

FACTSHEET

ON SOCIAL INCLUSION/ EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

IN ROMANIA

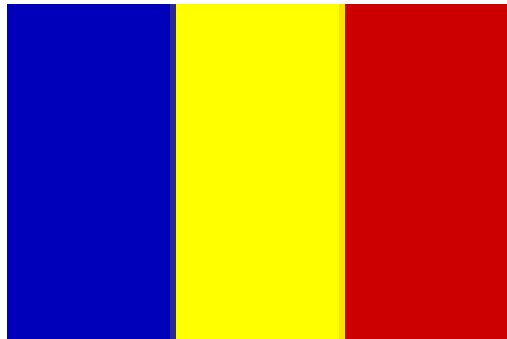


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1) Risk of poverty

	Sources	Year	Age Range	Results
At risk of poverty by age (cut-off point: 60% of median equivalised income after social transfers)	Eurostat	2006	Less than 18	-
Distribution of cross income by main sources of income for poor households with children: work income	Children poverty and well-being in EU. Current status and way forward. EC.2008 p.158	2005		-
Distribution of cross income by main sources of income for poor households with children: Unemployment benefit	Children poverty and well-being in EU. Current status and way forward. EC.2008 p.158	2005		-
Distribution of cross income by main sources of income for poor households with children: Family allowance	Children poverty and well-being in EU. Current status and way forward. EC.2008 p.158	2005		-
Distribution of children by the type of household (lone parent) and work type of adults of the household: jobless	Children poverty and well-being in EU. Current status and way forward. EC.2008 p.166	2005		-
Distribution of children by the type of household (lone parent) and work type of adults of the household: in full-time job	Children poverty and well-being in EU. Current status and way forward. EC.2008 p.166	2005		-
Distribution of children by the type of household (couple with children) and work type of adults of the household: both in full-time job	Children poverty and well-being in EU. Current status and way forward. EC.2008 p.166	2005		-
Distribution of children by the type of household (couple with children) and work type of adults of the household: both jobless	Children poverty and well-being in EU. Current status and way forward. EC.2008 p.166	2005		-
Risk of poverty rate by household type: Single parent with dependent children (cut-off point: 60% of median equivalised income after social transfers)	Eurostat	2006		27
Risk of poverty rate by household type: Household without dependent children (cut-off point: 60% of median equivalised income after social transfers)	Eurostat	2006		15
Risk of poverty rate by household type: Household with dependent children (cut-off point: 60% of median equivalised income after social transfers)	Eurostat	2006		21

2) Social Subsistence/Protection

Social protection in Romania is organized in the Government under several ministries Those are Ministry of Labour, Family and Equal Opportunities under which operates also National Authority for Handicapped Persons, Ministry of Public Health, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Interior and Administrative Reform, Ministry of Education and Research and Youth. To the Central Public administration belong also autonomous public institutions which operate in the field of social protection. Those are National House of Pensions and other Social Insurance Rights, National Agency for Labour Force Employment and National House for Health Insurance. There are also many local authorities responsible for social protection (County and Local Councils) and a private body called Lawyers' Insurance House that operates the unique, specific and autonomous system of social insurance benefits for lawyers. (MISSOC 2008a.)

In Romania operates several social security schemes of which the most important are mentioned in the following. Pay-as-you-go and partially-contributory general social insurance schemes are the health social insurance system, the public system of pensions, the employment injuries and occupational diseases system and the unemployment insurance and furtherance of employment system. *The health social insurance system* covers all persons with residence in Romania and provides benefits in kind. The Unique National Fund of Health Social Insurance consists of the scheme's revenues

