

MONITORING THE SITUATION OF CHILDREN AND WOMEN

Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey
Republic of Moldova*, 2012

Key Findings



*Excluding Transnistrian region



Ministry of Health
of the Republic
of Moldova



National
Public Health
Centre



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Agency for Development
and Cooperation SDC
Agenția Elvețiană pentru
Dezvoltare și Cooperare



World Health
Organization

REGIONAL OFFICE FOR
Europe

unicef

MULTIPLE INDICATOR CLUSTER SURVEY (MICS)

SURVEY BACKGROUND

The MICS is an international household survey programme developed by UNICEF. This survey provides up-to-date information on the situation of children, women and men, and measures key indicators that allow countries to monitor progress towards the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and other internationally agreed upon commitments.

The 2012 MICS was carried out in the Republic of Moldova (excluding Transnistrian region) as part of the fourth global round of MICS surveys and implemented by the National Centre of Public Health of the Ministry of Health in collaboration with the National Bureau of Statistics, the Scientific Research Institute of Mother and Child Health Care, the Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family, the Ministry of Education, the National Centre for Health Management, and the National Centre for Reproductive Health and Medical Genetics. Financial and technical support was provided by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), with contribution of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation and the World Health Organization.

The survey provides a solid base of comparable data and constitutes a valuable support in developing policies and strategies in the areas of health, education and well-being of families and children in the Republic of Moldova.

Fieldwork period: April 17-June 30 2012

Household Questionnaires: 11,354; Response rate: 97.4%

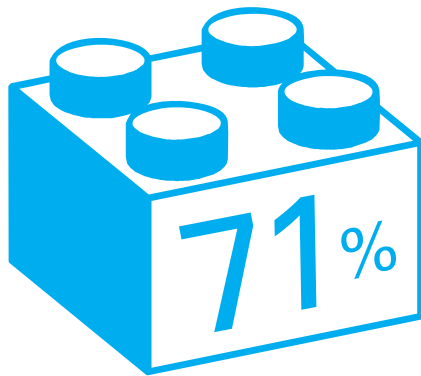
Questionnaires for Individual Women (age 15-49): 6,000; Response rate: 89.3%

Questionnaires for Individual Men (age 15-49): 1,545; Response rate: 77.0%

Questionnaires for Children Under Five: 1,869; Response rate: 96.3%

EDUCATION

PRESCHOOL ATTENDANCE



of children 3-5 years (36-59 months) of age attend early childhood education programmes



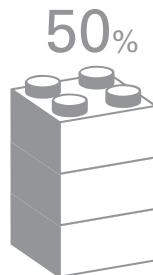
Urban



Rural



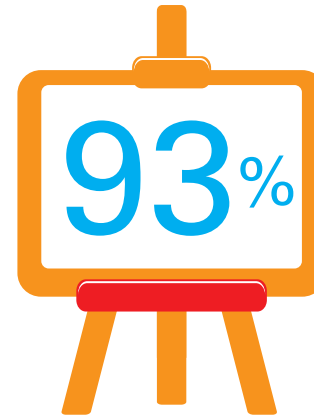
Richest



Poorest

Children from **POOREST FAMILIES** have almost **TWO-TIMES FEWER OPPORTUNITIES** than the richest to attend early education programmes.

SCHOOL READINESS



of children attending first grade of primary school had attended preschool education programmes in the previous year



Boys



Girls



Urban

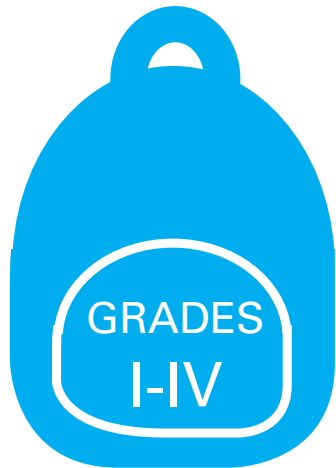


Rural

School readiness is **HIGH**. The **MAJORITY** of children **HAVE** appropriate **KNOWLEDGE** and **SKILLS** to begin primary school.

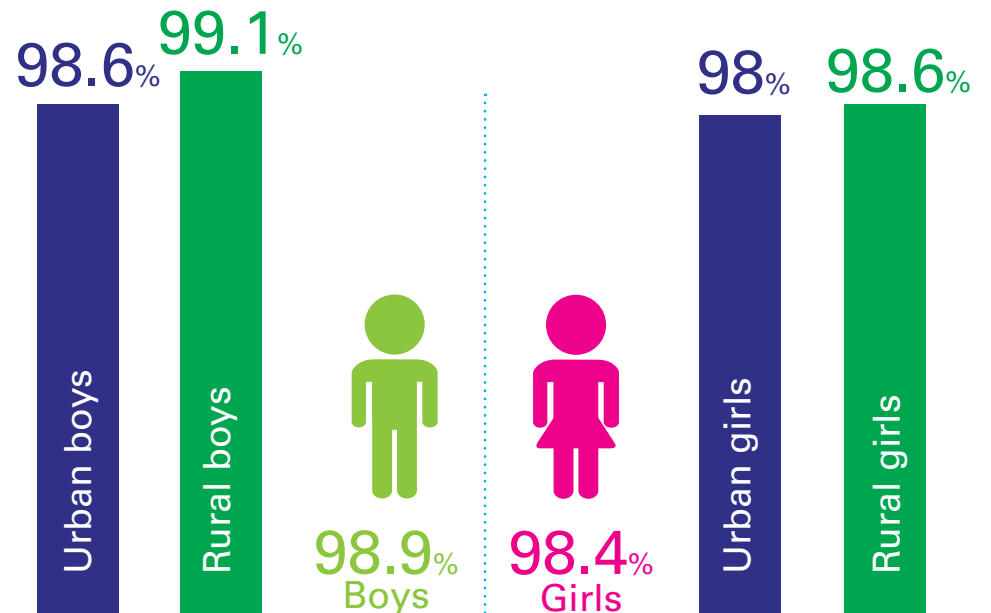
EDUCATION

PRIMARY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE



98.7%

of children are enrolled in primary education



PRIMARY school attendance is **ALMOST UNIVERSAL**, as nearly **ALL CHILDREN** of primary school age are **ENROLLED**.

