



Status on global poverty - Selected statistics with sources

- The number of chronically undernourished has broken above one billion — FAO
(*1.02 Billion People Hungry*, news release, June 19, 2009, www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/20568/icode/)
- 2.5 billion lack access to basic sanitation — WHO and UNICEF
(*Progress on Drinking Water and Sanitation: Special Focus on Sanitation*, www.wssinfo.org/en/40_MDG2008.html, p. 7.)
- 2 billion lack access to essential medicines — Fogarty Center for Advanced Study in the Health Sciences
(*Strategic Plan: Fiscal Years 2000–2003*, www.fic.nih.gov/about/plan/exec_summary.htm)
- 924 million lack adequate shelter — UN-Habitat
(*The Challenge of Slums: Global Report on Human Settlements 2003* (London, Earthscan 2003), www.unhabitat.org/pmss/getPage.asp?page=bookView&book=1156, p. iv.)
- 884 million lack access to safe water — WHO and UNICEF
(*Progress on Drinking Water and Sanitation: Special Focus on Sanitation* (New York and Geneva, UNICEF and WHO 2008), http://www.who.int/water_sanitation_health/monitoring/jmp2008.pdf, p. 30.)
- 774 million adults are illiterate — UNESCO Institute for Statistics
(*Literacy Topic*, December 1, 2008, www.uis.unesco.org/ev.php?URL_ID=6401&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201)
- 218 million children are working for wages — ILO
(*The End of Child Labour: Within Reach*, www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/relm/ilc/ilc95/pdf/rep-i-b.pdf, p. 6.)
- 1.6 billion lack electricity — UN-Habitat
(*Urban Energy*, www.unhabitat.org/content.asp?cid=2884&catid=356&typeid=24&subMenuId=0)
- About 18 million human deaths each year are due to poverty related causes — WHO
(*The Global Burden of Disease: 2004 Update* (Geneva, WHO Publications 2008), www.who.int/healthinfo/global_burden_disease/2004_report_update/en/index.html, table A1, pp. 54–9.)
- During 1988–2002, the poorest quarter lost more than a fifth of its relative position in income distribution, declining from 1.16 to 0.92 percent, while the top tenth of humankind increased its relative position from 64.7 to 71.1 percent.
(Branko Milanovic, *Worlds Apart: Measuring International and Global Inequality* (Princeton, NJ, Princeton University Press 2005), pp. 107–08)
- The 6.4 percent of global household income that has gone into expanding the share of the top tenth, would be sufficient to double all incomes for the bottom seven tenth of humankind.
(Branko Milanovic, *Worlds Apart*, and correspondence with Milanovic, World Bank.)