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Levels and Patterns of Safety Net Spending in Developing and Transition Countries

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June 2008

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Keywords: transfers, safety nets, social assistance, social protection, redistribution
JEL classification: D31, H55, I31, I38

Acknowledgements

This work draws on, expands and substantially updates an earlier compilation of data done by Lorraine Blank which included in turn a regional compilation done by Luis Guillermo Hakim for the Middle East and North Africa. The search for spending figures was hugely abetted by the parallel review of all World Bank analytic work carried out simultaneously by Annamaria Milazzo. Box 2 draws on a memo written by Emanuele Baldacci. Helpful comments came from David Coady, Francisco Ferreira, Tamar Manuelyan Atinc, Carlo del Ninno, Valerie Kozel, and Emil Tesliuc.

Abstract

This paper offers a new set of data compiled from individual World Bank country reports. We give a brief textual description of patterns and trends in spending, and provide the raw data and documentation of its sources in the appendix. The data are also provided in an Excel spreadsheet on the safety nets website www.worldbank.org/safetynets so that others may use them.

Mean spending on safety nets is 1.9 percent of GDP and median spending is 1.4 percent of GDP. For about half of the countries, spending falls between 1 and 2 percent of GDP. Some variation is apparent. Bosnia and Herzegovina, Pakistan, and Tajikistan, for example, spend considerably less than 1 percent of GDP, while spending on social safety nets in Ethiopia and Malawi is nearly 4.5 percent of GDP because international aid is counted, but would be more like 0.5 percent if only domestically financed spending were counted. Other high-spending countries—Mauritius, South Africa, and the Slovak Republic—finance their safety nets domestically. Spending on safety nets is less variable than spending on social protection or the social sectors.

Levels and Patterns of Safety Net Spending in Developing and Transition Countries

Introduction

All countries have safety nets and the World Bank has an active portfolio of policy dialogue, training and lending for safety nets, having engaged with over one hundred countries on the theme in the last five years. Safety nets, or social protection more generally, are similarly a topic of policy concern for a number of international agencies.

Good measures of spending on safety nets remain elusive. This paper offers a new set of data compiled from individual World Bank country reports. We give a brief textual description of patterns and trends in spending, and provide the raw data and documentation of its sources in the appendix. The data are also provided in an Excel spreadsheet on the safety nets website www.worldbank.org/safetynets so that others may use them.

Definitions

We take as the definition of safety nets non-contributory transfers targeted in some manner to the poor or vulnerable. This is a fairly commonly accepted definition (see Box 1). Some writers, especially in the United States, use the term “welfare” to mean roughly the same thing; others especially in Europe, equate it with “social assistance.”

Under this conceptual definition there are many variants of programs, the most common include the following:

- Cash transfers or food stamps, whether means tested or categorical as in child allowances or social pensions
- In-kind transfers, with food via school feeding programs or mother/child supplement programs being the most common, but also of take-home food rations, school supplies and uniforms, and so on
- Price subsidies meant to benefit households, often for food or energy
- Jobs on labor-intensive public works schemes, sometimes called workfare
- In-cash or in-kind transfers to poor households, subject to compliance to specific conditionalities on education or health
- Fee waivers for essential services, health care, schooling, utilities, or transport

The following further clarifies what we do and do not consider under the rubric of safety nets.

- *Social protection.* As used here, safety nets do not include the rest of social protection—that is, social insurance programs such as pensions and unemployment insurance. To the extent

that these schemes deliver benefits based on contributions of their own members, they are not safety nets; rather, they might be thought of as deferred compensation packages for affiliated employees.

- *Labor.* The extensive regulatory aspects of labor are separate from safety nets. Active labor market policies and income support to the unemployed are closely related to—and, indeed, sometimes directly overlap with—safety nets, but most of the programs used to these purposes are well covered elsewhere and are not discussed here.
- *Health and education.* In our nomenclature, safety nets are complemented by social insurance contributory programs such as pensions and unemployment insurance, and more broadly by the rest of social policy, especially in health and education, sometimes with important elements of housing or utility policy.

Finally, note that our definition concentrates on *publicly* financed safety nets—that is, those funded by national or local government or by official international aid. Most often, such safety nets are delivered by the state, although nongovernmental organizations may be used as well and certain functions contracted to the private sector. Even though private action via interhousehold transfers, community support arrangements, private *zakat*, private contributions to nongovernmental organizations, and other forms of charity may involve substantial flows of resources (indeed, sometimes exceeding public funds), and while the policy maker must understand the scope and shape of these privately financed safety nets, the main realm of public action is via publicly financed programs.

Because we define safety nets rather narrowly, their costs are lower than some people associate with safety nets. In Uruguay, for example, total social sector expenditure (social assistance, social insurance, health, education, and other) is quite high—accounting for between 20 and 25 percent of gross domestic product (GDP) between 2000 and 2005—but expenditures on safety nets per se are only 0.5 percent of GDP (World Bank 2007a).

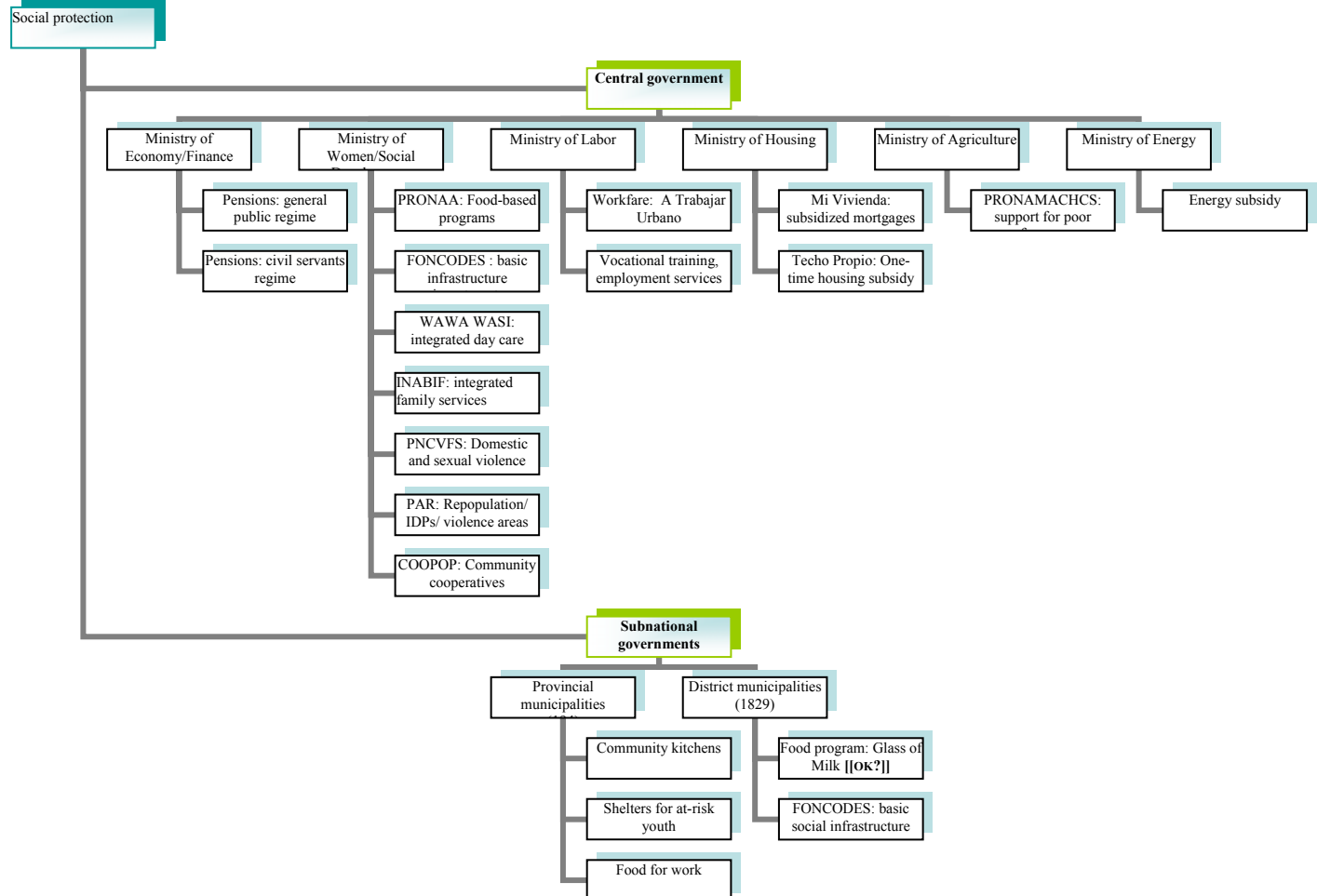
Box 1: Definitions of Safety Nets and Social Assistance

- The *Asian Development Bank* defines social assistance as programs designed to assist the most vulnerable individuals, households, and communities meet a subsistence floor and improve living standards (Howell 2001).
- The U.K.'s *Department for International Development* defines social assistance as noncontributory transfers to those deemed eligible by society on the basis of their vulnerability or poverty. Examples include social transfers and initiatives such as fee waivers for education and health, and school meals (DFID 2005).
- *The International Labour Organization* defines social assistance as tax-financed benefits to those with low incomes (ILO 2000).
- The *International Monetary Fund* defines safety nets as instruments aimed at mitigating possible adverse effects of reform measures on the poor (Chu and Gupta 1998).

- The *Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development* defines social assistance as support targeted to households that are clustered within the lower segment of the income distribution and is provided to prevent extreme hardship among those with no other resources, reduce social exclusion, minimize disincentives to paid employment, and promote self-sufficiency (Adema 2006).
- The *Food and Agriculture Organization* defines social safety nets as cash or in-kind transfer programs that seek to reduce poverty by redistributing wealth and/or protect households against income shocks. Social safety nets seek to ensure a minimum level of well-being, a minimum level of nutrition, or help households manage risk (FAO 2003).

Quantifying spending on safety nets is difficult because the conceptual definition does not fit within a single ministry’s mandate. Thus the most easily and regularly obtainable sets of numbers on government spending are not useful for tracking spending on safety nets. Figure 1, which shows responsibilities for Peru’s safety net programs, illustrates the issue well. The main safety net programs fall under half a dozen ministries and three different levels of government. This is the case even though Peru only had about 20 major safety net programs, many fewer than commonly found elsewhere.

Figure 1: Institutional Responsibility for Safety Net Programs, Peru



Source: World Bank 2005

Box 2: Literature Safety Net Spending Levels based on the International Monetary Fund *Government Finance Statistics*

Social safety net programs typically represent about 1 to 2 percent or less of GDP in developing countries. This compares with spending levels of 2 to 4 percent of GDP in industrial countries (Atkinson 1995). Average spending levels tend to be higher in middle-income countries than in low-income countries, reflecting the low revenue base in the latter countries, but variability is large (Fox 2003). Spending levels also vary by region, with South Asian and Sub-Saharan African countries spending less than Latin American and Caribbean countries and countries in Eastern and Central Europe and the Middle East countries spending more (Besley, Burgess, and Rasul 2003).

Various authors have tested for and found different factors that may affect the level of safety net spending or of social spending more broadly. Higher per capita incomes tend to be associated with higher spending on social assistance programs, while the incidence of poverty and inequality are not necessarily good predictors of the level of spending on social safety nets. This is because in many regions, for example, Latin America and the Caribbean, the system of social protection is split between social insurance for the (wealthier) formal sector worker and meager social assistance for the (poorer) worker in the informal sector. (Fiszbein 2004). Schwabish, Smeeding, and Osberg (2004) find that inequality between the middle class and the poor (as measured by the ratio of welfare between those at the 50th percentile and those at the 10th percentile) has a small, positive impact on social spending, but that inequality between the ends of the distribution and the middle class (as measured by the 90th percentile and those at the 50th percentile) has a large and negative impact. Also spending levels tend to be higher for countries with better governance indicators (Baldacci, Hillman, and Kojo 2004), but are not necessarily different in decentralized and centralized economies (Ter Minassian 1997). Spending on social safety nets tends to be correlated with government size, but is generally negatively correlated with fiscal deficits and inflation. This is because countries with unstable macroeconomic conditions are more likely to have insufficient resources to finance the social safety net (de Ferranti and others 2000).

The International Monetary Fund's publication *Government Finance Statistics* (IMF, 2001) is accessible, published frequently, and takes care to establish comparability, but does not have a category that closely matches the concept of safety nets as used in this book. It lumps much social assistance in with social insurance to come up with a single figure for "social security and welfare,"¹ other social assistance may fall under the

¹ This category includes transfer payments (including in kind) to compensate recipients for reduction or loss of income or for inadequate earning capacity; sickness, maternity, disability, old-age, and survivors' benefits; government employee pension schemes; unemployment compensation; family and child allowances; other social assistance for individuals; and payments to residential institutions for children and the elderly.

² This category includes transfer payments to private social institutions such as hospitals and schools, learned societies, associations, and sports clubs that are not operated as enterprises and current payments in cash to households that add to their disposable income without any simultaneous, equivalent counterpart provided in exchange by the beneficiary and that does not generate or eliminate a financial claim, and is usually intended to cover charges incurred by households because of certain risks or needs.

“transfers to households and other organizations” category,² and more will be reported in the accounts of the ministries that house or serve as umbrella organizations for the various programs, especially if these are in-kind programs. Despite their shortcomings, these numbers have been the basis of a literature on safety net spending summarized in box 2.

Methods

To fill the gap in knowledge about safety net spending in developing countries, we compile data from World Bank public expenditure reviews and other similar analytical work. We conducted an extensive search for such analysis both using and contributing to the inventory of over 250 such documents catalogued in Milazzo and Grosh, 2008.

Steps taken to identify relevant documents were as follows:

- Reviewed all documents listed on the World Bank Public Expenditure Reviews (PERs) website as published
- Reviewed all documents listed on the World Bank Social Protection/Safety Net website
- Reviewed all documents identified on the Social Protection Risk Management category in the World Bank Country Analytic website
- Search country-by-country for all developing countries in the World Bank Country Analytic website and reviewed all studies that were not captured in the above, with particular attention to Poverty Assessments and PERs
- Review documents in the inventory of Milazzo and Grosh, which search involved any document coded in Business Warehouse to theme 54, key term searches in ImageBank, use of extensive subject bibliographies developed for other purposes, etc.