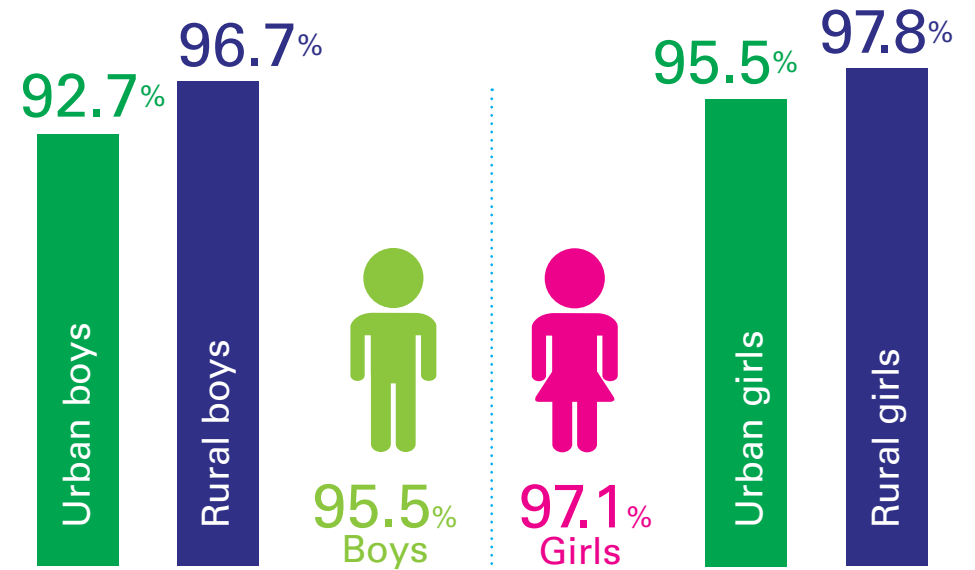
EDUCATION

LOWER SECONDARY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE



96.3%

of children are enrolled in secondary education



Attendance rate is **LOWER** for **POOREST CHILDREN** and for **URBAN BOYS**.

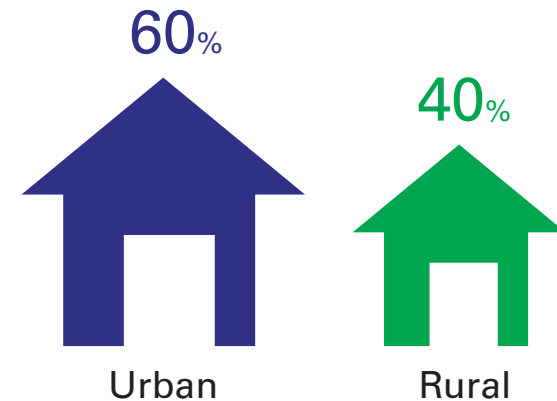
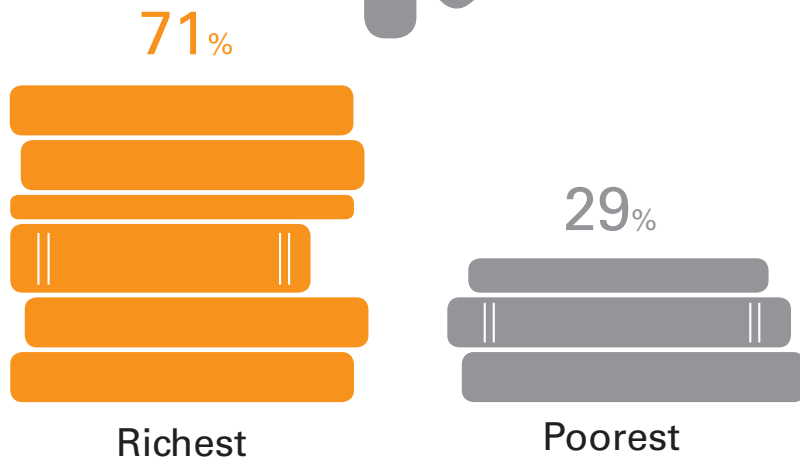
CHILD DEVELOPMENT

FATHER'S ENGAGEMENT IN CHILDHOOD LEARNING



47%

of children 3-5 years (36-59 months) of age were engaged with their father in learning and school readiness activities



Children from **POOREST FAMILIES** and from **RURAL AREAS** have **FEWER CHANCES** to learn with their fathers.

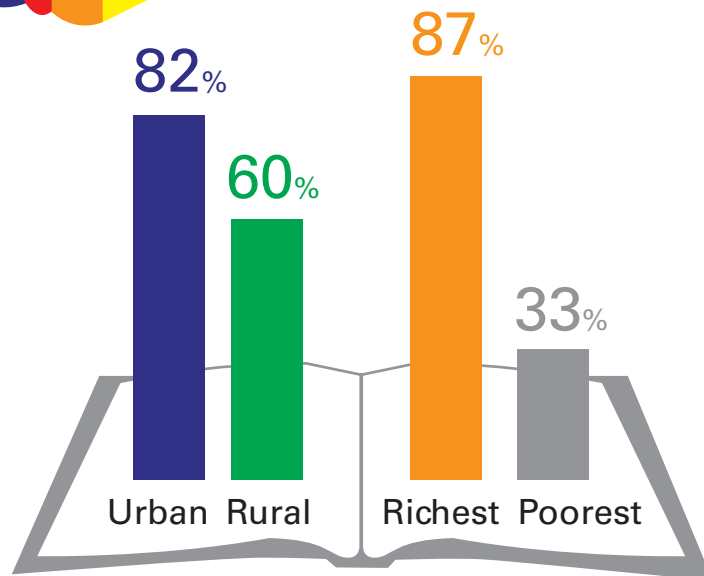
CHILD DEVELOPMENT

AVAILABILITY OF LEARNING MATERIALS AND TOYS



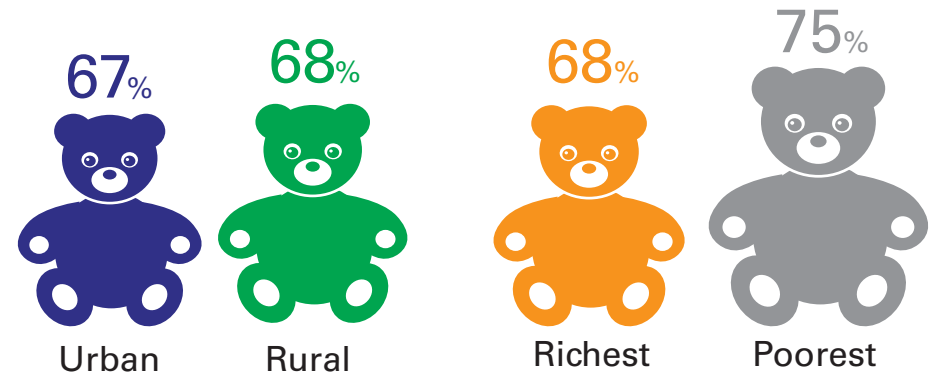
68%

of children under 5 years have 3 or more books



68%

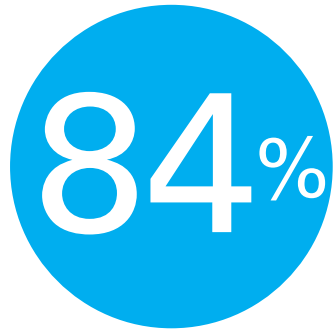
of children under 5 years have 2 or more types of toys or playthings



While **TOYS** and playthings are **AVAILABLE** in the majority of households, **LEARNING MATERIALS** are **MISSING**. Only **ONETHIRD** of **POOREST** families have 3 or more **CHILDREN'S BOOKS** at home.

