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BUDGET POLICIES AND WELFARE OF POPULATION SHIRAK, LORI, TAVUSH

Community Poverty Reduction “Know How”
NEAR-TS/2020/421-104



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SHIRAK, LORI, TAVUSH

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AMD	Armenian dram
ATM	Automated teller machine
BWP	Budget policies and welfare of population
Bln	billion
CSO	Civil Society Organization
DP	Persons with disabilities
EDRC	Economic Development and Research Center
EU	European Union
HH	Household
LSG	Local self-government
mIn	million
MESCS	Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport
MLSA	Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs
MTAI	Ministry of Territorial Administration and Infrastructure
RA	Republic of Armenia
SC	Statistics Committee
SME	Small and Medium-sized Enterprises



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SUMMARY AND MAIN FINDINGS



Within the frame of “Community Poverty Reduction “Know How” programme implemented with the support of the European Union, in 2021-2022 the EDRC conducted a study of state budget programmes aimed at reduction of multidimensional poverty and their impacts in Shirak, Lori and Tavush marzes of Armenia. Namely, the scope of strategic and budgetary policies with a potential direct impact on multidimensional poverty as well as their effects were studied, the main needs of the population of beneficiary marzes and the public services aimed to address those needs, their accessibility and the level of consumption were reviewed. The findings are introduced in separate sections. Below you can find them summarized and grouped according to the main directions

Overview of Strategic and Budget Policy Framework

- The policies aimed at reduction of multidimensional poverty are laid down in number of social, economic and infrastructure development policy papers, i.e., strategies, concept papers and programmes, as well as in the RA Government Programme for 2021-2026. They are reflected also in budget programmes implemented by public agencies regulating relevant sectors.
- In 2022, financing of budget programmes with a direct impact on multidimensional poverty will make up 17.2% of the RA state budget or 382.0 billion AMD. Resources allocated to education and basic needs of the population prevail in the structure of these programmes.
- The financial resources earmarked for the main budget programmes aimed at improvement of education accessibility will increase significantly (by 25.9 billion drams). As a result, it is envisaged that the indicators of school enrollment system and

physical accessibility of educational facilities will improve. Significant increase in quality and availability of educational services is targeted for 2024: 99% enrollment in the compulsory education system, 70% enrollment in pre-school institutions, provision of sustainable school feeding to all preschool and primary school students in the marzes.

- The funds provided for state interventions addressing the basic needs of the population will also increase by 8.3 billion AMD, leading to a sharp increase in the number of families and individuals receiving support under these programmes.
- As a result of programmes targeting the improvement of housing conditions of the population, more than 16,000 families will receive housing support, which is twice as many as last year. Remarkable growth of the number of beneficiaries is attributed to the increase in the number of beneficiaries of State housing support programme for families with children.
- The Employment programme is targeting labor and employment needs. The purpose of the programme is to create relevant conditions for ensuring long-term or temporary employment opportunities for the population. Public funds spent to this end are rather modest and are estimated at mere 1.9 billion AMD. It is planned to channel more than 45.5% of programme resources to the provision of assistance for engagement of persons uncompetitive in labor market in cattle breeding as well as to provision of nannies’ services for mothers to combine child care and work.
- Allocations from the state budget to healthcare needs have increased as compared to the previous year. The growth is mostly attributed to the increase of resources channeled to provision of healthcare services to vulnerable and

special groups as well as to maternal and child healthcare. The number of doctors sent to work in marzes has also increased from 9 to 50 as compared to the previous year.

- The level of community budget revenues in beneficiary marzes, their dynamics and structure indicate that these communities are characterized by low economic potential in income generating. In general, Tavush and Shirak marzes are among those generating the lowest per capita income. The share of own income has shown a rising trend as compared with the previous year in all three beneficiary marzes, however those marzes, in particular Lori and Tavush are still characterized by low level of own income.
- Communities' capacity to raise funds and to benefit from various development resources is very low. The majority of grants, more than 97.6%, are internal grants, i.e., government donations and subventions extended from the state budget to community budgets. The level of external grants is insignificant.
- According to the subvention programmes approved by the government, the number of subventions in beneficiary marzes for 2022 are well below the average annual amount of 2019-2021.
- The implemented subvention programmes, at their core, have the potential of reducing multidimensional poverty. It is necessary to note, that in all three marzes, the share of projects aimed at construction and repair of community roads is high. Next are the programmes aimed at construction and rehabilitation of street lighting networks, drinking water supply and sewerage systems.
- The expenses on maintenance and salaries of community administration still account for a large share of the total communities'

expenditures, even though this indicator has generally shown a decreasing trend in recent years. This is followed by functional areas of "Education", "Housing Construction and Utilities" and "Economic Relations".

- The major part of education expenditures, about 70.4%, are channeled to pre-school education. Budgetary resources for implementation of social programmes make up around 1%, while almost no healthcare programmes are implemented by the communities.
- Though the range of strategic policies sets goals of different levels for the policies in the areas concerned, however, it often fails to set appropriate indicators, target levels and timeframes for measuring and achieving the defined goals. This allows to avoid or to be inconsistent in achievement of outcomes.
- The implemented budget programmes do not always include the goals and outcomes set by relevant policies and not in every instance contribute to their achievement.
- Regular evaluation of budget programmes compliance with the policies, control over the implementation of policies, sense of ownership/responsibility are the main issues in ensuring the viability and sustainability of strategic policies. Even though these challenges are not neglected and there are certain requirements set by the government, however they still remain unaddressed. The public dialogue on the content of strategic and budget policies is not of adequate quality. The role and importance of active involvement of CSOs, both in the monitoring as well as evaluation of budget programmes and policies is gradually increasing.

Use, Access and Need for Public Services

- Shirak marz stands out among the beneficiary regions for its high level of education. The educational level of women in all three marzes is higher than that of men.
- The unemployment rate is the lowest in the rural settlements of Shirak - 16.7%, and it is the highest in the urban settlements of Lori - 37.7%. The unemployment rate for women and men is 35.7% and 14.4%, respectively. The highest rate of female unemployment was recorded in Tavush, and the lowest rate of male unemployment was recorded in Shirak.
- The share of those employed in their own farms and state/community institutions is high amounting to 35.2% and 30.5% respectively. Moreover, employment rate in own farms is especially high in Lori, self-employment rate is relatively high in Shirak, while employment in state/community institutions as well as private sector is high in Tavush.
- According to household (hereafter-HH) self assessments, the poverty has deepened in all three marzes in 2021. The share of HHs assessing themselves to be poor or extremely poor has increased by 5.8 percentage points in Lori, 1.0 percentage point in Shirak, and 4.5 percentage points in Tavush. At the same time, the HHs who consider themselves to be “wellfared” decreased by 1.3 percentage points in Lori, 0.6 percentage points in Shirak, and 2.5 percentage points in Tavush.
- In general, the population of Lori, Tavush and Shirak marzes is deemed to be burdened with debt. 65.6% of households have loan or other debt obligations. Moreover, the average amount of debt obligation per HH is amounting to around 1.9 million AMD. The current debt servicing burden is assessed to be heavier in Lori region.
- About 29% of HHs in beneficiary marzes are malnourished. The situation is more critical in Lori marz, where 37.6% of HHs in rural communities and 35.9% of HHs in urban areas are unable to cover the food expenses “at all” or “hardly” can cover them.
- 51% of HHs in beneficiary marzes is unable to cover health expenses.
- Kindergarten services are the most accessible among childcare and social support services. 43.5% of children aged 2-6 in beneficiary marzes take advantage of these services. 37.7% of children aged 2-6 or 43.6% of HHs with children of appropriate age do not avail any preschool and school education services.
- In 72% of communities under survey there was at least one child with disability out-of-school, and in 48% there was at least one non-disabled school-age child not enrolled in school.
- The level of beneficiaries’ awareness on policies aimed at child care and improvement of demographic situation in the country is rather high. The most popular policies include the “One-off Childbirth Allowance” policy with 85% of HHs being well-informed on it and “Provision of Monthly Allowance of 50,000 AMD for the third and subsequent child up to the age of 6” of which 75.5% is aware. The impact of implemented policies on the decision to have children in HHs is low.
- The level of awareness on “Maternity benefits to non-working mothers” and “Mortgage loan support under the housing programmes for families with children” is low. In general, the number of beneficiaries of state-supported housing programmes in beneficiary marzes is small.

- The level of both, awareness and use of various employment programmes implemented by the RA Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs is low among the general population as well as among persons with disabilities. Only 3.5% of disabled persons in beneficiary marzes has ever used the job placement services provided to disabled persons.
- The level of awareness of beneficiary population on state-funded medical services is not high. 68.2% of HHs and 75.9% of beneficiary HHs are aware of free-of charge medical care services provided to the socially vulnerable persons and those included in special groups.
- In general, the level of awareness on state budget programmes implemented in beneficiary marzes is low. It is relatively high in Tavush marz.
- Within the 12 months period, preceding the survey, in 10% of all HHs in beneficiary marzes and in 29.7% of beneficiary HHs, at least one HH member needed medical intervention and medical services, but did not consult a doctor. The main reason for not consulting a doctor in 70% of HHs is financial, in 8% of cases it is due to the lack of trust in doctors, and in 4% of cases it is the remoteness of the medical facility from their settlement.
- The level of benefitting from state programmes on medical assistance and rehabilitation by persons with disabilities is not high. Mere 32.1% of population with disabilities in beneficiary marzes has ever benefited from budget programmes. 47.8% of persons with disabilities in need of medicines has used free medicine or reduced-cost-prescription drugs.
- According to beneficiaries, lack of employment opportunities, inadequate level of healthcare services and poor condition of community roads are among the three major problems that community population still faces.
- The need of population for selected social services in beneficiary marzes is assessed to be high, especially, when it comes to quality medical services, affordable medicines, employment of youth and elderlies, as well as social services provided to elderly.
- In the context of improvement of healthcare services quality, the HHs, on the one hand prioritize the accessibility and affordability of medical services, and on the other hand, the availability of more qualified medical personnel providing healthcare services in marzes.
- The population associates the opportunities for employment promotion mostly with the creation of additional job places (around 86%). It is noteworthy that over 20% of the population sees the possibilities of employment promotion for their communities' population in the development of practical skills in compliance with job requirements and participation in additional trainings. If in the context of employment growth, the urban population prioritizes creation of additional care services for children of working parents, then availability of additional transportation/transportation services for employees is deemed to be essential for the rural population.
- In the context of child support and child-rearing practices improvement availability of parks, public gardens and playgrounds, as well as summer leisure programmes and camps, in all three marzes is prioritized.
- Opportunities for occupation of elderlies and provision of social services to seniors were especially prioritized by the rural settlement HHs of Lori region. Moreover, provision of home health care as well as domiciliary services was considered to be essential in all three marzes. Food delivery

services were also considered to be of high importance in Lori and Tavush.

- Among the community services relatively higher importance in all three marzes is given to the condition of community roads, street lighting and timely garbage collection services.
- The level of awareness on programmes implemented in the communities is low, with 4.1% of the households, on average, being informed. Around 47% of the population found it difficult to answer the question related to organization of public hearings on community programmes and 25% stated that no such events were organized.
- 41% of surveyed HHs argued that the opinion and wishes of the population are not taken into account when making decisions on budget expenditures.
- 40% of HHs involved in the survey believe, that the problems in their community can be solved only through the involvement of the government.
- Among the selected services characterizing the community environment, the availability of banks/ATMs (26%), opportunities to start a small business in the community (23%) and the necessity to use speed cameras in the community (23%) are relatively high in Tavush marz.
- In Shirak marz, mostly in rural areas, HHs point out the need for entertainment places (cafes/bars/restaurants/clubs) – 20%. HHs in Lori marz have relatively higher demand for availability of banks/ATMs in the communities and improvement of public transport-with 22% and 19%, respectively. The need for parks and recreational facilities is high in all three marzes.

Main Conclusions

- The main results and findings are of no surprise. Although the main trends persist, however, there are qualitatively new developments under way.
- The level of income of the population is low, while debt obligations and debt burden are very high. Moreover, according to the surveyed population, the situation has deteriorated in recent years. Of particular concern is the high level of malnutrition.
- The level of satisfaction of the population with the quality and accessibility of education is not low. However, in majority of beneficiary settlements, there are children left out of the educational system. Preschool education and extracurricular activities, which are inaccessible for the majority of HHs is increasingly in demand. Importance is attached to organization of summer holidays for children and access to summer camps.
- Especially high is the level of dissatisfaction with the quality of healthcare services. Affordability of high-quality medical care, lack of experienced and qualified specialists remains a major challenge.
- Though in general, access to work and provision of employment opportunities is considered to be a priority, however the population emphasizes the need for trainings, acquisition of new knowledge, enhancement of the level of financial literacy.
- Noteworthy is the increasing demand for improvement of the quality of community life and environment. In particular, many have noted and emphasized the importance of the quality of roads, street maintenance and lighting, availability of parks, public gardens and playgrounds, places of entertainment and social facilities (restaurants, cafes and clubs) in rural and

small urban communities. Such demands are gaining an increasing priority, this suggesting growing demands on the life quality.

- The community resources and potential are still low to target the demands and benchmarks set by the population. The population expects changes not from their community administration, but rather from the government. However, at the community level, special importance is attached to the participation in the decisions on budgetary and other programmes.
- Due to promotion of subvention programmes, measures aimed at improvement of the community life have gained a larger share within the budget structure.
- Though people still remain poorly-informed and less-knowledgeable, however the awareness, education and civic engagement are assuming an increasing importance in recent years.
- The level of awareness on employment programmes and state-funded health care services is rather low. People are better informed about the existing demographic programmes, although they are believed to have little or no influence on decision whether to have other children in the family or no, and on birth rate in general.
- High priority is given to the issues of occupation of elderlies, as well to the demand for care and food supply services for seniors.
- Measures to prevent domestic violence receive little publicity, or rather, hardly any importance is given to them. Instead, measures aimed at providing opportunities for employment, self-actualization and development to youth, as well as at maintenance of physical and mental health become a basic necessity.

- Thus, the phenomenon of multidimensional poverty involves several aspects. The study proves that the indicators of poverty measured on the basis of income, nowadays cannot provide a full and comprehensive picture of the current needs of population and the quality of their life. The community life is undergoing certain developments, giving rise to new demands on quality of life.
- The public and community budget resources allocated for reduction of multidimensional poverty are limited and scarce, despite the growing demand.
- The link between the strategic and budget programmes is not sufficiently clear; it is rather weak, this being attributed both, to the scarcity of resources as well as to the lack of consistency among policy developers and implementing parties. On the other hand, despite the growing demand, the level of general public development as well as the civil society institutional enhancement do not ensure adequate and efficient level of public demand, dialogue, participation and control over the policies.

Key recommendations for:

Civil society

- Make efforts to ensure public demand generation, adequate and meaningful level of dialogue with public authorities, participation and policy monitoring. Focus on improvement of public awareness on ongoing budget programmes, involvement in development of state and community level budget programmes, ensuring for the initial stage, at least presence at public discussions of relevant programmes;
- Directing the funds and resources, to the possible extent, towards the development and implementation of projects aimed at participatory monitoring and evaluation of public programmes.

Public authorities

- Improve the design and content of budget programmes highlighting and contributing as much as possible to achievement of goals set by strategic documents;
- Promote public participation in community as well as state budget processes introducing new accessible tools of participatory budgeting. Within the context of running subvention programmes attach particular importance to projects aimed at improvement of the quality of community life and those selected with the involvement of the population;
- Prioritize the role of civil society, independent expert community in budget programme evaluation processes.

Donor community

- Direct the resources to support enhancement of civil society's capacities for participating in budget processes, development of efficient tools accessible to citizens;
- Contribute to improvement of the quality of community life. Attach special importance and make more comprehensive the support provided in several areas, including:
 - issues of children left out of educational system, their malnutrition and organization of summer holidays and entertainment;
 - employment, home health care and food supply services for elderlies;
 - measures to assign at least temporarily, experienced and highly-qualified doctors to work in marzes.



INTRODUCTION



The main goal of this study is to examine and elaborate on the details of state budget programmes implemented with the aim of reduction of multidimensional poverty in Armenia, namely in Shirak, Lori and Tavush marzes, assessing their impact.

The main aspects of the study include:

- Study and discussion of the scope of strategic policies targeting project's beneficiary groups;
- Review of state budget and community programmes targeting project's beneficiary groups, measuring their social impact;
- Study of beneficiary groups' needs;
- Laying the groundwork for the review of compatibility of ongoing budget policies and the needs of beneficiary groups, identification of issues to be addressed.

The results of the study are summarized in this report, which consists of five sections. The introduction is followed by the methodological framework of the study, introducing the methods and tools, sources of information used in this research, the sample of “Budget policies and welfare of population” HH survey (hereinafter referred to as BWP survey) as well as the sample estimates and other details of implementation.

The third section - “Policy framework” focuses on introduction of the scope of government strategic policies and analysis of their outcomes and targets. In a separate subsection relevant state and community budget programmes, amount of budget financing defined by specific characteristics of multidimensional poverty and strategic goals are introduced and analyzed. Analysis of the outcome indicators of budget programmes and review of their compliance was carried out. This section examines also the community budget summaries of beneficiary marzes, presenting the recent dynamics and structure of community revenues and expenditures for 2020-2022. Community

expenditures sensitive from the perspective of multidimensional poverty, poverty reduction and potential of income generation in communities are discussed.

Sections four and five are introducing the findings of the statistical survey “Budget policies and welfare of population”. Namely, section 4 is focusing on introduction of socio-economic characteristics of marzes, while Section 5 attempts to assess the usage, accessibility of specific set of services and the needs in beneficiary marzes. Here are also introduced the areas of improvement for specific public services according to the assessments of beneficiary population.



METHODOLOGICAL FRAMEWORK



The survey includes a variety of **research methods and tools**. Namely, this involves the following quantitative, qualitative and mixed research methods:

- Collection and analysis of budget data;
- Study and review of policy papers;
- Review of related studies and documents;
- Interviews with key informed persons;
- Statistical sample survey.

The programme beneficiary group includes the population of Shirak, Lori and Tavush marzes, more specifically the population in vulnerable and risk groups from the perspective of various aspects of multidimensional poverty.

The study is focusing on evaluation of state and community budget policies and assessment of the programmes' impact on beneficiary groups, targeting also identification of the needs of beneficiary groups and consideration of relevance of the budget programmes.

In order to assess the implemented public and community policies from the perspective of multidimensional poverty reduction, mapping and study of strategic policies framework has been carried out, policies with a potential impact on various aspects of multidimensional poverty were presented. To identify the possible list of strategic papers and budget programmes, interviews with officials in charge of relevant fields and primary data collection was conducted at the initial stage of the study.

The policies were presented on the level of goals, outcomes and outcome indicators proposed in the strategic papers for their assessment. State budget programmes, which involve interventions and impact on multidimensional poverty were also identified and presented. The outputs and outcomes of relevant budget programmes and the amount of funding were presented and reviewed.

In order to assess the budget policies on a community level, analysis of the functional classification of community budget expenditures and the areas of subvention programmes was carried out ¹.

Within the scope of the study, a household sample survey – “Budget policies and welfare of population” was carried out in beneficiary marzes to assess the HHS' access to public services provided under state and community budget programmes rolled out in beneficiary marzes, as well as to review the level of awareness of population on current programmes, assessing the programmes' impact and the needs for public services. The fieldwork was conducted in October 2021.

BWP study is not targeting any specific budget programme, but it rather looks at the whole set of the programmes and their overall impact on the needs of the population of beneficiary marzes. Thus, the sampling plan of the study was designed to provide a representative sample not by beneficiaries of individual budget programmes, but by marzes (Shirak, Lori, Tavush) and types of settlements (town/village). In addition, the sample plan was designed in a way so as to ensure maximum disaggregation of data, to comply with the assessment criteria and variables development providing for representativeness of the data and acceptable margin of error. A model of stratified, random, multistage sampling was applied. Three clusters were identified - Shirak, Lori and Tavush. Thereafter, the town and village stratas were identified within each cluster.

The object of the study are the HHS. The stratas have been divided proportionally in each cluster. Villages in each strata were selected keeping to the proportions of large, medium-sized and small² villages in a particular cluster, as well as the distribution of HHS therein.

1. The source of budget information on a national level was the RA Ministry of Finance, and on the community level the source of information was the RA Ministry of Territorial Administration and Infrastructure.

2. Rural settlements with up to 250 HHS are considered as small-sized rural settlements, those with 250-500 HHS are considered as medium-sized rural settlements, and rural settlements with 500 HHS and over are classified as large settlements.

Table 1. Survey sampling plan³

Clusters	Strata		Number	HHs distribution, percent
Lori	1. Towns		4	50.1
	2. Villages	large	5	19.7
		medium	4	16.6
		small	4	13.5
Shirak	1. Towns		3	48.5
	2. Villages	large	5	19.6
		medium	5	14.3
		small	8	17.6
Tavush	1. Towns		3	48.0
	2. Villages	large	6	25.3
		medium	4	16.6
		small	3	10.1

The sample includes all three beneficiary marzes of the programme in compliance with the number of HHs living in marzes. The total sample size is 2,364 HHs. About 790 interviews were conducted in each cluster.

Maximum margin of error of +/-5.0% was ensured for each strata. The margin of error in

each cluster level does not exceed +/-3.5%, and on the level of programme beneficiary marzes the margin of error does not exceed +/-2.0%.

Below in the Table the distribution of general and sample population and estimates of the margin of error are presented.

Table 2. Survey Sample and Margin of Error

	Shirak			Lori			Tavush			Total beneficiary marzes		
	Village	Town	Total	Village	Town	Total	Village	Town	Total	Village	Town	Total
General population, HHs	23,949	39,874	63,822	21,811	37,080	58,891	17,520	15,116	32,636	63,280	92,070	155,349
Sample Size, HHs	407	384	791	394	396	790	407	376	783	1,180	1,184	2,364
Confidence level	95	95	95	95	95	95	95	95	95	95	95	95
Margin of error (+/-) percent	4.82	4.98	3.46	4.89	4.90	3.46	4.80	4.99	3.46	2.83	2.83	2.0

3. For settlements see Annex1.



POLICY FRAMEWORK



3.1. Strategic Policy Framework



Review of policies aimed at reduction of multidimensional poverty in RA requires identification of strategic policy framework having a potential to influence various dimensions of multidimensional poverty, introduction of goals and medium-term targets set by the government.

It should be noted, that the policies under consideration are mostly laid down in a set of strategic documents, concept papers and programmes on social, economic and infrastructure development, as well as in the RA Government programme for 2021-2026 (see Annex 2).

