

FIRST EDITION • 2026

# YOUNG ECONOMISTS OF PAKISTAN

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Economic Research & Development Magazine

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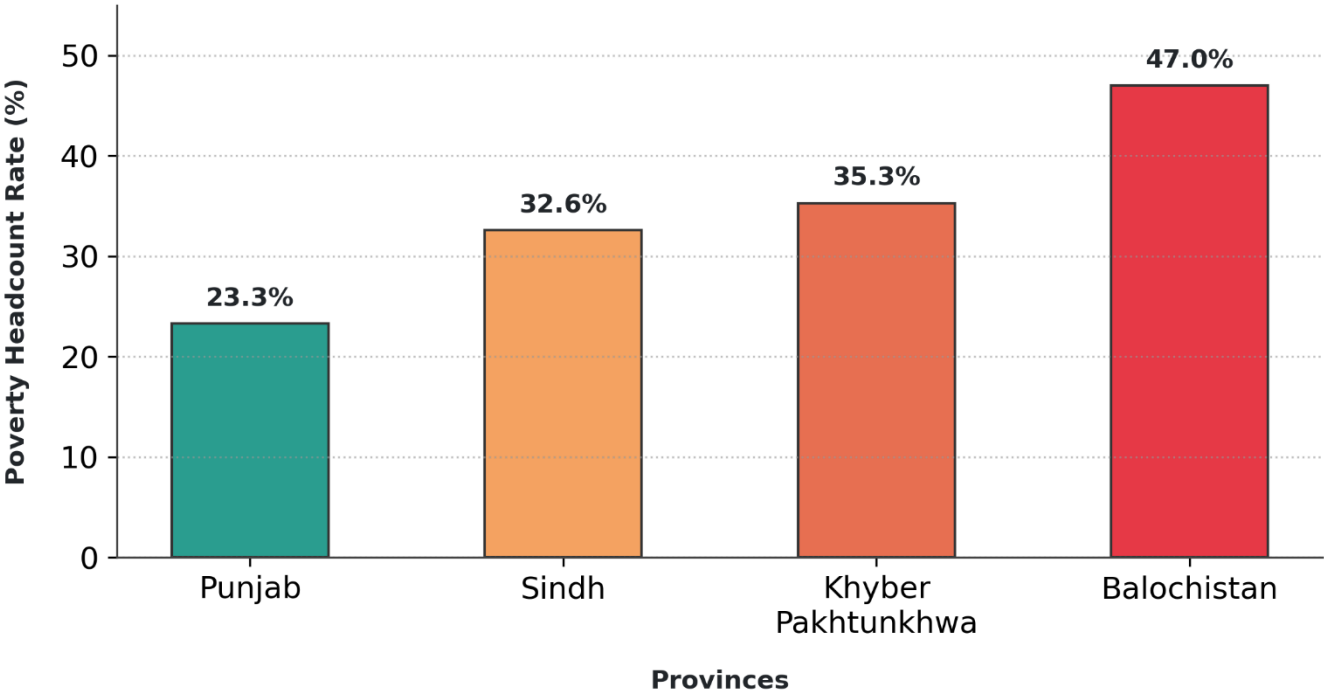
# World Poverty Day

## ❖ Introduction

What is poverty according to UN definition? The UN defines poverty as a condition characterized by severe deprivation of basic human needs, including food, safe drinking water, sanitation facilities, health, shelter, education and information. It depends not only on income but also on access to services.

According to a study; the worldwide poverty rate is 46.90%. And in Pakistan 84.50%