Within each document identified above, we searched for the following key words: social protection ; social insurance ; social assistance; welfare; insurance; pensions to locate pertinent portions to read for spending numbers.

Many of the studies referred to try to sort through countries’ budgets and programmatic structures to assemble comprehensive numbers, an exercise usually carried out for a given country not as part of the annual budgetary process, but as part of one-time or periodic reviews of social policy in that country. Several provide rather extensive detail on how they do this, others were much more summary. There are differences in how the authors of the underlying documents classify various elements of expenditure. This was especially true with respect to:

- Non-contributory pensions - sometimes included as part of social insurance and other times as part of social assistance;
- Health insurance - most often included as part of health sector spending but sometimes included as part of social protection spending
- Active labor market programs –infrequent mention of active labor market programs other than public works
- Child welfare, social services and institutional care – variability in whether these were included

- external financing - the data on Ethiopia and Malawi does include externally financed spending.

Which programs are covered in the data quoted for each country is described in more detail in the worksheet titled "DATA" in the appendix.

Rules followed for data cleaning are as follows:

- when 'year' was not available, data are assigned to the year of the report
- when 'year' was available only in a 2 year range (ex. 2001/02), used the earlier year
- when other data (Gini, other public expenditures, etc...) were not available for the specific year for which spending data were available, we used the data which was closest to that year and/or most recent (and added comment to fields in 'DATA' sheet)

We supplement this information with data for a handful of OECD countries from the OECD social expenditure database (OECD, 2004) and with data from World Bank (2007b).

There are three important caveats to these data:

- *Incomplete coverage:* We provide data for 87 countries between 1996 and 2006.³ Coverage varies by region. It is high for Europe and Central Asia, with 25 of the 29 countries covered (and 96 percent of the population). Coverage is much worse for Sub-Saharan Africa, with 9 of the 47 countries covered (and 18 percent of the population).
- *Comparability:* Because the expenditure numbers compiled were calculated by the many different authors of the many country reports, the precise definition of what to include in the safety net or the social protection sector as a whole varies. We report the composites largely as they occur in the reports, trusting to the judgments of the authors of the individual reports to include what was pertinent and available in a given country. For health and education expenditures, we use World Bank (2007b), which has less serious comparability issues.
- *Interpretation:* What countries do spend is not necessarily what they should spend. The reports underlying the data reported here were undertaken because the level of spending was a policy issue at the time the individual country studies were done. This suggests that at least some parties thought that the level was “wrong” and that more or less should be spent.

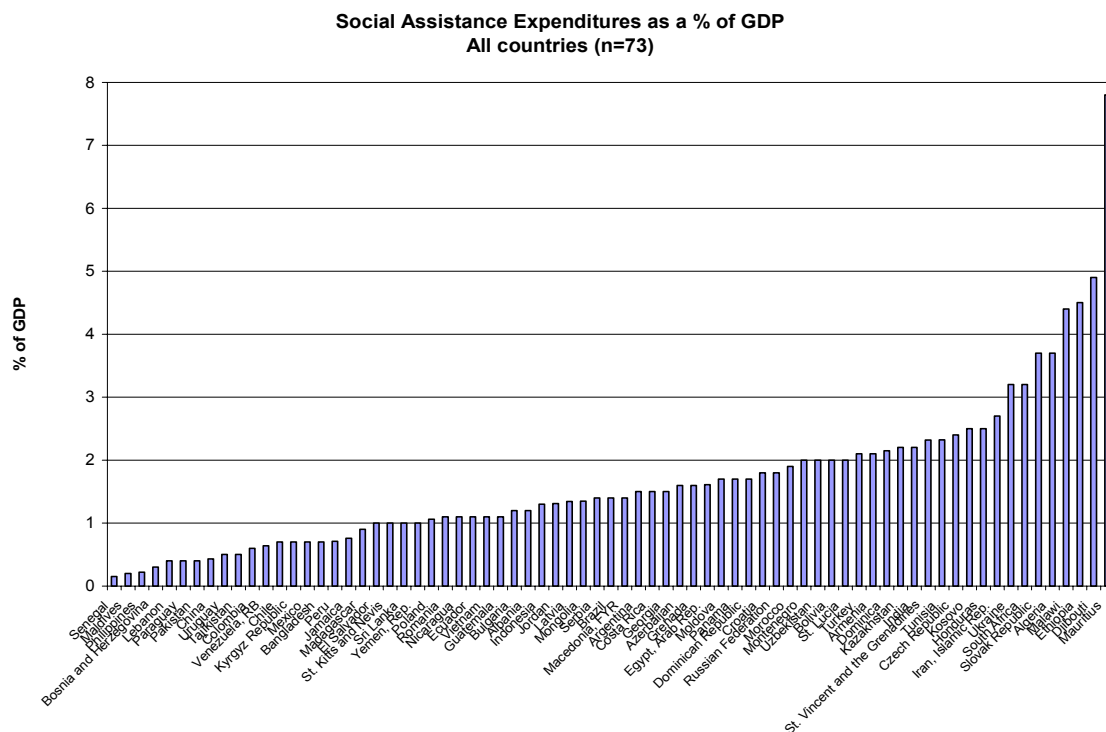
Spending on safety nets as a percentage of GDP provides a summary measure of a government’s efforts to provide safety nets. We also broaden our view to consider wider concepts of spending. We define social protection as the sum of safety nets (social assistance) and social insurance (pensions, unemployment insurance). We define the social sectors as the sum of spending on social protection, health, and education.

³ For the analysis and discussion in this section, the dataset used excludes Iraq, an outlier that has been spending 15 percent of GDP spent on social assistance because of its unique circumstances.

Main Findings

- Mean spending on safety nets is 1.9 percent of GDP and median spending is 1.4 percent of GDP. For about half of the countries, spending falls between 1 and 2 percent of GDP (figure 2).⁴
- Some variation is apparent. Bosnia and Herzegovina, Pakistan, and Tajikistan, for example, spend considerably less than 1 percent of GDP, while spending on social safety nets in Ethiopia and Malawi is nearly 4.5 percent of GDP because international aid is counted, but would be more like 0.5 percent if only domestically financed spending were counted. Other high-spending countries—Mauritius, South Africa, and the Slovak Republic—finance their safety nets domestically.
- Regional patterns are about as might be expected, with the Middle East and North Africa spending the most (2.2 percent on average), followed by Europe and Central Asia (1.7 percent on average), and Latin America and the Caribbean (1.3 percent on average). The smaller number of observations makes the averages less robust for the other regions, for instance, the average of 3.5 percent for Sub-Saharan Africa is based on only six observations and also includes external financing.
- Spending on safety nets is less variable than spending on social protection or the social sectors (figures 3 and 4).

Figure 2: Social Safety Net Expenditures as a Percentage of GDP, Selected Countries and Years

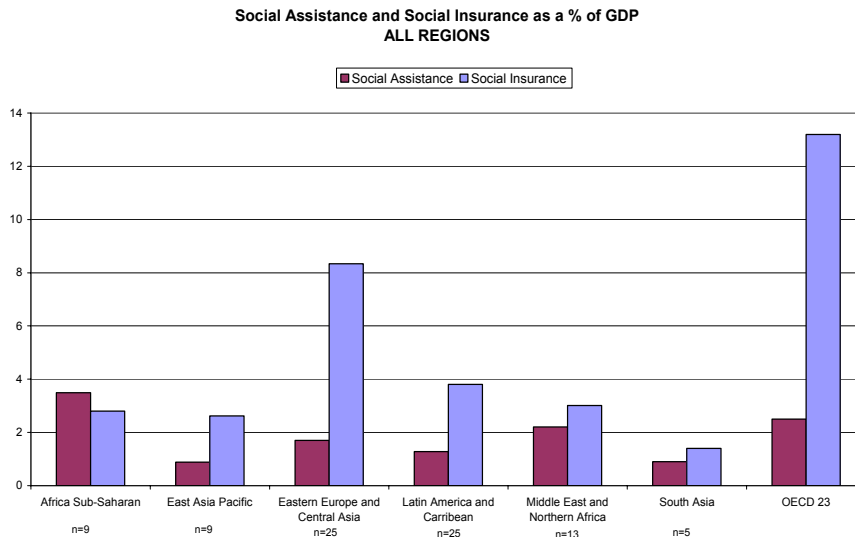


Source: see annexes for detailed sources for developing and transition countries

Note: Only countries with data for the concept graphed are shown.

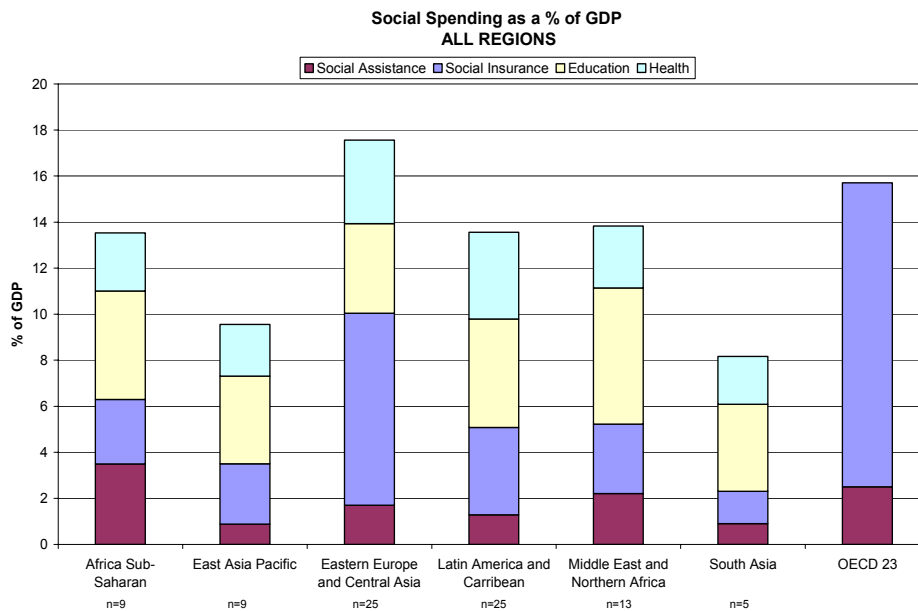
⁴ In doing this tally, country expenditures are rounded to the nearest half percent.

Figure 3. Social Assistance and Social Insurance as a Percentage of GDP by Region, Selected Years



Source: see annexes for detailed sources for developing and transition countries; OECD 2004. *Note:* Only countries with data for the concept graphed are shown. For the OECD, we used 23 countries, as such countries as Mexico and Poland are already accounted for in the regional averages.

Figure 4. Social Assistance, Social Insurance, and Social Sector Spending by Region, Selected Years



Source: see annexes for detailed sources for developing and transition countries; OECD 2004. *Note:* Only countries with data for the concept graphed are shown. For the OECD, we used 23 countries, as such countries as Mexico and Poland are already accounted for in the regional averages.

To try to understand the sources of variation in spending patterns, we look at spending patterns and their relationship to variables typically discussed in the literature on developed countries, namely:

- *Country income* as measured by GDP per capita with purchasing power parity adjustments, with the hypothesis that richer countries will spend more.
- *Inequality* as measured by the Gini coefficient. The hypothesis varies with the model of power assumed. A one person, one vote economy with higher inequality will face more pressure for redistribution, because the number of people with incomes below the mean will be higher. In a model with elite capture of government the elite may use private providers of social services and provide little support to public ones, so higher inequality may lead to lower spending.
- *Voice* as measured by the Kaufmann, Kraay, and Mastruzzi (2005) index for voice, with the hypothesis that greater voice will be positively related to spending on social safety nets, social protection, and/or the social sectors.
- *Ethnic fragmentation* as measured by Alesina and others (2002), with the hypothesis that greater fragmentation will lead to lower spending on social safety nets, social protection, and/or the social sectors.
- *Democracy* as measured by the Polity IV Project of the University of Maryland, with the hypothesis that greater democracy will lead to higher spending on social safety nets, social protection, and/or the social sectors.
- *Attitudes about inequality* as based on a question from the 1990–2004 questionnaires of the World Values Survey, which asks respondents to score their attitudes on a scale with “incomes should be made more equal” at one end and “we need larger income differences as incentives for individual efforts” at the other. We hypothesize that spending will be higher when more people believe in the need for greater equality.

We find that in simple correlations, most of the factors have the expected sign, but that the strength of the correlation is generally higher the broader the concept of spending used (table 1). For spending on safety nets alone, none of the factors examined correlate significantly. As concerns spending on social protection and the social sectors however, it is are significantly higher where income or voice are higher and lower where inequality is higher.

Table 1: Correlations between Spending on Social Sectors and Other Factors

Factor	Safety Nets as a percentage of GDP	Social protection as a percentage of GDP	Social sectors as a percentage of GDP
Per capita GDP (purchasing power parity)	0.0768	0.5045**	0.5460**
Gini coefficient	-0.1104	-0.3410**	-0.2686*
Voice	0.0678	0.2294**	0.2607**
Ethnic fragmentation	0.1628	-0.0204	-0.0972
Democracy	0.1733	-0.0533	0.1907
Attitudes about inequality	0.1234	-0.1694	-0.1559

Source: Authors’ calculations.

Note: * indicates that coefficients are significant at the 10 percent level or better.

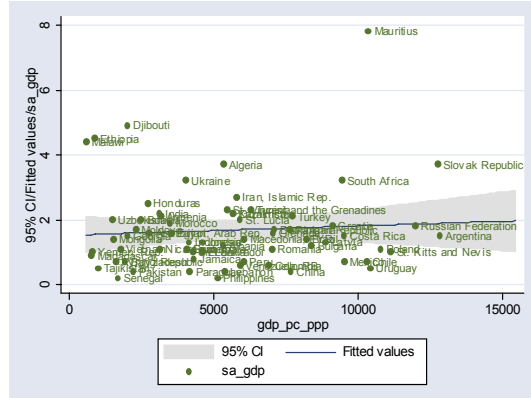
** indicates that coefficients are significant at the 5 percent level or better.