Below is presented the main content of selected policies according to their focus on specific dimensions of multidimensional poverty.

BASIC NEEDS: Basic needs include minimum requirements of a person for decent living conditions, including access to food and clothing, low dependence on humanitarian aid and remittances.

The main focus of government policies aimed at providing basic needs of the population is the reduction of poverty, complete eradication of extreme poverty by 2026, as well as reduction of the share of those living in multidimensional poverty, especially, the proportion of children living in multidimensional poverty (see Table 3). It should be mentioned, that the policies focus on reduction of both poverty and extreme poverty based on consumption aggregates and income.

Special emphasis is made on increase of social services accessibility, growth of the share of population benefitting from various social protection schemes. The main target is the growth of the number of self-reliant, decent families having their own steady income. In this

context, focus is made on the transformation of the motivation aroused by benefits, better targeted benefit system and increase of the employment rate among beneficiary families.

In the context of social issues of **children**, the child's right to live in a family and prevention of child abandonment is deemed to be of fundamental importance.

Development of healthy and capable children is one of the important goals of the policy. The government sets to increase of the share of children with age-appropriate health, learning and psychosocial level of development. An important criterion is also the increase of the share of children receiving minimum acceptable diet.

In the context of protection of **elderlies**, the RA government is targeting improvement of the quality of elderly care services as well as introduction and development of community-based services to ensure a favorable environment for elderlies to live in a family and community and to provide need-based and high-quality care services.

The government prioritizes also provision of favorable conditions for socio-economic, intellectual and physical activity of the elderlies. Accordingly, growth of active ageing index and increase of the share of employed people working past the age of retirement is targeted.

The policies targeting **disabled people** are laid down in 2022 annual programme for social inclusion of persons with disabilities as well as in the RA Government programme for 2021-2026. It is planned to transform the provided care services, develop new ones, compensate disability-related expenses, which includes provision of assistive technologies, etc.

Table 3. Framework of policies targeting the basic needs of the population

Goals	Outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improving the well-being of middle class and reducing poverty through development and fulfillment of individual creative skills⁴. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eradicate extreme poverty by 2026.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhancing resilience of families that have appeared or are under the risk of appearing in difficult life situation⁵. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce the share of those living in multidimensional poverty by minimum 2% annually; Eradicate extreme poverty; Eradicate extreme poverty measured based on consumption aggregate among persons with disabilities reducing continuously income-based extreme poverty (by minimum 1% annually); Increase from 54.4% to 70% the share of population involved in at least 1 type of social protection scheme; Reduce by 50% the average duration of enrollment in the family allowance system for families with up to 20% of dependency ratio; Bring down to a maximum of 7% the indicator of extremely poor capable people of working age measured based on income poverty, reduce the indicator of working poor by at least 7%.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transforming the motivation aroused by benefit system⁶. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase the employment rate in beneficiary families by minimum 5% annually; Increase the benefit system targeting by minimum 5% annually; Increase the number of families left out of the benefit system due to employment by minimum 2% annually.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improving food security and nutrition⁷ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improvement of global food security index up to 65.3 by 2024 against 52.3 in 2019.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Providing favorable conditions and environment for full exercise of children's rights contributing to the development of healthy and capable children⁵. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promoting human capital index growth bringing it up to 66% as against 58% in 2022; Eradicate the poverty measured based on consumption aggregate among children reducing the income-based poverty (by 1, 2, 3, 3% respectively for 2020-2023); Reduce the share of children living in multidimensional poverty from 20% as of 2020 to 12%; Increase in the share of 4-59 months old children with age-appropriate health, learning and psychosocial level of development; Increase the share of 6-23 old months children receiving minimum acceptable diet from 45% as of 2021 to minimum 65%; Reduce by at least 20% the share of children aged 1-17 physically or psychologically abused by their parents (caregivers); Increase the share of population not tolerating any form of violence against children by at least 30%.

4. RA Government Programme 2021-2026, Government decree N 1363-A, dated 18 August 2021.

5. RA Labor and Social Protection 2022-2026 Strategy, draft as of 1 September 2022.

6. "Work Armenia" Strategy, Scope of Actions (2019-2023), RA government decree N 1753-L dated 5 December 2019.

7. The Strategy of the Main Directions Ensuring Economic Development in Agricultural Sector of the Republic of Armenia for 2020-2030 and Action Plan 2020-2022 for Implementation of Strategy, RA government decree N1886-L, dated 19 December 2019.

- Ensure the exercise of children's right in difficult life circumstances to live in a family and their integration in the society⁸.
- A network providing adequate need-based alternative care services is available;
- Children from care facilities are placed in the families, the quality of their families' life has improved;
- Minimum 60% of families engaged in assistance programmes have created a sustainable source of income;
- Minimum 50% of children under the care of crisis support centers are back to families;
- At least 30% of children from residential Care facilities are under the care for in a family.
- Improvement of elderly care services and introduction of community - based services⁹.
- Home care services to be introduced in all regions of Armenia by 2023, day care centers to be established with a capacity of 50 visitors each, 3 crisis centers for 60 seniors;
- Bringing the minimum pension and average pension into line with the food and consumer basket price.
- Creation and maintenance of a favorable environment for elderlies to live in a family and community and provision of needs - based services¹⁰.
- Ensuring accessibility of residential care facilities for elderlies in most vulnerable circumstances, establishment of crisis care centers;
- Minimum 80% of elderlies provided with housing and in need of care services is enrolled in home care services system;
- Home care services are introduced in all regions of Armenia;
- Piloting and introduction of new models of services, including 24-hour home care.
- Ensuring favorable conditions for socio-economic, intellectual and physical activity of elderlies and provision of social guarantees¹¹.
- Increase the active ageing index by at least 10%;
- Increase up to 20% as against 17% in 2020 the share of employed people working past the age of retirement among those of retirement age.

HOUSING CONDITIONS: The need for housing usually refers to availability of adequate apartment, as well as to the issues of overcrowding, use of primary source of heating, availability of centralized water supply, sewerage and waste collection systems, running hot water, access to transport as well as to the problems related to quality of paid public services.

The main policies aimed at improvement of housing conditions are introduced in State-supported housing programme for families with children, targeting sustainable development of families through the promotion of housing

conditions improvement for families with children.

It should be noted that the policy of income tax refunds on mortgage interests paid, implemented since 2014 is targeting the improvement of housing conditions of the population.

The solution of housing problems of poor families and families in need of social housing/accommodation is targeted both in the RA Government programme for 2021-2026, as well as in the Strategic plan for formation of social housing stock.

8. Comprehensive Programme on Implementation of the Right of the Child to Live in a Family and of the Right to Harmonious Development for 2020-2023, the Time Table for Implementation of the Programme, RA government decree N432-L, dated 2 April 2020.

9. RA Government Programme 2021-2026, Government decree N 1363-A, dated 18 August 2021.

10. Programme on Improvement of Care Services Provided to Elderlies as well as on Introduction and Development of Community-Based Services and a Time Table for 2021-2023 Ensuring its Implementation, RA government decree 498-L dated 8 April 2021.

11. RA Labor and Social Protection 2022-2026 Strategy, draft as of 1 September 2022.

Since 2022, state support is provided to energy efficient renovation of apartments (residential houses) through full or partial subsidization of annual interest rates of loans received for relevant purposes¹².

The government action plan is aimed also at provision of reliable, sustainable, safe and affordable drinking water, waste water treatment and irrigation water supply services to the population, targeting urgent rehabilitation of

water supply and sewerage systems in 11 towns and 41 rural areas of 6 marzes.

Strategic goals include also provision of transportation services in communities as well as increase of passenger transportation affordability. It is envisaged that by 2026, all settlements in the country shall be connected through regular routes to administrative centers or other large settlements of the region.

Table 4. Scope of policies aimed at improvement of housing conditions of the population

Goals	Outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promoting improvement of housing conditions of families with children providing relevant environment for sustainable development of families; Facilitating the process of housing conditions improvement for families with children in the regions; Providing an opportunity to beneficiaries to combine mortgage repayment and child care by easing the credit burden in case of child birth¹³. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase in the number of beneficiaries receiving one-time monetary assistance; Increase in the number of beneficiaries receiving monetary assistance for advance payment insurance; Increase in the number of beneficiaries receiving assistance to ease the loan burden in case of childbirth.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Solving housing problems of families in need of accommodation¹⁴. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Target indicators are not defined.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Urgent solution of housing conditions improvement problem for socially disadvantaged individuals and those involved special groups¹⁵. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formation of a social housing stock.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction of a unified route network in the country as a result of which all communities will be provided with transportation services; Increased efficiency and accessibility of passenger transportation¹³. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> By 2026, all settlements of the country will be connected with administrative centers or other large settlements of the region by regular routes; Repair and reconstruction of about 500 km of intercommunity, republican and community highways annually.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of reliable, sustainable, safe and affordable drinking water, waste water treatment and irrigation water supply services to the population¹³. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Urgent rehabilitation of water supply and sewerage system in 11 towns and 41 rural areas of 6 marzes by 2023, rehabilitation of supply network.

EDUCATION: The need for education is defined through the criteria describing the lack of secondary education, enrollment in school system, physical accessibility of educational institutions¹⁶, as well as the quality of educational services.

The issues relating to improvement of

accessibility and quality of education are highlighted both in the RA Government Programme for 2021-2026, as well as in the Education Development Strategy of RA. The policies prioritize expansion of preschool education network in rural areas, as well as promotion of early childhood services among

12. State Support Programme for Energy-Efficient Renovation of Apartments and Private Houses, RA government decree N 520-L, dated 15 April 2022.

13. 2020-2023 State-Supported Housing Programmes for Families with Children, RA government decree N968-L, dated 14 May 2020.

14. RA Government Programme 2021-2026, Government decree N 1363-A, dated 18 August 2021.

15. Strategic Plan for Formation of Social Housing Stock, RA government decree N33, dated 22 August 2013.

16. Kindergarten and General Secondary Schools (complete).

pre-school services in general. The main target is to ensure availability of affordable preschool services in all settlements bringing the enrollment of 3–5 year-old children in preschool system up to 95% minimum, to build, reconstruct or renovate at least 500 kindergartens and preschool institutions by 2026 (see Table 5).

In the field of general education, improvement of gross enrollment index, making up in recent years around 90% on average, has been prioritized¹⁷. Improvement of building conditions of schools to meet the international standards and enriching material and technical resources available at schools is also considered

to be a high priority. This includes both, school infrastructure, i.e. facilities, availability of connectivity services, as well as provision of relevant equipment and furniture, availability of necessary accessories and supplies. The main target for 2026 is to have no child left out of the compulsory education system. All schools of the country shall be provided with properly furnished generally accessible buildings fitted out with modern equipment and devices, meeting sanitary and hygienic, safety standards and staffed with qualified teachers, certified in compliance with the established standards. It is planned to build, reconstruct or renovate at least 300 schools.

Table 5. Scope of policies aimed at improvement of accessibility and quality of education

Goals	Outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Availability of a proper system of early childhood development and full access to the network of preschool education services; • Ensuring modern and adequate school infrastructure, inclusive and developing environment, quality educational content, high-quality teaching staff and transparent as well as efficient management of schools¹⁸. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To build, reconstruct or renovate at least 300 schools ensuring their full supply with necessary furniture, accessories and equipment by 2026; • To build, reconstruct or renovate at least 500 kindergartens and preschool institutions ensuring their full provision with necessary furniture, accessories and equipment by 2026; • Increase the share of 3-5 years old children enrolled in preschool institutions bringing it up to at least 85 % by 2026.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creation of a universal, inclusive student-centered learning environment in the whole territory of Armenia providing every citizen at each stage of his/her life with quality and effective educational services in compliance with developmental and individual specificities¹⁷. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Affordable preschool services shall be available in all settlements and each family shall be able to benefit from those services; • All children going to school shall be enrolled in pre-school programmes for at least one year; • At least 95% of 3-5 years old children shall be involved in preschool services; • Day nursery services available in all consolidated communities; • All schools will be provided with properly furnished, generally accessible buildings supplied with modern equipment and meeting the sanitary and hygienic, safety standards; • All schools will be staffed with qualified teachers, certified in compliance with the established standards and receiving decent reimbursement; • No child is left out of compulsory education system.

17. Education Development Strategy of the Republic of Armenia up to 2030, Law of the Republic of Armenia, as of 17 December 2022.

18. RA Government Programme 2021-2026, Government decree N 1363-A, dated 18 August 2021.

EMPLOYMENT: The need for employment is presented through such aspects as the population’s involvement in labor market, long-term(structural) unemployment, lack of access to decent jobs and opportunities to be fully engaged in the labor market.

In an effort to improve labor market and employment relationship, the government focuses on enhancement of mechanisms regulating the employer-employee relationship, better targeting and increased efficiency of employment regulation state programmes, introduction of programmes targeting enhancement of competitiveness of youth, disabled persons and women, enhancement of “education-labor market” linkages as well as measures to support combining work with childcare.

The draft RA Labor and Social Protection Strategy

for 2022-2026 identifies the enhancement of labor force competitiveness and employability, motivation of the population outside the labor market, ensuring exercise of labor rights. Issues related to employment of youth, women, disabled persons, retirees were targeted.

“Work Armenia” strategy is focusing on expansion of the labor market coverage targeting increase of investments aimed at promotion of economic activity in marzes, economic participation of youth, women and those returning from compulsory military service as well as decrease in unemployment rate by at least 5% annually.

The state programme on employment regulation attaches high importance to creation of relevant conditions for sustainable and efficient employment of population, improvement of employment sector services.

Table 6. Scope of policies aimed at regulation of employment and working relations

Goals	Outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of labor and social protection¹⁹. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set the minimum wage of 85, 000 AMD by 2026.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhancement of labor force competitiveness and employability, motivation of the population outside the labor market; • Ensuring realization of labor rights and provision of decent working conditions²⁰: 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the labor force participation bringing it up to 65% as against 58.5% in 2020; • Reduce the share of youth not in employment, education or training bringing it down to 18% as against 31.1% in 2020; • Bring down the unemployment rate to 10%, and the long-term unemployment rate to 35%; • Bring the economic participation and opportunities index from 0.66 (as of 2021) up to 0.8; • Increase the labor productivity by at least 5% annually; • Bring the ratio of men to women taking on unpaid work from 0.4 (as of 2020) up to 0.8; • Increase the share of the employed among employable disabled persons of working age by at least 3%; • Increase the level of employee satisfaction on with working conditions by at least 30%; • Increase the share of retired employees among the persons of retirement age bringing it up to 20% as against 17% in 2020.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expansion of the labor market coverage²¹; • Promotion of employment in all regions of Armenia; • Inclusion of target groups (youth, women, conscripts) in the employment programmes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing the volume of investments in all regions of the RA by at least 5% annually to contribute to the growth of economic activity; • Reduction of unemployment rate in target groups by at least 3% annually; • Increase in economic activity of target groups by at least 5% annually.

19. RA Government Programme 2021-2026, Government decree N 1363-A, dated 18 August 2021.

20. RA Labor and Social Protection 2022-2026 Strategy, draft as of 1 September 2022.

21. “Work Armenia” Strategy, Scope of Actions (2019-2023), RA government decree N 1753-L dated 5 December 2019.

- Creation of relevant conditions for sustainable and efficient employment of population²².
- Ensuring sustainable employment of around 50% of those enrolled in state employment programmes.
- Improvement of the quality of employment sector services²³.
- Share of suitably employed among those enrolled in programmes-annual increase by at least 5%;
- Share of people enrolled in the programmes among those registered for enrollment - an annual increase by at least 5%;
- Level of citizens satisfaction with employment services-60%.
- Continuous improvement of working conditions and employer-employee relationship²³.
- Promotion of Trade Unions involvement and enhancement of their role: 60% of respondents is positive about the activities of Trade Unions;
- At least 60% of respondents is fully aware of his/her labor rights and responsibilities.
- Reduction of social-economic inequalities between men and women
- Increase of women's employment rate and reduction of share of women among poor population;
- Enhancing women competitiveness in labor market, expansion of economic opportunities²⁴.
- Annual increase in the number of women entrepreneurs receiving assistance within the frame of SME support state programmes;
- Annual increase in the number of job places created for women in the industrial sector;
- Annual growth of incomes from women's manufacturing activities by at least 5%;
- The share of loans granted to women among the credits provided to economic entities in agricultural sector: 18-20%.

Enhancement of women's competitiveness in labor market and expansion of economic opportunities is emphasized also in the "Strategic Programme for Gender Policy Implementation in the RA for 2019-2023" and in the RA Government Programme. Namely, special importance is attached to the provision of opportunities for extensive use of untapped socio-economic potential of women from vulnerable groups, creation of favorable conditions for women to combine work and household chores in a family, appreciation of economic role of women in a society. New job places created for women in industrial sector as well as the indicators on income received from women's manufacturing activities are targeted (see Table 6).

HEALTHCARE: The main aspects defining the healthcare needs include suspension of

regular activities of a household member due to illness, injury, poor health condition, lack of financial means to receive healthcare services, physical accessibility of medical facilities, ambulance services, pharmacies, as well as the quality of available healthcare services.

In healthcare sector, there is no strategic paper on development of the sphere summarizing the vision, goals and long-term outcomes of the government healthcare policy for specific directions and individual beneficiary groups.

The sector policy is mostly laid down in the papers summing up the policies per specific diseases, which are not considered to be of high relevance in the context of this study.

Healthcare services targeting socially disadvantaged groups, as well as policies aimed at providing medicine to the population, are

22. 2022 State Programme and Action Plan for Employment Regulation, RA government Decree N 1589-L, dated 30 September 2021.

23. RA Labor and Social Protection 2022-2026 Strategy, draft as of 1 September 2022.

24. Gender Policy Implementation Strategy and Action Plan for 2019-2023, RA government decree N 1334-L, dated 19 September 2019.

established by relevant laws ²⁵, which in turn serve as a basis for budget programmes and activities.

RA Government programme for 2021-2026 targets individual and public health maintenance and improvement, provision of affordable, modern, high-quality healthcare services. The

reduction of the share of private spending in healthcare, modernization of medical facilities, decrease in premature mortality due to non-communicable diseases, as well as reduction of maternal and child mortality rate are defined as final outcomes.

Table 7. Scope of policies aimed at addressing healthcare needs

Goals	Outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Individual and public health maintenance and improvement, provision of affordable, modern and high-quality healthcare services²⁶. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduction of the share of private spending in the overall healthcare expenditure by 40% for 2026; Reduction of premature mortality due to most common four types of non-communicable diseases by at least 1.5% annually; Reduction of mortality of children under the age of 1 by 15%, and reduction of maternal mortality (triennial) by 18%, inclusion of children under the age of 1 in vaccination programmes to exceed 95% by 2026; Modernization of 50 medical facilities by 2026

3.2. Budget Framework

Problems related to multidimensional poverty are included in budget programmes of social, territorial, economic and infrastructure development sectors. 86 out of the 177 budget programmes implemented in the country are

rolled out in the mentioned sectors, where 57.8% of public financing are channeled. The amount of public funding allocated to these programmes has shown an upward trend in recent years (Table 8).

Table 8. Number of state budget programmes and the amount of financing for 2019-2022

Responsible Agency	2019		2020		2021		2022*		
	Number	Billion AMD	Number	Billion AMD	Number	Billion AMD	Number	Billion AMD	Share, percent
RA Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs	16	454.0	17	548.3	17	619.8	16	589.9	26.5
RA Ministry of Territorial Administration and Infrastructure	26	171.6	22	178.2	22	201.4	24	267.6	12.0
RA Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport	23	157.3	20	170.9	21	174.8	21	226.5	10.2
RA Ministry of Health	12	97.6	13	141.8	12	157.9	12	141.4	6.3
RA Ministry of Economy	14	12.5	14	34.0	14	43.4	13	61.5	2.8
Other state agencies	109	736.4	93	821.5	89	807.0	91	940.5	42.2
Total	200	1,629.4	179	1,894.6	175	2,004.3	177	2,227.3	100

*Annual adjusted plan for a nine months period

Source: Reports on RA State Budget Execution for 2019, 2020 and 2021, Report on 2022 RA State Budget Execution for a nine months period, EDRC calculations

25. Law on Medical Aid and Service of the Population and the RA Law on "Medicines".

26. RA Government Programme 2021-2026, Government decree N 1363-A, dated 18 August 2021.

Not all programmes implemented in the selected areas have a direct impact on multidimensional poverty, and thus, let's identify those having a special relevance and influence in this context. More specifically, we will identify the budget programmes, and in certain cases - budget measures, with a potential to have an impact on specific aspects of multidimensional poverty.

- **Basic needs**

The budget programmes contributing to

provision of basic needs of the population include mostly those, implemented by the RA Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs (RA MLSA). 118.9 bln. AMD will be allocated to the mentioned programme measures in 2022, accounting to 20.2% of the budget provided for social security programmes. The budget resources allocated to this programme have increased by 8.3 bln. AMD as compared with the previous year.