CHILD DEVELOPMENT

EARLY CHILD DEVELOPMENT INDEX SCORE



of children 3-5 years (36-59 months) of age are developmentally on-track in literacy-numeracy, physical, social-emotional and learning domains.



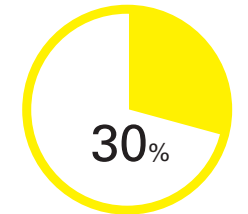
The **POOREST** children and those living in **RURAL AREAS** show **POOREST PERFORMANCE**.

LITERACY-NUMERACY: Children are identified as being developmentally on-track based on whether they can identify/name at least ten letters of the alphabet, whether they can read at least four simple, popular words and whether they know the name and recognize the symbols of all numbers from 1 to 10. If at least two of these are true, then the child is considered developmentally on-track.

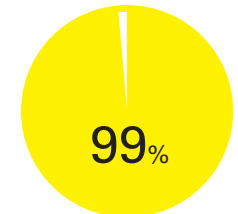
PHYSICAL: If the child can pick up a small object with two fingers, such as a stick or a rock from the ground and/or the mother/care-taker does not indicate that the child is sometimes too sick to play, then the child is regarded as being developmentally on-track in the physical domain.

SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL: Children are considered to be developmentally on-track if two of the following are true: If the child gets along well with other children; if the child does not kick, bite, or hit other children and; if the child does not get distracted easily.

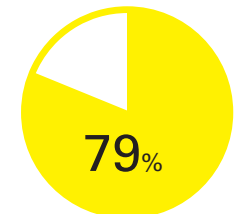
LEARNING: If the child follows simple directions on how to do something correctly and/or when given something to do, is able to do it independently, then the child is considered to be developmentally on-track in this domain.



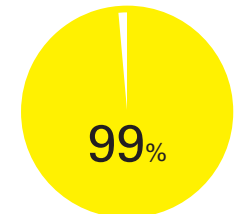
Literacy-numeracy



Physical



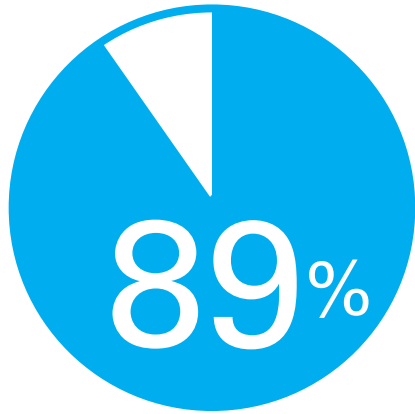
Social-Emotional



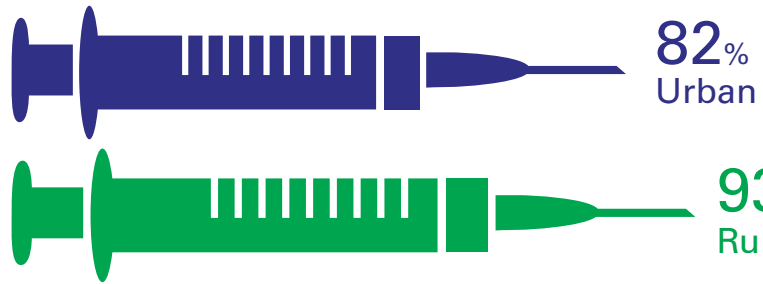
Learning

CHILD HEALTH

VACCINATION

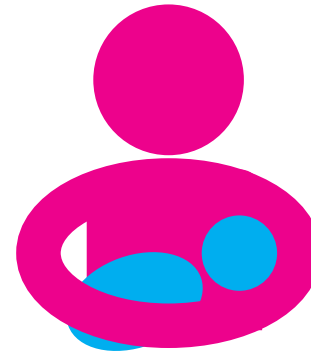


of children 15-26 months of age were vaccinated against preventable childhood diseases



2 out of 10 **URBAN** children were **NOT VACCINATED** against preventable childhood diseases.

BREASTFEEDING



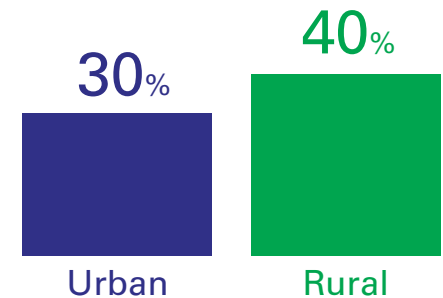
61%

of children were breastfed within one hour of birth



36%

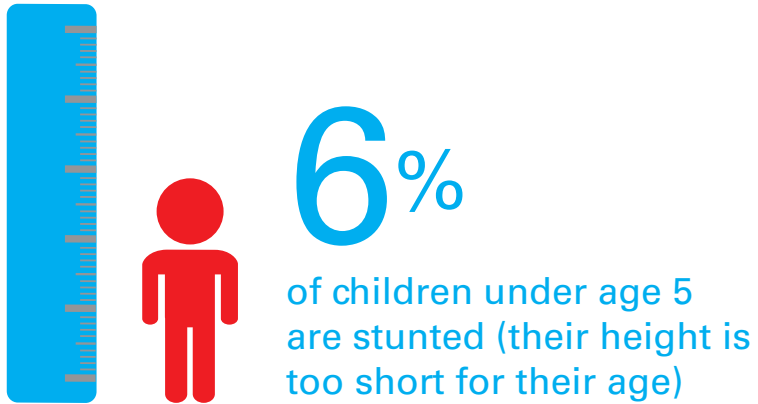
of children 0-5 months of age were exclusively breastfed



Less than **HALF** of **CHILDREN** 0-5 months of age are **EXCLUSIVELY BREASTFED**.

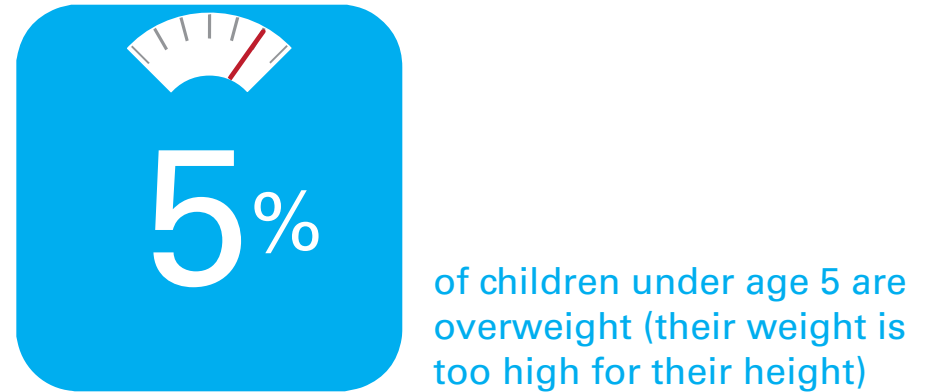
NUTRITION

STUNTED



Children from **POOREST** quintile are nearly **FOUR-TIMES** more affected by **STUNTING** than children from the richest quintile.