The results on measured inequality are worth noting: the correlations are all negative, that is, higher Ginis are associated with lower spending on safety nets, social protection, and the social sectors as a whole. In examining the data in detail, most of the low Gini countries are in Europe and Central Asia, with its historical legacy of large social protection sectors, and the high Gini countries are in Latin America and the Caribbean, with their legacy of truncated welfare states. These two regions dominate the dataset. Thus the inequality variable used may be capturing a historical legacy more than the real workings of inequality in relation to decision making.

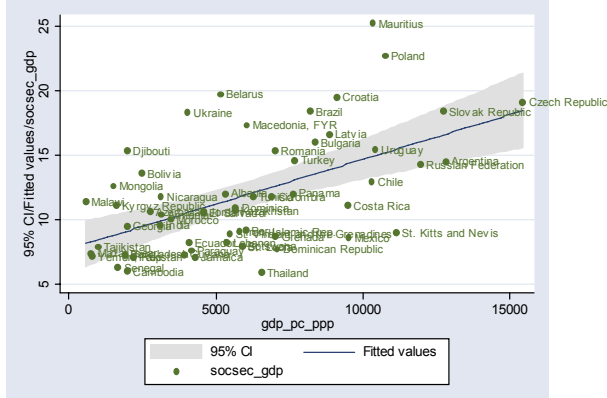
Figure 5 illustrates the more robust correlations for broader concepts of spending. The relationship with GDP is much more marked for the social sectors than for safety nets alone. In looking at attitudes to inequality, the finding for the social sectors echoes Alesina and Glaeser's (2004) findings for OECD economies presented in the previous section, but the pattern for social safety nets is not statistically significant, and indeed, of the opposite slope as expected

Figure 5. Spending, Income and Public Attitudes

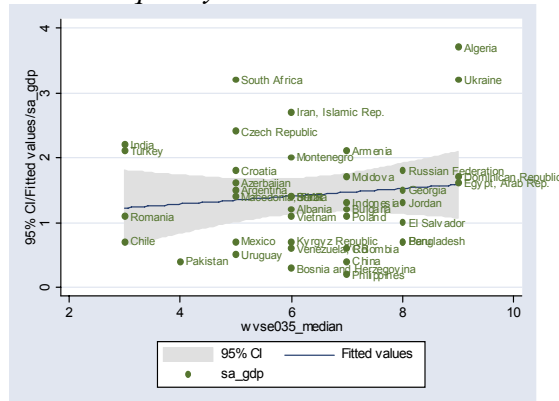
Social Assistance and GDP Per Capita



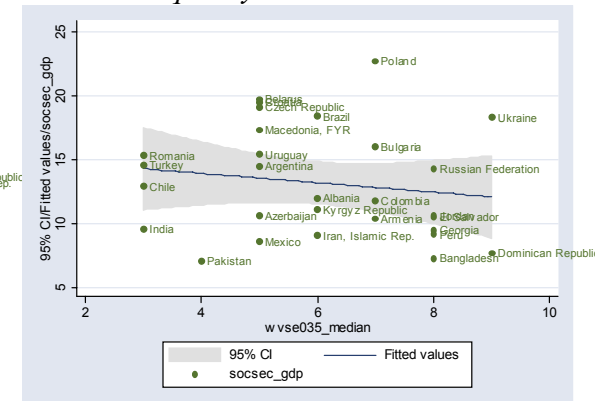
Social Spending and GDP Per Capita



Social Assistance and Public Attitudes about Inequality



Social Spending and Public Attitudes about Inequality



Source: Authors' calculations.

We interpret the pattern of results—that the correlates of social spending viewed broadly are more definitive than the determinants of spending on safety nets—to mean that societies agree that a certain floor of safety nets is required, but that they also have reservations about making the safety net too large. Thus when support for social policy is higher, it tends not to be expressed through more spending on safety nets, but through more spending on allied social policies pertaining to social insurance, health, and/or education. This interpretation is also consistent with the patterns of spending shown in figure 5.

Thus in sum, safety net spending as a share of GDP is not too diverse, with most countries concentrated in the 1 to 2 percent range. There may be a case for those much below this range to move into it and for higher spending in low-income countries, but clearly for many countries, the most pressing question will not be changing the size of the budget envelope devoted to safety nets, but making the most of that spending.

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Note: references to the sources of country specific spending data are shown in the appendix for better clarity. References are provided here only for other materials.

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Spending on Social Safety Nets: Comparative Data compiled from World Bank Analytic Work

The spending estimates presented here reflect the compilation of country-specific spending numbers reported in World Bank Analytical Work. The estimates in no way reflect the official position of the World Bank, its Executive Directors, or the countries they represent. As discussed in further detail below, these numbers are only estimates and are subject to a number of caveats. A complete list of the data and its sources can be found on the worksheet titled "DATA".

This spreadsheet presents the estimates of spending on social safety nets and social protection more broadly from 75 countries based on World Bank reports that tried to compile comprehensive country-specific numbers on the subject. Details of the methods used to find pertinent reports and interpret the data are given in Box 1 below. In addition, this file contains a number of graphs generated using this data as well as data on health and education expenditures and GDP/capita PPP*.

This compilation suffers from two main flaws, **incomplete coverage** and problems of **comparability**.

Incomplete coverage: We have been able to find data between the years of 1996 and 2006 that we are comfortable presenting for 87 countries. Coverage is variable by region. It is pretty good in ECA with 25 of 29 countries covered (and 96% of the population in the region covered). But it is much worse in Africa, with 9 of 47 of the countries covered (and 18% of the population in the region covered.). The countries we have data for are those where for some reason safety nets are prominent in the policy arena. How much and in which direction this biases the results is unclear. In some places the reason for prominence in policy dialogue is the fiscal need to reduce spending on social protection, in others it is because of a felt need to increase it.

Comparability: Because the compilations were done by authors almost as numerous as the number of countries covered, the precise definition of what to include in the safety net differed. We report the composites largely as they occur in the reports, trusting the judgment of the authors of the individual reports to include what was pertinent and manageable to find in any given country.

Box 1: DETERMINING SOCIAL PROTECTION EXPENDITURE

A. Procedures followed to identify relevant documents:

- 1) Reviewed all documents listed on the World Bank Public Expenditure Reviews (PERs) website as published (<http://www1.worldbank.org/publicsector/pe/pers.htm>)
- 2) Reviewed all documents listed on the World Bank Social Protection/Safety Net website (<http://www1.worldbank.org/sp/safetynets>)
- 3) Reviewed all documents identified on the Social Protection Risk Management category in the World Bank Country Analytic website (http://imagebank.worldbank.org/servlet/main?pagePK=64146063&piPK=64146068&theSitePK=501889&function=BrowseFR&menuPK=64106936&siteName=IMAGEBANK&searchMenuPK=64258127&LeftNavVal=658100&conceptattcode=658100|Labor%20%26%20Social%20Protections~644291&pathtreeid=MAJDOCTY_SEARCH_SECTR&sortattcode=DOCDT+Descclass=)
- 4) Went country-by-country for all developing countries in the World Bank Country Analytic website and reviewed all studies that were not captured in 1- 3 above, with particular attention to Poverty Assessments and PERs

B. Within each document searched for the following key words:

- 1) Social Protection
- 2) Social Insurance
- 3) Social Assistance
- 4) Welfare
- 5) Insurance
- 6) Pensions

C. Caveats on Data:

Non-comparability due to the fact that some data may be outdated but especially to fact that documents differed widely on their definitions of social protection. This was especially true with respect to:

- 1) Non-contributory pensions - sometimes included as part of social insurance and other times as part of social assistance;
- 2) Health insurance - most often included as part of health sector spending but sometimes included as part of social protection spending
- 3) Active labor market programs –infrequent mention of active labor market programs other than public works
- 4) Child welfare, social services and institutional care – variability in whether these were included
- 5) external financing - the data on Ethiopia and Malawi does include externally financed spending.

Which programs are covered in the data quoted for each country is described in more detail in the worksheet titled "DATA".

D. Rules followed for data cleaning

- 1) when 'year' was not available, used the year of the report
- 2) when 'year' was available only in a 2 year range (ex. 2001/02), used the earlier of both
- 3) when other data (Gini, other public expenditures, etc...) were not available for that specific year, used the data which was closest to that year and/or most recent (and added comment to fields in 'DATA' sheet)

* source: WDI 2005. Series used are "health expenditure, public (% of GDP)" (SH.XPD.PUBL.ZS), "Public spending on education, total (% of GDP)" (SE.XPD.TOTL.GD.ZS) and "GDP per capita, PPP (current international \$)" (NY.GDP.PCAP.PP.CD) for the same year as the data on social protection spending (or closest available).

Should you have data on a country not listed, corrections to the data quoted, or suggestions for additional sources of data, please contact Margaret Grosh (mgrosh@worldbank.org) or Christine Weigand (cweigand@worldbank.org). This

Please provide comments and revised or additional data and reports to Christine Weigand (cweigand@worldbank.org).
Thank you.

Country	Social Insurance Expenditures as a % of GDP	Social Assistance Expenditures as a % of GDP	Total Social Protection Expenditures as a % of GDP	Social Assistance as a % of Social Protection	Year	Social Insurance coverage	Social Assistance coverage	Source
Africa Sub-Saharan								
Benin	0.9	NA	NA	NA	2003	pensions	NA	Benin - Enhancing the effectiveness of public spending - a review of three sectors
Botswana	NA	NA	2.7	NA	1996	social security and welfare		Jamaica - Fiscal consolidation for growth and poverty reduction - a Public Expenditure Review
Burkina Faso	0.1	NA	NA	NA	2002	social security	NA	Burkina Faso - Reducing poverty through sustained equitable growth - poverty assessment
Ethiopia	NA	4.5	NA	NA	2001/02		food-for-work program, free provision of food provided as relief aid, food aid distributed under the Employment Generation Scheme (all off-budget)	Ethiopia Public Expenditure Review - The Emerging Challenge, Vol. 1, Public Spending in the Social Sectors 2000-2020, 2004.
Madagascar	1.2	0.9	2.1	42.9	2002	pensions	labour-intensive works, nutrition, emergency response to natural disasters, school and health fee waivers	Safety Net Programs in Madagascar: Strategic Issues and Options (2004)
Malawi	1.7	4.4	6.1	72.1	1999-2000	Pensions, retirement gratuities and death gratuities for public sector workers	Transfers	Malawi Public Expenditures, Issues and Options, September 2001, Report No. 22440 MAI
Mauritius	4.2	5.3	9.5	55.8	2001/02	Basic Retirement Pension (non-contributory), civil servants scheme	direct transfer schemes to households, system of housing subsidies	Mauritius - The New Economic Agenda and Fiscal Sustainability
Senegal	0.9	0.2	1.0	15.0	2004	social security for formal sector workers	national solidarity fund, support to women, support to disadvantaged groups	Senegal - Managing Risks in Rural Senegal: a multi-sectoral review of efforts to reduce vulnerability
South Africa	NA	3.2	NA	NA	2002/03		social grants, including a child support grant (CSG), a foster care grant (FCG), two disability grants (one for the disabled person, the disability grant (DG) and one for caretakers, the care dependency grant (CDG)), a state old-age pension (SOAP), and grants-in-aid (GIA), a form of local social assistance	Social Protection in South Africa: The Social Grants System. A note prepared for the Country Partnership Strategy, 2006
East Asia and Pacific								
Cambodia	NA	NA	0.7	NA	2002	social protection (covers a broad range of areas, including unemployment, social exclusion, and disaster relief)		Cambodia Enhancing Service Delivery through Improved Resource Allocation and Institutional Reform, Integrated Fiduciary Assessment and Public Expenditure Review, September 8, 2003, Report No. 25611-KH
China	1.6	0.4	2.07	20.8	2006	social insurance, active labor market programs	social welfare and relief (mostly social assistance and natural disaster relief)	Statistical yearbooks (from Xiaoning)
Indonesia	NA	1.3	NA	NA	2006		social assistance	Indonesia public expenditure review 2007 - Spending for development : making the most of Indonesia's new opportunities
Korea, Rep.	NA	NA	1.9	NA	1997/98	Pensions, unemployment, health insurance, disability insurance/benefits	Cash transfers, non-contributory pensions, public works, wage subsidies, housing subsidies, fee waivers, food and nutrition	Social Safety Nets in Response to Crises: Lessons and Guidelines from Asia and Latin America, 2001 (Submitted to the APEC Finance Ministers, February 2001)

Country	Social Insurance Expenditures as a % of GDP	Social Assistance Expenditures as a % of GDP	Total Social Protection Expenditures as a % of GDP	Social Assistance as a % of Social Protection	Year	Social Insurance coverage	Social Assistance coverage	Source
Malaysia	1.4	NA	NA	NA	1999	Pensions	Welfare for poor; social assistance programs for elderly, disabled, orphans, and other vulnerable groups; retraining and retraining benefits for the unemployed	Malaysia Public Expenditures, Managing the Crisis: Challenging the Future, May 22, 2000, Report No. 20371 -MA
Mongolia	5.9	1.4	7.3	18.5	2000	Pensions (old-age, permanent disability and survivor) and short term benefits (sickness, temporary disability, and maternity benefits, funeral grant, work injury and illness benefits, unemployment benefit)	Social assistance pension (old age, permanent disability, and survivors) one time and short term benefits (maternity, child care, infant grant, twins grant, guardian benefit)	Mongolia Public Expenditure and Financial Management Review, Bridging the Public Expenditure Management Gap, June 2002, Report No. 24439-MOG
Philippines	NA	0.22	NA	NA	2005	NA	cash and in-kind transfers, public works programs, community-based programs, livelihood creation, provision of basic social services	Review of Government Programs and Spending Priorities for Social Welfare Social Protection and Social Development: Phase I (Rosario Manasan, October 2006)
Thailand	NA	NA	0.6	NA	2001	Maternity benefits, illness, disability and death benefits, disability benefits, pensions, child allowances	Cash transfers (family allowance, social pension); in-kind transfers (subsidized medical services, housing programs, school feeding, social services); job creation schemes and public works	Thailand Country Development Partnership, Social Protection, June 2002, Report No. 24377
Vietnam	1.5	1.1	2.6	42.3	1998	Social and Health Insurance	Social Guarantee and Protection Centers and Direct Transfers	Vietnam, Managing Public Resources Better, Public Expenditure Review 2000, (In Two Volumes) Volume I and II, December 13, 2000, Report No. 21021 -VN
Eastern and Central Europe								
Albania	5.5	1.2	6.7	17.9	2005	pensions, allowances for veterans, maternity, labor market programs	income assistance, disability benefits, social institutions, others	Albania Restructuring Public Expenditure to Sustain Growth A Public Expenditure and Institutional Review
Armenia	3.0	2.1	5.1	41.1	2002	Old-age, disability, survivors pensions, sickness, maternity and unemployment benefits)	Monthly cash family poverty benefits, social pension, newborn payment, child care allowance, public works), medico-social rehabilitation for veterans and the disabled, services at home, institutional care and price discounts.	Armenia Public Expenditure Review, April 28, 2003, Report No. 24434-AM
Azerbaijan	3.7	1.6	5.3	30.2	2001	Pensions, illness, disability and unemployment benefits, supplementary allowances for non-working pensioners	Child and family allowances; maternity leave, funeral allowances, sick leave, sanatorium vouchers, monthly allowance to persons disabled during military service, additional monthly allowances to disabled persons, social pensioners and Chernobyl victims	Azerbaijan Republic Poverty Assessment, (In Two Volumes) Volume II: The Main Report, June 4, 2003, Report No. 24890-AZ
Belarus	NA	NA	14.4	NA	2001	Pensions	300 benefits, subsidies and privileges.	Belarus Strengthening Public Resource Management, June 20, 2003, Report No. 26041-BY
Bosnia and Herzegovina	8.9	6.9	15.8	43.7	2000	Pensions	Various cash transfers, veterans benefits, social services and child protection	Bosnia and Herzegovina, From Aid Dependency to Fiscal Self-Reliance, A Public Expenditure and Institutional Review, October 2002, Report No. 24297-BIH