Table 9. Budget programmes aimed at provision of basic needs of population

Classifier	Programme/Measure	2020	2021	2022*
		AMD mln		
1011	Assistance to socially disadvantaged groups	31,606	30,656	28,800
1205-12001**	Age, disability, survivor's benefits	23,563	26,308	30,135
1068-11001 1068-12001	Ensuring and providing allowance to wage-earners on parental leave for taking care of a child under the age of 2	3,740	8,717	11,737
1068-12002	Lump-sum child allowance	16,134	18,360	17,940
1068-12004	Financial assistance to families with three or more children	-	-	2,925
1032	Care services for adults over the age of 18	3,240	2,862	3,044
1082	Social assistance in case of incapacity to work	16,568	19,289	18,798
1141	Support to families, women and children	3,188	2,971	3,303
1160	Support to disabled persons	1,137	1,436	2,222
	Total	99,176	110,599	118,904

*Annual revised plan for a nine months period ** Programme and relevant measures classifier
Source: Reports on RA State Budget Execution for 2020 and 2021, Report on RA 2022 State Budget Execution for a nine months period, EDRC calculations

It should be noted that the number of families and individuals receiving assistance under the above -described programmes/measures in general will grow significantly across the country mostly due to the increase in the number of families with 3 or more children receiving

financial assistance, non-working mothers receiving maternity benefits as well as due to the growth of the number of citizens receiving benefits for taking care of children under the age of 2. The distribution of beneficiaries of selected programmes is presented below

Table 10. Beneficiaries of budget programmes aimed at provision of basic needs of population

Classifier	Indicator	2021	2022*
1011	Number of families receiving family living standards enhancement benefit	86,943	83,443
	Number of families benefiting from social emergency assistance services	53	536
1205	Number of old-age benefit recipients	10,583	12,150
	Number of disability benefit recipients	53,694	58,650
	Number of survivor's benefit recipients	12,350	12,379
1068	Number of citizens receiving allowance for taking care of a child under the age of 2	25,121	34,083
	Number of newborn beneficiaries receiving lump-sum child allowance	35,196	37,149
	Number of beneficiary families with three or more children receiving monetary assistance	-	4,875
1032	Number of elderlies and persons with disabilities living in residential care facilities	1,115	1,160
	Number of elderlies and persons with disabilities/mental disorders/ receiving home care services	2,083/56	1,880/50
	Number of elderlies benefiting from day-care, food supply services for elderlies and persons with disabilities	1,334	1,600
	Number of people served by (under the care of) residential care homes	50	55
	Number of people under the care of temporary shelters for homeless	86	80
	Number of families living in social housing	144	144
1082	Number of employed persons receiving maternity benefit	15,111	13,145
	Number of non-working persons receiving maternity benefit	20,582	24,242
1141	Number of children under the temporary care of general and special/specialized institutions providing social protection to the population	584/76	585/125
	Number of children in residential care institutions providing social protection to the population, studying at school and receiving monetary assistance	291	250
	Number of children receiving day care services in support centers/social daycare centers	548/3,100	600/1,100
1160	Number of beneficiaries receiving social-rehabilitation services /residential care for persons with mental disorders and mental health conditions	151/47	330/58

* Annual revised plan for a nine months period

Source: Report on RA State Budget Execution for 2021, Report on 2022 RA State Budget Execution for a nine months period, EDRC calculations

● Housing conditions

Budget programmes contributing to improvement of housing conditions of the population include those implemented by the RA Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs (RA MLSA), RA Ministry of Territorial Administration and Infrastructure (RA MTAI), RA Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport (MESCS). They are focusing on provision of housing to young families and families with children mostly through subsidization of mortgage interest rates, targeting also provision of housing to the families left without shelter as

a result of earthquake as well as to the families of servicemen killed in action (or deceased) and to the families of servicemen with first and second degree of disability, focusing also on the development of various infrastructures. The resources allocated to these programmes in 2022 shall amount to 34.6 billion AMD, which exceeds the actual indicator of the previous year by 17.6% or by 5.2 billion AMD. The growth is primarily attributed to the increase of resources provided for territorial development and infrastructure improvement.

Table 11. Budget programmes aimed at improvement of housing conditions of the population

Classifier	Programme/measure	2020	2021	2022*
		AMD mln		
1098	Housing provision	3,958	821	1,055
1068-12003**	Support in provision of housing to young families and families with children	337	1,267	1,600
1115-12001	Support to young families	1,147	1,351	1,738
1232	Energy efficiency programme	-	-	219
1072	Improvement of water supply and waste water treatment services	1,765	6,648	11,491
1212-12007	Provision of subventions to marzes for infrastructure development	14,051	12,310	13,237
1049 (11005, 11006, 11014, 11003, 21013)	“Lifeline Road Network Improvement Programme” implemented with the World Bank support	4,158	5,359	1,650
1019 (11001, 11003, 12001, 12004)	“Armenian Territorial Development Fund” programme implemented with the World Bank support	2,564	1,670	3,629
	Total	27,979	29,426	34,619

*Annual revised plan for a nine months period, ** Programme and relevant measure classifier
Source: Reports on RA State Budget Execution for 2020 and 2021, Report on RA 2022 State Budget Execution for a nine months period, EDRC calculations

As a result of the above-described programmes, over 16.000 families will receive housing support, with this sharp increase attributed

mainly to the growth of the number of beneficiaries of housing support provided to families with children.

Table 12. Outcome indicators of budget programmes aimed at improvement of housing conditions of the population

Classifier	Indicator	2021	2022*
1098	Provision of housing as well as improvement of housing conditions of families left without shelter as a result of earthquake, families of servicemen killed in action (or deceased) as well as of those with first and second degree of disability	63	55
1068-12003**	Housing support to families with children, number of beneficiaries	1,949	9,224
1115-12001	“Affordable Housing for Youth State” programme, number of beneficiaries	5,475	6,825
1212-12007	Provision of subventions to marzes for infrastructure development, number of settlements	225	228
1049	Roads under reconstruction, km	55.8	67.8
1072	Length of water pipeline under repair, km	210.76	306.1
	Length of sewerage pipeline under repair, km	2.67	9.1

*Annual revised plan for a nine months period ** Programme and relevant measure classifier
Source: Report on RA State Budget Execution for 2021, Report on 2022 RA State Budget Execution for a nine months period, EDRC calculations

● Education

The RA MESCS programme on “General Education” seeks to provide free and high-quality education, with its budget increased by 11.1 billion AMD as against the previous year. Moreover, the funds allocated to measures aimed at improvement of building conditions of

educational institutions, provision of necessary furniture and equipment, as well as other measures on ensuring food supply for students of elementary schools and preschool institutions and comprehensive safety of schools will increase by around 14.8 billion drams.

Table 13. Budget programmes aimed at provision of educational needs of the population

Classifier	Programme /Measure	2020	2021	2022*
		AMD mln		
1146	General Education programme	96,203	99,421	110,539
1183	Safe school	2,733	3,807	16,341
1189	Programme on enhancement of seismic safety of schools	5,062	5,646	7,905
	Total	103,998	108,875	134,785

* Annual revised plan for a nine months period

Source: Reports on RA State Budget Execution for 2020 and 2021, Report on 2022 RA State Budget Execution for a nine months period, EDRC calculations

As a result, it is expected to have improved indicators of school enrollment, physical accessibility of educational institutions (kindergarten and complete secondary schools) during the year concerned.

Table 14. Outcome indicators of budget programmes aimed at provision of educational needs of population

Classifier	Indicator	2021	2022*
1146	Number of students in general education classes	390,347	403,26
	Special general education, average number of students	533	611
	Specialized secondary education, average number of students per year	3,674	3,926
	Average number of children enrolled in preschool education	7,403	8,563
	Implementation of innovative pedagogical programmes in general education, number of students	6,872	3,200
1183	Number of institutions under major renovation	52	3
	Number of institutions under construction	2	2
	Number of modular buildings of general education schools with small number of children enrolled under construction	21	22
	Number of educational institutions providing high-school education under major renovation	14	3
	Number of educational institution for which gyms are being built /renovated	-	30
	Number of non-modular/special/modular schools provided with necessary furniture, equipment and supplies	-	9/1/16
1189	Number of schools under (re)construction (including those with enhanced seismic resistance)/ number of schools built	23	24/7

*Annual revised plan for a nine months period

Source: Report on RA State Budget Execution for 2021, Report on RA 2022 State Budget Execution for a nine months period, EDRC calculations

The budget programmes target a significant increase in accessibility of educational services already for 2024. 99% enrollment in compulsory education system, 70% enrollment in pre-school institutions, provision of sustainable school feeding to all preschool and primary school students in all schools of marzes etc. (Table 15).

Table 15. Main outcome indicators of budget programmes on quality and accessibility of education

Classifier	Indicator	Baseline indicator/2020	Target indicator/2024
1146	Enrollment in compulsory education system, percent	90	99
	Gross enrollment rate of 3–5-year-old children in preschool institutions, percent	61.3	70
	Proportion of students who have achieved at least a minimum level of proficiency in reading and math by the end of basic school, percent	87.7	100
	Share of teachers retrained	0	45
1183	Share of schools, providing sustainable school feeding to all preschool and primary school students in marzes of Armenia, percent	38	100
1189	Number of schools reconstructed in compliance with seismic safety standards	0	46

Source: Budget Message of the RA Government for 2022

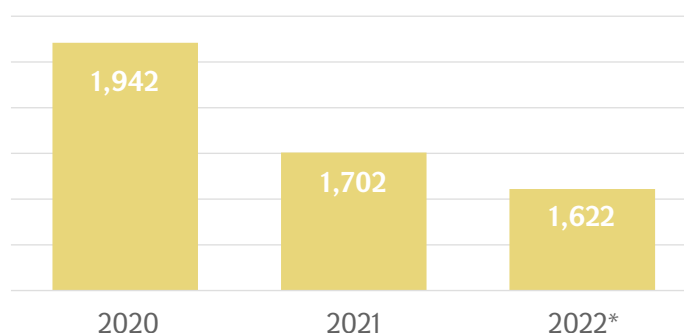
● Employment

The Employment programme (1088) implemented by the RA MLSA is focusing on the need for work and employment. The goal of the programme is to create relevant conditions for ensuring long-term or temporary employment of population. The programme targets to increase by 2024 the share of people involved

in the programme among those having received the status of an unemployed up to 58% as against the baseline indicator of 41.7%²⁷.

The project budget has increased by 154 million AMD in 2022, mainly due to implementation of new measures aimed at provision of employment (for details see Annex 2).

Figure 1. Employment programme funding, 2020-2022, AMD mln



*Annual revised plan for a nine months period

Source: Reports on RA State Budget Execution for 2020 and 2021, Report on 2022 RA State Budget Execution for a nine months period, EDRC calculations

27. Budget Message of the RA Government for 2022.

Figure 2. Structure of Employment Programme Funding in 2022, percent



*Annual revised plan for a nine months period

Source: RA 2022 State Budget Execution for a nine months period, EDRC calculations

Major part of resources within the frame of the programme (24.3%) is channeled to provision of support in engagement of persons non-competitive in labor market in cattle breeding, and 21,2% - to provision of nanny's services for

organizing childcare in parallel to work²⁸. Within the framework of the mentioned measures, 461 and 526 beneficiaries respectively will receive support in 2022.

Table 16. Beneficiaries of employment programmes

Beneficiaries	2021	2022*
Number of unemployed who have undergone vocational training, those, under the risk of dismissal, as well as number of jobseekers with six months left until the expiration of the term of imprisonment	487	-
Number of parents of children with disabilities who have undergone a vocational training	28	-
Unemployed, having received assistance in gaining professional work experience	353	367
Number of beneficiaries of the programme on organization of vocational training and ensuring employment of unemployed persons having taken part in armed hostilities unleashed by Azerbaijan in 2016 and 2020	-	200
Number of mothers without qualification and non-competitive in labor market having undergone an employer-provided training	106	-

28. The process of enrollment of new beneficiaries has been suspended since January 1, 2022. Contracts signed in 2020-2021 continue to be financed under the measure.

Persons non-competitive in labor market for the employment of which the employers have received a compensation	359	489
Farms having received support for promotion of seasonal employment	1,076	716
Beneficiaries of nanny's services provided for combining work and childcare	597	526
Unemployed engaged in paid public work	-	480
Persons non-competitive in labor market having received assistance to engage in cattle-breeding	475	461
Unemployed citizens of Artsakh displaced due to 44-day war and staying in Armenia having received support in gaining work experience	388	388
Unemployed citizens of Artsakh displaced due to 44-day war and staying in Armenia engaged in paid public work	85	10

*Annual revised plan for a nine months period
Source: RA 2022 State Budget Execution for a nine months period, EDRC calculations

● Healthcare

6 budget programmes have been identified within the RA state budget, which, according to the characteristics of multidimensional poverty, contribute to the decrease of population's need in health care. The funding allocated to these

programmes has increased by 1.2 bln AMD in 2022. The growth is mostly attributed to the increase of resources channeled to provision of healthcare services to vulnerable and special groups as well as to maternal and child healthcare.

Table 17. Budget programmes aimed at improving the health needs of the population

Classifier	Programme/Measure	2020	2021	2022*
		AMD mln		
1207	Medical care for vulnerable and special groups	25,983	34,066	35,039
1099	Primary healthcare	27,033	28,444	28,433
1188	Provision of medicines	3,314	3,869	3,880
1200	Maternal and child healthcare	16,971	19,246	19,602
1201	Emergency medical services	5,472	4,935	4,800
1191-11003**	Provision of medical services in regional healthcare institutions of the RA through temporary assignment of medical specialists	50	46	100
	Total	78,822	90,605	91,853

*Annual revised plan for a nine months period. **Programme and relevant measure classifier
Source: Reports on RA State Budget Execution for 2020 and 2021, Report on 2022 RA State Budget Execution for a nine months period, EDRC calculations

In 2022, decline in the number of beneficiaries receiving medical services was mostly observed. The only exception are the beneficiaries receiving free medicines through outpatient facilities, dispensaries or hospitals, with their number increasing by around 67,500.

There has been also a significant increase in the number of laboratory and instrumental examinations carried out during the prenatal and postnatal monitoring of pregnant women (around 173,000).

Table 18. Beneficiaries of budget programmes aimed at improving the health needs of the population

Classifier	Indicator	2021	2022*
1207	Number of cases of healthcare services use by socially disadvantaged individuals and those involved in special groups	259,873	182,707
	Number of cases in dental care	102,636	100,000
	The number of cases of seeking medical help by military personnel, as well as rescue servicemen and members of their families	57,361	62,469
	The rate of healthcare services uses by the employees of state agencies and organizations	28,866	12,377
1099	Number of populations registered with primary healthcare institutions	3,077,381	2,940,000
	Number of students receiving medical care and services at school	385,183	374,000
	Total number of people eligible to receive free or reduced-price prescription medicine	1,036,871	1,036,871
	Laboratory and instrumental examinations carried out during the prenatal and postnatal monitoring of pregnant women	701,232	874,000
	Laboratory and instrumental examinations in specialized medical centers to verify the diagnosis, number of examinations	195,230	105,000
1188	Number of patients receiving free medicines through outpatient facilities, dispensaries or hospitals	199,679	267,175
1200	Number of cases of using obstetric services	51,631	53,400
	Number of cases of using medical care services for children	89,889	89,700
	Number of cases of using the rehabilitation or treatment services for children with mental health (behavioral) disorders, hearing impairment, physical (locomotor) and other developmental disorders	91,782	92,969
1201	Number of ambulance calls	571,438	550,000
1191	Number of doctors sent to marzes	9	50

*Annual revised plan for a nine months period
Source: Report on RA State Budget Execution for 2021, Report on 2022 RA State Budget Execution for a nine months period, EDRC calculations

Thus, in 2022, 17.2% of the RA state budget or 382.0 billion drams will be provided for financing of budget programmes/measures having a direct impact on multidimensional poverty. It should be noted, that in the structure

of multidimensional poverty spending, the resources allocated to the need for education prevail amounting to 35.3%, and the resources channeled to the basic needs of the population make up 31.1%.

Table 19. Amount of budget financing with a potential impact on multidimensional poverty, 2020-2022

Aspects of multidimensional poverty	2020	2021	2022*	2022
	AMD mln			percent
Basic needs	99,176	110,599	118,904	31.1
Housing conditions	27,979	29,426	34,619	9.1
Need for education	103,998	108,875	134,785	35.3
Need for work and employment	1,942	1,702	1,856	0.5
Need for healthcare	78,822	90,605	91,853	24.0
Total, mln AMD	311,917	341,207	382,017	100
Total, percentage in state budget	16.5	17.0	17.2	

*Annual revised plan for a nine months period
 Reports on RA State Budget Execution for 2020 and 2021, Report on 2022 RA State Budget Execution for a nine months period, EDRC calculations

3.3. Community Budgets and Poverty Reduction Potential

As the level, dynamics and structure of community budget revenues show, communities are characterized with a low economic potential of revenue generation. Although, in general, the growth of total community revenues in 2022 is expected to

reach 21.4%, amounting to AMD 209.5 billion, in beneficiary marzes the growth is smaller making up 4.8% and 2.4% in Lori and Shirak marzes, respectively; in Tavush it will reduce by 3.1% (see Table 20).

Table 20. Breakdown of total community budgets revenues, AMD mln

	Lori			Tavush			Shirak			RA		
	2020	2021	2022 ²⁹	2020	2021	2022	2020	2021	2022	2020	2021	2022
Total revenues	10,252	11,343	11,890	4,980	5,817	5,634	9,741	10,738	10,997	154,028	172,466	209,452
Own-source revenues	2,313	2,799	3,136	1,013	1,343	1,506	2,267	2,876	3,578	46,270	57,839	66,012
Transfers from state budget	7,585	8,056	8,023	3,880	4,387	4,122	7,383	7,764	7,390	79,364	83,565	89,496
Donations	5,829	6,587	6,328	2,991	3,738	3,768	5,732	6,498	6,467	58,427	64,594	64,347
Subventions	1,756	1,469	1,695	888	650	353	1,651	1,266	922	20,937	18,971	25,149
Official external transfers	8	11	57	2	7	0	1	6	8	357	370	2,190
Other revenues	346	477	674	85	80	6	90	92	21	28,037	30,692	51,754

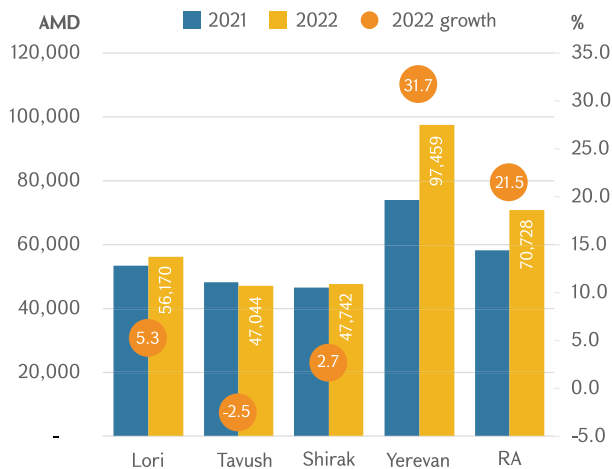
*2022, annual adjusted plan as of the first semester
 Source: RA MTAI and EDRC calculations

29. Vanadzor community revenues in 2022 Lori marz budget revenues is assumed to be equal to 2021 actual revenues, as the planning for Vanadzor community revenues is missing <https://mtad.am/pages/budgetary-revenues-ra-communities>:

In 2022, per capita community revenues grew in all marzes of the RA, except for Tavush, where they declined by 2.5%. In general, Tavush and Shirak marzes are the communities generating the lowest per capita revenues, in succession to Ararat and Armavir marzes. The average national level of per capita community revenues makes up AMD 70,728, which exceeds the level of the previous year by 21.5%. For comparison, it should be noted that in Yerevan the level of per capita community revenues amounts to AMD 97,500.

The share of own-source revenues of the

Figure 3. Per capita total community revenues



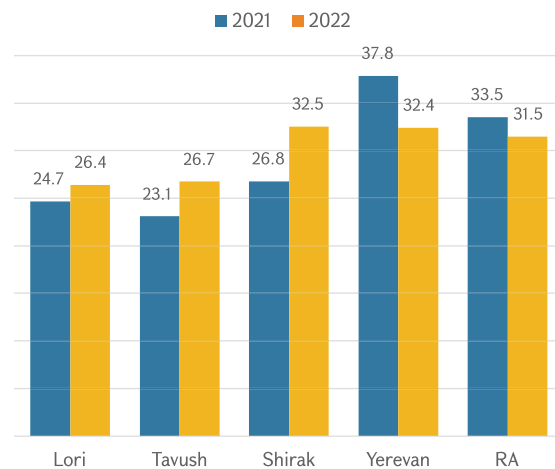
*2022, annual adjusted plan as of the first semester
Sources: RA MTAI and EDRC calculations

In the structure of grants, more than 97.6% are internal grants, i.e. government donations and subventions provided to the communities from the state budget. The level of external grants is very low and makes up only AMD 2.2 billion, this exceeding the 2021 level by more than 6 times.

The share of internal grants amounts to mere 42.7% of community revenues, in case of Yerevan it makes up 19.2%; the average marz level is 67.3%.

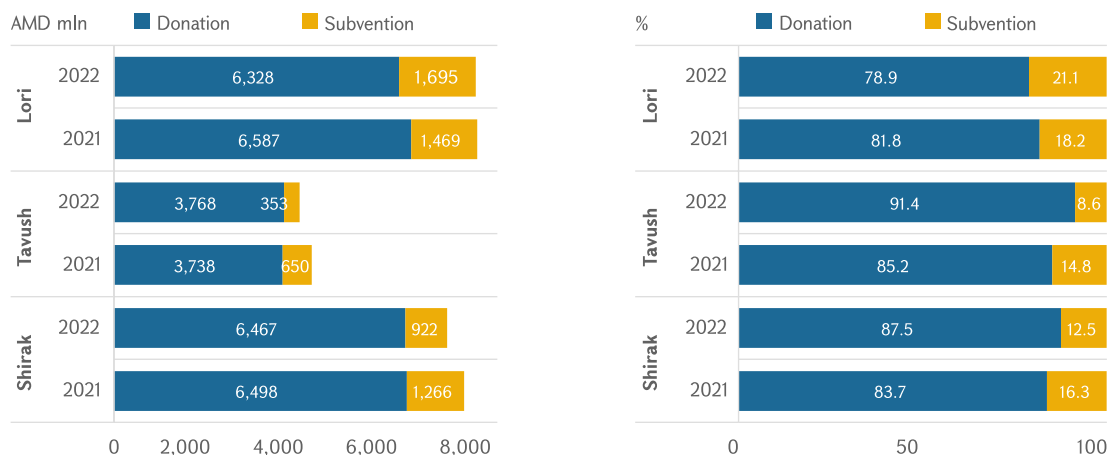
communities in total revenues stand at 31.5% for RA, which is 2.0 percentage points less than the level in the previous year. With regard to beneficiary marzes, the share of own-source revenues of Shirak makes up 32.5%, in Lori and Tavush marzes the revenues are relatively low reaching 26.4% and 26.7% respectively. It should be noted that the share of own-source revenues in all three marzes increased as compared with the previous year. However, the level of own-source revenues in beneficiary marzes, particularly in Lori and Tavush is low. It is worth mentioning that the highest level is recorded in Ararat, Armavir and Kotayk marzes.

Figure 4. Share of community own-source revenues in the structure of total community revenues, percent



Donations prevail in the structure of internal grants, the volume as well as the share of which has reduced. The volume of subventions shows an opposite trend. In 2022, subventions provided to communities from state budget will increase for about 32.6% amounting to AMD 25.1 billion. Despite the trends common to the whole republic, the volume of subventions in Shirak and Tavush marzes has reduced by 27.2% and 45.6%, respectively. The volume of subventions in Lori grew by 15.4%.