OVERWEIGHT



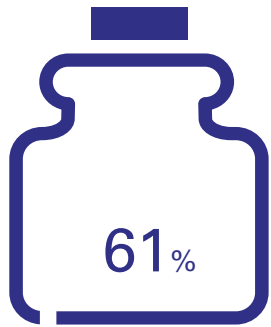
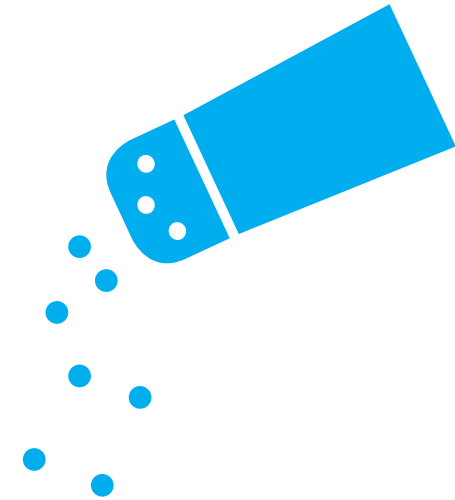
Children from **RICHEST** families are **TWO-TIMES** more likely to be **OVERWEIGHT** than those from the poorest families.

NUTRITION

USE OF IODISED SALT



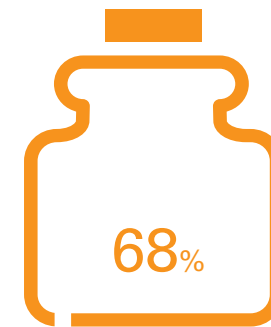
44% of households use adequately iodised salt



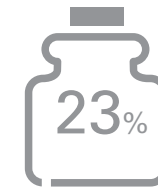
Urban



Rural



Richest

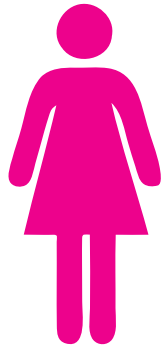


Poorest

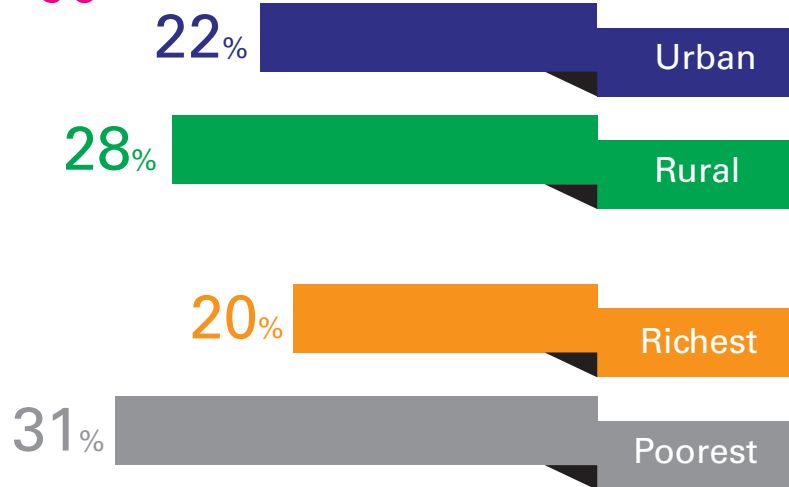
The **POOREST** families and those living in **RURAL** areas are **LESS LIKELY** to use iodised salt.

HEALTH

ANAEMIA



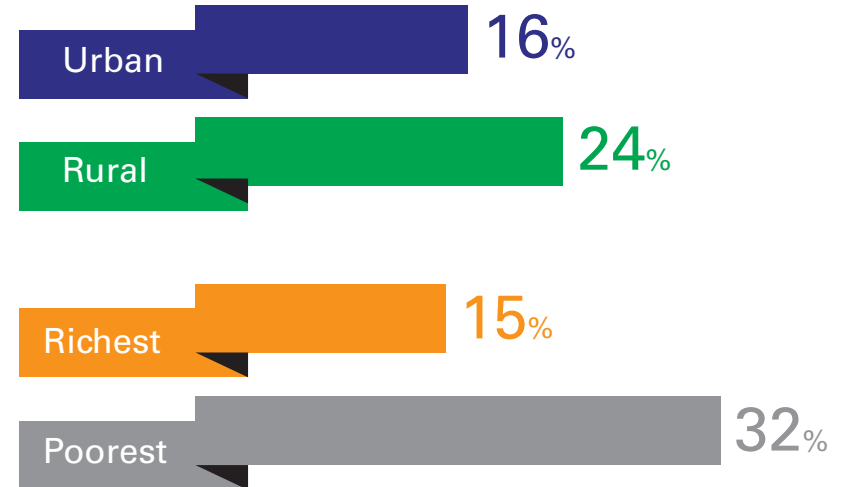
26% of women 15-49 years of age are anaemic



The **POOREST WOMEN** and those living in **RURAL** areas have **HIGHER RISK** of being anaemic.



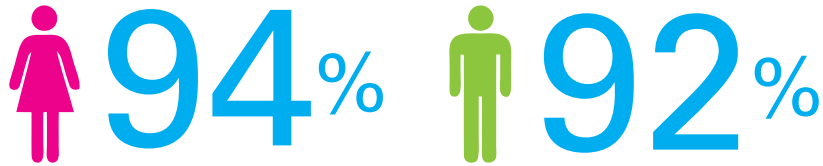
21% of children 6-59 months of age are anaemic



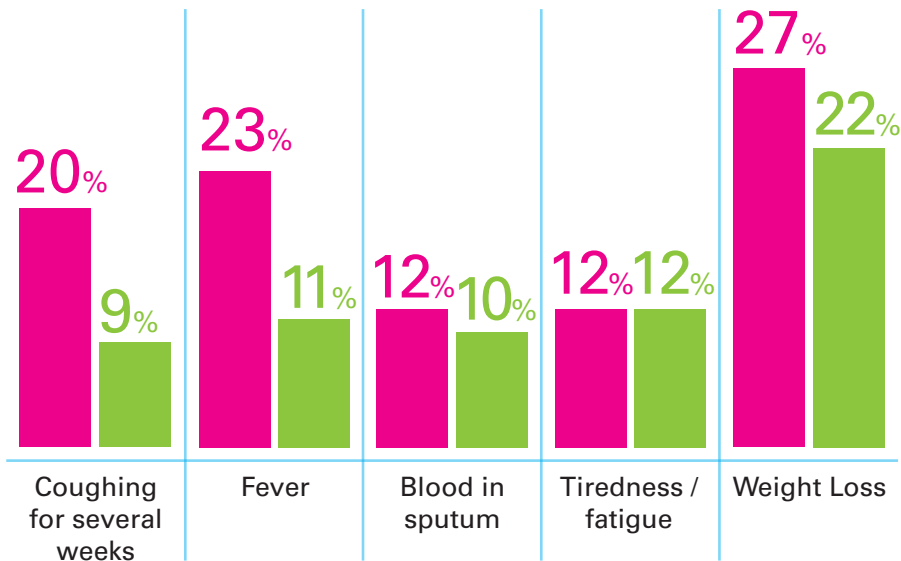
Children from the **POOREST** quintile have **TWOTIMES** higher risk of being **ANAEMIC** than those in the richest quintile.