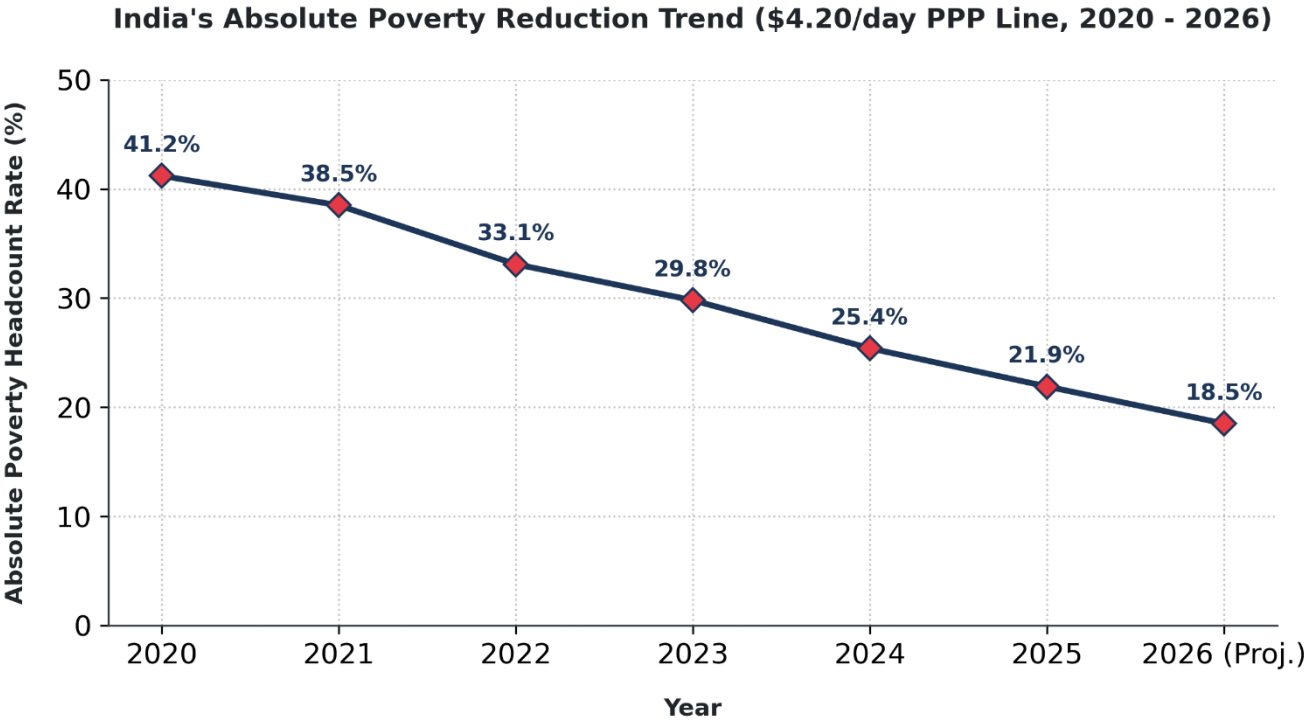
**Provincial Poverty Distribution in Pakistan (2025-26)**