Figure 5. Structure of internal grants of summarized community budgets, 2021 and 2022

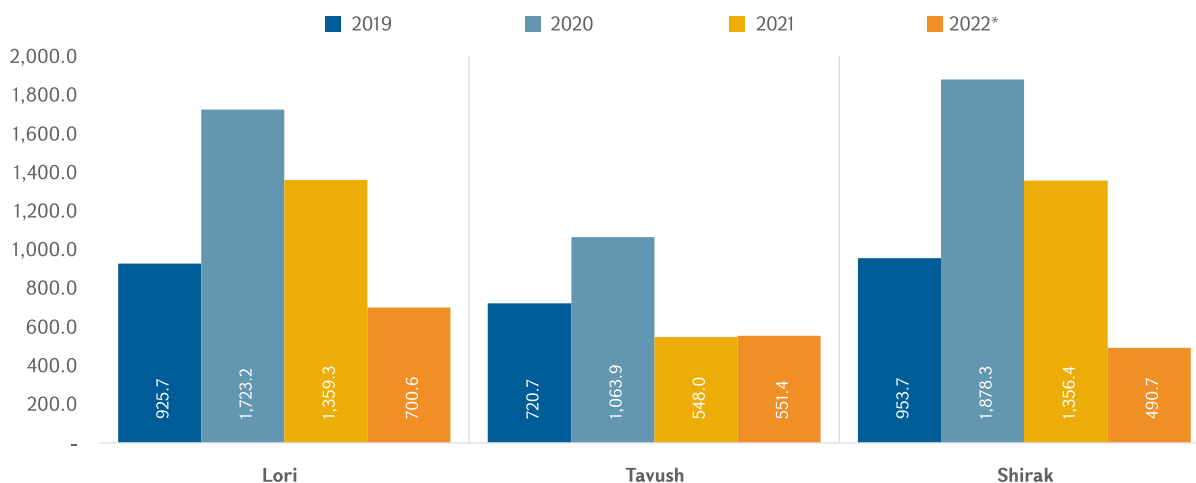


*2022, annual adjusted plan as of the first semester
Sources: RA MTAI and EDRC calculations

As opposed to the levels targeted for 2022 by community budgets of the RA, according to subvention programmes approved by the Government of the RA in 2022, the volume of subvention financing in beneficiary marzes is lower than the average annual levels for 2019-2021. Programmes with a total value of AMD 700.6

million have been approved during the year concerned in Lori. In Shirak this indicator makes up AMD 490.7 million and in Tavush it reaches AMD 551.4 million. It should be noted that the highest volume of subvention programme financing was recorded in 2020 (see Figure 6).

Figure 6. Comparison of state subvention financing for 2019-2022, AMD mln



*2022 as of 15 October 2022
Sources: RA Government Decrees and EDRC calculations

The implemented subvention programmes have a potential of multidimensional poverty reduction. In Lori and Shirak, more than 90% of programmes implemented in 2022 may be considered as programmes having impact on multidimensional poverty. In case of Tavush, all financed programmes are programmes of this

category. It should be noted that in all three marzes the share of programmes aimed at construction and rehabilitation of community roads is big. Next come the programmes of street lighting systems, construction and rehabilitation of drinking water supply and sewerage systems (see Table 21).

Table 21. Subvention programmes implemented in beneficiary marzes, 2021 and 2022, AMD mln

Sector/Field	Lori		Tavush		Shirak	
	2021	2022*	2021	2022*	2021	2022*
Construction/renovation of street lighting systems	135.6	102.1	5.1	172.6	41.5	39.6
Construction/ rehabilitation of roads	354.8	194.5	388.3	328.5	529.7	376.1
Construction /rehabilitation of drinking water supply and sewerage systems	87.3	168.4	-	25.8	84.9	16.7
Rehabilitation of common shared ownership parts of multi-apartment buildings and increasing energy efficiency	246.0	50.4	109.9	24.6	12.8	-
Gasification of apartments	151.1	43.0	-	-	-	13.0
Procurement of buses	-	-	-	-	441.0	-
Construction and rehabilitation of kindergartens	-	78.3	-	-	93.0	-
Other	384.5	63.8	44.6	-	153.6	45.3
Total	1,359.3	700.6	548.0	551.4	1,356.4	490.7

*2022 as of 15 October 2022

Sources: RA Government Decrees and EDRC calculations

The largest functional direction of community expenditure in beneficiary marzes is “General public services”, to which 25.5% of spending is allocated, the respective indicator at the national level is lower, standing at 17.9%. This means that most of expenditures are channeled to community administration maintenance and the salaries of community employees. It should be noted that the share of these expenditure has shown a reducing trends during the recent years.

This is followed by functional sectors of “Education”, “Housing construction and utility services” and “Economic relations”. Almost in all marzes, economic sector expenditures are mainly directed to the group of “Transportation”.

As to expenditures in education sector, the major part goes to “Pre-school education”.

Budget resources channeled to implementation of social programmes in the communities of beneficiary marzes make up about 1%. Almost no health programme is implemented in the communities. In Tavush marz, the share of budget expenditure aimed at education programmes is big and reaches 30.5%, at the same time the share of economic programmes is small. The structure of expenditure in Shirak and Lori are different as compared with Tavush. In these marzes, the share of resources allocated to economic programmes is relatively high.

Table 22. The structure of total expenditures of community budgets, percent

	Lori			Tavush			Shirak			RA		
	2020	2021	2022*	2020	2021	2022*	2020	2021	2022*	2020	2021	2022*
Total expenditure	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Social protection	2.0	1.1	0.9	1.7	1.4	1.0	2.5	1.5	1.1	2.2	1.7	1.3
Education	25.3	23.2	18.2	29.8	29.4	30.5	16.8	16.6	17.5	36.0	31.6	26.6
Preschool education	52.5	58.1	71.9	69.1	70.2	62.6	71.3	75.1	76.6	39.2	45.6	46.9
Healthcare	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0					0.0	0.3	0.3	0.4
Leisure, culture and religion	9.8	9.6	11.4	6.6	6.6	7.8	16.1	15.9	14.0	6.4	6.6	6.2
Housing construction and utility services	13.6	15.3	16.9	6.9	11.0	15.7	8.3	11.2	10.9	9.7	9.4	10.5
Economic relations	9.6	14.0	19.4	12.0	8.0	5.4	16.6	22.1	19.4	7.8	14.0	20.9
Agriculture	11.9	26.1	10.7	2.2	15.4	16.1	9.4	7.2	5.0	18.2	10.7	7.0
Fuel and energy	16.1	12.1	6.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.7	5.7	1.1	9.0	12.2	8.6
Transport	129.1	120.8	108.5	176.4	228.6	247.7	113.7	122.4	101.2	247.3	198.6	113.4
Nature protection	8.3	9.7	5.6	13.7	13.8	10.0	8.2	7.2	7.6	12.2	10.9	9.9
General public services	31.2	27.1	25.5	29.0	29.5	24.2	31.0	25.2	26.7	22.2	21.0	17.9
Other	0.1	0.0	2.2	0.3	0.2	5.4	0.4	0.2	2.8	3.2	4.5	6.3
Total expenditure, AMD mln	9,118.1	11,641.5	10,142.2	4,819.4	5,523.3	6,858.4	8,503.3	11,151.0	13,255.0	132,479.4	173,106.0	247,652.0

*2022, annual adjusted plan as of the first semester

Sources: RA MTAI and EDRC calculations



SNAPSHOT OF THE POPULATION



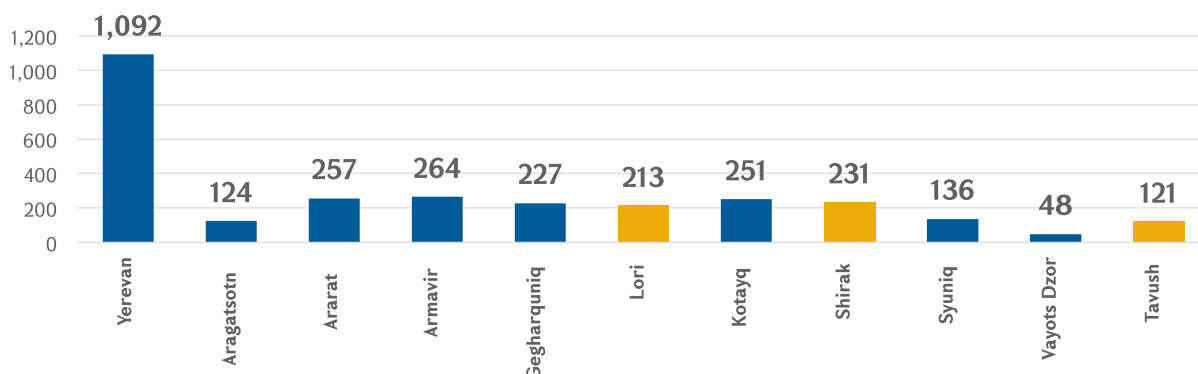
4.1. Demographics



19% of the population of Armenia or 30% of the population of marzes are concentrated in Lori, Shirak and Tavush marzes. The population of

Lori makes up 7.2%, the population of Shirak makes up 7.8% and the population of Tavush makes up 4.1% of the population of the Republic.

Figure 7. RA population breakdown per marzes, as of beginning 2021, thousand people

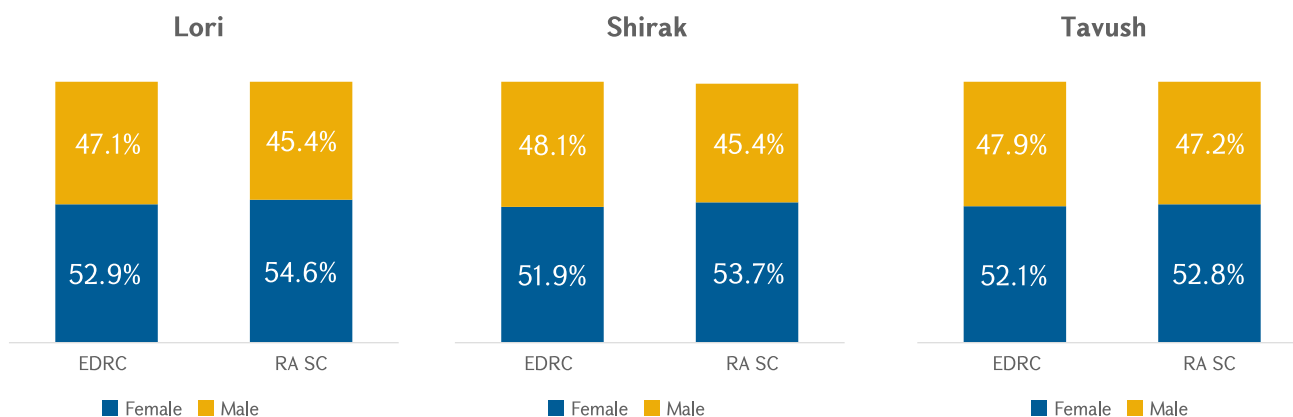


Source: RA SC Population Census and Demography database

Distribution of the population by gender and age in beneficiary marzes are not significantly different. Moreover, the results of the survey

almost match with the official data published by the Statistical Committee of the RA.

Figure 8. Breakdown of the population of Lori, Shirak and Tavush marzes per gender

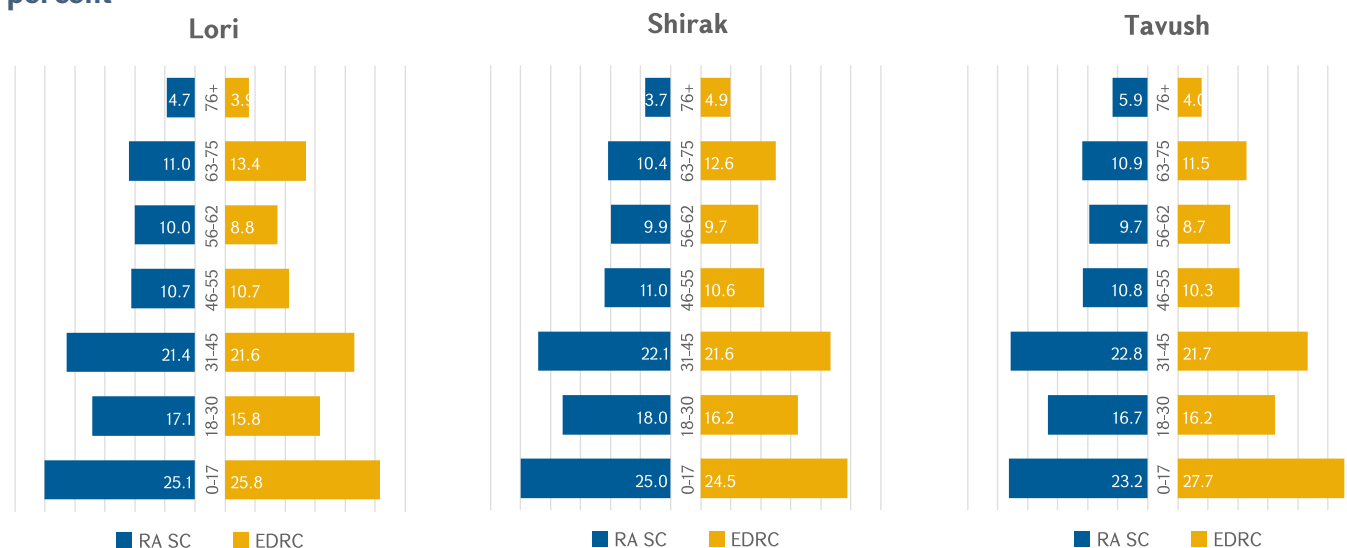


Source: EDRC BWP Survey, RA SC Population Census and Demography database

Persons under 18, as well as those of the age of 31-45 dominate in the population structure of all three marzes. The gender breakdown of

the population is almost equal, females being a little bit more than males.

Figure 9. Breakdown of the population of Lori, Shirak and Tavush marzes per age and gender, percent



Source: EDRC BWP Survey, RA SC Population Census and Demography database

According to the results of the BWP survey, the average HH consists of 4.2 members, in particular the number of average household members in Lori marz - makes up 3.9%, in Shirak marz - 4.0% and in Tavush marz - 4.6%. HHs with children make up only 53.5% of total

number of HHs, where the average number of children is 1.9. HHs with two and more children make up only 34.8%. Moreover, these families dominate in Tavush marz with indicator of 40.4%.

Table 23. The structure of HHs in Lori, Shirak and Tavush marzes, percent

	Lori	Shirak	Tavush	Total
Number of members of HHs				
Average number of members of HHs, person	3.9	4.0	4.6	4.2
Average number of children in HHs, child	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9
Presence of children				
HHs with children	49.1	48.4	63.1	53.5
HHs with 1 child	17.2	16.3	22.7	18.7
HHs with 2 and more children	31.9	32.1	40.4	34.8
Presence of elderly				
HHs with elderly	52.5	52.5	51.5	52.2
HHs with 1 elderly	38.5	35.3	33.0	35.6
HHs with 2 and more elderlies	14.1	17.2	18.5	16.6
HHs only of elderlies	14.9	12.6	7.5	11.7
Presence of persons with disabilities (DP)				
HHs with persons with disabilities	21.6	24.0	30.7	25.4
HHs with 1 person with disabilities	17.8	21.1	26.6	21.8
HHs with 2 and more persons with disabilities	3.8	2.9	4.1	3.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

*child - under 16, elderly - 63 years and older
Source: EDRC, BWP Survey

Families consisting only of elderly make up 11.7% of beneficiary marzes. Moreover, the share of these HHs is smaller in Tavush marz

making up 7.5% and almost twice bigger in Lori marz equaling 14.9%. Families having persons with disabilities make up 25.4%.

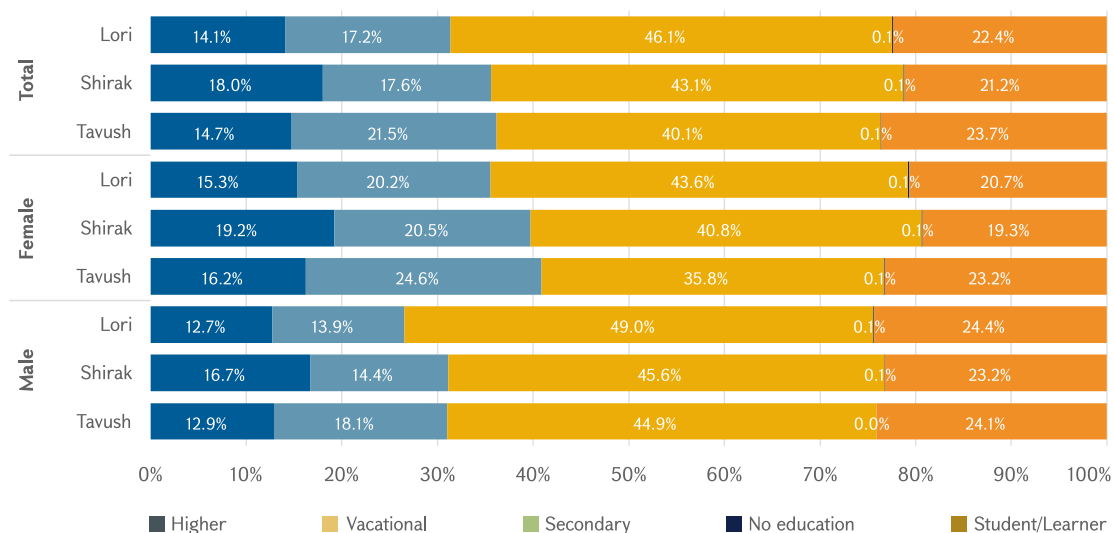
4.2. Level of Education

The level of education is relatively higher in Shirak Marz, 18.0% of the total population has higher education. In case of Lori and Tavush, the population having higher education makes up 14.1% and 14.7%, respectively. The population with vocational education dominates in Tavush marz – making up 21.5%, as to Shirak and Lori

marzes, the same indicator equals 17.6% and 17.2% respectively.

The level of education of females in all three marzes is high; the share of females with vocational and higher education exceeds the same indicator for males.

Figure 10. Level of education per beneficiary marzes and gender, population above 6 years old



Source: EDRC, BWP Survey

4.3. Unemployment and Employment

Unemployment rate is relatively low in Shirak marz making up 24.7%, in Lori and Tavush marz the recorded indicator is the same making up 27.1%.

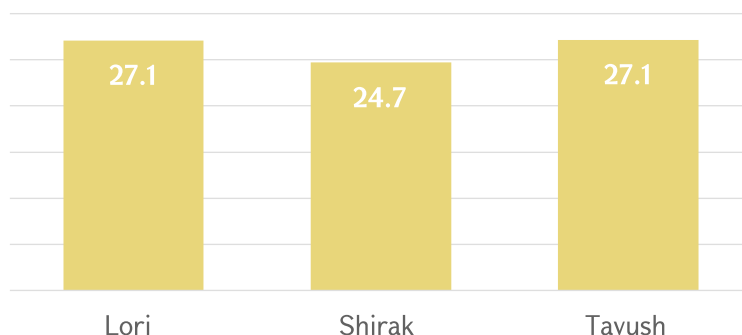
19.4% of the unemployed³⁰ has higher education, 24.1% has vocational education and the remaining 56.4% – secondary education. It is worth to note that despite the fact that the

30. Individuals classified under the “labor force” economic category were considered unemployed if they identified themselves as such, regardless of whether they actively searched for a job during the past month.

unemployment is relatively low for those having higher education, 22.6% of them nevertheless are unemployed. The unemployment rate of persons with vocational education is 25.8%,

and this indicator is relatively higher for the persons having secondary education, making up 28.7% (see Table 24).

Figure 11. Unemployment rates per beneficiary marzes, percent



Source: EDRC, BWP Survey

Table 24. Demographic and educational structure of unemployed, percent

	Lori	Shirak	Tavush	Total
Level of education				
Higher	17.9	20.6	19.8	19.4
Vocational	21.8	23.6	26.4	24.1
Secondary	60.3	55.9	53.8	56.4
Gender structure				
Male	25.7	20.6	25.7	24.1
Female	74.3	79.4	74.3	75.9
Age structure				
17-30	32.0	30.1	33.6	32.0
31-45	37.8	38.1	41.3	39.3
46-55	14.8	14.5	12.5	13.8
56-62	14.3	16.5	11.3	13.8
63+	1.2	0.8	1.3	1.1
Total unemployed	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Source: EDRC, BWP Survey

Persons under 45 dominate in the total number of unemployed. In particular, 32% of unemployed is the population within the range of 17-30 age group, and 39.3% is the population of 31-45 age group.

Most of the unemployed people, 75.9% are female, and 24.1% are males. The unemployment rate among females and males make up 35.7% and 14.4% respectively.

The lowest rate of unemployment occurred in a rural communities of Shirak marz with 16.7%, and the highest rate occurred in urban communities of Lori marz, making up 37.7%.

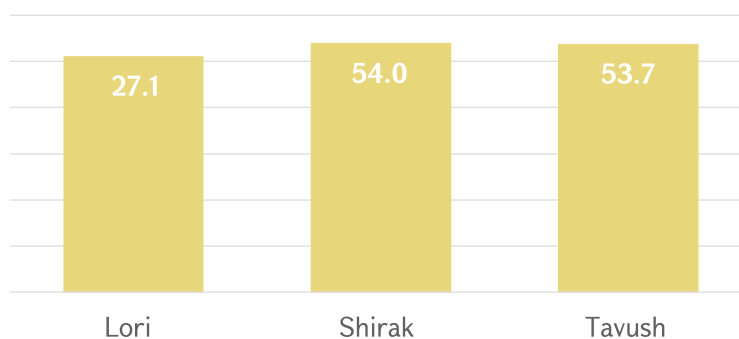
The highest unemployment rate for females occurred in Tavshuh marz, and the lowest unemployment rate for males occurred in Shirak marz.

Table 25. Unemployment rate per groups of population, percent (the standard error is indicated in brackets)

	Lori	Shirak	Tavush	Total
Village	19.1 (± 2.41)	16.7 (± 2.30)	25.3 (± 2.18)	20.7 (± 1.32)
Town	37.7 (± 2.58)	35.7 (± 2.58)	29.4 (± 2.38)	33.8 (± 1.45)
Male	16.7 (± 2.57)	12.0 (± 2.48)	14.7 (± 2.32)	14.4 (± 1.42)
Female	34.5 (± 2.42)	34.0 (± 2.39)	38.3 (± 2.23)	35.7 (± 1.35)
Higher	23.9 (± 4.89)	19.6 (± 4.23)	24.6 (± 4.40)	22.6 (± 2.59)
Vocational	26.8 (± 4.42)	25.1 (± 4.29)	25.6 (± 3.64)	25.8 (± 2.35)
Secondary	28.6 (± 2.71)	27.7 (± 2.74)	29.7 (± 2.68)	28.7 (± 1.57)

Source: EDRC, BWP survey

Figure 12. Employment rate per beneficiary marzes, percent



Source: EDRC, BWP Survey

The average employment rate in beneficiary marzes makes up 53%.