TUBERCULOSIS

KNOWLEDGE OF SYMPTOMS

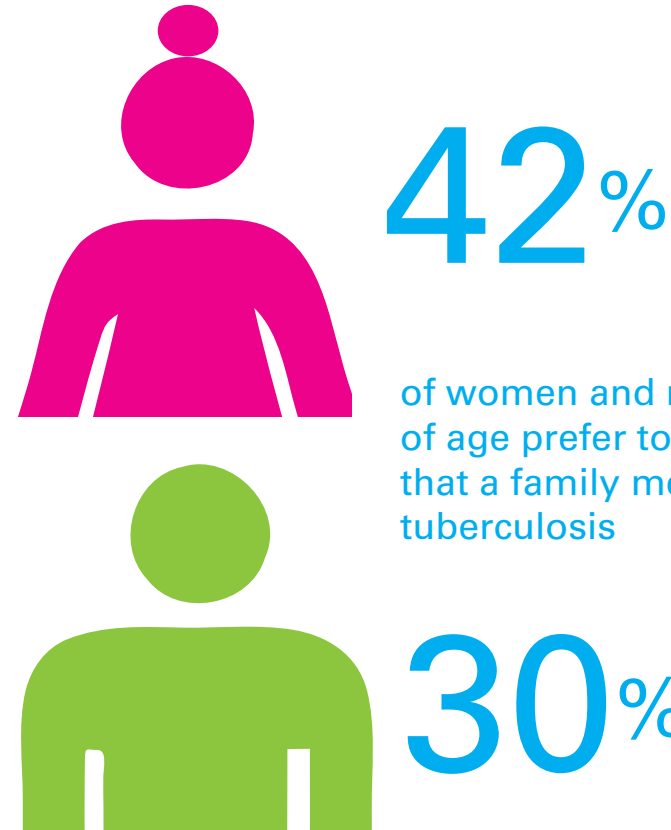


of women and men 15-49 years of age know at least one specific symptom of tuberculosis (TB)



Compared to women, **MEN** are **TWO** times **LESS AWARE** of two of the key symptoms of TB, namely coughing for several weeks and fever.

ATTITUDE TOWARDS PEOPLE LIVING WITH TUBERCULOSIS



of women and men 15-49 years of age prefer to keep in secret that a family member has tuberculosis

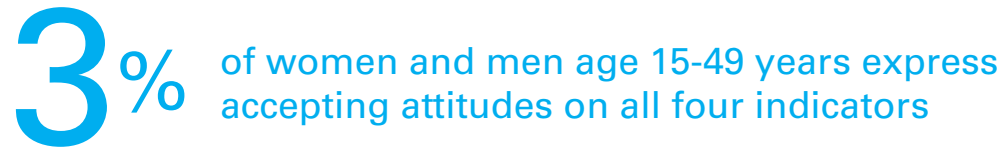
More than a **THIRD** of the **POPULATION** prefers to **HIDE** the fact that a family member has TB. The fear of **STIGMA** is **HIGHER** among **WOMEN**.

HIV/AIDS

ATTITUDES TOWARDS PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV



of women and men age 15-49 years agree with at least one accepting attitude



Accepting attitudes include:

- Willing to care for a family member sick with AIDS
- Would buy fresh vegetables from a vendor who is HIV positive
- Thinks that a female teacher who is HIV positive should be allowed to teach in school
- Would not want to keep HIV status of a family member a secret

The **HIGHEST** level of stigma is present among **POOR** and **RURAL** population.

HIV TESTING DURING ANTENATAL CARE



of women were offered an HIV test, tested for HIV and given the results during the antenatal period



FOUR IN FIVE pregnant women were tested for **HIV** and given the results.

HIV/AIDS

COMPREHENSIVE KNOWLEDGE ABOUT HIV TRANSMISSION AMONG YOUNG PEOPLE 15-24 YEARS OF AGE

36%

of women



28%

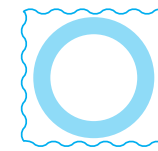
of men

15-24 years of age have comprehensive knowledge about HIV transmission

USE OF CONDOMS AMONG YOUNG PEOPLE 15-24 YEARS OF AGE

49%

of women



68%

of men

15-24 years of age who had sex with more than one partner in the last 12 months used a condom

Comprehensive **KNOWLEDGE** among young people is **LOW**. Only **ONETHIRD** of young people is **WELL INFORMED** about the main ways of **HIV PREVENTION**.

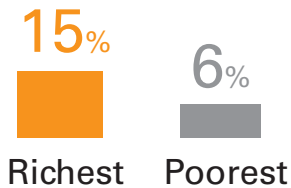
Comprehensive knowledge includes knowledge about the main ways of HIV prevention (having only one faithful uninfected partner and using a condom at each intercourse, who know that a healthy looking person can be HIV positive, and who reject the two most common misconceptions).

TOBACCO USE

SMOKING ON ONE OR MORE DAYS IN THE PAST MONTH

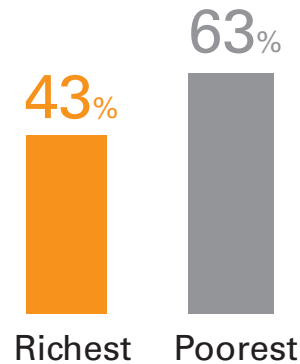
 **8%**

of women 15-49 years of age smoked



 **48%**

of men 15-49 years of age smoked



MORE THAN 20 CIGARETTES PER DAY

12%
of women

47%
of men

15-49 years of age who smoke had more than 20 cigarettes in the past 24 hours

HALF of **MEN** age 15-49 years are **CURRENT SMOKERS**, and of those in **THE POOREST** quintile, 2 in 3 smoke. **WOMEN** are 6 times less likely than men to smoke but contrary to men, **THE RICHEST SMOKE** the most.

ALCOHOL USE

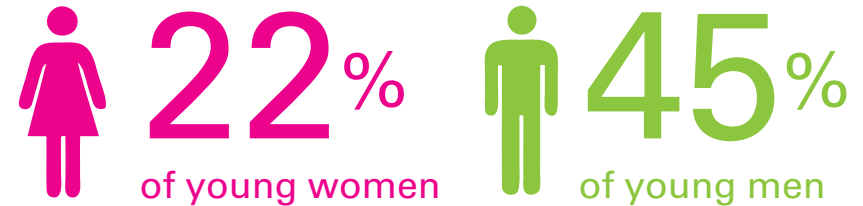
ALCOHOL USE ON ONE OR MORE DAYS IN THE PAST MONTH



15-49 years of age had at least one drink of alcohol on one or more days in the past month

MORE than **HALF** of the population **USES** **ALCOHOL**.