*Data Source: Ministry of Finance, Govt of Pakistan (Economic Survey 2025-26)*

❖ Absolute Poverty

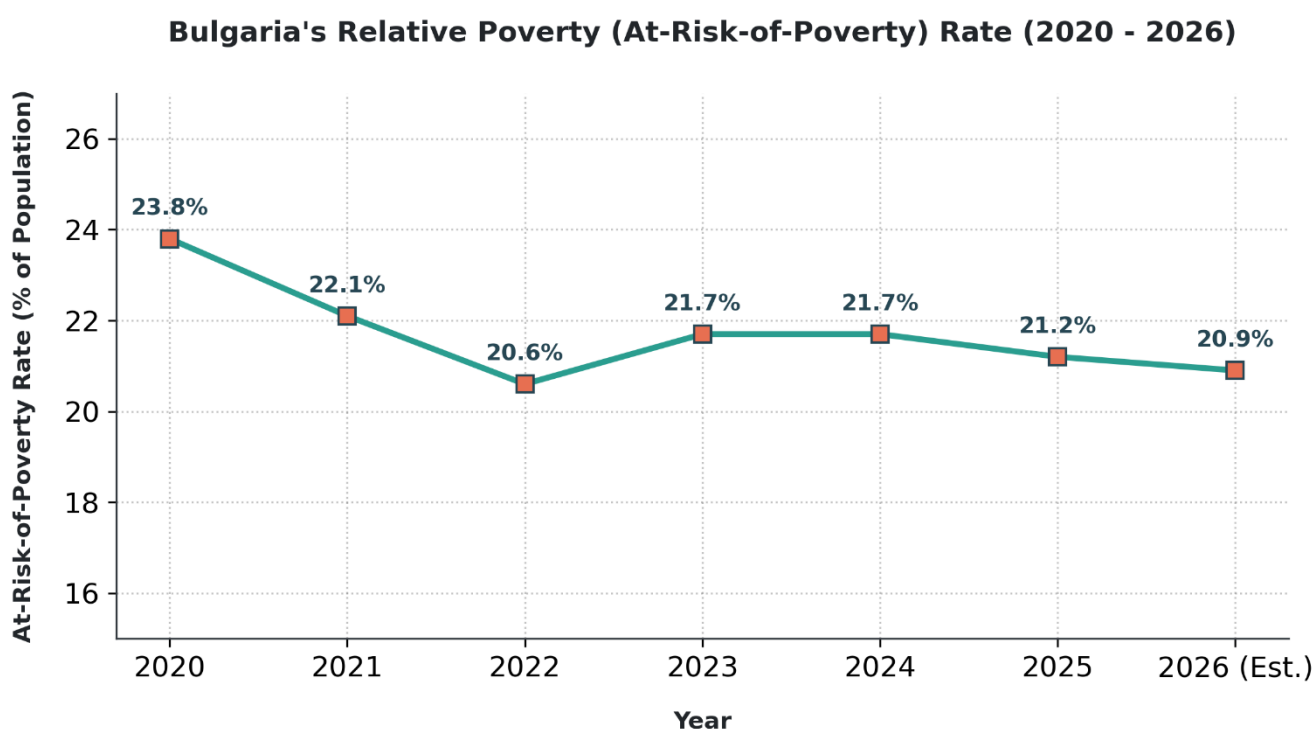
When a person does not have the resources to meet their basic necessities, they are said to be in absolute poverty. These necessities, which often include food, water, shelter, basic education, and basic medical care, are frequently included in international programs aimed at reducing poverty. For example: India.



*Data Source: World Bank Poverty & Inequality Platform Dashboard (Updated 2026) & MoSPI Govt of India*

## ❖ Relative poverty

They do have some money, but not enough to buy much more than necessities. It means that the people are comparatively poor than the other groups of people present. Not only these people will have financial problems but they will be socially neglected. For example: Bulgaria.