and expenditures. *The public system of pensions* covers the gain-fully employed and the unemployed entirely and self-employed partially against the risks of old-age, invalidity, survivor as well as employment injuries and occupational diseases. The State Social Insurance Budget consists the scheme's revenues and expenditures. In both of these systems beyond contributions, in case of deficits the revenues may also include subsidies from the State Budget. *The employment injuries and occupational diseases system* covers the gain-fully employed and the unemployed against the risks of employment injuries and occupational diseases. The State Social Insurance Budget consists of the scheme's revenues and expenditures treated as different chapters. *The unemployment insurance and furtherance of employment system* covers entirely the fully-gain employed against the risk of unemployment. The unemployment Insurance Budget consists of the scheme's revenues and expenditures. Also in this system beyond contributions, in case of deficits the revenues may also include subsidies from the State Budget. All three last mentioned systems provide income replacement. There are also schemes related to the national social assistance system. These are universal social assistance schemes that cover persons in need mainly against the risks of old-age, invalidity and family/children and provide income support according to the solidarity principle. The schemes are financed by either local budgets or the state budget. (MISSOC 2007.)

Examples of the social benefits especially for the young in Romania include

- In health care a) people up to 18 (extended to 26 if studying or apprenticing and not in receipt of any income) until the beginning of the university year, but no longer than three months, apprentices or students and b) young persons under 26 years who belong to the child protection system and have no incomes or don't receive social security benefits of an insured person are covered even if no contributions have been paid
- Child benefit and child care allowances
- Allowance for single parents
- Birth and adoption grants

(MISSOC 2008b.)

Sources:

[MISSOC 2007](#). Romania.

[MISSOC 2008a](#). Mutual Information System on Social Protection. European Commission.

[MISSOC 2008b](#). Database.

3) Equal opportunities

- Equality in Programs and as a Goal

Romania is a member of the European Union and undoubtedly strives to fulfil its demands also in the field of equality. In the Government's program states that "the Romanian Government undertakes and promotes democracy, capitalism and the European values for the purpose of Romania's durable economic development, increasing the citizens' welfare and regaining national dignity." The fundamental options that the Romanian Government share and promote are for example 1) Consolidation of the rule of law and of democracy in Romania, 2) Strengthening the individual liberties, increase of citizen and family security, 3) Social and economic cohesion, reduction of poverty and social exclusion, 4) Equality of chances and 5) Respect of the minorities' rights. (Government of Romania 2008a.)

In the Government's social protection policy states, that "in order to improve the actual system of social protection from Romania, Romanian Government adopts measures aiming at achieving the following strategic goals:

- Decrease of poverty and social exclusion
- Improvement of the living standard for the aged persons
- Assuring the access to the system of social insurance according to the level of the contributions to system

- Progressive decrease of the number of assisted persons and encouraging them to identify alternative sources of social security
- Ensuring conditions for the equality of chances and social participation of handicapped persons and of those coming from disfavored classes

(Government of Romania 2008b.)

- Inequalities in Practice

In spite of good intentions there are many inequalities between young men and women in the country. In the field of health and well being 4 % of 15-years-old girls and 10 % of boys reported they are over-weight according to the body mass index in 2005/2006. At the same time 33 % of girls against 14 % of boys though they were too fat. Percentage of 15 year-olds who have been bullied at school at least twice in the past couple of months was in these years 8 % among girls and 12 % among boys. (Inequalities in Young People's Health 2008, pp. 77; 81; 161.) Rates of registered deaths between ages 15 and 24 years are 87,1/100 000 for men and 35,9/100 000 for women. In 2006 life expectancy at birth among men is around 67 years and among women around 76 years (WHO Mortality Country Fact Sheet 2006). In the same year adult mortality rate (probability of dying between 15 – 60 years per 1000 population) is 95 among female and 218 among men (WHO Core Health Indicators Database 2008).

Sources:

Government of Romania 2008a. [The Romanian Government's Commitment.](#)

Government of Romania 2008b. [The Social Protection Policy.](#)

[Inequalities in Young People's Health. HBSC International Report from the 2005/2006 survey.](#) 2008.

[WHO Core Health Indicators Database 2008.](#)

[WHO Mortality Country Fact Sheet 2006.](#)