The share of employed in own farms and state/community institutions is high, making up 35.2% and 30.5% respectively. Moreover, the employment rate in own farms is high particularly in Lori marz (41.0%), self-employment is relatively high in Shirak (14.1%), and the employment in state/community institutions and in other private sectors is high in Tavush (33.8% and 21.2%).

The population of 31-45 age group dominates in the number of employed population, making up 35%, followed by 46-55 age group with 18% rate and then 15-30 age group with 17.3% rate.

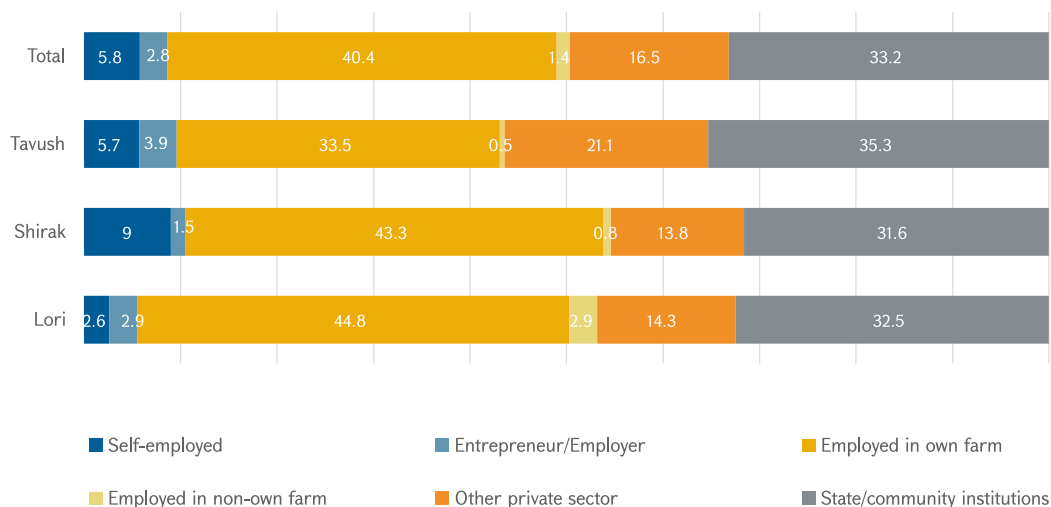
In general, males dominate in the total number of employed population, making up 51.2%. Females dominate in the structure of employed population in Lori and Shirak marzes. In Tavush marz the situation is the opposite, males making up 55.4% of employed population.

Table 26. Employment per marzes, percent

	Lori	Shirak	Tavush	Total
Employment				
Self-employed	5.8	14.1	13.4	11.4
Entrepreneur/employer	4.0	2.3	3.7	3.3
Employed in own farm	41.0	38.5	27.7	35.2
Employed in non-own farm	3.0	0.7	0.4	1.2
Other private sector	17.2	16.3	21.2	18.4
State/community institutions	29.0	28.1	33.8	30.5
Gender structure				
Male	47.7	49.5	55.4	51.2
Female	52.3	50.5	44.6	48.8
Age structure				
15 ³¹ -30	15.6	17.9	18.0	17.3
31-45	35.5	34.8	34.8	35.0
46-55	17.9	17.4	18.6	18.0
56-62	15.1	14.7	13.9	14.5
63+	15.8	15.1	14.8	15.2
Total employed	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Source: EDRC, BWP Survey

Figure 13. Employment of females per sectors, percent in total number of females



Source: EDRC, BWP Survey

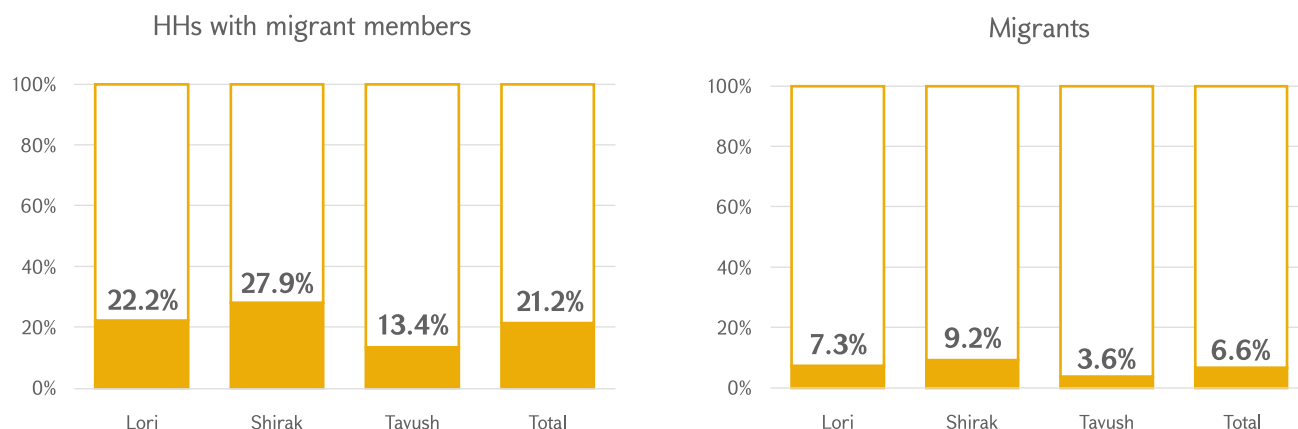
31. Since 2020 in the framework of labour force survey carried out by the SC of the RA, the “working-age population” is defined as the population aged 15 and more, without setting an upper threshold.

4.4. Migration

21.2% of the surveyed HHs have migrants. Moreover, in 4.5% of these HHs, two and more members of them are migrants.

In general, 6.6% of the population of beneficiary marzes are migrants:

Figure 14. Migration per beneficiary marzes



Source: EDRC, BWP Survey

90% of migrants are foreign migrants. Shirak marz stands out with its high rate of migration to foreign countries, the indicator being equal to 8.3%; the same indicator in Lori and Tavush marzes makes up 6.7% and 3.1% respectively.

Females make up 13.1% of migrants. In particular, in case of domestic migration, females make up 23.1% of migrants, and in

case of external migration they make up 12.0%. Most of migrants, i.e. 64.9% are in 18-45 age group (28.4% – in 18-30 age group, 36.5% – in 31-45 age group). Moreover, if in case of domestic migration persons aged 18-30 dominate with 47.7% rate, for external migration the dominating age group is 31-45, with 37.8% rate.

Table 27. Breakdown of migrants per gender and age group, percent

	Lori	Shirak	Tavush	Total	
Direction of migration (percent of population)					
Migration	7.3	9.2	3.6	6.6	
Domestic	0.6	0.9	0.5	0.7	
External	6.7	8.3	3.1	5.9	
Gender structure (percent of migration)					
Domestic	Males	55.6	85.7	84.2	76.9
	Females	44.4	14.3	15.8	23.1
External	Males	86.8	90.6	83.8	88.0
	Females	13.2	9.4	16.2	12.0

Age structure (percent of migrants)						
Domestic	18-30	44.4	50.0	47.4	47.7	
	31-45	27.8	25.0	21.1	24.6	
	46-55	11.1	14.3	10.5	12.3	
	56-62	11.1	3.6	21.1	10.8	
	63+	5.6	7.1	0.0	4.6	
External	Under 18	3.4	1.5	4.5	2.7	
	18-30	27.0	28.1	20.7	26.3	
	31-45	37.7	35.2	44.1	37.8	
	46-55	21.6	20.6	16.2	20.1	
	56-62	5.9	11.6	5.4	8.4	
	63+	4.4	3.0	9.0	4.6	

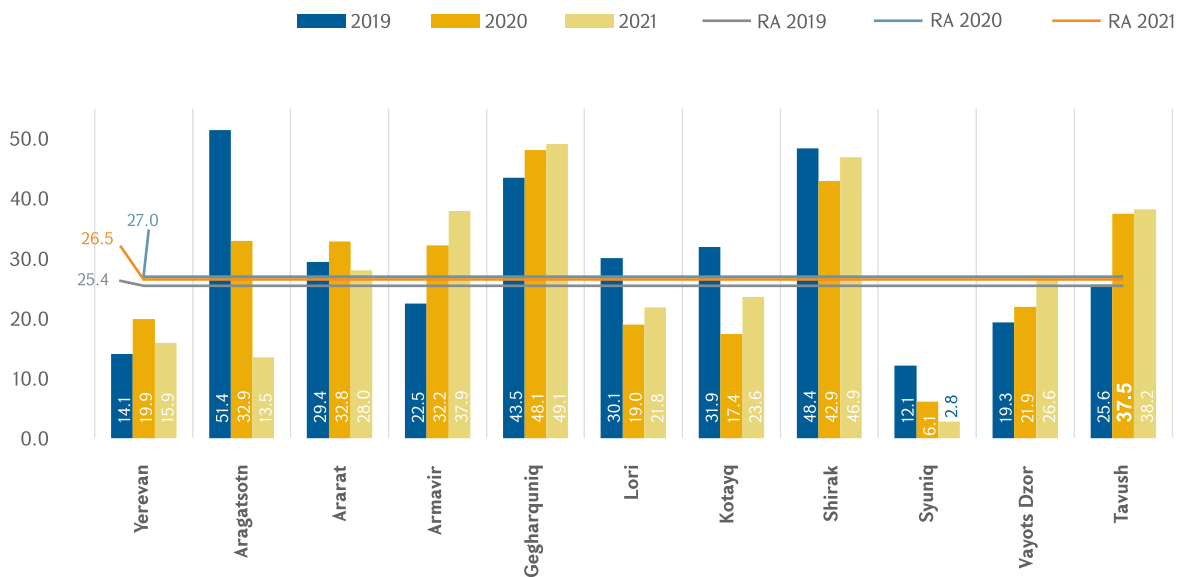
Source: EDRC, BWP Survey

4.5. Incomes and Welfare

According to official data, the poverty rate in the Republic in 2021 has reduced for 0.5 percentage point and reached from 27.0 to 26.5%. The fluctuations of poverty rate in

beneficiary marzes are rather big. The poverty rate in Lori, Shirak and Tavush marzes made up 21.8, 46.9 and 38.2% respectively. The poverty has deepened in all three marzes.

Figure 15. Poverty per marzes, 2019-2021, percent

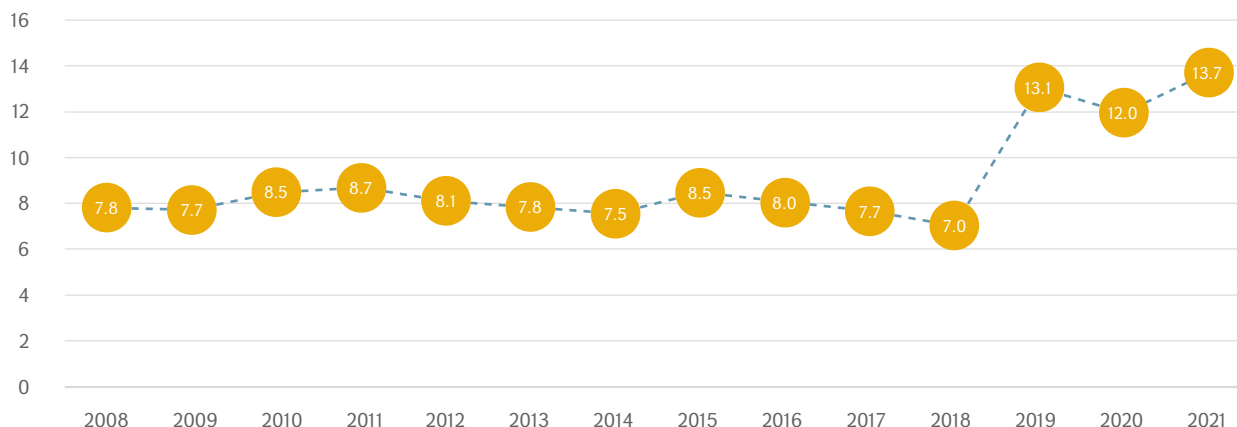


Source: RA SC, Social snapshot and poverty in Armenia 2021 and 2022

In general, the standard deviation of poverty rate in the marzes of the Republic³² in 2019-

2021 being drastically increased as compared with the previous years.

Figure 16. Standard deviation of poverty rate in marzes, 2015-2021, percentage rate



Source: RA SC and EDRC calculations

According to subjective responses of the interviewed HHs, the poverty rate is lower in Shirak and Tavush marzes. In 2020, 20.2% HHs of Lori marz, 14.2% HHs of Shirak marz and 22.2% HHs of Tavush marz considered themselves as poor.

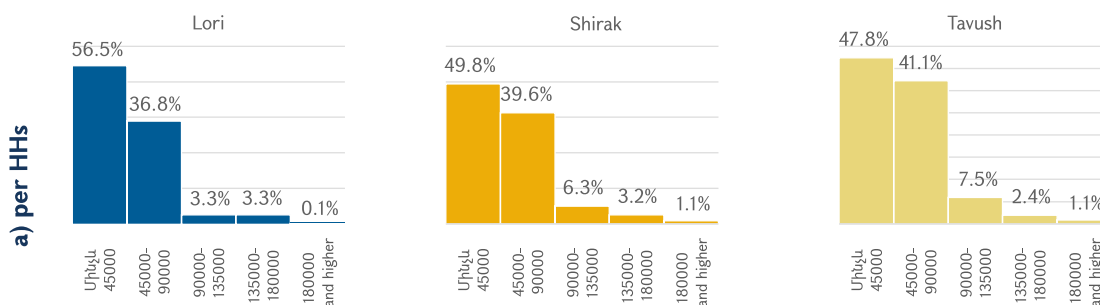
According to the HHs per capita income distribution functions, population of relatively low income groups dominates in Lori marz. For 56.5% of Lori marz HHs or for 69.7% of population, per capita income does not exceed

AMD 45,000. The same indicator in Shirak and Tavush marzes makes up 49.8% and 47.8% respectively.

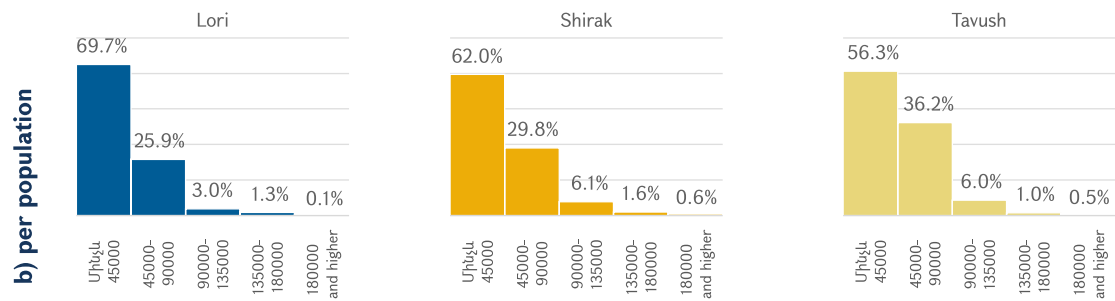
Per capita income exceeds AMD 90,000 only for 6.7% of Lori marz HHs or 4.4% of population. In Shirak, the same indicators make up 10.6% and 8.2%, and in Tavush they make up 11.1% and 7.5%.

The income distribution curves also indicate a relatively low rate of inequality in Lori marz.

Figure 17. Per capita income distribution curves



32. Yerevan and Marzes.

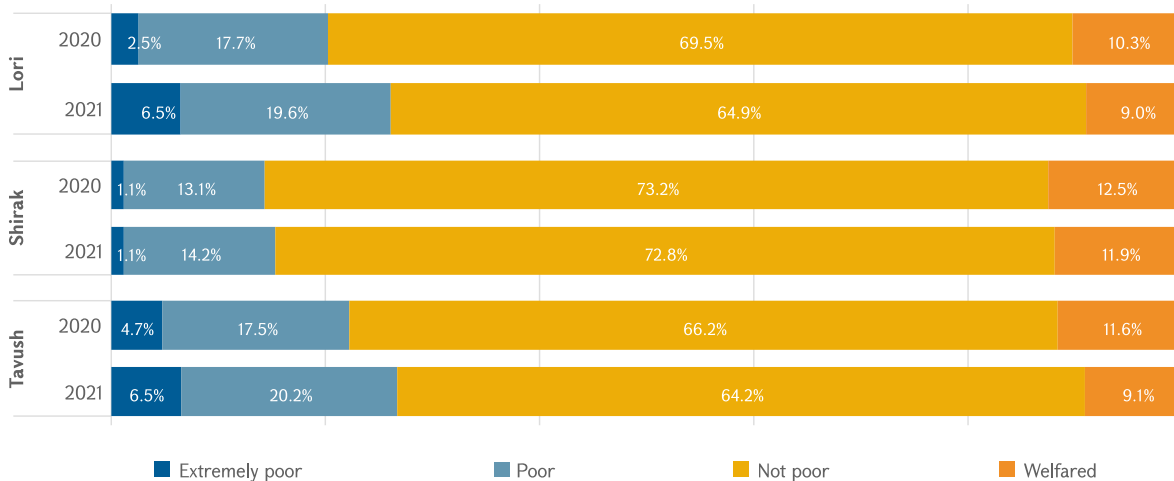


Source: EDRC, BWP Survey

It is worth to note that according to estimations of the HHs the poverty has aggravated in all three marzes in 2021. The share of HHs who considered themselves as “poor” or “extremely poor” increased by 5.8 percentage point in Lori, by 1.0 percentage point in Shirak, and by

4.5 percentage point in Tavush. At the same time, the share of HHs who consider themselves “welfared” decreased by 1.3 percentage points in Lori, by 0.6 percentage points in Shirak, and by 2.5 percentage points in Tavush.

Figure 18. Subjective self-assessment of HHs living standards, percent



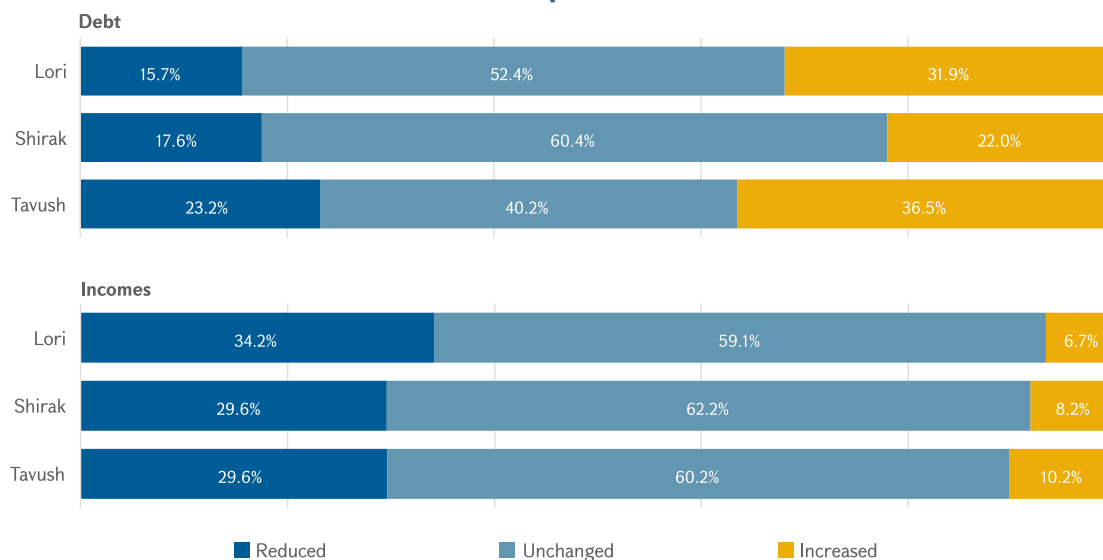
Source: EDRC, BWP Survey

The aggravation of living standards of HHs has been accompanied with reduction of the size of income and the growth of debt obligations. In Lori marz, the incomes reduced for 34.2% of HHs, the debt obligations grew for 31.9% of HHs. At the same time 6.7% of HHs report on the growth of incomes and 15.7% of HHs – on

the reduction of debt obligations.

The share of HHs having recorded growth of incomes and reduction of debt obligations is relatively big in Shirak and Tavush marzes. Moreover, the positive trends are more significant in Tavush.

Figure 19. Assessment of HHs incomes and debt, percent

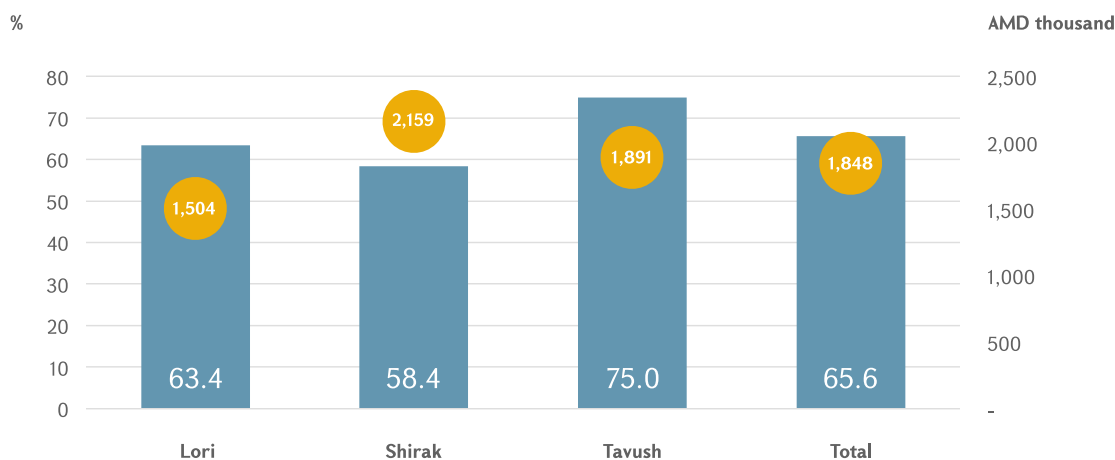


Source: EDRC, BWP Survey

In general, the population of Lori, Tavush and Shirak marzes is overburdened with debt obligations. 65.6% of HHs have credit or debt obligations. Moreover, the average amount of debt obligations per HH makes up AMD 1.85

million. Although the most HHs having debt are residing in Tavush, making up 75.0%, the average value of debt is bigger in Shirak, making up about AMD 2.2 million.