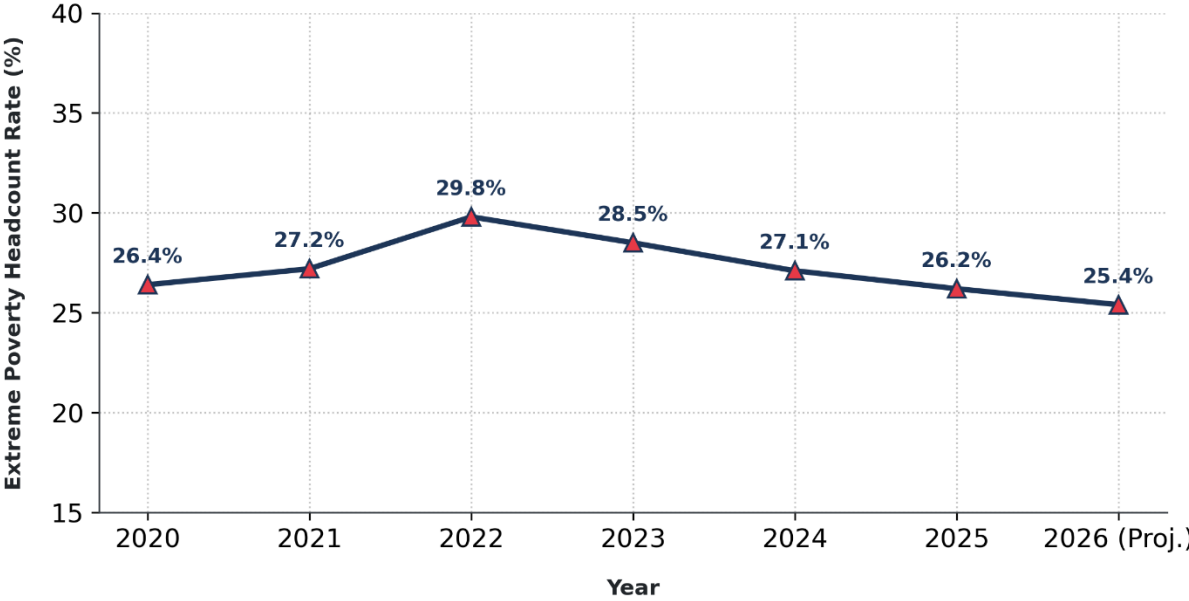


Data Source: Eurostat May 2026 Baseline & Republic of Bulgaria National Statistical Institute (NSI)

❖ Extreme poverty

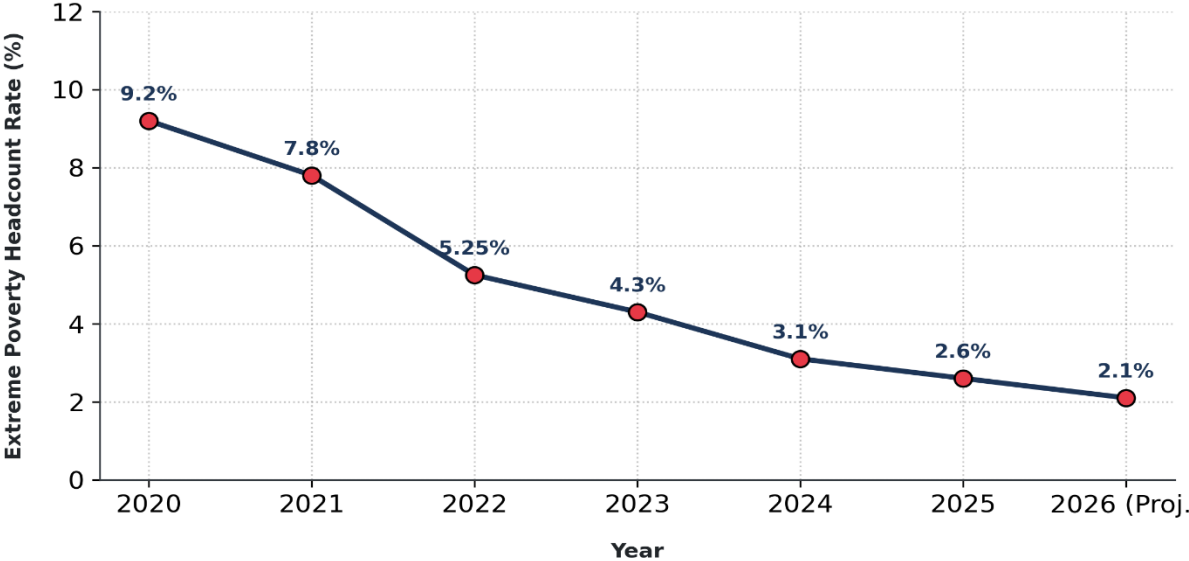
Extreme poverty is the most severe type of poverty, defined by the United Nations (UN) as "a condition characterized by severe deprivation of basic human needs, including food, safe drinking water, sanitation facilities, health, shelter, education and information. For example: Ethiopia and India.

**Ethiopia's Extreme Poverty Trajectory (\$3.00/day PPP Line, 2020 - 2026)**



Data Source: World Bank Poverty & Inequality Platform Dashboard (Updated 2026) & Ethiopian Statistics Service

**India's Extreme Poverty Reduction Trajectory (2020 - 2026)**



Data Source: World Bank Poverty and Inequality Platform Dashboard (Updated 2026) & MoSPI Govt of India

❖ Solutions to eradicate poverty

➤ Educate children

Education equips children with knowledge and skills, empowering them to make informed decisions about their lives. It provides them with the necessary skills to enter the workforce and pursue economic opportunities.

