

Measuring Objective and Subjective Aspects of Poverty. Discussion of Different Approaches and Measurement Methods Based on the Polish EU-SILC Survey.

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Poverty is a complex phenomenon. As a concept it is defined and understood in different ways. The literature distinguishes many different classifications and "types" of poverty (objective poverty, subjective poverty, absolute poverty, relative poverty, monetary poverty, multidimensional poverty, etc.). The different types of poverty differ in their definitions and conceptualisations, describe different aspects of material (and often social) deprivation and are not just different approaches to measuring the phenomenon. The choice of a particular definition of poverty and of the measurement method used determines the results of the assessment. Depending on the approach applied, different population groups may be considered to be at highest risk of poverty. This has an implication for the design of programmes, formulated by social policy, aimed at reducing this phenomenon. This paper will present the basic methodological assumptions and results of the analysis of the extent and socio-demographic characteristics of the poor population using different poverty measurement methods. The paper will consider the methods commonly used in the EU countries to assess the phenomenon of poverty as well as new approaches proposed by the authors in this field. The results of the analysis of overlapping and lack of co-occurrence of different forms of poverty will be presented, namely: subjective poverty and the so-called objective poverty, monetary poverty and poverty defined as a multidimensional phenomenon. Most attention will be paid to comparing the results of measuring objective and subjective poverty.