Country	Social Insurance Expenditures as a % of GDP	Social Assistance Expenditures as a % of GDP	Total Social Protection Expenditures as a % of GDP	Social Assistance as a % of Social Protection	Year	Social Insurance coverage	Social Assistance coverage	Source
Bulgaria	9.5	1.2	10.7	11.2	2004	pensions, unemployment benefits	guaranteed minimum income, other benefits for specific groups such as children and the disabled	ECA targeting study
Croatia	12.4	1.8	14.2	12.7	2000	Pensions and unemployment benefits	Targeted cash transfers and child and family allowance	Croatia, Regaining Fiscal Sustainability and Enhancing Effectiveness, A Public Expenditure and Institutional Review, November 2001, Report No. 22155-HR
Czech Republic	11.4	2.4	13.8	17.4	2000	Pensions, sickness and maternity benefits, and unemployment benefit	Income-tested child allowances and social supplements; and non-income tested parental benefits, childbirth grants, and foster care benefits, school transportation allowances, housing benefits, death grants, and support to families of those in compulsory military services	Czech Republic, Enhancing the Prospects for Growth with Fiscal Stability, September 2001, A WORLD BANK COUNTRY STUDY 22887
Georgia	2.7	1.5	4.2	35.7	2000	Pensions (retirement, disability, social and survivors), compensation/allowance for maternity and sick leave	Cash transfers to internally displaced persons (IDPs), and a limited poverty benefit programs	Georgia, Public Expenditure Review, November 25, 2002, Report No. 22913-GE
Kazakhstan	3.2	2.2	5.4	40.7	2002	pensions and unemployment benefits	special state allowances, social assistance	Kazakhstan Dimensions of Poverty in Kazakhstan (Vol I)
Kosovo	3.3	2.5	5.8	43.1	2003	Pensions	Social assistance	Kosovo - Poverty assessment - promoting opportunity, security, and participation for all
Kyrgyz Republic	5.1	0.7	5.8	12.1	2001	Pensions, sickness, maternity and funeral benefits	Monthly benefits and allowance	Kyrgyz Republic, Enhancing Pro-poor Growth, September 30, 2003, Report No. 24638-KG
Latvia	9.9	1.3	11.3	11.9	2001	Old-age and other pensions, unemployment benefits	Cash transfers (housing benefit, health (care) benefit, low-income family cash benefit and other benefits) and in kind benefits (housing, social care and rehabilitation) and other social transfers (scholarships, sickness benefits, funeral grant)	Latvia - The quest for jobs and growth - A World Bank Country Economic Memorandum
Macedonia, FYR	10.6	1.4	12.0	11.7	2000	Pensions and disability, unemployment health insurance	Means-tested cash benefits	FYR of Macedonia Public Expenditure and Institutional Review, April 2, 2002, Report No. 23349-MK
Moldova	7.5	1.7	9.2	18.4	2005	old-age retiree pensions (different for agricultural and non-agricultural sector), disability pensions, survivor pensions (contributory)	compensations for utilities payments, child benefits, war veterans allowances, social allowances, material assistance, transport compensations for disabled, Chemobyl compensations, death grants and care-takers allowances for disabled	Moldova - Improving public expenditure efficiency for growth and poverty reduction
Poland	16.3	1.1	17.4	6.1	2000	Pensions, unemployment, disability, sickness and other benefits	social assistance	Poland - Toward a fiscal framework for growth - a public expenditure and institutional review
Romania	8.9	1.1	10.0	11.0	2002	Old age and invalidity pensions, survivors' benefits, unemployment insurance, severance payments, maternity and child benefits, sick leave, funeral benefits	Minimum Income Guarantee benefits, heating subsidies, state child allowance and supplementary child benefit	Romania Poverty Assessment, (In Two Volumes) Volume I: Main Report, September 30, 2003, Report No. 26169-RO

Country	Social Insurance Expenditures as a % of GDP	Social Assistance Expenditures as a % of GDP	Total Social Protection Expenditures as a % of GDP	Social Assistance as a % of Social Protection	Year	Social Insurance coverage	Social Assistance coverage	Source
Russian Federation	7.2	1.8	9.0	20.0	2006	Pensions and other social insurance, unemployment insurance and ALMPs	Privileges for housing and communal services, victims of radiation, and rehabilitated persons, income-tested social assistance programs including child allowances, housing and utility allowances and regional programs for poor/vulnerable	Russia Poverty Assessment
Serbia	12.6	1.4	14.0	10.0	2005	Pensions, veterans, unemployed	Wage compensation during maternity, child allowance, birth grant (parental allowance), educational program before first grade, social assistance to poor households (MOP), caregiver's allowance, social institutions	Serbia Social Assistance and Child Protection Note
Montenegro	16.0	2.0	18.0	11.1	2002	Pensions	various social assistance programs, including child allowances	Serbia and Montenegro Poverty Assessment, Volume I and II, November 2003, Report No.26011-YU
Slovak Republic	9.4	3.7	13.1	28.2	not given	Pensions, sickness and maternity benefits, unemployment benefits	Cash and in-kind benefits for the poor and disabled, child and parent allowances, social and wives' pension, subsidies for spa care, birth and death grants, housing allowance, institutional care, active labor market programs	Slovak Republic Development Policy Review, (In Two Volumes) Volume II: Main Report, November 2002, Report No.25211-SK
Tajikistan	1.8	0.2	1.9	10.5	1999	Pensions for elderly, disabled and survivors	cash benefits to families with children, students, the disabled	Tajikistan Poverty Assessment
Turkey	7.2	2.1	9.3	22.6	2004	social security	not specified [calculated spending as difference between SP and SS]	Turkey - Public expenditure review
Ukraine	9.8	3.2	13.0	24.6	2000	Pensions, maternity, child grant, employment-related programs	Social privileges (housing, housing maintenance, public transportation, renovation of residences, acquisition of housing below market cost, subsidized credit, phone service, drugs and medical services, free or subsidized automobiles, tax exemptions, legal services); Chernobyl benefits; housing and utilities allowance; 11 different categorical and means tested family benefits; and other programs.	Ukraine: SOCIAL SAFETY NETS AND POVERTY, VOLUME I, June 15, 2001, Report No. 22677 UA
Uzbekistan	7.0	2.0	9.0	22.2	2000	Pensions, unemployment benefits	Child allowances, poverty benefits, subsidized credit, housing privileges	Uzbekistan Living Standards Assessment, Policies To Improve Living Standards, (In Two Volumes) Volume II: Full Report, May 2003, Report No. 25923-UZ
Latin America and Caribbean								
Argentina	7.7	1.5	9.2	16.3	2004	pension (social security) and employment related benefits (child allowance for formal sector workers & unemployment benefits)	cash transfers (jefes de hogar & IDH CCT), food-based emergency programs, non-contributory pensions, other programs providing assistance linked to health and education and providing for basic needs	Redistributing Income to the Poor and the Rich: Public Transfers in Latin America and the Caribbean. Kathy Lindert, Emmanuel Skourfias, Joseph Shapiro. August 2006
Bolivia	6.3	2.0	8.3	24.1	2002	social security, pensions	BONOSOL, other social assistance	Bolivia Public Expenditure Management for Fiscal Sustainability and Equitable and Efficient Public Services, November 18, 2004, Report No. 28519-BO

Country	Social Insurance Expenditures as a % of GDP	Social Assistance Expenditures as a % of GDP	Total Social Protection Expenditures as a % of GDP	Social Assistance as a % of Social Protection	Year	Social Insurance coverage	Social Assistance coverage	Source
Brazil	11.7	1.4	13.1	10.7	2004	pension benefits and employment-related benefits	conditional cash transfers, targeted cash transfers to the poor disabled and elderly, social assistance for youth and child laborers, school feeding, variety of other social services and programs	Redistributing Income to the Poor and the Rich: Public Transfers in Latin America and the Caribbean. Kathy Lindert, Emmanuel Skoufias, Joseph Shapiro. August 2006
Chile	6.9	0.7	7.6	9.2	2003	pension system	cash transfer programs, potable water subsidies, non-contributory assistance pensions, in-kind transfers, other programs such as food-based programs, school feeding and scholarships.	Redistributing Income to the Poor and the Rich: Public Transfers in Latin America and the Caribbean. Kathy Lindert, Emmanuel Skoufias, Joseph Shapiro. August 2006
Colombia	5.9	0.6	6.5	9.2	2004	pay-as-you go pension scheme, special programs such as pension solidarity fund for workers in informal sector, disabled workers, and community mothers, family allowance fund for low-income workers and their families, and universal health insurance program	early childhood development programs and school feeding, workfare and elderly programs, initiatives assisting the internally displaced population, national programs to alleviate the impact of high unemployment rate and human capital risk	Redistributing Income to the Poor and the Rich: Public Transfers in Latin America and the Caribbean. Kathy Lindert, Emmanuel Skoufias, Joseph Shapiro. August 2006
Costa Rica	4.3	1.5	5.8	25.9	2004	contributory pensions	non-contributory pensions, cash and in-kind transfers, care services	Costa Rica Poverty Assessment: Recapturing Momentum for Poverty Reduction
Dominica	3.4	2.2	5.6	38.7	2000-2001	Pensions, disability, survivors, sickness, maternity, employment related injury and redundancy benefits.	Cash transfers, school feeding, education grants, public works, skills training and adult education, community based programs, off-island medical care	Dominica - OECS fiscal issues : policies to achieve fiscal sustainability and improve efficiency and equity of public expenditures
Dominican Republic	0.7	1.7	2.4	70.8	2004	social insurance pensions and related benefits	cash transfer programs, food-based programs such as school lunches, direct food donations, programs that provide food at subsidized prices, consumption subsidies such as gas and essential drugs program	Redistributing Income to the Poor and the Rich: Public Transfers in Latin America and the Caribbean. Kathy Lindert, Emmanuel Skoufias, Joseph Shapiro. August 2006
Ecuador	1.8	1.1	2.9	37.9	2004	Pensions	Social welfare (cash transfers, other)	Ecuador - Creating fiscal space for poverty reduction - A fiscal management and public expenditure review (Vol. 1 of 2) : Main report (English)
El Salvador	4.2	1.0	5.2	19.2	2000	NA	52 different programs, including social fund	Social safety net assessments from Central America : cross-country review of principal findings
Grenada	1.8	1.6	3.4	47.1	2001	Long and short-term benefits for sickness, disability, retirement and survivors benefits	Cash transfers, school feeding, needy students program for uniforms and school supplies, grants for needy students, day care centers, fee waivers for health care, off-island medical care, subsidized dental, optical care and pharmaceuticals, skills training, microenterprise development, public works, housing repairs assistance, assistance with water, homes for elderly and infirm and other program.	Grenada - OECS fiscal issues : policies to achieve fiscal sustainability and improve efficiency and equity of public expenditure
Guatemala	0.70	1.1	1.8	61.1	2000	pension scheme for formal, private and public sectors, main sub-programs being accident coverage, maternity and sickness, disability, old age pensions and survival	transfers, subsidies, disaster management, micro-credit programs	Redistributing Income to the Poor and the Rich: Public Transfers in Latin America and the Caribbean. Kathy Lindert, Emmanuel Skoufias, Joseph Shapiro. August 2006
Guyana	NA	NA	2.0	NA	2000	NA	NA	Guyana - Public expenditure review

