

POVERTY ESTIMATES FOR SOCIAL GROUPS: 2004-05 and 2011-12

The Planning Commission estimates poverty ratios for the years for which Large Sample Surveys on Household Consumer Expenditure have been conducted by the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation. These surveys are normally conducted on quinquennial basis.

2. The methodology for estimation of poverty followed by the Planning Commission has been based on the recommendations made by experts in the field from time to time. In December, 2005, Planning Commission constituted an Expert Group under the Chairmanship of Prof. Suresh D. Tendulkar to review the methodology for estimation of poverty. The Tendulkar Committee submitted its report in December 2009 and computed poverty lines and poverty ratios for 2004-05 which was accepted by Planning Commission in 2011. Presently, Planning Commission is following Tendulkar Committee methodology for estimation of poverty.

3. The latest data on household consumer expenditure survey is available for the year 2011-12. Following the Tendulkar Committee methodology, Planning Commission made estimates of poverty for 2011-12 which were released through a Press Note on 22nd July 2013.

Poverty Estimates for Social Groups 2004-05 and 2011-12

In the process of collection of consumption expenditure data from households, NSSO records the social group of the household. In the sampling design for household consumer expenditure surveys no arrangement of sampling units, either first stage units or second stage units (households), is made before selection of samples for capturing representative samples across social groups. As a result the sampling design adopted for household consumer expenditure survey does not ensure representative samples across social groups for all States. Therefore, following Tendulkar Committee methodology, the percentage of persons living below the poverty line among social groups at all India level for the years 2004-05 and 2011-12 have been estimated and are given below.

Estimates of Poverty Ratio among Social Groups

Social Group	Rural		Urban	
	2004-05	2011-12	2004-05	2011-12
Scheduled Tribes	62.3	45.3	35.5	24.1
Scheduled Castes	53.5	31.5	40.6	21.7
Other Backward Classes	39.8	22.6	30.6	15.4
Others	27.1	15.5	16.1	8.2
All Population	41.8	25.7	25.7	13.7

Note-The poverty ratios among the social groups are estimated from the percentage distribution of persons of the respective social groups as obtained from the large sample survey consumer expenditure data of the NSS and the poverty line for all population.