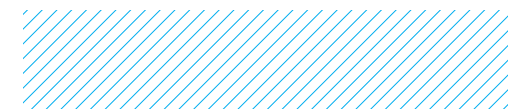
FIRST USE OF ALCOHOL FOR ADOLESCENTS 15-19 YEARS OF AGE



started to drink alcohol before the age 15

2 in 10 **FEMALE** adolescents started drinking alcohol **BEFORE AGE 15**, compared to 5 in 10 **MALE** adolescents.

REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH



USE OF CONTRACEPTION



of women 15-49 years of age currently married or in union are using a modern contraceptive method



Modern methods include:

- Female sterilisation
- Intrauterine dispositive
- Injectables
- Pill
- Male condom
- Diaphragm/foam/jelly
- Lactational amenorrhoea method

UNMET NEED FOR CONTRACEPTION



of women 15-49 years of age currently married or in union either wish to wait at least 2 years for their next birth or say that they want no more children, but are not using contraception

ADOLESCENT PREGNANCY



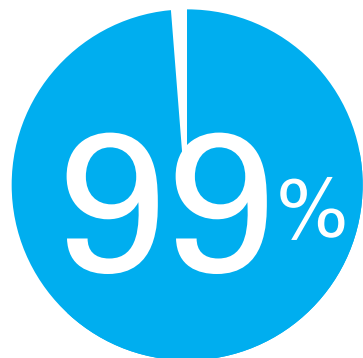
of adolescent girls 15-19 years of age have already had a birth or are pregnant with their first child

Less than **HALF** of **WOMEN** 15-49 years of age are using a modern **CONTRACEPTIVE** method.

REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH



OBSTETRIC CARE

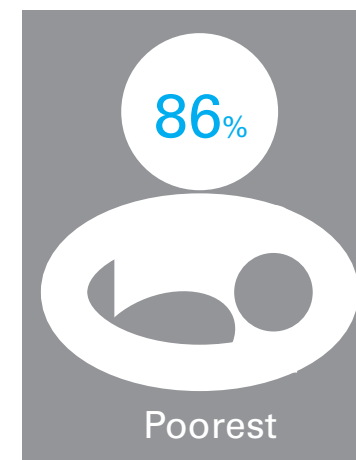
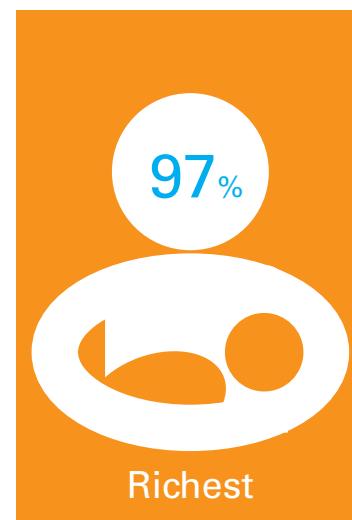


of births were delivered in public health facilities and assisted by skilled personnel (doctors and nurses)

ANTENATAL CARE

95%

of mothers received antenatal care at least four times during pregnancy

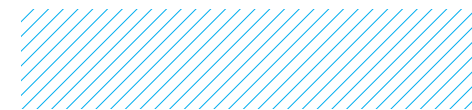


BIRTH REGISTRATION

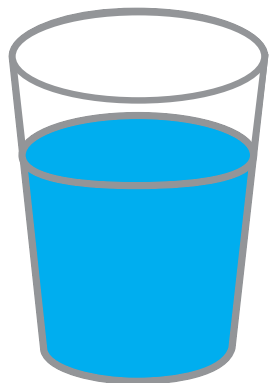
99.6%

of children under age of 5 had their birth registered with civil authorities

WATER AND SANITATION



DRINKING WATER



86%

of the population uses improved sources of drinking water



Improved sources of water:

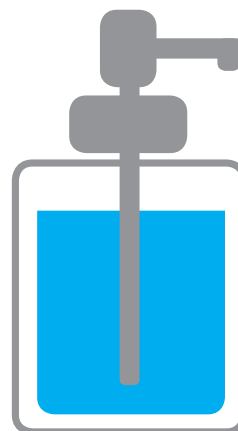
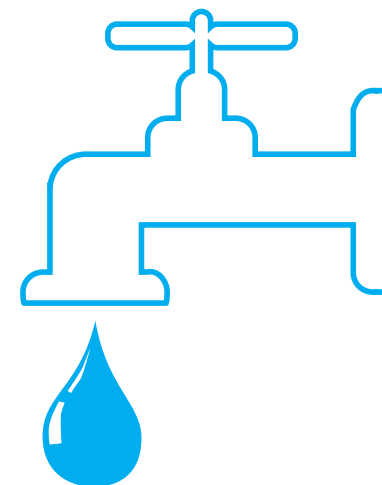
- piped water,
- tube-well/bore-hole,
- protected well,
- protected spring,
- bottled water

ONE FIFTH of the **RURAL** population **DOES NOT USE** improved sources of drinking water.

HANDWASHING

95%

of the households have water available for handwashing



95%

of the households have soap or other material available for handwashing

WATER AND SANITATION

USE OF IMPROVED SANITATION

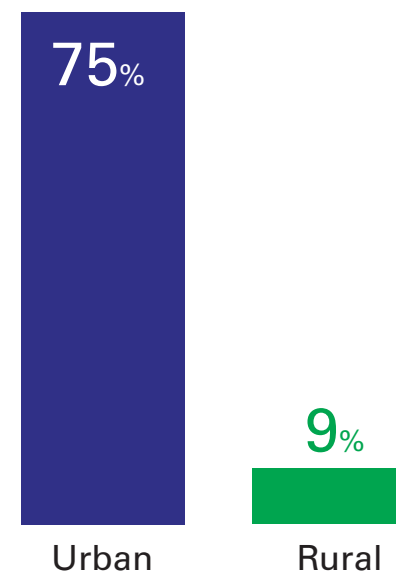
70% of the population use improved sanitation



Improved sanitation:

- flush or pour flush to a piped sewer system, septic tank or pit latrine,
- ventilated improved pit latrine,
- composting toilet

34% of the population use flush toilet facility



Use of improved sanitation facilities **VARIES GREATLY** between **CITIES** and **VILLAGES**, particularly for **FLUSH TOILET**.

ACCESS TO MASS MEDIA



32%

of women and men 15-49 years of age watch TV, listen to the radio and read newspapers at least once a week



Richest 39%

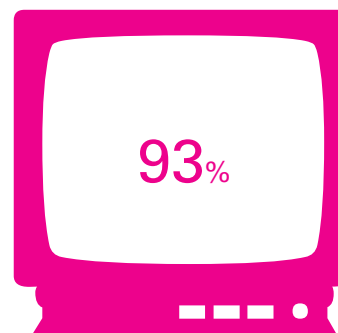
Poorest 14%



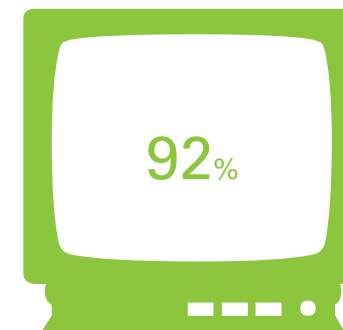
Richest 45%

Poorest 17%

WOMEN and **MEN** from the **POOREST** quintile are much **LESS LIKELY** to get information from mass media.