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Country	Social Insurance Expenditures as a % of GDP	Social Assistance Expenditures as a % of GDP	Total Social Protection Expenditures as a % of GDP	Social Assistance as a % of Social Protection	Year	Social Insurance coverage	Social Assistance coverage	Source
Honduras	1.6	2.5	4.1	61.0	1999	all spending for old age, disability and health insurance	Social Investment Fund (FHIS), the Family Assistance Program and other public and non-public programs	Social safety net assessments from Central America : cross-country review of principal findings
Jamaica	1.0	0.8	1.8	42.9	2005/06	pensions, health benefits	income support programs, school based programs, community based programs, labor market interventions, housing programs, feeding programs, grants to NGOs	data from Cornelia Tesliuc (LCSHS)
Mexico	2.6	1.0	3.5	28.6	2002	social security program for formal sector workers including individual retirement funds, disability and life insurance programs, for government workers including retirement pension, access to health facilities, subsidized pharmacies and retail stores, and housing finance assistance, and basic health coverage for workers not covered by social security.	cash transfer programs, food-based programs, school scholarships for vulnerable population, labour programs. Excludes housing.	Redistributing Income to the Poor and the Rich: Public Transfers in Latin America and the Caribbean. Kathy Lindert, Emmanuel Skoufias, Joseph Shapiro. August 2006
Nicaragua	5.4	1.1	6.5	16.9	2000	Old Age, Disability, and Survivors Insurance, employees' Health Care Insurance and workers' Compensation Insurance.	Programs for children and adolescents, programs for hurricane ctims, community employment programs, social assistance unders social fund, natural disaster program, etc.	Social safety net assessments from Central America : cross-country review of principal findings
Panama	5.0	1.7	6.7	25.4	2005	pensions, unemployment and health (?) insurance	cash transfers, school feeding, subsidies	Social Protection in Panama
Paraguay	1.8	0.4	2.2	17.9	2000	pension, health and maternity fund and administration	various programs for the poor, women, disabled, indigenous	Paraguay - Defining a strategy for social protection policy
Peru	3.2	0.7	3.9	18.3	2005	pensions, public subsidy	Food-based programs (glass of Milk (Vaso de Leche)), School Breakfast (Desayunos Escolares), Community Kitchens (Comedores Populares), PACFO (food supplement for at-risk children), Wawa Wasi (daycare), School lunch (Almuerzo escolares), Workfare (A Trabajar Urbano, A Trabajar Rural), Social Fund/Community-Driven Development (FONCODES, PRONAMCHCS)	Proteccion Social en el Peru - Como mejorar los resultados para los pobres?
St. Kitts and Nevis	2.7	1.0	3.7	27.0	2000	Pensions, disability, temporary illness, survivors, maternity, employment injury, medical and funeral expenses and funds fr non-contributory pensions and invalidity assistance	Cash transfers, food vouchers, community assistance for elderly, school uniforms, school feeding, education grants, categorical and means tested fee waivers for health care, off-island medical care, burial assistance, skills training, adult education, microenterprise development, severance scheme, feeding program, homes for the elderly and other programs	Saint Kitts and Nevis - OECS fiscal issues : policies to achieve fiscal sustainability and improve efficiency and equity of public expenditures (2003)

Country	Social Insurance Expenditures as a % of GDP	Social Assistance Expenditures as a % of GDP	Total Social Protection Expenditures as a % of GDP	Social Assistance as a % of Social Protection	Year	Social Insurance coverage	Social Assistance coverage	Source
St. Lucia	0.6	2.0	2.6	76.9	2000-2001	Short-term benefits for sickness, employment injur, maternity and funeral expenses, long term benefits for invalidity grants/pension, retirement grants/pension and survivors grants/pension	Cash transfers, school feeding, student welfare, day care, subsidized medical care and pharmaceutical, off-land medical care, skills training, microenterprise development, adult education and literacy training, skills training, short-term employment, social investment fund and other community based programs, homes for the elderly, low-income rental units, housing repairs programs,	OECS Fiscal Issues, draft, 2002
St. Vincent and the Grenadines	1.3	2.3	3.6	64.4	2002	administration of the NIS (National Insurance) and contributory benefits	Public Assistance (including monthly cash benefits and short-term immediate assistance in cash and in-kind) to poor female-headed households with children, the elderly poor, and the disabled (irrespective of income), and a variety of other means tested welfare programs, including education assistance for uniforms, fees and other related expenses, hot meals for indigents, transportation subsidies, elder care, and other programs	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines - OECS fiscal issues : Policies to achieve fiscal sustainability and improve efficiency and equity of public expenditures
Uruguay	9.6	0.5	10.1	5.0	2005	Pension, unemployment insurance	family allowance, citizen income	Income Transfer Policies in Uruguay: Closing the Gaps
Venezuela, RB	1.1	0.6	1.7	37.4	1998	social security	Cash transfers to poor families, numerous subsidies (food, medicine, transport), school feeding programs, school uniform programs, health-based programs, child care programs, employment and training programs	Investing in human capital for growth, prosperity, and poverty reduction
Middle East and North Africa								
Algeria	5.0	3.7	8.7	42.5	2000	retirement, disability and survivors' pensions, unemployment and health care insurance	family allowance, pensions for war veterans, cash and in-kind transfers for children, disabled, victims of terrorism	Algeria - Public expenditure review of the social sector, Volume 1
Bahrain	1.4	NA	NA	NA	2000	Contributory pensions (100%)	NA	MENA database; Reducing Vulnerability and Increasing Opportunity, Social Protection in MENA, 2000
Djibouti	5.1	4.9	10.0	49.0	2003	pensions and health insurance	transfers to households and institutions	Djibouti - Public Expenditure Review (PER) - making public finances work for growth and poverty reduction
Egypt, Arab Rep.	2.7	1.6	4.3	37.4	2000-2001	Contributory pensions (100%)	Food subsidies (81%), casual workers scheme (10%), social assistance to poor families (9%)	MENA database; Reducing Vulnerability and Increasing Opportunity, Social Protection in the Middle East and North Africa, Report No.24559
Iran, Islamic Rep.	1.1	2.7	3.8	70.7	2000	Contributory pensions (100%)	Consumer subsidies (100%)	MENA database; Reducing Vulnerability and Increasing Opportunity, Social Protection in the Middle East and North Africa, Report No.24559
Iraq	3.2	15.9	19.1	83.5	2004	pensions, employment and training	family care allowance, demobilization allowance, public workfare, PDS food ration	IRAQ. Social Protection in Transition: Labor Policy, Safety Nets and Pensions. A Policy Note

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Country	Social Insurance Expenditures as a % of GDP	Social Assistance Expenditures as a % of GDP	Total Social Protection Expenditures as a % of GDP	Social Assistance as a % of Social Protection	Year	Social Insurance coverage	Social Assistance coverage	Source
Jordan	4.0	1.3	5.3	24.7	2002	public pensions	Income Supplement Program, Cash Assistance for Handicapped Care Program, Emergency and Exceptional Aid Program, Vocational Rehabilitation Program, Physical Rehabilitation Program, Development of the Educational Loan Program, Vocational Training Program and housing subsidy program (0.7%)	Jordan , Poverty Assessment, Main Report, Volume 2
Kuwait	5.9	NA	NA	NA	1996	Contributory pensions (100%)	NA	MENA database; Reducing Vulnerability and Increasing Opportunity, Social Protection in MENA, 2000
Lebanon	2.5	0.4	2.9	13.8	2004	Pensions and end-of indemnity services for civil servants, military and Government's contractual workers	amount attributed to 'social affairs' (includes 0.1% of admin expenditures attributed to social affairs)	Lebanon - Public expenditure review : reform priorities for fiscal adjustment, growth and poverty alleviation
Morocco	2.8	1.9	4.7	40.7	1998-1999	Contributory pensions (76%), health insurance (6%), family allowances (18%)	Food subsidies (84%), public works (11%), Entraide Nationale (5%)	MENA database: Kingdom of Morocco Poverty Update, (In Two Volumes) Volume II: Annexes, March 30, 2001, Report No. 21506-MOR; Reducing Vulnerability and Increasing Opportunity, Social Protection in the Middle East and North Africa, Report No.24559
Syrian Arab Republic	0.6	NA	NA	NA	1999	Contributory pensions (100%)	NA	MENA database; Reducing Vulnerability and Increasing Opportunity, Social Protection in MENA, 2000
Tunisia	4.2	2.3	6.5	35.6	2000-2001	Contributory pensions (79%), health insurance (21%), does not include family allowances	Food subsidies (73%), direct transfers to the poor and handicapped (22%), public works (5%)	MENA database; Social Conditions Update, 2000; Reducing Vulnerability and Increasing Opportunity, Social Protection in the Middle East and North Africa, Report No.24559
West Bank and Gaza	NA	NA	5.7	NA	not given	Social security, government employee pension schemes, unemployment compensation benefits	Income transfers, cash assistance, food aid, public works, subsidized health insurance to families of prisoners	Poverty in the West Bank and Gaza, June 18, 2001, Report No. 22312-GZ
Yemen, Rep.	0.9	1.0	1.9	52.6	1999	Contributory pensions (100%)	Social Welfare Fund (100%)	MENA database; Reducing Vulnerability and Increasing Opportunity, Social Protection in the Middle East and North Africa, Report No.24559
South Asia								
Bangladesh	1.3	0.7	2.0	35.0	2004	pensions, labor market	social safety net programs such as cash transfers (including education stipend and assistance programs as well as old age allowance a.o.) and food transfers (including food for work programs, and food relief programs)	Social Safety Nets in Bangladesh: An Assessment, 2006
India	2.1	2.2	4.3	51.2	2004	public pensions	public works, food subsidy, various welfare schemes, midday meals	Social Protection for a Changing India

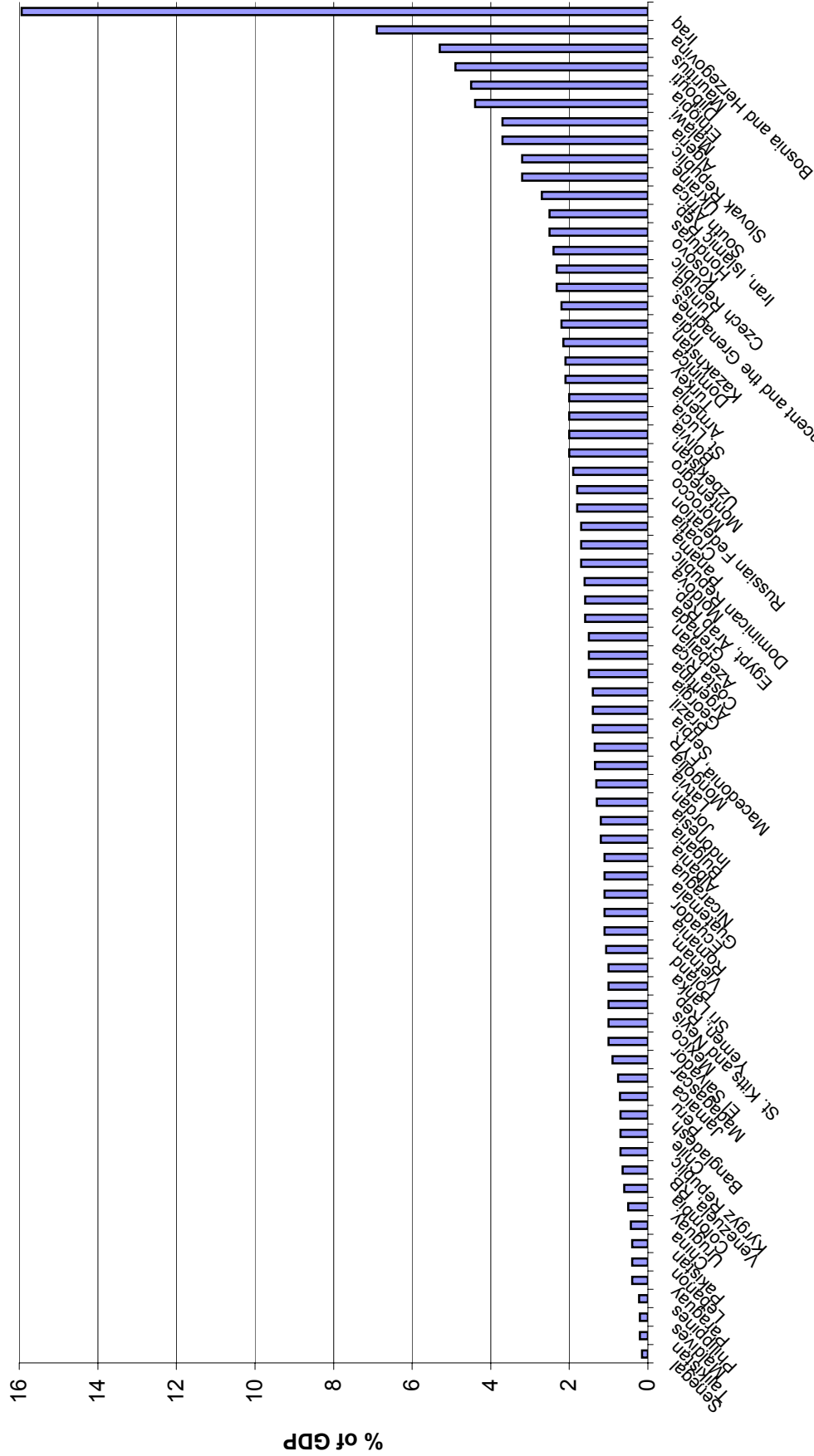
Country	Social Insurance Expenditures as a % of GDP	Social Assistance Expenditures as a % of GDP	Total Social Protection Expenditures as a % of GDP	Social Assistance as a % of Social Protection	Year	Social Insurance coverage	Social Assistance coverage	Source
Maldives	0.2	0.2	0.4	50.0	2004	pensions	absolute poverty scheme, assistance for school materials for poor families, assistance for health-related needs (pre-tsunami, post-tsunami=0.7)	Maldives - Social protection in the Maldives: Options for reforming pensions and safety nets
Pakistan	1.4	0.4	1.8	22.2	2004/05	pensions	cash transfer programs (Zakat, Bait-u-Mal), social welfare services, microfinance, workfare, school feeding, wheat subsidy	Social Protection in Pakistan: Managing Household Risks and Vulnerability
Sri Lanka	2.0	1.0	3.0	33.3	2004	civil service pensions	Samurdhi income transfer to the poor, income support for disabled soldiers and families of service personnel who died in the conflict, assistance for persons displaced by the conflict, emergency assistance to people affected by natural disasters such as drought and floods, provision of free textbooks and school uniforms to children, and assistance for indigent elders and families with disabled persons and people with incapacitating illness who are unable to work	Sri Lanka Strengthening Social Protection

