

# COVID-19 AND INEQUALITY



Covid-19 has been likened to an **x-ray**, revealing fractures in the fragile skeleton of the societies we have built.

## INCREASE IN POVERTY

Pandemic-induced global 'new poor'



2020 between  
**119** and **124**  
**MILLION**

2021 between  
**143** and **163**  
**MILLION**

Living under **\$1.90** a day

June 2020 - January 2021

**228 MILLION**

Living under **\$3.20** a day

"WORLD BANK"



**INDIA** and  
**NIGERIA**

= highest projected  
number of **new poor**



"OECD"

## INCREASE IN INEQUALITY



The **Gini Coefficient** is a single number aimed at measuring the degree of inequality in a distribution.

**1** = Perfectly  
unequal

**0** = Perfectly  
equal

The **worst historic increases** in the Gini index range from:



just under

**2% per year**

Latin America and the Caribbean

just under

**4%**

South Asia



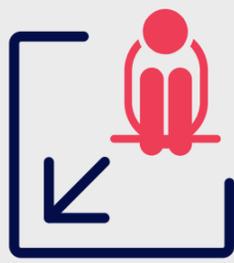
### COVID-19 Gini index increases

- **> 6%**
- emerging market and developing economies by **more than 6%**
- even larger impact for **low-income countries**.

"WORLD ECONOMIC OUTLOOK"

The **increase in inequality** during past pandemics

--> **1.25%**



**"THE POOR ARE GETTING POORER"**

Gita Gopinath, Chief Economist at the IMF

#### Sources:

How the pandemic is worsening inequality - Financial Times  
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COVID-19 is increasing multiple kinds of inequality. Here's what we can do about it  
How COVID-19 Will Increase Inequality in Emerging Markets and Developing Economies  
Updated estimates of the impact of COVID-19 on global poverty: Looking back at 2020 and the outlook for 2021  
COVID-19, inequality, and gig economy workers  
Poverty and Shared Prosperity 2020: Reversals of Fortune  
Who will Bear the Brunt of Lockdown Policies? Evidence from Tele-workability Measures Across Countries  
World Inequality Report 2018



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