Women



Men

of women and men 15-49 years of age watch television at least once a week

TV is the **MOST POPULAR** media in Moldova.

USE OF COMPUTERS AND INTERNET



76%

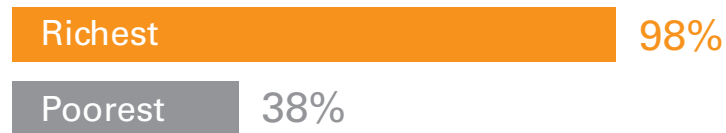
of women and men 15-24 years of age used a computer at least once a week during the last month before the interview

USE OF INTERNET



81%

of women 15-24 years of age used the internet at least once a week during the last month



78%

of men 15-24 years of age used the internet at least once a week during the last month



While the **AVERAGE USE** of internet among young people is relatively **HIGH**, there are **HUGE DISCREPANCIES** between the poorest and the richest. Only **ONETHIRD** of **POOREST YOUTH** are using the internet.

LIFE SATISFACTION

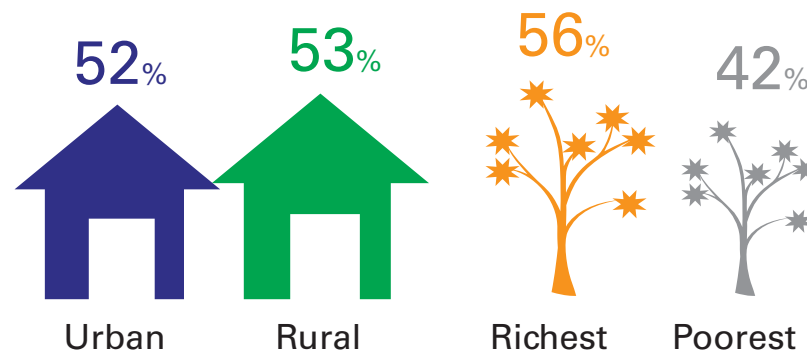
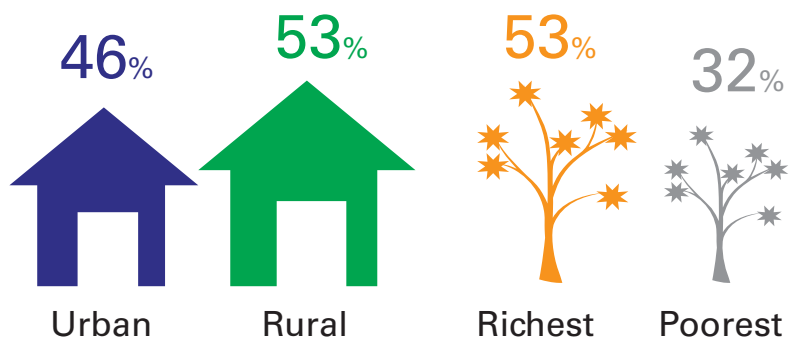


50%

of young women
15-24 years of age are
satisfied with their life

53%

of young men
15-24 years of age are
satisfied with their life



Only one **THIRD** of **POOREST** young **WOMEN** are **SATISFIED** with their life.

Domains of life satisfaction include: family life, friendships, school, current job, health, living environment, treatment by others, the way one looks and the current income.

CHILD PROTECTION

CHILD DISCIPLINE METHODS



76%

of children 2-14 years of age experienced a violent method of discipline



22%

of children were disciplined using non-violent methods



48%

of children 2-14 years of age were subjected to physical punishment



69%

of children 2-14 years of age were subjected to psychological aggression

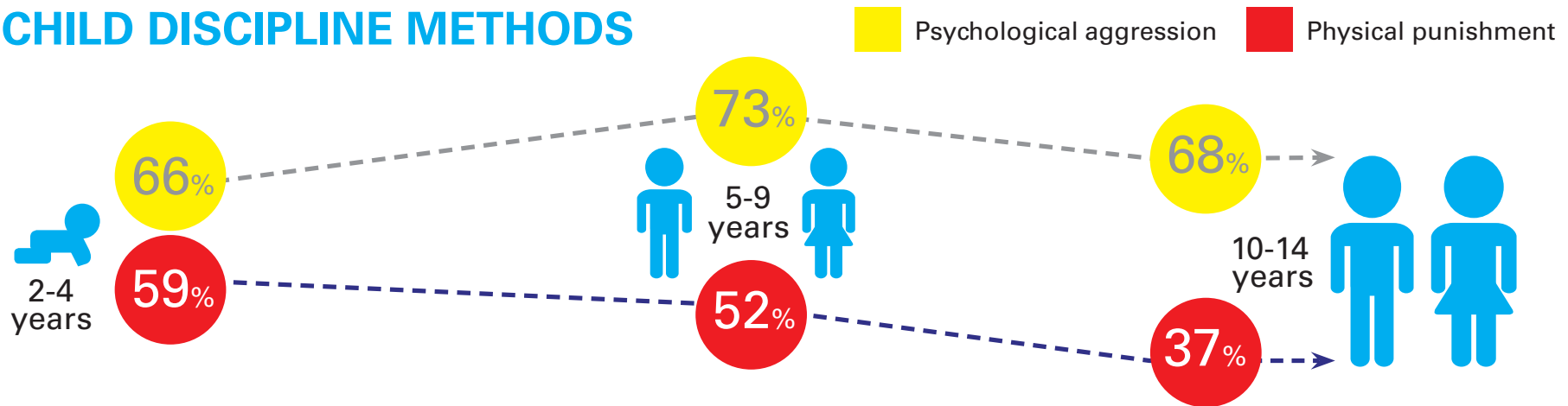
15%

Even though the practice of violent discipline is common, only 15 percent of adults believe that a child needs to be physically punished.

PARENTS do **NOT KNOW** how to **DISCIPLINE** their children **WITHOUT VIOLENCE** and **NEED** to be educated on **POSITIVE DISCIPLINE**.

CHILD PROTECTION

CHILD DISCIPLINE METHODS



The **YOUNGER** the child is, the **MORE** likely s/he is to be **PHYSICALLY PUNISHED**.

PHYSICAL PUNISHMENT (children age 2-14 years)



BOYS are **SLIGHTLY** more likely to be **PHYSICALLY PUNISHED**.

ANY VIOLENT DISCIPLINE METHOD (children age 2-14 years)



The likelihood of **VIOLENT DISCIPLINE** to children age 2-14 years is **HIGHER** among those living in **POOREST** families.

