Maharashtra is India’s second most populous state and home to 20 million poor. Poverty declined more rapidly in the state after 2005. As a result, today, poverty levels in Maharashtra are lower than the national average. Yet, districts in the state’s northern and eastern regions continue to display a high incidence of poverty. Since 2005, Maharashtra’s economic growth has been above the national average, supported mainly by services. During this period, consumption inequality in the state — which was already among the highest in the country — increased slightly, albeit mainly in urban areas.

**Poverty in Maharashtra is below the national average**

Population below poverty line, 2012 (%)

Low Income States are highlighted in orange, AI is All India.

**Districts in the north and east of Maharashtra have high poverty**

District level poverty, 2012

Population below the poverty line, 2012 (%)
Like many states in India, the pace of poverty reduction in Maharashtra was faster after 2005.

After 2005, poverty declined more rapidly in both rural and urban areas of Maharashtra.
Growth in Maharashtra was faster than in many other states after 2005

Growth in Maharashtra is driven by services, industry adds to its volatility

Annual growth rate, (%)

Components of GSDP growth rate, (%)

Data for 19 large states and All India.
Low Income States are highlighted in orange.

Interpreting the graph

Leading
High income, high growth
Improving
Low income, high growth
Lagging
Low income, low growth
Weakening
High income, low growth

Standard of living, 2005

Improvement from 2005 to 2012

Annual growth rate, 2005 - 2012 (%)

Real GSDP per capita, (2005 Rupees)

Low poverty, declining slowly
High poverty, declining fast

Annual decline in poverty rate, 2005 - 2012 (%)

Low income, high growth
High income, low growth

Components of GSDP growth rate, (%)

Services
Industry
Agriculture
Poverty reduction in Maharashtra was faster than the national average after 2005

A significant share of India's poor live in Maharashtra

Interpreting the graph

Data for 19 large states and All India. Low Income States are highlighted in yellow.
Consumption inequality has increased marginally in Maharashtra, mainly in urban areas

Consumption inequality in Maharashtra is among the highest in the country

Low Income States are highlighted in orange, AI is All India.