Figure 20. HHs having debt obligations and the average amount of debt

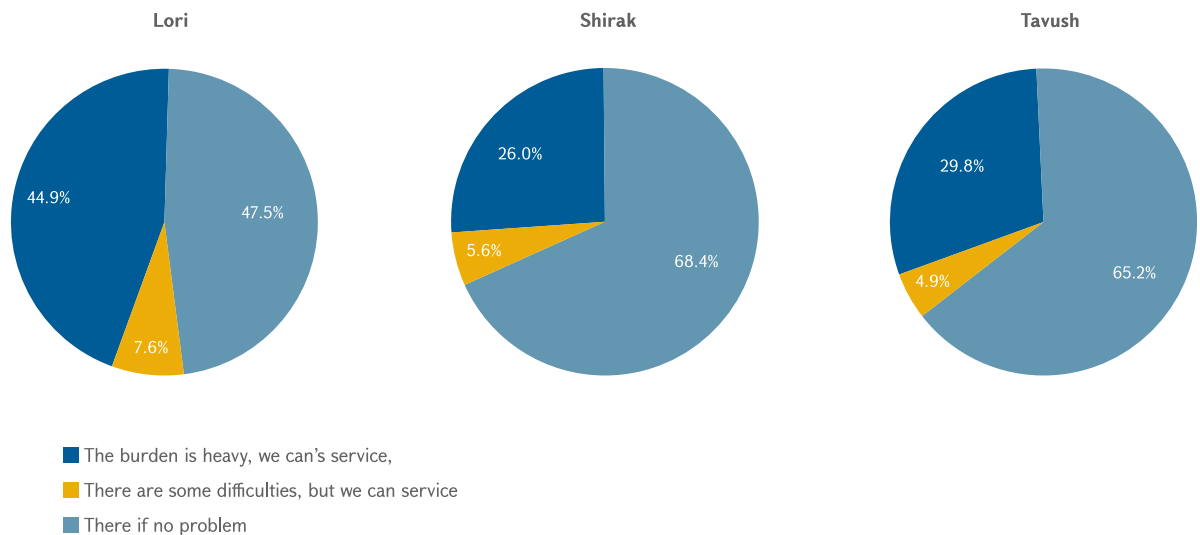


Source: EDRC, BWP Survey

Reasons for the debt and credit liabilities increase are various. The most wide-spread reasons are the healthcare expenses, expenses for building/acquiring/repairing the dwelling, acquiring HH equipment, agricultural and educational expenses, often also current expenses.

The burden of serving the debt is estimated bigger in Lori marz, i.e. 44.9% of HHs. In Shirak and Tavush marzes, 29.8% and 26% of HHs, respectively, have indicated that the debt burden is heavy and that they are not capable to serve it.

Figure 21. Subjective assessment of debt servicing capacities, percent

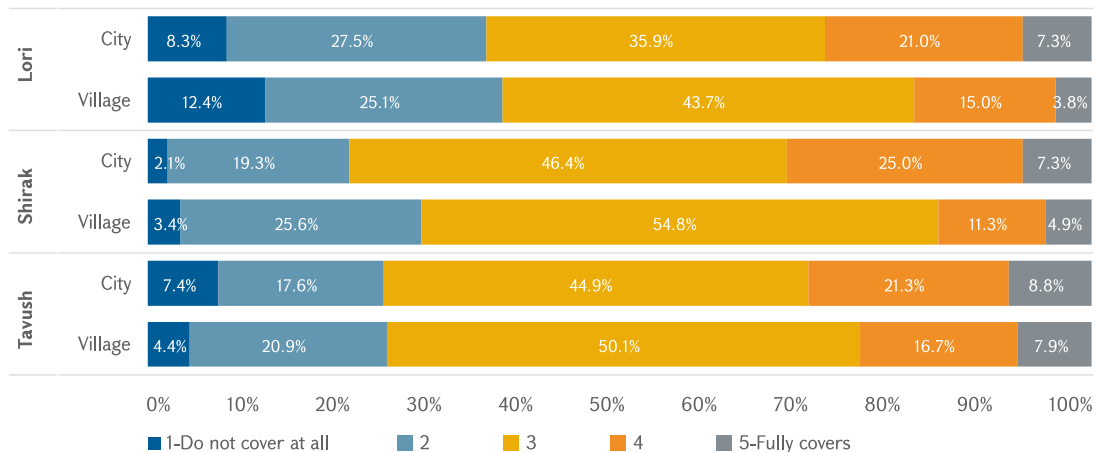


Source: EDRC, BWP Survey

The results of the survey proved that about 29% of HHs of beneficiary marzes are malnourished: they “at all” or “almost at all” are unable to cover expenses on food for their HHs. The

situation is relatively more acute in Lori marz, where 37.6% of rural communities and 35.9% of urban communities are “at all” or “almost at all” unable to cover their expenses on food.

Figure 22. Assessment of coverage of food expenses, percent

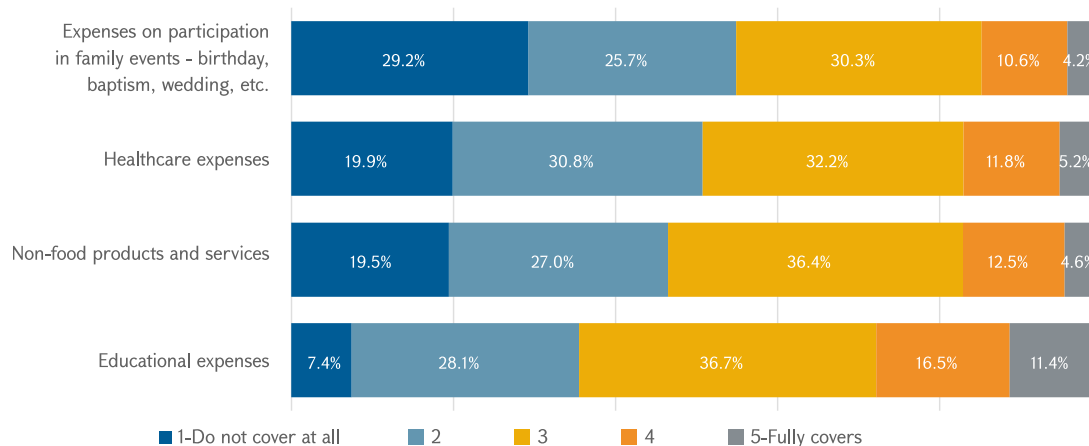


Source: EDRC, BWP Survey

About 55% of HHs “at all” or “almost” do not make any expenses on participation in family events, and 51% – healthcare expenses. In case of expenses on dressing and non-food products

and services, the same indicator makes up more than 46%, and for educational expenses it makes up 35%.

Figure 23. Assessment of coverage of selected expenses, percent



Source: EDRC, BWP Survey

According to the results of the BWP Survey, HHs assessed as poor (having per capita income up to AMD 45,000) are relatively big HHs. On average, in Lori marz poor HHs consist of 4.8 members, in Shirak marz - of 5.0 members and in Tavush marz - of 5.4 members. In most

cases, i.e. in 72.9% of HHs has children under 16; moreover 18.7% of these HHs are multi-child HHs.

50.2% of poor HHs have elderly and 28.1% HHs have persons with disabilities.

Table 28. Structure of poor HHs, percent

	Lori	Shirak	Tavush	Total
Number of HHs members				
Average number of HHs members	4.8	5.0	5.4	5.1
Average number of children in HHs	2.0	2.0	2.1	2.0
Presence of children				
HHs with children	67.5	72.6	79.7	72.9
HHs with 1 child	22.2	22.3	23.8	22.7
HHs with 2 and more children	29.6	33.8	31.3	31.5
HHs with 3 and more children	15.7	16.5	24.6	18.7
Presence of elderly				
HHs with elderly	48.4	49.5	52.9	50.2
HHs with 1 elderly	33.0	32.7	34.2	33.3
HHs with 2 and more elderly	15.5	16.8	18.7	16.9
HHs only of elderly	4.7	2.0	1.6	2.9
Presence of persons with disabilities				
HHs with members with disabilities	23.8	25.9	35.6	28.1
HHs with 1 member with disabilities	20.6	22.6	29.9	24.1
HHs with 2 and more and more members with disabilities	3.1	3.3	5.6	4.0
Total unemployed	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

*child - under 16, elderly - 63 years and more

Source: EDRC, BWP Survey



**USE, ACCESS AND
NEED FOR PUBLIC
SERVICES**

5



5.1. Use of Public Services

● Care and social assistance

HHs with children make up 53.5% of all HHs. 45.5% of these HHs have children aged 2-6. Only 43.5% of children aged 2-6 use kindergarten services, and 18.8% (aged 6) attend schools. 37.7% of children aged 2-6 or 43.6% of HHs with children of the respective age group in beneficiary marzes do not use any pre-school and school services.

Other services most accessible to children are

extracurricular services provided by sport, and music schools, and educational trainings. 17.0% of HHs are the beneficiaries of sport activities, 10.4% of HHs are the beneficiaries of extracurricular educational services and 10.0% of HHs are the beneficiaries of musical activities.

It should be noted that 53.4% of HHs does not use child care services.

Table 29. Breakdown of child care and occupation services, percent, multiple responses

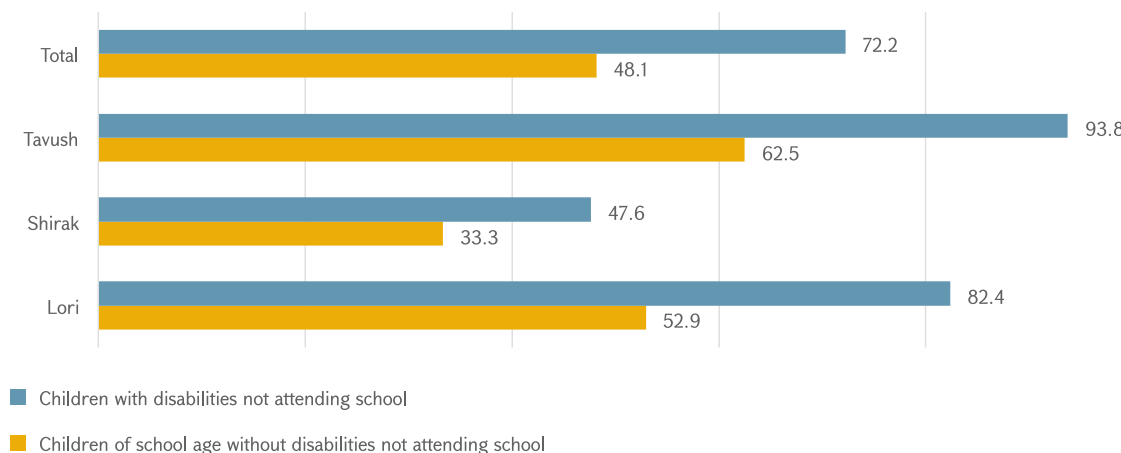
	Lori	Shirak	Tavush	Total
Kindergarten	21.9	24.0	23.7	23.2
Child day care centres	1.3	0.8	0.2	0.7
Child development centres	3.1	3.7	2.2	2.9
Musical schools/ studios	10.6	7.6	11.3	10.0
Sport activities	21.9	17.0	13.2	17.0
Other extracurricular activities	11.3	7.3	11.9	10.4
Baby sitter services or child care by a relative not living in the HH	1.8	0.8	0.2	0.9
Do not use any service	54.9	54.6	51.4	53.4
Total HHs with children	49.1	48.4	63.1	53.5
HHs with children under 6	25.1	28.3	33.8	29.1

Source: EDRC BWP Survey

According to the interviews 72.2% of the communities involved in the survey have at least one child with disability not attending school

and 48.1% thereof has at least one child without disabilities but not attending school.

Figure 24. Settlements having children not attending school, percent in total number of settlements



Source: EDRC BWP Survey

The level of awareness of the beneficiaries on implemented policies aimed at child care and improvement of demographic situation in the country is rather high. The most popular policy is the policy of “One-off childbirth allowance”; about 85% of HHs is informed thereon. The next in the list is the policy of “Provision of monthly allowance of 50,000 AMD for the third and

subsequent child up to the age of 6”, which, despite of being a new policy (being enforced from January 2022), 75.5% of population is well informed about it. The public awareness on programmes of “Maternity benefits to non-working mothers” and “Mortgage loan support under the housing programmes for families with children” is relatively low.

Table 30. Level of awareness on the selected social policies, percent

	Lori	Shirak	Tavush	Total
One-off childbirth allowance	78.6	86.3	89.9	84.9
Provision of monthly allowance of 50,000 AMD for the third and subsequent child up to the age of 6, starting from January 2022	71.4	75.6	79.6	75.5
Maternity benefit to all mothers, including non-working mothers	66.7	64.7	63.0	64.8
Mortgage loan support under the housing programmes for families with children	50.4	54.9	47.3	50.8
Total	100	100	100	100

Source: EDRC BWP Survey

The impact of implemented policies on the decisions of HHs to have a child is low. For comparison, it should be noted that the level of impacts of policies are relatively high in Tavush marz, and the programme “One-off childbirth

allowance” is relatively influential.

In 45 of 54 surveyed settlements, lonely elderlies are provided care and social assistance services, mostly in the form of humanitarian aid.

Table 31. Impact of indicated social policies on the decision of HHs to have a child, percent

	Lori	Shirak	Tavush	Total
One-off childbirth allowance	4.3	3.0	14.0	7.1
Provision of monthly allowance of 50,000 AMD for the third and subsequent child up to the age of 6, starting from January 2022	3.7	3.2	11.5	6.1
Maternity benefit to all mothers, including non-working mothers	3.5	3.5	9.6	5.5
Mortgage loan support under the housing programmes for families with children	2.5	2.7	8.3	4.5
Total	100	100	100	100

Source: EDRC BWP Survey

● Housing security

According to the results of the survey, 90.1% of HHs of beneficiary marzes lives in their own apartments/houses. Only 0.8% of them have

purchased their apartment/ house within the programmes of state housing support.

Table 32. Percentage of the HHs having apartments, who were the beneficiaries of programmes of state housing support

	Lori	Shirak	Tavush	Total
HHs having apartments	88.35	92.16	89.66	90.06
HHs that purchased an apartment	0.86	0.82	0.71	0.80
Total HHs	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Source: EDRC BWP Survey

● Employment services

Both the level of public awareness on different employment programmes implemented by MLSA and the level of using them are low.

The population is relatively well aware of services provided under “professional training of unemployed” and “compensating expenses for babysitter for organising childcare of persons on maternity leave”. It should be noted that the level of public awareness on employment

services is relatively high in Tavush marz. Here the share of persons using the services is relatively high.

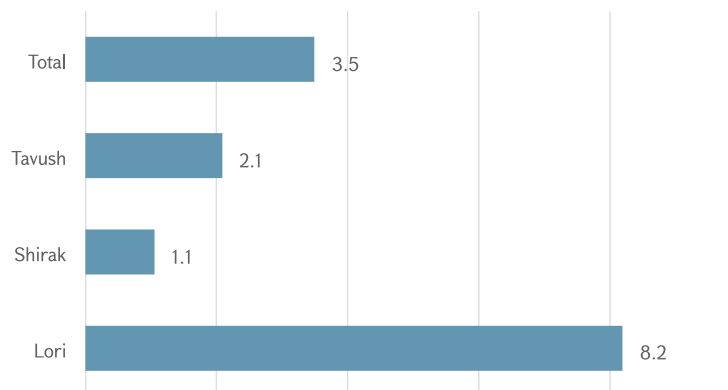
3.5% of persons with disabilities in beneficiary marzes used job placement services provided by MLSA to persons with disabilities. Moreover, this share is relatively high in Lori marz (8.2%) and is low in Shirak marz (1.1%).

Table 33. Awareness of HHs on the selected employment services implemented by MLSA and the usage thereof, percent

	Awareness			Any of the members of HH has ever used		
	Lori	Shirak	Tavush	Lori	Shirak	Tavush
Professional training of unemployed persons	34.1	37.9	49.8	1.5	1.4	7.4
Paid social works	30.4	26.3	32.4	1.5	0.5	2.6
Support to small entrepreneurship	23.5	12.0	28.6	0.6	0.6	1.7
Partial salary compensation to employer in case of employing persons uncompetitive in labour market (one-time compensation to employer in case of employing uncompetitive persons)	21.3	7.0	19.3	0.4	0.5	1.7
Providing compensation for expenses of babysitting services for organising childcare	29.7	21.9	44.4	0.6	0.4	1.3
Assistance to farms, seasonal employment	28.6	21.9	26.2	0.5	0.5	1.3
Trainings for parents having children with disabilities	25.2	8.1	27.7	0.3	0.0	0.6
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: EDRC BWP Survey

Figure 25. Persons with disabilities ever provided job placement services by employment service of MLSA, percent in the total number of persons with disabilities



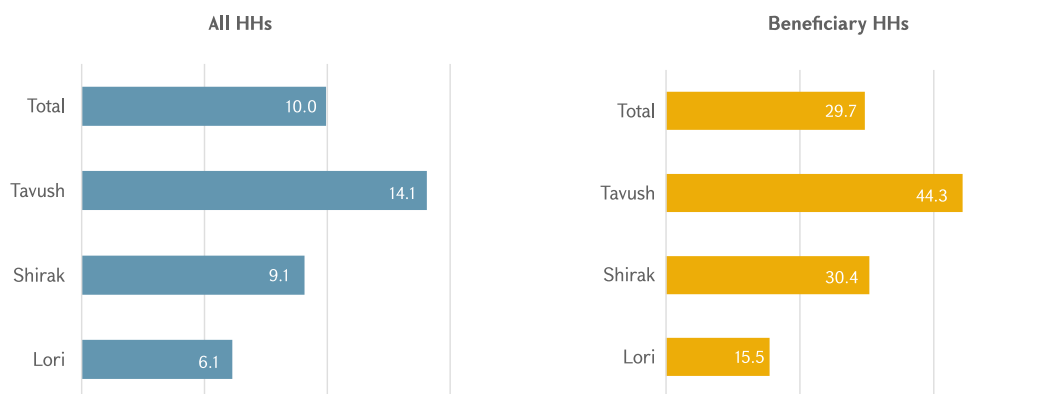
Source: EDRC BWP Survey

● Healthcare services

During 12 months preceding the survey, at least one HH member of 10% of HHs in all beneficiary marzes and 29.7% of beneficiary HHs needed medical intervention and medical services, but

did not consult a doctor. Moreover, the share of persons having not consulted a doctor is relatively high in Tavush marz and it is small in Lori marz.

Figure 26. HHs needing medical intervention, having not consulted a doctor, percent



Source: EDRC BWP Survey

The main reason for not consulting a doctor when they need medical intervention for 70% of all HHs and beneficiary HHs, is financial. About 20% of HHs believed that the illness was not serious and that was the reason that they did not apply to any medical institution, and

about 8% did not simply trust the doctors and medical institutions. It should be noted that the list of reasons of not consulting a doctor in 4% cases included the long distance to get to the medical institution from their settlement.

Table 34. Reasons for not consulting a doctor, multiple responses

	All HH	Beneficiary HH
The illnesses were not serious	20.5	19.0
Treatment at home was sufficient	7.4	6.6
Financial considerations	70.0	70.1
Do not trust	7.9	8.8
That would not help anyway	0.5	0.7
The hospital was far away	3.7	4.4
Had no time	1.1	1.5

Source: EDRC BWP Survey

In general, HHs needing medical intervention and medical services are estimated to 80.7%, of which 91.0 has consulted a doctor or applied to a medical institution. This high rate of using medical services was conditioned by COVID-19 pandemic situation.

Citizens having consulted a doctor have mostly used consulting and laboratory/instrumental examination services, estimated, respectively 62.3% and 57.8% of persons having received

medical services. 19.5% of applicants needed operational intervention, and 27% needed in-patient treatment. The number of citizens having used paediatric and dental services were also high. It should be noted that 7.1% of citizens having consulted a doctor have received free-of-charge medicine under outpatient medical services. In Shirak, the share of citizens having received medicine is relatively high, making up 8.4% (see Table 35).

Table 35. Type of medical intervention and treatment received, percent, multiple responses

	Lori	Shirak	Tavush	Total
General consultation	70.0	79.5	40.7	62.3
Laboratory and instrumental examination	43.9	74.9	57.0	57.8
Dental services	19.4	12.9	22.2	18.5
Gynaecological services	8.9	5.1	13.3	9.3
Paediatric services	17.3	15.4	23.3	18.9
Receiving medicine under outpatient services	6.9	8.4	6.4	7.1
Prenatal medical service and care	2.3	3.3	3.2	2.9
Medical care of children under one year	1.5	5.1	3.2	3.2
Inpatient treatment	27.6	26.3	26.8	27.0
Operation	18.1	26.5	15.2	19.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

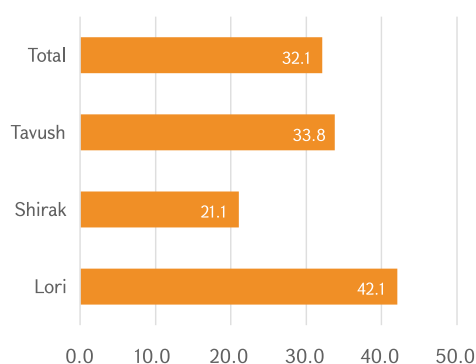
Source: EDRC BWP Survey

The level of usage of state-funded programmes of medical aid and rehabilitation by persons with disabilities is not high. Only 32.1% of population with disabilities in beneficiary marzes has ever participated in state budget programmes. Moreover, this indicator is relatively high in

Lori marz, making up 42.1%. 47.8% of persons with disabilities needing medicine used the medicine provided free-of-charge and with preferential conditions. Again the indicator is high in Lori marz.