Country	Social Insurance Expenditures as a % of GDP	Social Assistance Expenditures as a % of GDP	Total Social Protection Expenditures as a % of GDP	Social Assistance as a % of Social Protection	Year	Education	Health	SS total	Total Govt	GDP/capit a PPP	Gini coefficient
Benin	0.9	NA	NA	NA	2003	3.1	2.2	NA	13.3	1,074	36
Botsswana	NA	NA	2.7	NA	1996	10.7	2.1	8.0	27.3	5,895	NA
Burkina Faso	0.1	NA	NA	NA	2002	4.7	2.3	NA	13.1	1,067	40
Ethiopia	NA	4.5	NA	NA	2001	3.9	2.9	NA	15.2	879	30
Madagascar	1.2	0.9	2.1	42.9	2002	2.9	2.7	7.4	8.1	769	47
Malawi	1.7	4.4	6.1	72.1	1999	4.6	2.7	11.4	13.4	577	39
Mauritius	4.2	5.3	9.5	55.8	2001	3.3	2.0	14.8	12.9	10,348	NA
Senegal	0.9	0.2	1.0	15.0	2004	4.1	2.4	6.3	13.9	1,678	41
South Africa	NA	3.2	NA	NA	2002	5.2	3.4	NA	18.4	9,445	58
EAP	NA	NA	0.7	NA	2002	1.8	2.0	6.0	5.4	1,980	42
Cambodia	1.6	0.4	2.1	20.8	2006	NA	1.8	NA	11.1	7,660	47
China	NA	1.3	NA	NA	2006	0.9	1.0	NA	7.1	4,130	34
Indonesia	NA	NA	1.9	NA	1997	NA	2.2	NA	11.6	14,247	NA
EAP	NA	NA	NA	NA	1999	5.7	1.7	NA	11.0	7,883	49
Malaysia	1.4	NA	7.3	18.5	2000	6.7	5.9	12.6	18.1	1,523	33
EAP	5.9	1.4	NA	NA	2005	2.7	1.4	NA	9.7	5,140	45
Philippines	NA	0.2	NA	NA	2001	5.0	1.9	5.9	11.3	6,552	43
EAP	NA	NA	0.6	NA	1998	NA	1.5	NA	7.6	1,785	36
EAP	1.5	1.1	2.6	42.3	2005	NA	1.5	NA	11.1	7,660	47
Vietnam	5.5	1.2	6.7	17.9	2008	2.9	3.0	12.0	9.3	5,318	31
ECA	3.0	2.1	5.1	41.1	2002	3.2	1.3	10.4	10.0	3,161	34
Armenia	3.7	1.6	5.3	30.2	2001	3.5	0.9	10.6	13.6	2,764	37
ECA	NA	NA	14.4	NA	2001	6.0	5.0	19.7	21.6	5,169	30
Belarus	NA	NA	14.4	NA	2001	6.0	5.0	19.7	21.6	5,169	30
ECA	8.9	6.9	15.8	43.7	2000	NA	4.9	NA	NA	NA	26
Bosnia and Herzegovina	9.5	1.2	10.7	11.2	2004	4.2	4.6	16.0	18.3	8,385	29
ECA	12.4	1.8	14.2	12.7	2000	4.5	7.8	19.5	24.8	9,116	28
Croatia	11.4	2.4	13.8	17.4	2000	4.0	6.0	19.1	21.1	15,450	25
ECA	2.7	1.5	4.2	35.7	2000	2.2	1.2	9.5	8.5	1,998	38
Georgia	3.2	2.2	5.4	40.7	2002	3.0	1.9	10.7	11.6	5,652	31
ECA	3.3	2.5	5.8	43.1	2003	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Kazakhstan	5.1	0.7	5.8	12.1	2001	3.1	2.3	11.1	17.5	1,602	29
ECA	9.9	1.3	11.3	11.9	2001	5.5	3.0	16.6	20.5	8,873	38
Kyrgyz Republic	10.6	1.4	12.0	11.7	2000	4.1	5.3	17.3	18.2	6,055	28
ECA	7.5	1.7	9.2	18.4	2005	4.3	NA	NA	15.2	2,298	33
Moldova	16.3	1.1	17.4	6.1	2000	4.8	3.9	22.7	18.6	10,772	33
ECA	8.9	1.1	10.0	11.0	2002	3.5	3.7	15.3	6.8	7,023	31
Romania	7.2	1.8	9.0	20.0	2006	3.6	3.7	14.3	16.7	11,974	40
ECA	12.6	1.4	14.0	10.0	2005	NA	NA	NA	20.9	NA	NA
Russian Federation	16.0	2.0	18.0	11.1	2002	NA	NA	NA	26.0	NA	NA
ECA	9.4	3.7	13.1	28.2	2002	4.3	6.0	18.4	21.1	12,751	NA
Montenegro	1.8	0.2	1.9	10.5	1999	2.8	0.9	7.2	8.6	989	33
ECA	7.2	2.1	9.3	22.6	2004	4.0	5.6	14.6	13.2	7,699	44
Tajikistan	9.8	3.2	13.0	24.6	2000	4.2	2.9	18.3	20.9	4,037	29
ECA	7.0	2.0	9.0	22.2	2000	NA	2.6	NA	18.7	1,498	45
Turkey	7.7	1.5	9.2	16.3	2004	3.8	4.3	14.5	11.1	12,826	51
ECA	6.3	2.0	8.3	24.1	2002	6.2	4.1	13.6	16.0	2,489	60
Uzbekistan	11.7	1.4	13.1	10.7	2004	4.4	4.8	18.4	19.2	8,206	57
Argentina	6.9	0.7	7.6	9.2	2003	4.1	2.9	12.9	12.0	10,298	55
LAC	5.9	0.6	6.5	9.2	2004	4.9	6.7	11.8	18.8	6,906	59
Bolivia	4.3	1.5	5.8	25.9	2004	4.9	5.1	11.1	14.1	9,504	50
LAC	3.4	2.2	5.6	38.7	2000	5.0	4.6	10.9	21.2	5,677	NA
Chile	0.7	1.7	2.4	70.8	2004	1.2	1.9	7.7	8.7	7,084	52
LAC	1.8	1.1	2.9	37.9	2004	1.0	2.2	8.2	11.4	4,083	NA
Colombia	4.2	1.0	5.2	19.2	2000	2.5	3.6	10.5	10.2	4,597	52
Costa Rica	1.8	1.6	3.4	47.1	2001	5.2	5.9	8.7	17.3	7,039	NA
Dominican Republic	1.8	1.6	3.4	47.1	2001	5.2	5.9	8.7	17.3	7,039	NA
Dominica	1.8	1.6	3.4	47.1	2001	5.2	5.9	8.7	17.3	7,039	NA
Ecuador	1.8	1.6	3.4	47.1	2001	5.2	5.9	8.7	17.3	7,039	NA
El Salvador	1.8	1.6	3.4	47.1	2001	5.2	5.9	8.7	17.3	7,039	NA
Grenada	1.8	1.6	3.4	47.1	2001	5.2	5.9	8.7	17.3	7,039	NA

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LAC	0.7	1.1	1.8	61.1	2000	NA	2.2	NA	7.0	4,048	55
LAC	NA	NA	2.0	NA	2000	8.5	4.6	7.3	24.7	3,922	43
LAC	1.6	2.5	4.1	61.0	1999	NA	3.6	NA	11.3	2,725	56
LAC	1.0	0.8	1.8	42.9	2005	5.3	2.8	7.1	15.1	4,293	46
LAC	2.6	1.0	3.5	28.6	2002	5.3	2.7	8.8	12.1	9,518	50
LAC	5.4	1.1	6.5	16.9	2000	3.9	3.7	11.8	12.2	3,131	43
LAC	5.0	1.7	6.7	25.4	2005	3.8	5.2	12.0	13.1	7,644	56
LAC	1.8	0.4	2.2	17.9	2000	4.9	3.4	7.6	12.7	4,165	57
LAC	3.2	0.7	3.9	18.3	2005	2.4	1.9	9.2	10.1	6,042	52
LAC	2.7	1.0	3.7	27.0	2000	6.4	3.6	9.0	21.1	11,132	NA
LAC	0.6	2.0	2.6	76.9	2000	7.5	3.3	7.9	23.2	5,897	NA
LAC	1.3	2.3	3.6	64.4	2002	9.9	4.1	8.9	21.0	5,470	NA
LAC	9.6	0.5	10.1	5.0	2005	2.6	3.6	15.4	11.3	10,419	45
LAC	1.1	0.6	1.7	37.4	1998	NA	3.4	NA	13.5	5,917	50
MENA	5.0	3.7	8.7	42.5	2000	NA	2.6	NA	13.6	5,327	NA
MENA	1.4	NA	NA	NA	2000	NA	2.7	NA	17.6	15,545	NA
MENA	5.1	4.9	10.0	49.0	2003	6.1	4.0	15.3	29.3	1,993	NA
MENA	2.7	1.6	4.3	37.4	2000	NA	2.3	NA	11.2	3,527	34
MENA	1.1	2.7	3.8	70.7	2000	4.3	2.3	9.1	13.9	5,806	43
MENA	3.2	15.9	19.1	83.5	2004	NA	4.2	NA	NA	NA	NA
MENA	4.0	1.3	5.3	24.7	2002	4.9	4.7	10.6	16.3	4,599	39
MENA	5.9	NA	NA	NA	1996	6.6	2.4	NA	27.3	19,471	NA
MENA	2.5	0.4	2.9	13.8	2004	2.6	3.2	8.2	15.3	5,388	NA
MENA	2.8	1.9	4.7	40.7	1998	6.1	1.5	10.0	18.0	3,477	40
MENA	0.6	NA	NA	NA	1999	NA	2.0	NA	10.6	3,090	NA
MENA	4.2	2.3	6.5	35.6	2000	6.8	2.9	11.8	15.6	6,279	40
MENA	NA	NA	5.7	NA	2001	NA	NA	NA	30.5	NA	NA
MENA	0.9	1.0	1.9	52.6	1999	9.9	1.9	7.2	13.4	795	33
SA	1.3	0.7	2.0	35.0	2004	2.2	0.9	7.3	5.5	1,917	33
SA	2.1	2.2	4.3	51.2	2004	3.8	0.9	9.6	11.0	3,110	37
SA	0.2	0.2	0.4	50.0	2004	7.2	6.3	5.7	24.2	NA	NA
SA	1.4	0.4	1.8	22.2	2004	2.0	0.4	7.1	8.2	2,209	31
SA	2.0	1.0	3.0	33.3	2004	NA	2.0	NA	8.1	4,276	40

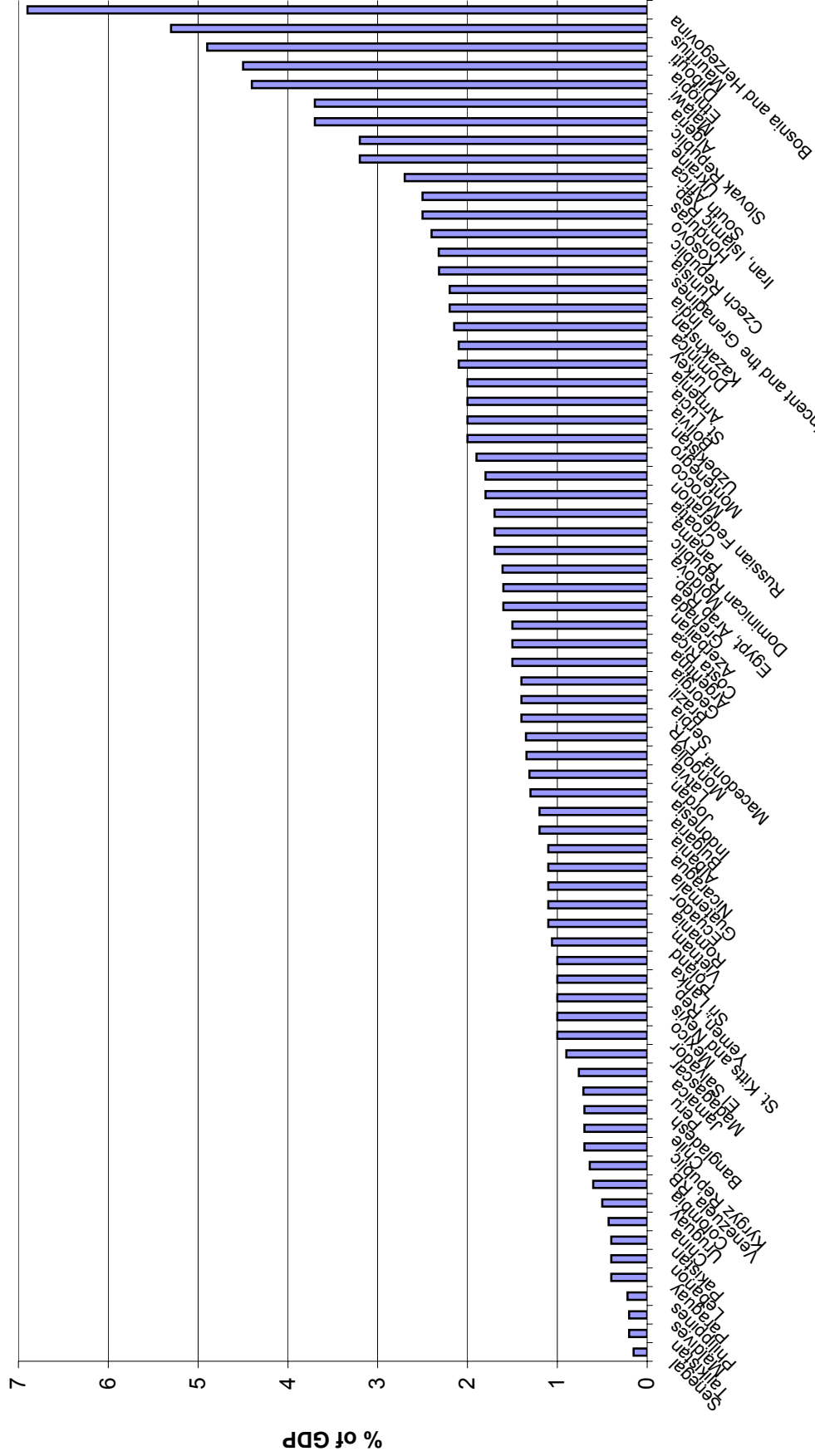
Social Assistance Expenditures as a % of GDP
All countries (n=74)



Source: Data on 87 countries taken from WB Public expenditure reviews or other similar work. Not all reports offered data on social assistance spending. St. Vincent and the Grenadines

