supply, sanitation, garbage removal, electricity supply etc.). The main direction the Ministry should direct its resources and programming towards is presented in short below followed by recommended action towards addressing it.

Hot Running Water

This indicator identifies households that do not have access to functional hot running water. Tavush marz has a deprivation rate exceeding 50%. At community level, the worst situation is observed in rural Tavush where the deprivation rate reaches 63.6%. *Share of deprived households on marz and community levels is as follows:*



Recommended action towards addressing the problem of hot running water

Where:

Rural Lori, Rural Tavush, Ijevan, Spitak

What (long-term):

Set up grant and/or loans programs for households to buy clean and renewable systems for electricity and water heating (boilers, solar panels etc.). Those systems and financing opportunities can either be available for households, group purchase, communities, or at inter-community level. This can be best accomplished through cooperation with the Ministries of Economy and Territorial Administration and Infrastructure as well as the Local state-governments.