



7.2.3. Poverty

According to the report on Poverty Estimation covering 2024-25, the share of the population living below the poverty line in Sindh province rose from 24.5 % in 2018-19 to 32.6 % in 2024-25.[2112](#) In urban areas of Sindh the share more than doubled, from 10.4 % in 2018-19 to 22.2 % in 2024-25.[2113](#)

Regarding its ‘overall vulnerability’[2114](#) the DVIP ranks four Karachi districts (Karachi Central, Karachi Korangi, Karachi South, Karachi East) among the four least vulnerable of 129 examined Pakistani districts.[2115](#)

Infrastructural deficits and climate hazards impacted low-income groups. For instance, prolonged power outages of 10 to 16 hours especially affected daily wage earners as it meant a lack of income. In Karachi, one of the fastest-heating cities globally,[2116](#) women in informal settlements were particularly vulnerable to extreme heat. Social norms restricting women’s mobility in public spaces confine many to overcrowded, poorly constructed homes, where poor cooling options increase health risks.[2117](#) Houses of low-income groups in informal settlements located alongside water channels are also badly affected by floodings.[2118](#) For further information on living conditions in informal settlements, see section [7.2.5. Housing and living conditions.](#)

- [2112](#)

Pakistan, MOPDSI, Preliminary Report on Poverty Estimation 2024-25, February 2026, [url](#), p. 5

- [2113](#)

Haider, S.A., Opinion: Poverty surges again, Business Recorder, 1 February 2026, [url](#)

- [2114](#)

Indicators of general vulnerability consider factors such as housing conditions, livelihoods, access to public education, and health care. Population Council, District Vulnerability Index for Pakistan (DVIP): Harnessing Multisectoral Data to Inform Equitable Policy and Climate Action, October 2025, [url](#), pp. viii-ix

- [2115](#)

Population Council, District Vulnerability Index for Pakistan (DVIP): Harnessing Multisectoral Data to Inform Equitable Policy and Climate Action, October 2025, [url](#), pp. 32-33

- [2116](#)

Khan, N. and Dilawar, I., As Karachi heats up, class and access divide city into a 'climate apartheid', Arab News, 5 July 2025, [url](#)

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Toheed, M., Heat Inequality: A big challenge for Karachi, Geo News, 30 May 2024, [url](#);
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- [2118](#)

Anwar, N.H. et al., The 24-Hour Risk City: A Framework for Thinking About Building Infrastructures of Climate Repair in Nairobi and Karachi, August 2024, [url](#), p. 25