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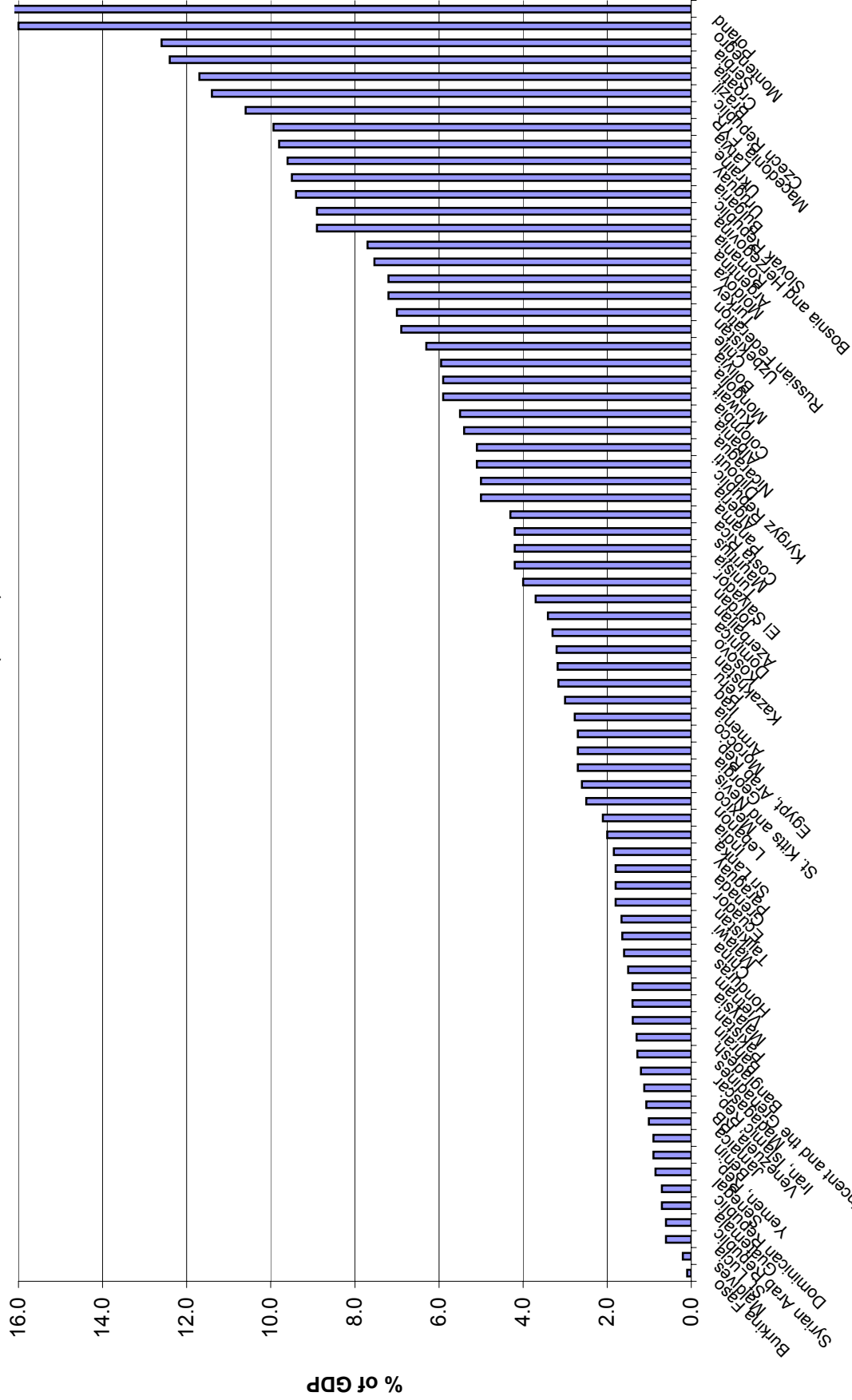
Social Assistance Expenditures as a % of GDP
All countries (n=73)



Source: Data on 87 countries taken from WB Public expenditure reviews or other similar work. Not all reports offered data on social assistance spending. St. Vincent and the Grenadines offered data on social assistance spending.

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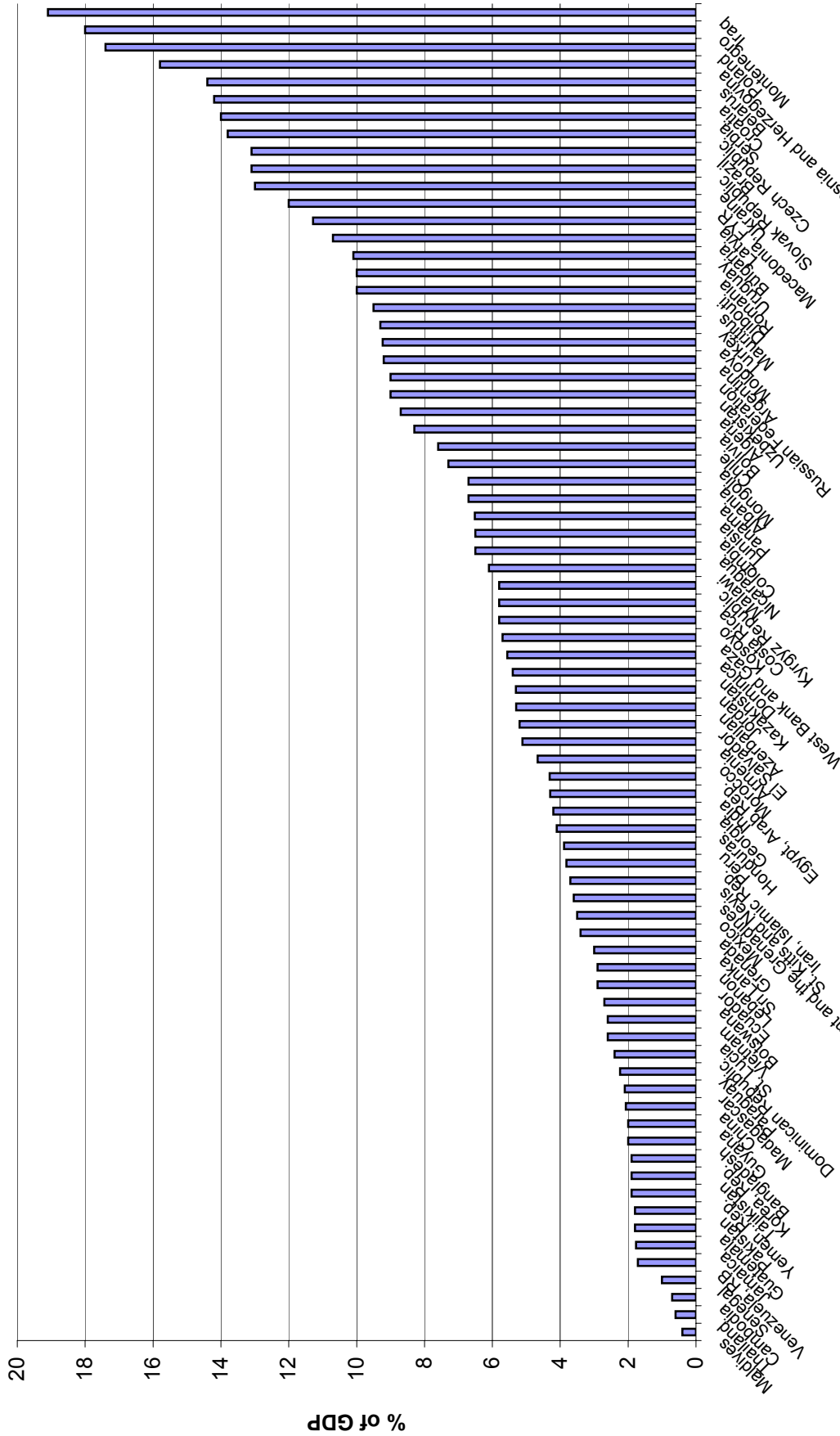
Social Insurance Expenditures as a % of GDP All countries (n=76)



Source: Data on 87 countries taken from WB Public expenditure reviews or other similar work. Not all reports offered data on social insurance spending.

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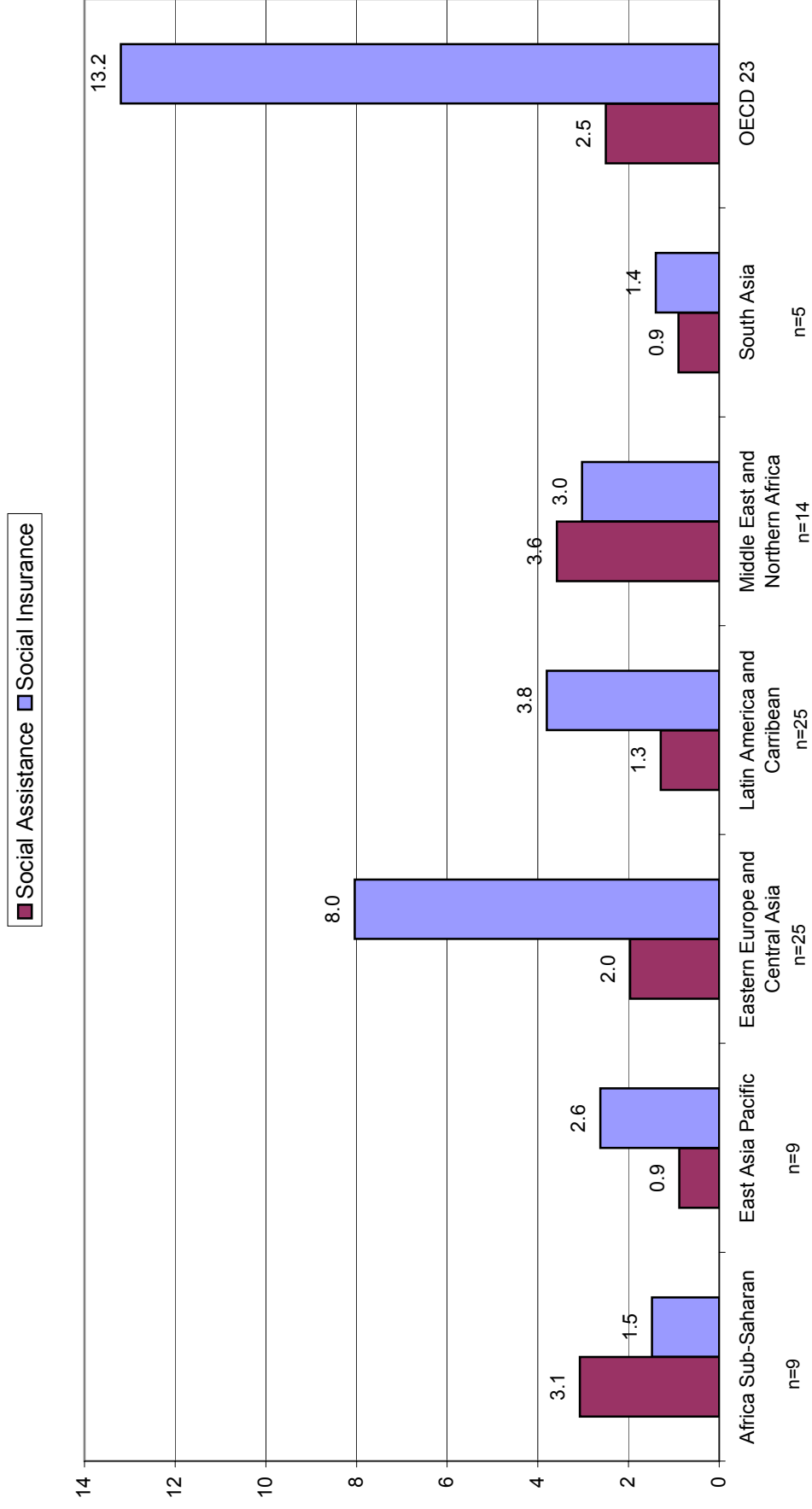
Social Protection Expenditures as a % of GDP All countries (n=77)



Source: Data on 87 countries taken from WB Public expenditure reviews or other similar work. Not all reports offered data on social protection spending.

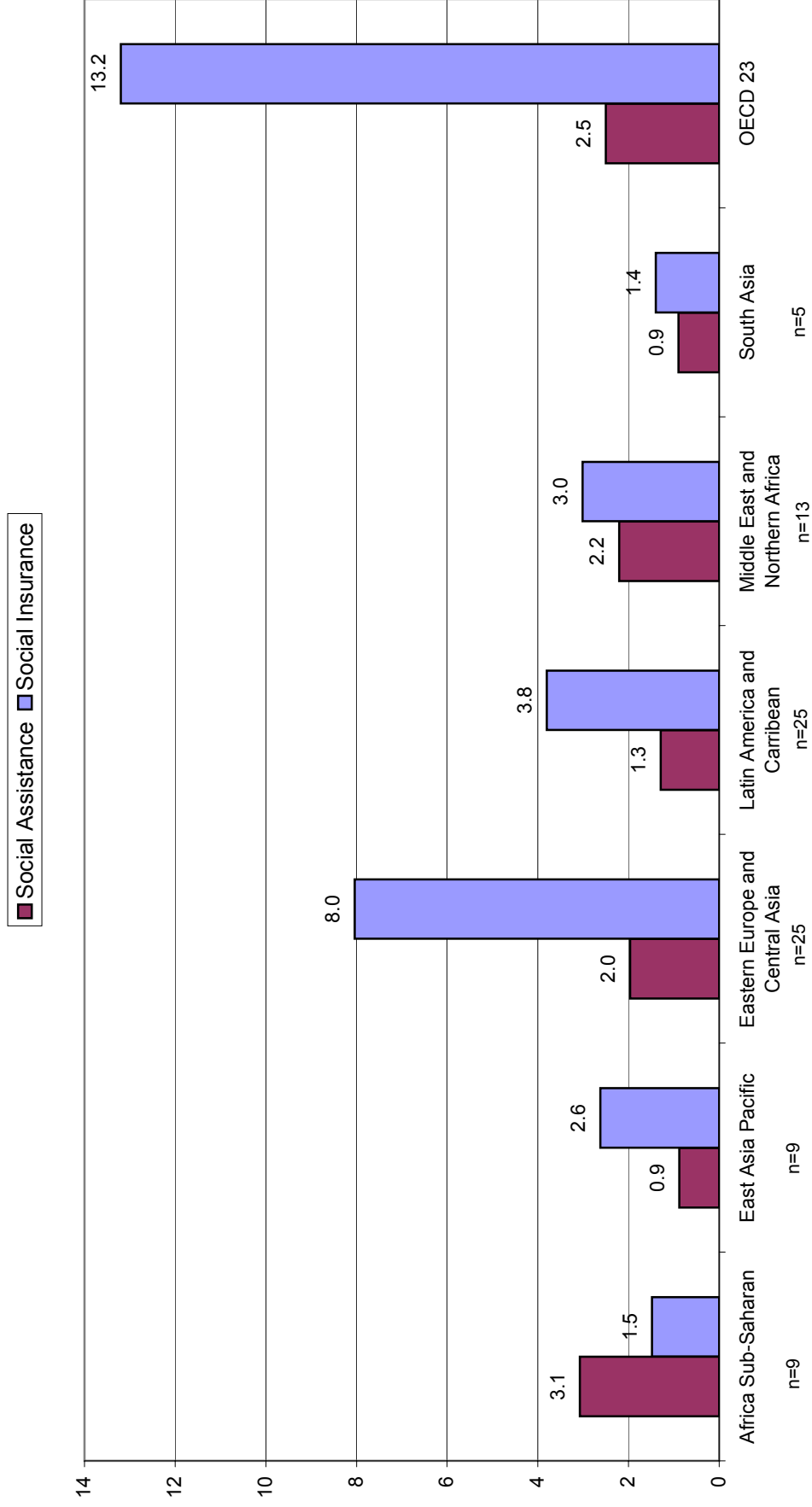
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Social Assistance and Social Insurance as a % of GDP ALL REGIONS