➤ Provide clean water and health facilities

Clean water is essential for preventing waterborne diseases such as cholera, diarrhea, and typhoid, which disproportionately affect impoverished communities. Access to medical facilities reduces illnesses and deaths. Also, free health services for the poor people.

➤ Empower women

Educating girls and women is particularly impactful. It often leads to delayed marriages, smaller family sizes. Women who feel empowered are more likely to work and support their families.

➤ Prevent child marriage

Child marriage often results in the discontinuation of education, especially for girls. Preventing child marriage allows children, particularly girls, to stay in school longer, leading to better educational outcomes. Education is a key tool for breaking the cycle of poverty, as it equips individuals with skills and knowledge necessary for economic empowerment.

❖ As an economist, solutions to Pakistan's poverty

➤ Develop training schools in Balochistan

Balochistan is the poorest place and lacks schools. The government should pay attention to this matter so that the literacy rates improve and people stop depending on others.

➤ Poor farmers must get loans and financial help

A nation's agricultural sector is crucial. It is necessary to boost it by giving loans with no interests, so that they can buy machinery, hence improving output.

➤ Water supply in Thar

Lack of Fresh water supply is a great problem in thar. The government should pay attention to this matter and collect taxes from places like Sindh to develop tubewells in thar.

➤ Mentality of poor people needs a change in interior Sindh

Many people having poor conditions have called the quits. They say “we cannot do anything, we are poor, we don't know anything.” but they should understand that, don't know anything does not mean can't know anything.

- Government interests in developing poor areas, in the areas of poor fishermen like Mubarak Village

These poor people know that the government is not interested in developing their place but they live in a single place, they should use this unity to team up and develop schools and other facilities. Every person contributing a small sum of money will lead to large capital available.

- Health services and other basic necessities in the backward areas of Balochistan

Teachers and schools should be installed in less educated regions like Balochistan so that people can receive training in a variety of courses, which will improve the local health.

- Discouraging demerit goods specially in a community like Lyari

The government or any other private firm should discourage the production and consumption of demerit goods because these will worsen the health and hence more investment required in medical and also increase in death rates.

- Unemployment to be finished in southern Punjab specially in Saraiki belt

Many people especially in rural areas are unemployed due lack of job opportunities or lack of skills. Government should pay heed to this matter and arrange training for people so that they stop begging and dependency.

➤ Capital- or labor-intensive production (building of ship breaking industry)

The producers should keep labor intensive production as their first priority so that the labor is employed (to reduce unemployment). After labor they may buy machines if the workforce is not enough.

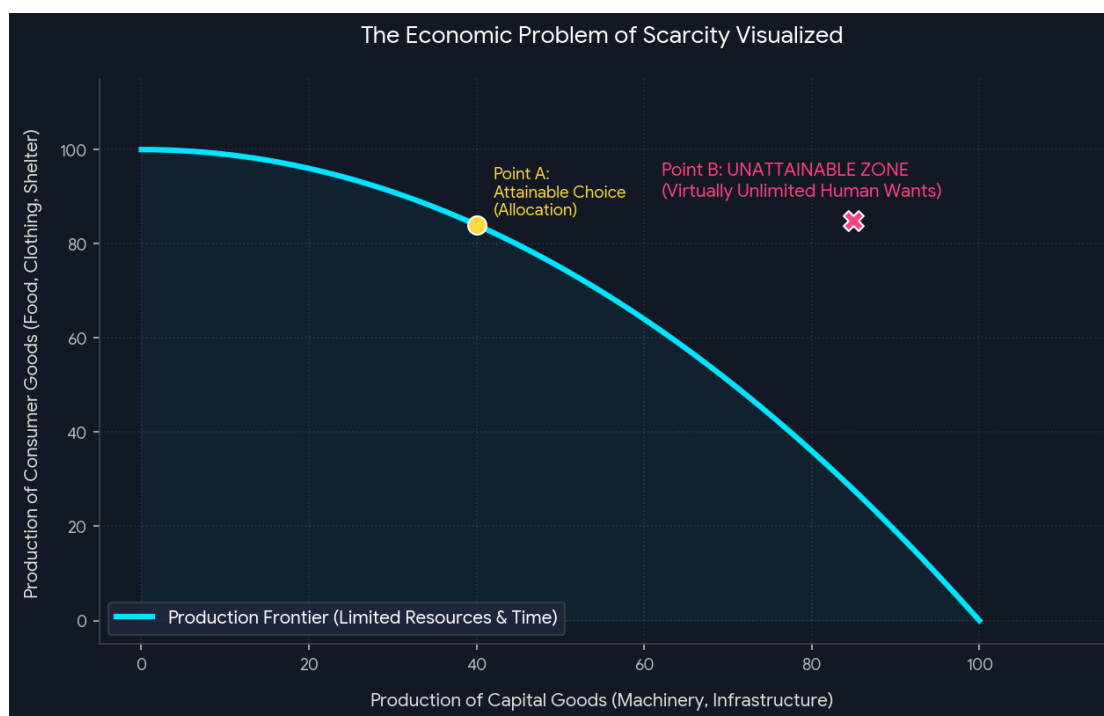
➤ Population control (follow the model of Bangladesh)