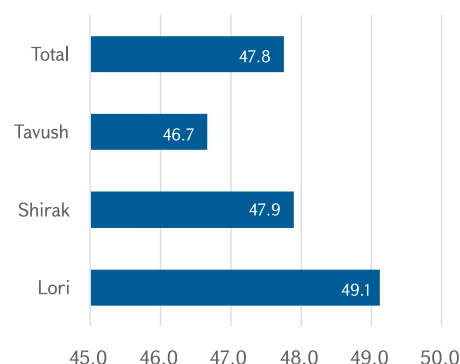
Figure 27. Participation of persons with disabilities in healthcare programmes, percent

State-funded programmes of medical aid and rehabilitation*



* for persons with disabilities

Provision of medicine free-of-charge and with preferential conditions**



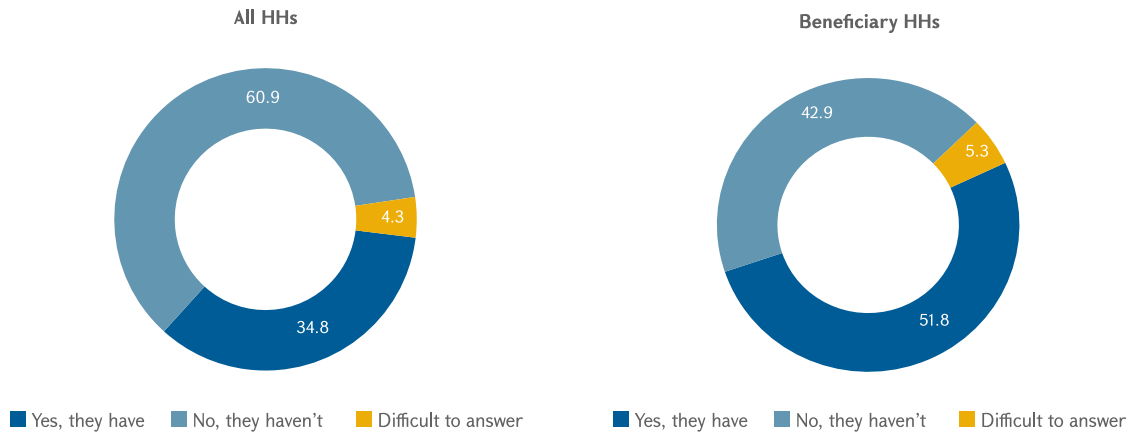
** for needy persons with disabilities

Source: EDRC BWP Survey

The level of awareness of beneficiary population on medical services provided under the state order is not high. 60.9% of HHs and 42.9% of beneficiary HHs is not aware of the right to state order of HH

member when consulting a doctor. 68.2% of HHs and 75.9% of beneficiary HHs are aware of free-of-charge inpatient services provided to socially vulnerable persons and those included in special groups.

Figure 28. HHs opinion about their members rights to a state order when contacting a doctor, percent



Source: EDRC BWP Survey

Figure 29. Awareness of HHs on inpatient services provided to socially vulnerable persons and those included in special groups free-of-charge, percent

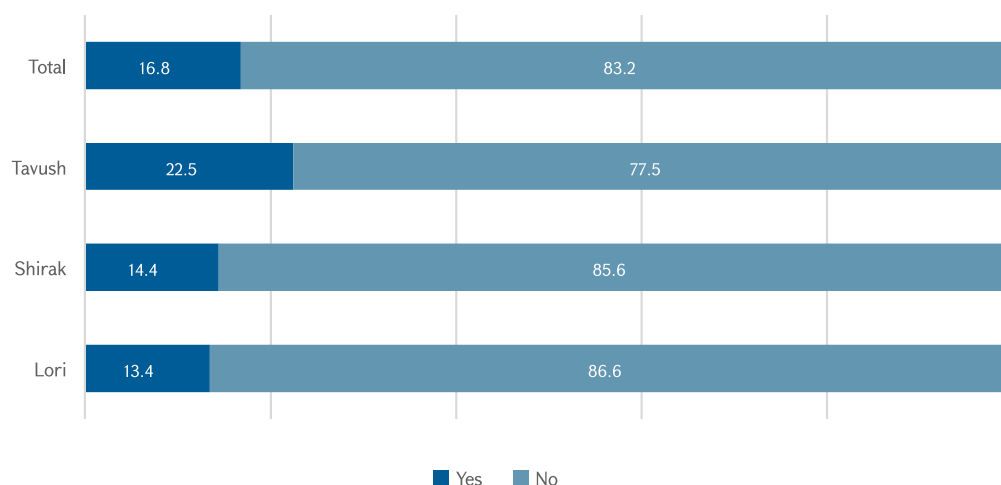


Source: EDRC BWP Survey

The number of HHs having a HH member with any type of health insurance is low. Such HHs in Tavush make up 22.5%. In Shirak and Lori,

the share of these HHs is lower and makes up 14.4% and 13.4%, respectively.

Figure 30. HHs having any type of health insurance, percent



Source: EDRC BWP Survey

● **Community services**

The population of all the surveyed communities considered the lack of job places as the most important issue existing in their community. The next important issue indicated both by rural and urban communities of all the three marzes is the poor condition of the intra-community roads. It is interesting that the HHs of urban settlements of Lori and Shirak marzes, 64.4% and 62.2% of the population, respectively, considered this issue as particularly important.

In general, insufficient level of healthcare services is in the third place in the list of the

community issues.

While the rural settlements in Shirak marz consider the lack of sewage system as one of the first three important issues existing in the communities and for urban settlements it is the street lighting, Tavush marz considers access to drinking water of good quality as important.

Lori and Tavush rural communities also consider the support provided to young families, in particular the support provided for housing, unsatisfactory conditions of culture and sport institutions as important.

Table 36. Five key issues existing in the communities according to the HHs, percent, multiple responses

	Lori		Shirak		Tavush	
	Village	City	Village	City	Village	City
Lack of job places	65.7	81.1	54.1	69.0	68.1	85.4
Poor condition of intra-community roads	41.1	64.4	49.6	62.2	44.2	41.2
Unsatisfactory level of healthcare services	33.8	36.4		38.5	31.9	56.9
Unsatisfactory level of transport communication	30.7		19.2	34.9		
Poor condition of irrigation network	35.0		21.4		30.7	

Unsatisfactory conditions of culture and sport institutions	23.0			20.7
Providing housing to young families and other social assistance	27.0			51.6
Lack of sewage		39.3		
Lack of street lighting			38.8	
Lack of access to drinking water, poor internal network				49.9

Source: EDRC BWP Survey

On average, 54.4% of Lori population, 34.6% of Shirak population and 30.5% of Tavush population believes that the issues existing in their communities may be resolved at the level of Government.

However, rather a large part of the population attaches importance to the role of the head of the community and the residents, and believes

that, the main reason for the issues existing in the community is the inactiveness of the head of the community and/or the residents of the community.

The limited community budget was indicated by small number of citizens. The community budget was assessed as limited only by 3.2% of the beneficiary marzes.

Table 37. Reasons for failure to resolve the issues existing in the community according to the opinion of residents, percent, multiple responses

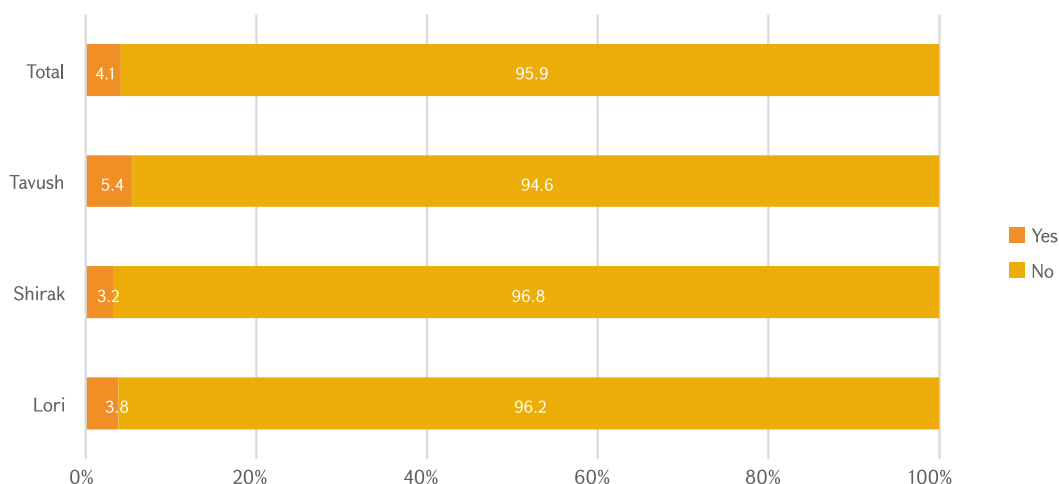
	Lori		Shirak		Tavush	
	Village	City	Village	City	Village	City
There was no organiser	14.7	16.7	33.7	30.2	25.6	17.3
The head of the community is inactive	12.4	15.2	17.9	26.6	16.2	17.3
The residents of the community are inactive	10.2	17.7	14.7	10.7	17.7	23.1
They rely only on the head of the community	3.6	8.1	2.7	4.7	8.1	11.2
They rely only on external assistance	15.5	11.9	8.4	12.8	10.3	6.1
They do not believe that it is possible to resolve it with domestic potential	3.3	3.3	17.9	6.0	4.2	9.3
It shall be resolved not by the community but the Government	59.4	49.5	37.6	31.5	32.2	28.7
The community budget is limited	4.3	1.5	4.2	2.6	4.4	1.9
The residents do not agree to pay money	2.0	4.3	0.5	3.6	3.2	1.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Source: EDRC BWP Survey

The level of awareness on programmes to be implemented in the communities is low, on

average, making up 4.1%. It is relatively high in Tavush and it is low in Shirak.

Figure 31. Public awareness on programmes to be implemented in the community during the next year, percent



Source: EDRC BWP Survey

The main source of information of the population considering himself/herself well informed on the state-funded programmes is the “word to mouth” methods. 42.9% of the informed urban population and 52.1% of rural population of the

beneficiary communities think that this method is the main source. Moreover, these sources are used mostly by the population in Shirak marz, the indicator making up 68%.

Table 38. Sources of information exchange on community budget, percent

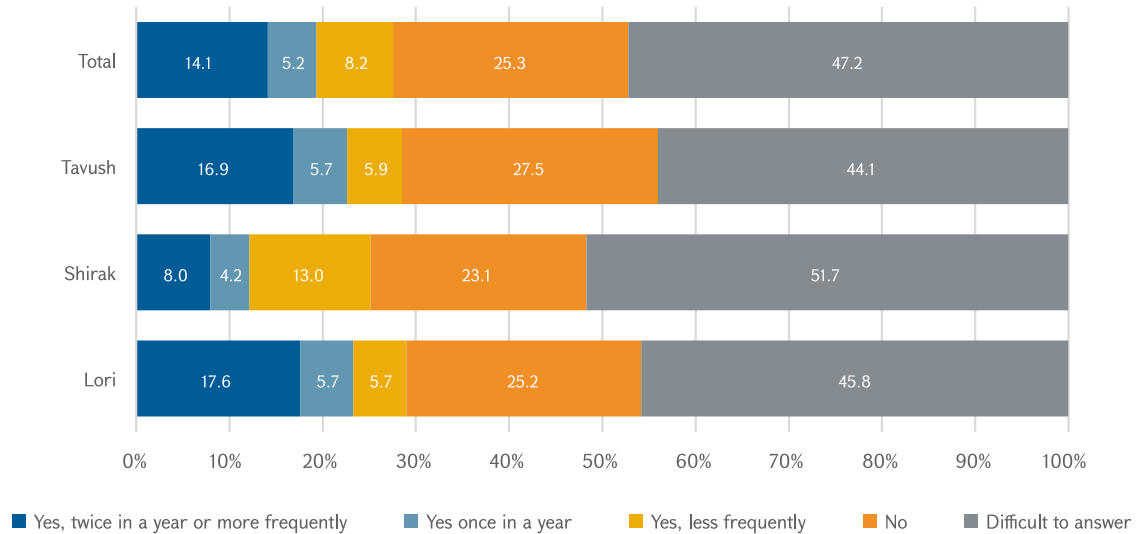
	Lori		Shirak		Tavush		Total	
	Village	City	Village	City	Village	City	Village	City
Public hearings on programmes	8.3	11.1	15.4	0.0	4.3	0.0	8.3	4.1
Official announcement, community administration wall	8.3	11.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.1	4.1
Messages sent by the community administration	0.0	11.1	0.0	8.3	8.7	0.0	4.2	6.1
Official website of the community	25.0	38.9	7.7	8.3	8.7	0.0	12.5	16.3
From the members of the Council of Elders - non-official	8.3	11.1	15.4	25.0	8.7	15.8	10.4	16.3
From the members of the Council of Elders - official	16.7	11.1	7.7	8.3	13.0	5.3	12.5	8.2
Word to mouth	33.3	22.2	69.2	66.7	52.2	47.4	52.1	42.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Source: EDRC BWP Survey

About 47.2% of the population could hardly submit anything on organization of public hearings on community programmes by the LSGs and 25.3% indicate that such events are

not organized at all. Only 27.5% indicated that budget discussions are organized once in a year or more frequently.

Figure 32. Are public discussions on community programmes organised by the LSGs?

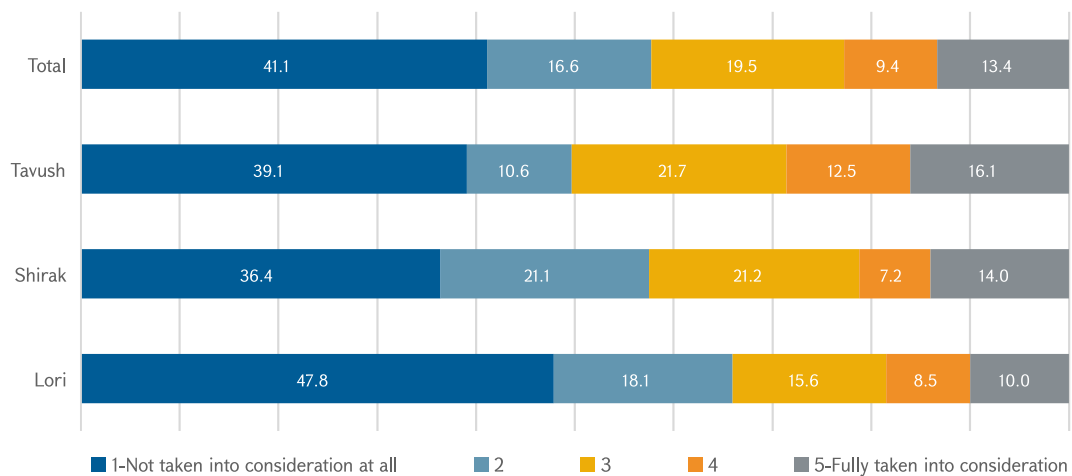


Source: EDRC BWP Survey

41.1% of the population finds that the opinions and the wishes of population “are not taken into consideration” when adopting decisions on budget expenditure, and 10.0% of the

population finds that the opinions and the wishes of population “are fully taken into consideration”.

Figure 33. To what extent are the opinions and the wishes of population taken into consideration by the LSGs when adopting decisions on budget programmes?



Source: EDRC BWP Survey

Accessibility of the settlements for persons with disabilities remains rather low. Only 29% of the HHs having members with disabilities find that

their schools are accessible for children with disabilities, and only 19% of these HHs assess the objects of their settlements as accessible.

Table 39. Accessibility of settlements for persons with disabilities, percent of all HHs having members with disabilities

	Accessibility of schools				Accessibility of other objects			
	Lori	Shirak	Tavush	Total	Lori	Shirak	Tavush	Total
Not accessible	30.0	20.0	7.7	17.9	15.2	17.9	10.8	14.3
Partially accessible	10.0	20.0	23.1	17.9	11.7	28.4	11.7	17
Accessible	20.0	20.0	38.5	28.6	25.7	9.5	21.7	19
Not relevant	40.0	40.0	30.8	35.7	47.4	44.2	55.8	49.8

Source: EDRC BWP Survey

5.2. Assessment of Importance, Accessibility and Need for Public Services

The survey allowed to assess the importance, accessibility of and the need for a number of services conditioning multi-dimensional poverty in HHs of beneficiary marzes. To that end, a number of social and community services, as well as services characterizing the community environment provided with the state and community budget resources were assessed. Apart from the services provided with community and state budget, the last group includes also services where while being provided by non-public sector, their accessibility and the quality, in general, characterizes the level of regional development, and are therefore important in terms of characterizing multi-dimensional poverty. Such services include, for instance, the availability of high quality food stores, banks and ATMs, cafes, restaurants and clubs, beauty salons and others in the community.

In all cases where a certain service is not relevant to a certain HH due to the it structure, the assessments of these services given by the HH are not considered as important for

the results of this survey.

Only when an HH assessed a service as of moderate or high importance, accessibility assessment of this service for the given HH was carried out. Accessibility rate is the summary assessment of requirements to service quality, physical access to the service and financial affordability of the service. This means that the accessibility rate characterizing a certain level of physical accessibility and availability of a service of certain quality for an HH.

Needs assessment is based on the assessments of the level of importance and accessibility of selected services by HHs. It has been assumed that a HH needs a certain service if this HH assesses the given service as very important, but it is not accessible for the HH at all.

- **Social services**

Of all selected social services (see Table 40) the population of all three marzes considered the accessibility of medical services and medicine

as the most important; it was followed by provision of employment opportunities for young persons in the community.

Support services provided to victims of domestic violence were assessed as having the

least importance of the services in question in all three marzes.

Scores of comparative mutual importance of social services are given in the Table below, assessed in 5-point scoring system.

Table 40. Level of importance of social services, 1-5 point scoring system*

Service	Total			Village			City		
	Lori	Shirak	Tavush	Lori	Shirak	Tavush	Lori	Shirak	Tavush
Access to medical services	4.8	4.6	4.8	4.8	4.6	4.9	4.8	4.7	4.8
Affordable medicine	4.7	4.5	4.8	4.7	4.4	4.8	4.7	4.6	4.7
Availability of kindergartens and other day care centres for children	2.4	2.3	2.4	2.5	2.6	2.3	2.3	2.0	2.4
The quality of education in schools	3.1	3.0	3.1	3.2	3.1	3.1	3.1	2.8	3.1
Availability of extracurricular youth activities (educational, cultural, recreational)	3.1	2.8	3.0	3.2	2.9	3.0	3.1	2.6	2.9
Availability of employment opportunities for youth	3.4	3.3	3.6	3.5	3.6	3.7	3.3	3.0	3.5
Availability of employment opportunities for elderlies	3.3	2.7	2.6	3.6	3.0	2.5	3.0	2.4	2.7
Providing social services to elderlies	3.2	2.7	2.4	3.6	3.0	2.4	2.8	2.4	2.5
Support for victims of domestic violence	1.8	1.4	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.9	1.1	1.7

Source: EDRC BWP Survey

*5 means that the service is highly important, and 1 - not important

In blue - high importance 4 and higher score

In yellow - moderate importance 2-4 scores

In grey - low importance up to 2 scores

The accessibility rate almost for all selected services is relatively high in Shirak, and the need for them is high in Lori. Of the selected services, the communities highly need particularly medical services, affordable medicine, employment of young people and elderlies, as well as social services provided to elderlies. In Lori marz, households specifically need services provided to the elderlies, as well as accessible healthcare services. In particular, 34.8% of HHs needs social services to be provided to elderlies, and in 34.6% of HHs

needs services aimed at providing opportunities for occupation of elderlies. 31.4% and 22.0% of HHs need access to medicine and medical services, respectively. The availability of opportunities for employment of youth is also rather high in Lori marz, making up 25.7%. Need for assistance provided to the victims of domestic violence is also assessed high in Lori marz, making up 9.5%, while in Tavush marz 4.9% of HHs needs this services, and in Shirak marz this indicator is estimated to 0.1%. It should be noted that the services provided to

the victims of domestic violence are relatively accessible for households of Tavush marz. Need for services provided to children and youth is relatively high again in Lori.

Need for services of kindergarten and child day care in beneficiary marzes is not high, equalling only about 5%. The level of education in schools is satisfactory and there is almost no need for

improving it.

Despite the difference in assessment of needs, all the listed social services are almost equally accessible in Lori, Shirak and Tavush marzes. The situation in Tavush is different only for services provided to elderlies in terms of accessibility thereof, making up 4.7%.

Table 41. Assessments of accessibility rates and need for social services, percent in all HHs

Service	Access						Need		
	Lori		Shirak		Tavush		Lori	Shirak	Tavush
	Partially accessible	Fully accessible	Partially accessible	Fully accessible	Partially accessible	Fully accessible			
Access to medical services	54.1	23.2	78.8	10.0	57.5	23.9	22.0	11.1	18.4
Affordable medicine	52.0	15.9	78.3	8.0	53.4	20.4	31.4	13.5	24.6
Availability of kindergartens and other day care centres for children	13.4	20.5	19.5	10.7	6.6	24.9	5.3	5.1	4.9
The quality of education in schools	13.4	41.1	24.9	26.8	11.5	41.5	2.4	0.5	1.4
Availability of extracurricular youth activities (educational, cultural, recreational)	28.5	16.2	35.8	11.5	22.3	15.7	15.4	4.7	14.4
Availability of employment opportunities for youth	36.1	7.0	46.5	6.1	26.9	10.0	25.7	14.7	29.5
Availability of opportunities for occupation of elderlies	25.7	4.1	32.6	4.7	10.9	2.7	34.6	14.9	28.2
Providing social services to elderlies	23.0	3.3	24.1	5.1	4.1	0.6	34.8	20.7	32.3
Support to victims of domestic violence	8.4	3.0	10.2	1.0	10.1	4.1	9.5	0.1	4.9

Source: EDRC BWP Survey

In yellow – highest accessibility rate for a certain service compared with other beneficiary marzes

In blue – not less than 20% rate for identified need for a certain service

● Community services

Street lighting, timely waste collection services, also the conditions of intra-community roads have relatively greater importance in all

three marzes. Information, as well as support provided to the population is assessed as of medium importance.

Table 42. Level of importance of community services, 1-5 scoring system *

Service	Total			Village			City		
	Lori	Shirak	Tavush	Lori	Shirak	Tavush	Lori	Shirak	Tavush
Street lighting	4.7	4.5	4.7	4.7	4.6	4.9	4.7	4.5	4.6
Timely waste collection	4.5	4.5	4.8	4.5	4.5	4.8	4.6	4.5	4.7
Intra-community roads conditions	4.4	4.5	4.3	4.2	4.4	4.3	4.6	4.6	4.3
Participation of community administration in different sanitary measures (pests, rodents...)	3.1	2.5	3.3	3.1	3.1	3.2	3.1	1.9	3.3
Information on settlement/community provided to the population by the LSGs	3.6	3.5	3.9	3.8	3.7	4.1	3.4	3.3	3.7
Assistance provided to the population by the LSGs	3.7	3.7	3.8	3.9	3.9	3.9	3.4	3.5	3.6

Source EDRC BWP Survey

*5 means that the service is highly important, and 1 – not important

In blue – high importance 4 and higher e scores

In yellow – moderate importance 2-4 scores

In grey– low importance up to 2 scores

Again, community services are highly accessible for HHs of Shirak marz and less accessible in Tavush marz. Moreover, the accessibility rate for street lighting and timely waste collection services was assessed as rather high in all three marzes.