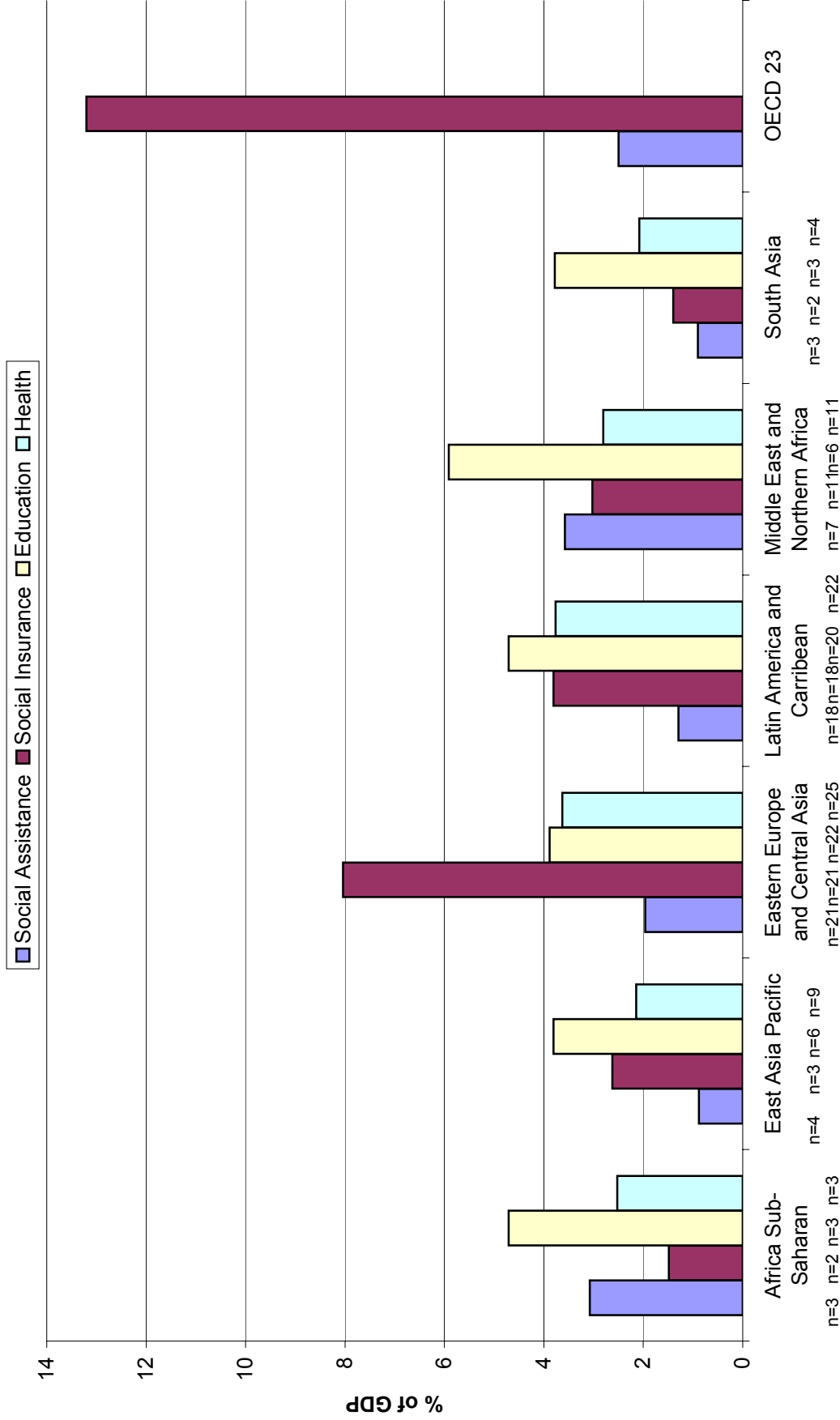
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Social Assistance and Social Insurance as a % of GDP ALL REGIONS



Notes: Data on 86 countries taken from WB Public expenditure reviews or other similar work. We used OECD-23 since OECD countries such as Poland and Mexico are already accounted for in the regional averages. OECD data from the OECD Social Expenditure database (OECD, 2004).

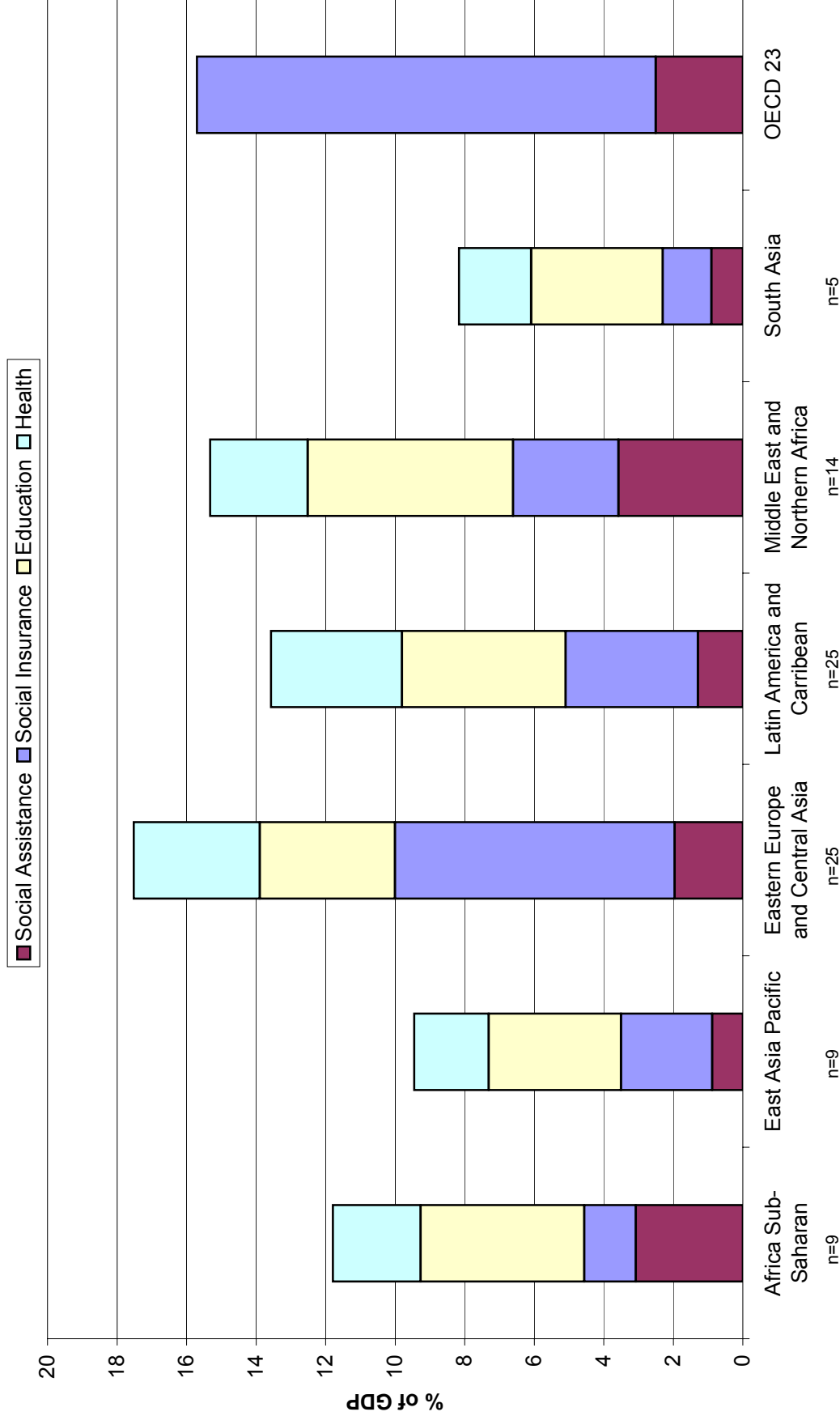
Social Spending as a % of GDP ALL REGIONS



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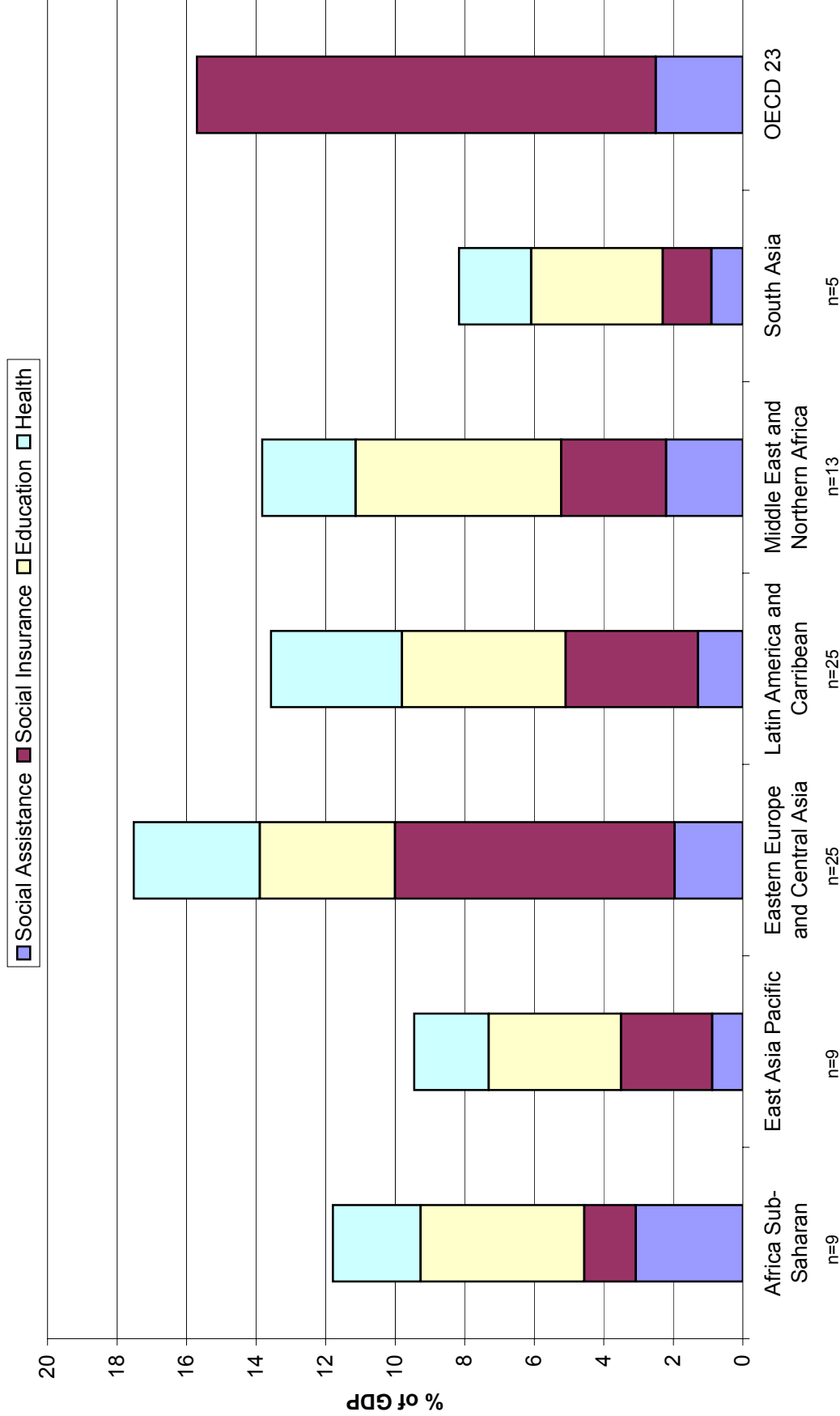
Social Spending as a % of GDP ALL REGIONS



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Social Spending as a % of GDP ALL REGIONS



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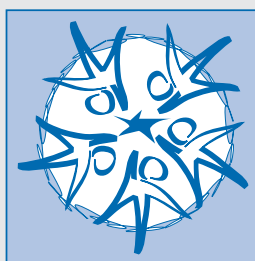
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This paper offers a new set of data compiled from individual World Bank country reports. We give a brief textual description of patterns and trends in spending, and provide the raw data and documentation of its sources in the appendix. The data are also provided in an Excel spreadsheet on the safety nets website www.worldbank.org/safetynets so that others may use them. Mean spending on safety nets is 1.9 percent of GDP and median spending is 1.4 percent of GDP. For about half of the countries, spending falls between 1 and 2 percent of GDP. Some variation is apparent. Bosnia and Herzegovina, Pakistan, and Tajikistan, for example, spend considerably less than 1 percent of GDP, while spending on social safety nets in Ethiopia and Malawi is nearly 4.5 percent of GDP because international aid is counted, but would be more like 0.5 percent if only domestically financed spending were counted. Other high-spending countries—Mauritius, South Africa, and the Slovak Republic—finance their safety nets domestically. Spending on safety nets is less variable than spending on social protection or the social sectors.

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT NETWORK

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