CHILD PROTECTION

ATTITUDES TOWARDS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

11% of women 15-49 years of age believe a husband is justified in beating his wife or partner for any reason

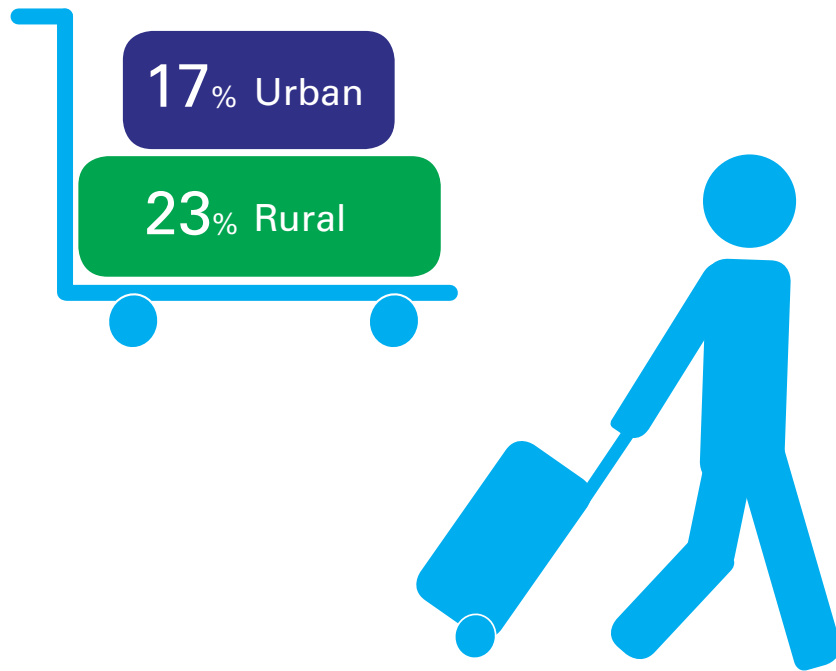
13% of men 15-49 years of age believe a husband is justified in beating his wife or partner for any reason



WOMEN and **MEN** justify violence in a **SIMILAR WAY.**

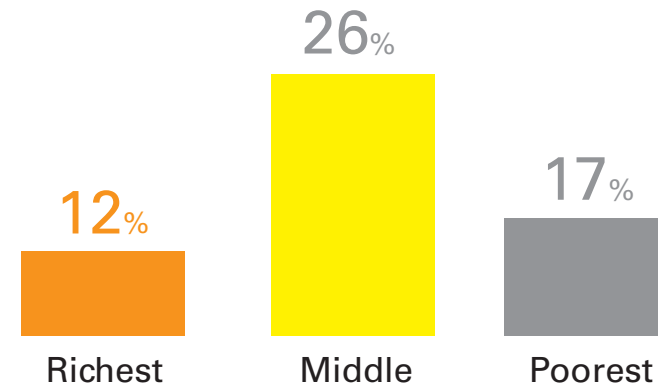
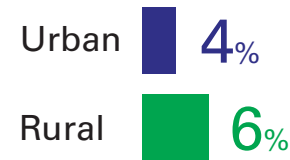
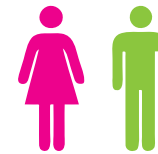
MIGRATION

21% of children have at least one parent living abroad



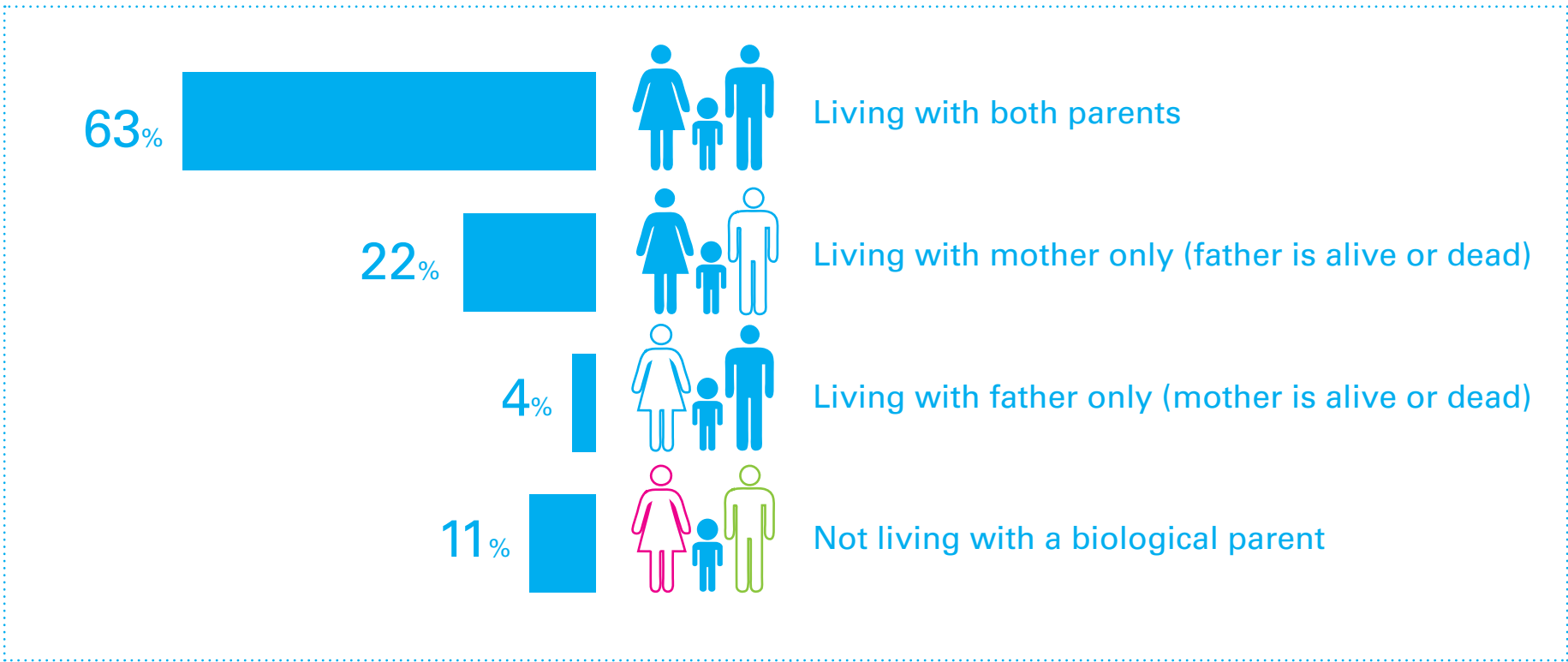
Children from **RURAL** areas are more likely to **LIVE WITHOUT ONE OR BOTH PARENTS** due to migration.

5% of children have both parents abroad

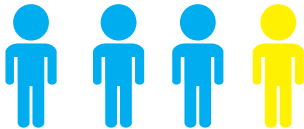


MIGRATION affects especially **MIDDLE-CLASS** children.

CHILDREN'S LIVING ARRANGEMENTS



ONE in FOUR children in Moldova lives with her/his **BIOLOGICAL MOTHER** or **FATHER** only.



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