The need for other community services is significantly high, particularly in Tavush

marz. 39.7% of HHs in Tavush marz still need assistance provided to the population by the LSGs, and 29.8% of HHs considered the participation of the LSGs in different sanitary measures as important. It should be noted that the need for information provided by the LSGs to the population in Tavush marz is still significant, making up 29.0%.

Table 43. Assessments of accessibility rates and need for community services, percent in all HHs

Service	Accessibility						Needs		
	Lori		Shirak		Tavush		Lori	Shirak	Tavush
	Fully y accessible	Partially accessible	Fully y accessible	Fully y accessible	Partially accessible	Fully y accessible			
Street lighting	19.4	73.4	51.6	42.9	20.7	72.0	4.9	3.7	6.1
Timely waste collection	23.3	68.2	45.9	49.4	20.4	61.9	5.7	1.9	15.3
Intra-community roads conditions	34.1	23.3	34.2	22.1	36.6	24.6	18.9	19.3	18.7
Participation of community administration in different sanitary measures	29.4	10.3	36.8	7.2	21.2	8.8	21.1	4.3	29.8
Information on settlement/community provided to the population by the LSGs	33.5	27.1	61.4	10.1	28.4	20.9	14.9	9.0	29.0
Assistance provided to the population by the LSGs	29.1	23.4	50.1	3.5	22.1	9.3	21.6	27.2	39.7

Source: EDRC BWP Survey

In yellow – highest access rate for a certain service compared with other beneficiary marzes

In blue – not less than 20% rate for identified need for a certain service

- **Services characterizing the community environment**

Among the services characterizing the community environment, the availability of high quality food stores were considered as the most important. The next in the list the rural

population considers important is the access to public transport, and for urban communities it is the access to parks and recreation areas. The population of Tavush marz assesses the access to beauty salons (4.2 scores) and banks and ATMs (4.1 scores) as highly important.

Table 44. Level of importance of services characterising the community environment, 1-5 scoring system

Service	Total			Village			City		
	Lori	Shirak	Tavush	Lori	Shirak	Tavush	Lori	Shirak	Tavush
Availability of high quality food stores	4.9	4.6	4.7	4.9	4.6	4.8	4.8	4.7	4.7
Public transportation	4.3	3.8	3.9	4.3	4.0	4.1	4.3	3.6	3.7
Usage of speed camera detectors in the community	2.4	2.2	3.0	2.2	2.2	2.6	2.5	2.3	3.4
Access to parks and recreation areas	4.0	4.1	3.8	3.6	4.1	3.5	4.3	4.2	4.1
Police response speed	2.3	2.3	2.5	2.1	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.0	2.5
Bank/ATM	3.5	3.7	3.8	3.0	3.7	4.1	3.9	3.6	3.5
Café /bar/restaurant/ club	2.5	3.3	2.6	2.3	3.5	2.5	2.7	3.1	2.6
Barber's shops /beauty salons	3.5	3.7	3.9	3.3	3.8	4.2	3.6	3.5	3.6
Opportunities to start up a small business in the community	2.4	2.6	3.3	2.4	2.8	3.2	2.4	2.4	3.4

*5 means that the service is highly important, and 1 – not important
 In blue – highly important 4 and higher score
 In yellow – moderate importance 2-4 scores

Access to this group of services is also relatively high in Shirak marz. In all marzes the availability of high quality food stores equally were assessed as highly available.

Among the selected services characterizing the community environment in Tavush marz, the need for availability of banks/ATMs is relatively high, making up 26.3%, the availability rate of opportunities to start up a small business in the community is 23.4% and the need for using the speed camera detectors is 23.2%.

20.5% of HHs in Shirak marz, mostly in rural communities, particularly needs recreation areas (bar/cafes/restaurants/clubs).

In Lori marz, the needs for availability of banks/ATMs and improvement of public transport are relatively high, making up 22.2% and 19.1%, respectively.

The need for parks and recreation areas are high in all three marzes, making up 24.4% in Tavush marz, 24.3% in Lori marz and 17.4% in Shirak marz.

Table 45. Accessibility rate and need for service characterizing the community environment, percent of HHs

Service	Accessibility						Need		
	Lori		Shirak		Tavush		Lori	Shirak	Tavsuh
	Fully y accessible	Fully y accessible	Fully y accessible	Fully y accessible	Fully y accessible	Fully y accessible			
Access to high quality food stores	32.0	58.5	58.9	36.8	42.5	50.3	8.2	3.9	6.9
Public transportation	27.5	43.7	52.3	23.3	27.7	35.9	19.1	11.8	16.5
Usage of speed camera detectors in the community	18.7	13.3	34.6	5.2	14.3	14.8	9.6	3.3	23.2
Access to parks and recreation areas	36.3	22.8	56.6	17.6	27.8	23.2	24.3	17.4	24.4
Police response speed	19.0	18.9	41.7	7.0	19.3	19.9	4.4	1.0	4.9
Bank/ATM	21.1	25.8	42.0	27.3	17.4	30.4	22.2	13.1	26.3
Café /bar/restaurant/ club	22.5	10.5	39.7	12.3	19.0	14.9	11.8	20.5	12.9
Barber's shops /beauty salons	32.3	31.8	44.4	28.4	24.6	45.5	13.2	13.1	10.7
Opportunities to start up a small business in the community	22.0	9.5	41.1	4.2	28.5	9.8	10.5	6.2	23.4

Source: EDRC BWP Survey

In yellow – highest access rate for a certain service compared with other beneficiary marzes

In blue – not less than 20% rate for identified need for a certain service

5.3. Service Improvement Areas

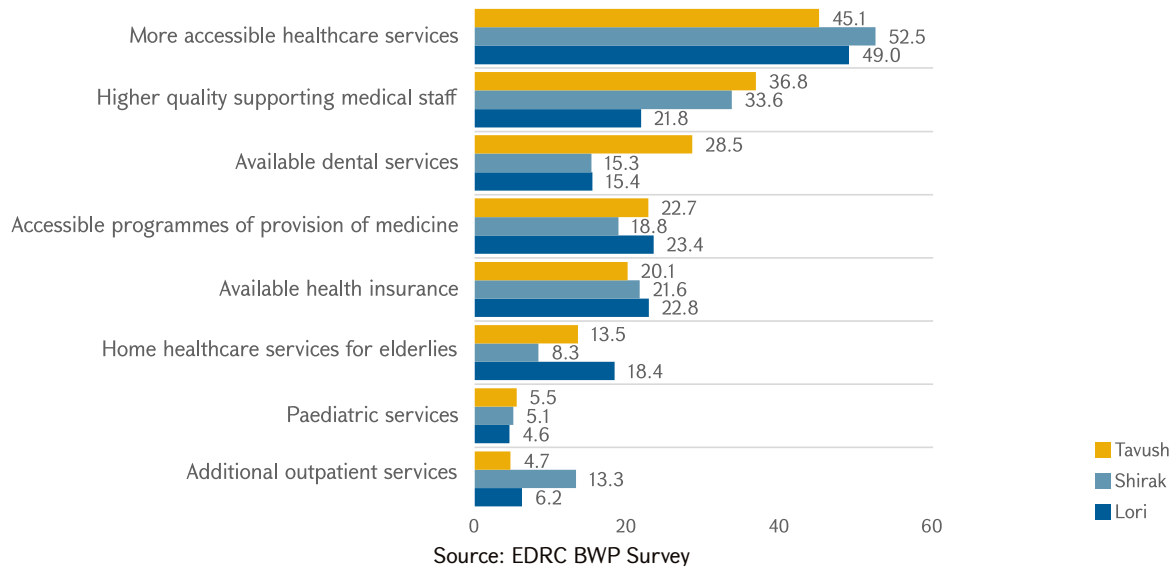
Below are given the areas and opportunities for resolving a number of issues existing, proposed by the population of the beneficiary marzes.

From the point of view of improving the provided healthcare services, the HHs considered important the accessibility of healthcare services on the one hand, and availability of high quality supporting medical staff in marzes, on the other hand. More than 20% of the population of beneficiary marzes highlights the role of health insurance programmes; in

particular they emphasized the importance to access to provision of medicine.

In general, in terms of improvement of healthcare services in Lori marz, the population considers the programmes ensuring access to provision of medicine as important, in Tavush and Shirak marzes the population considers significant the availability of high quality supporting medical staff. It should be noted that access to dental services is relatively significant for the population in Tavush marz.

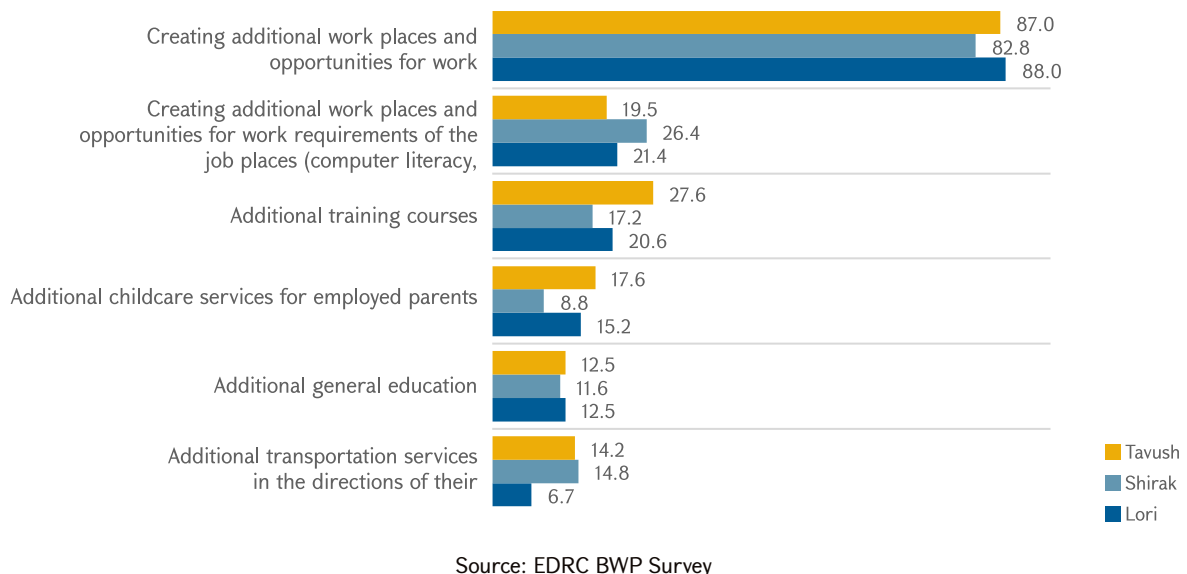
Figure 34. Opportunities for improving healthcare services for community population (multiple responses), percent



The majority of population, i.e. 86%, links the opportunities for improvement of employment mostly to creation of additional job places. It is interesting that more than 20% of the population sees the opportunities for improving the employment of community population in developing relevant practical skills complying with job requirements (22.5%) and participating in additional training courses (21.8%). Urban

population of Tavush and Lori marzes believes that implementation of additional care services for employed parents are important for increasing the employment rate, while for rural communities specifically in Tavush and Shirak, the accessibility to additional transportation services in the direction of their workplaces is considered important.

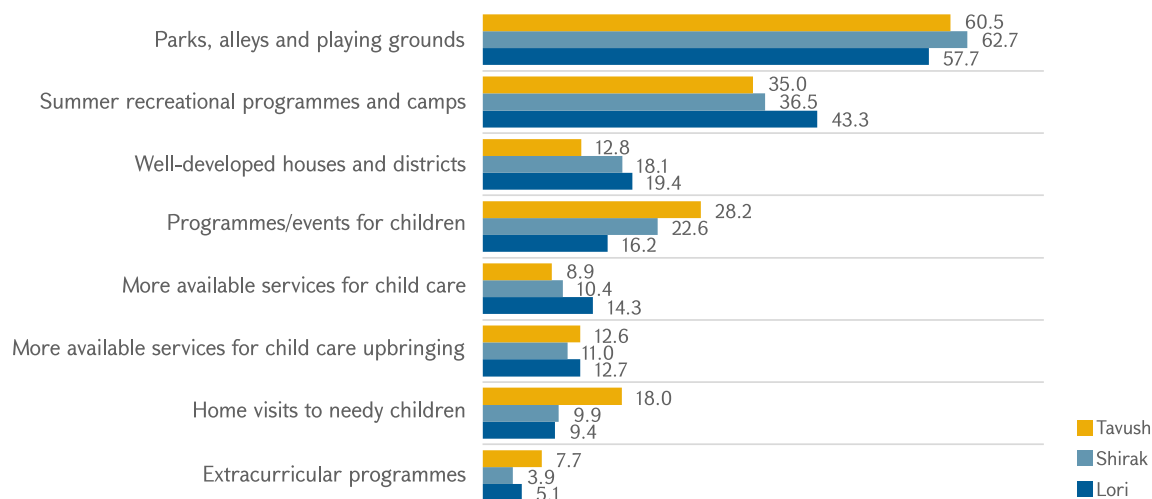
Figure 35. Opportunities for improving employment (multiple responses), percent



As it is stated in the previous section, the quality of education at schools, extracurricular activities, services of kindergartens and other day care centres were assessed as of very high importance by households having children of respective age group. But it should be noted

that in general, from the point of view of improving assistance provided to community children and their upbringing, all three marzes mostly considered important the availability of parks, alleys and playing grounds, as well as summer recreational programmes and camps.

Figure 36. Opportunities for improving assistance to community children and their upbringing (multiple response), percent

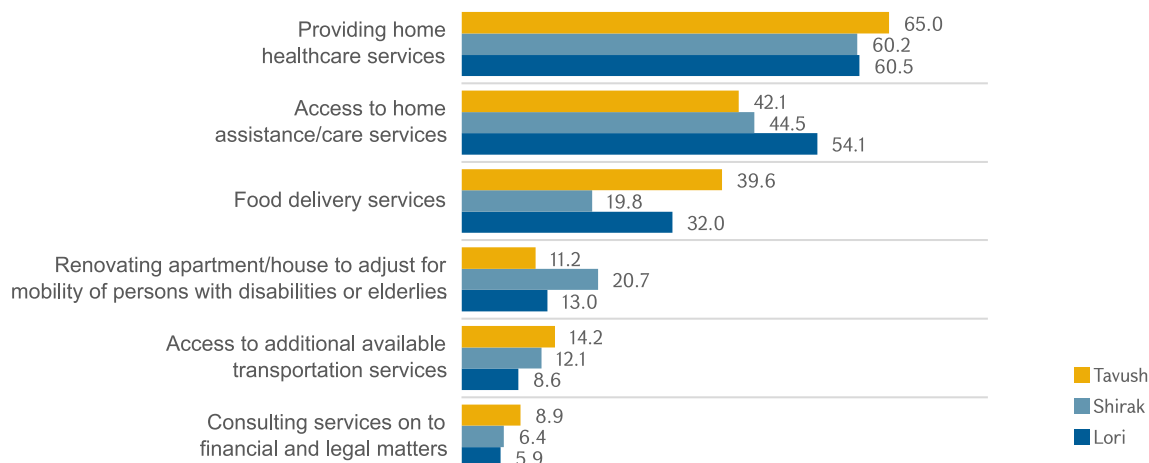


Source: EDRC BWP Survey

Opportunities for occupation of elderlies and social services provided thereto were important for the HHs of rural communities in Lori marz. Moreover, from the point of view of improving assistance provided to elderlies and persons

with disabilities, provision of home healthcare services and home assistance/care were considered as important in all three marzes. Particularly in Lori and Tavush marzes food delivery services were considered important.

Figure 37. Opportunities for improving assistance to community elderlies and persons with disabilities (multiple responses)



Source: EDRC BWP Survey

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ANNEX 1.

Survey Sample: Urban and Rural Settlements

	Lori	Shirak	Tavush
Towns	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Alaverdi2. Tumanyan3. Spitak4. Vanadzor	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Artik2. Gyumri3. Maralik	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Berd2. Dilijan3. Ijevan
Villages	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Amrakits2. Bazum3. Gargar4. Geghasar5. Gyulagarak6. Gugark7. Darpas8. Dsegh9. Lernantsk10. Lori Berd11. Mets Parni12. Karinj13. Odzun	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Azatan2. Amasia3. Ashotsk4. Arevik5. Bandivan6. Beniamin7. Getap8. Zuygaghbyur9. Isahakyan10. Kaps11. Gharibjanyan12. Mayisyan13. Marmashen14. Sarnaghbyur15. Spandaryan16. Vardaghbyur17. Vardaqaq18. Panik	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Azatamut2. Achajur3. Gandzaqar4. Getahovit5. Gosh6. Teghut7. Lusadzor8. Khashtarak9. Haghartsin10. Sevqar11. Vazashen12. Varagavan13. Tavush

ANNEX 2.

Key Strategic Documents

1. RA Government Programme 2021-2026, Government decree N 1363-A, dated 18 August 2021;
2. RA Labor and Social Protection 2022-2026 Strategy, draft as of 1 September 2022;
3. Education Development Strategy of the Republic of Armenia up to 2030, Law of the Republic of Armenia, as of 17 December 2022;
4. 2022 Annual Programme and Action Plan for Protection of Children’s Rights, RA government decree N 1622-L, dated 30 September 2021;
5. 2020-2023 State-Supported Housing Programmes for Families with Children, RA government decree N968-L, dated 14 May 2020;
6. Comprehensive Programme on Implementation of the Right of the Child to Live in a Family and of the Right to Harmonious Development for 2020-2023, the Time Table for Implementation of the Programme, RA government decree N432-L, dated 2 April 2020;
7. 2022 Annual Programme and Action Plan for Social Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities, RA government decree N 1621-L, dated 30 September 2021;
8. Programme on Improvement of Care Services Provided to Elderlies as well as on Introduction and Development of Community-Based Services and a Time Table for 2021-2023 Ensuring its Implementation, RA government decree 498-L, dated 8 April 2021;
9. Strategy for Overcoming Aging Consequences and Social Protection of Elderlies, RA government protocol decree N 20, dated 18 May 2017;
10. 2022 State Programme and Action Plan for Employment Regulation, RA government Decree N 1589-L, dated 30 September 2021;
11. “Work Armenia” Strategy, Scope of Actions (2019-2023), RA government decree N 1753-L, dated 5 December 2019;
12. Gender Policy Implementation Strategy and Action Plan for 2019-2023, RA government decree N 1334-L, dated 19 September 2019;
13. The Strategy of the Main Directions Ensuring Economic Development in Agricultural Sector of the Republic of Armenia for 2020-2030 and Action Plan 2020-2022 for Implementation of Strategy, RA government decree N1886-L, dated 19 December 2019;
14. State Support Programme for Energy-Efficient Renovation of Apartments and Private Houses, RA government decree N 520-L, dated 15 April 2022.

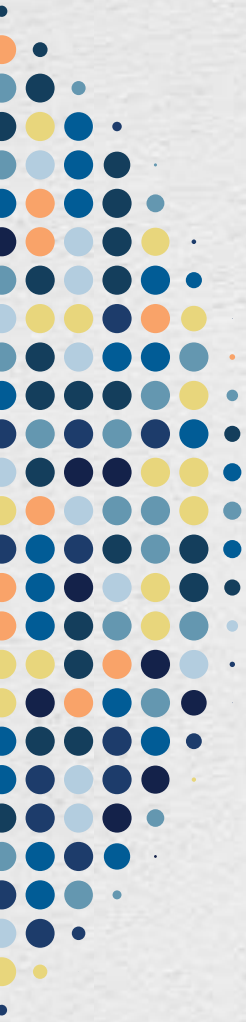
ANNEX 3.

Structure and Financing of Employment Programme of the MLSA for 2020-2022

Code	Programme/measure	2020	2021	2022*
		mln dram		
1088	Employment programme	1,942	1,702	1,856
11001	Organizing vocational education for unemployed persons, persons at risk of being dismissed, as well as job seekers who have six months left to serve their imprisonment sentence	40.3	40.5	-
11004	Provision of assistance to small entrepreneurship activities of persons non-competitive in labour market, organizing project training and consulting services	5.9	1.7	-
11006	Ensuring implementation of paid social work	0.1	-	0.1
11007	Organizing courses for parents having children with disabilities	2.2	2.6	-
11008	“Electronic labour exchange” grant programme implemented with the support of the Eurasian Development Bank	-	-	69.9
12001	Provision of assistance for small entrepreneurship activities for persons non-competitive in labour market	33.8	3.4	-
12002	Partial compensation to the employer of the salary in case of employment of persons with disabilities having returned from places of detention, non-competitive in labour market, as well as belonging to the group “have a child with disability “and providing monetary assistance for person accompanying the person with disability	14.0	13.6	14.5
12003	Provision of assistance for employment of unemployed persons in other place	22.0	9.0	0.9
12004	Support to unemployed in gaining work experience in the field of their specialization	148.1	139.0	148.1
12005	Lump sum compensation to employers for hiring persons non-competitive in labour market	102.4	69.9	102.0
12006	Provision of seasonal employment in farms	459.6	175.0	180.7
12008	Provision scholarship to unemployed persons, persons at risk of being dismissed, as well as job seekers who have six months left to serve their imprisonment sentence	44.3	39.2	-
12009	Provision of support to persons on parental leave for organizing work in parallel to childcare	393.3	475.2	393.3
12010	Organizing vocational training for mothers non-competitive in labour market and not having any professional background	75.2	35.4	-
12011	Ensuring temporary employment of unemployed through public work	83.6	-	83.6
12013	Provision of assistance in engagement of persons non-competitive in labor market in cattle breeding	517.0	413.0	451.0
12014	Given the Martial Law, ensuring temporary employment of the unemployed citizens of the Republic of Artsakh displaced as a result of the war relished by Azerbaijan on 27 September 2020 and actually residing in the Republic of Armenia by means of organizing paid social work	-	27.9	3.6
12015	Support in gaining work experience to unemployed Artsakh citizens displaced due to 44 days war of 2020 and staying in Armenia	-	181.5	178.0
12016	Providing state support to employers in case of employment of former servicemen having been injured (wounded) as a result of military operations (persons equal to them) and recognized as disabled	-	0.1	-
12017	Support for promoting women entrepreneurship and increasing working capacity thereof	-	75.0	-
12018	Organization of vocational training and ensuring employment of unemployed persons having taken part in armed hostilities unleashed by Azerbaijan in 2016 and 2020	-	-	65.5
32001	Technical saturation within the framework of “Electronic labour exchange” grant programme implemented with the support of the Eurasian Development Bank	-	-	164.8

*Annual adjusted plan for a nine months period

Source: Reports on RA State Budget Execution for 2020 and 2021, Report on 2022 RA State Budget Execution for a nine months period



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