Overpopulated areas are a tension for the government. This is common mostly in lowly educated areas. People there think that family planning is against Islam and is harmful. These views need to be cleared because there are no such restrictions by Islam and family planning is helpful in controlling population.

## World Development And Information Day

### ❖ What are the solutions to the low development in Pakistan?

According to official provincial datasets, Sindh is navigating structural labor constraints, with the headline provincial unemployment rate hovering around **6.3 percent**, masked by a steeper 12.5 percent youth joblessness gap. A primary bottleneck holding back rural recovery is a systemic irrigation crisis, with local agrarian communities dealing with seasonal water deficits between 22 and 30 percent. To counter this, policy planners suggest that a strategic portion of the Rs. 96 billion provincial irrigation budgets must be aggressively prioritized toward fresh-groundwater tube well lining and accelerating small storage dams across rural Sindh to transition the province back toward its optimal Production Possibility Frontier.



Data Source: Greenlaw, S. A., Shapiro, D., & MacDonald, D. (2022). Principles of Economics (3rd ed.). OpenStax, Rice University (Chapter 2: The Production Possibilities Frontier and Social Choices)

## ❖ What is world development information day?

It aims to highlight the importance of information and communication technologies (ICT) in addressing global challenges and promoting socio-economic development.

It emphasizes the role of accessible and accurate information in fostering innovation, education, and sustainable development.

Efforts on World Information Development Day often focus on promoting digital literacy, and fostering a global environment where information is a tool for progress rather than a source of inequality.

It serves as a reminder of the crucial role information plays in shaping our world and the need to ensure its equitable distribution.



United Nations General Assembly Resolution 3038 (XXVII), establishing World Development Information Day on October 24.

❖ Importance of world development information day

The primary goal is to create awareness for problems of development. Once the world brings its attention to the issues of development, countries around the world are better equipped to solve such problems:

- To end poverty
- To end hunger and improve sustainable agriculture
- Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being
- Ensure inclusive and quality education
- Achieve gender equality
- Ensure the availability of water and sanitation
- Ensure access to affordable energy
- Build resilient infrastructure
- Reduce inequality
- Make all cities inclusive and safe
- Ensure sustainable consumption
- Combat climate change
- Preserve and responsibly utilize the seas and marine resources.
- Protect and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems
- Encourage harmonious societies and make justice accessible
- Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development

## ❖ Difference Between Economic Growth And Economic Development

In the context of economics, access to accurate economic data and information is essential for governments, policymakers, and international organizations to formulate effective economic policies, monitor progress, and address challenges.

Economic development refers to the sustained improvement in the standard of living, well-being, and economic health of a nation or a region. It involves positive changes in various aspects of an economy, including increased income levels, improved education and healthcare, reduced poverty, and enhanced infrastructure.

The rise in the value of products and services generated by an economy over time is known as economic growth. Economic growth is a fundamental indicator of an economy's health and is crucial for improving living standards and creating opportunities for its citizens.

While China has achieved tremendous economic growth that outpaces its peers, its level of individual economic development remains lower than that of the USA and Germany.

