



Poverty in Sri Lanka

**(Based on Household Income and
Expenditure Survey - 2006/07)**

**Department of Census and Statistics
Ministry of Finance and Planning
Sri Lanka**

Acknowledgement

Household Income and Expenditure Survey 2006/07 was conducted by the Department of Census and Statistics under the National Household Sample survey Programme. This survey is the sixth in the series of Income and Expenditure Surveys conducted once in five years period since 1980.

Data collection of this survey was conducted in twelve monthly rounds from July 2006 to June 2007 and the survey was conducted in all the districts in Sri Lanka, excluding the districts in the Northern Province and Trincomalee district. A sample of equal size was enumerated in each month to capture the seasonal variation of the income, the expenditure and the consumption.

This poverty report is based on Household Income and Expenditure Survey 2006/07 and gives information at national, sectoral and provincial level. But some limited tables are given at district level.

The tabulations of this report were done and this publication was written and organized by Mr. C.A.E.R.M.L. Perera, Senior Statistician under the direction of Mr. G.Y. L. Fernando, Director(2) .

D.B.P.S. Vidyaratne
Director General of
Census and Statistics

2009 - 04 - 29
Department of Census and Statistics
15/12, Maitland Crescent
Colombo 07

Contents

	Page No.
List of Tables	i
Introduction	1
Poverty by characteristics of head of the household.	7
Household size	12
Housing Characteristics	16
Inventory of Durable goods	23
Access to facilities	24
Ownership of Land and Housing	32
Debts	35
Income and Expenditure of the poor and the non poor	37
Annexure	42

List of Tables

	Page No
Table 1.1: Poverty status by sector, province and district - 2006/07	2
Table 1.2: Number of poor persons and number of poor households by sector province and district - 2006/07	5
Table 2.1: Head Count Index by sex of head of the household - 2006/07	7
Table 2.2 HCI by education level of head of the household and by sector - 2006/07	8
Table 2.3: HCI by education level of head of the household and by sex - 2006/07	8
Table 2.4: Percentage of poor households by level of education of head of the household - 2006/07	9
Table 2.5: Percentage of poor households by major industrial groups of head of the household and by sector - 2006/07	10
Table 2.6 HCI by major industrial group of head of the household and by sector -2006/07	10
Table 2.7: HCI by major occupation group of head of the household - 2006/07	10
Table 2.8: HCI by usual activity status of head of the household - 2006/07	11
Table 2.9: Poverty status by employment status of head of the household - 2006/07	11
Table 3.1: Household size by poverty status by sector and province - 2006/07	12
Table 3.2: Household size by poverty status by District -2006/07	13
Table 3.3: HCI by household size and by sector - 2006/07	14
Table 3.4: Contribution to poverty by household size and by sector - 2006/07	15
Table 4.1: Percentage distribution of households using drinking water (safe or unsafe) by sector, province and district - 2006/07	16
Table 4.2: Percentage distribution of households by poverty status using drinking water by sector and province - 2006/07	18
Table 4.3: Percentage distribution of households by type of lighting and by sector, province and district -2006/07	19
Table 4.4: Percentage distribution of households by poverty status by type of lighting and by sector -2006/07	20
Table 4.5: Percentage distribution of households by poverty status by type of lighting and by province -2006/07	20
Table 4.6: Percentage distribution of households by poverty status by availability of toilet exclusive for the household and sector -2006/07	20

Table 4.7 : Percentage distribution of households by availability of toilet exclusive for the household and by sector, province and district - 2006/07	21
Table 4.8: Percentage distribution of households by poverty status and availability of bed rooms - 2006/07	22
Table 4.9: Percentage distribution of households by poverty status and availability of bed rooms by sector- 2006/07	22
Table 5.1: Percentage distribution of households by poverty status and ownership of durable goods -Sri Lanka - 2006/07	23
Table 5.2: Percentage distribution of households by poverty status and ownership of durable goods by sector and province - 2006/07	24
Table 6.1: Mean distance to the nearest place of facility by poverty status and by sector - 2006/07	25
Table 6.2: Mean distance to the nearest place of facility by poverty status and by province and district - 2006/07	26
Table 6.3: Mean distance to the nearest place of facility by sector, province and district - 2006/07	30
Table 7.1: Contribution of Owner occupied housing units by poverty status and by sector - 2006/07	32
Table 7.2: Contribution of land ownership by households by poverty status and by sector - 2006/07	32
Table 7.3: Percentage distribution of household tenure ship by sector, province and district - 2006/07	33
Table 7.4: Percentage distribution of land ownership by households by sector, province and district- 2006/07	34
Table 8.1: Distribution of households by poverty status and amount of debt - 2006/07	35
Table 8.2: Percentage of households by indebtedness by sector, province and district - 2006/07	36
Table 9.1: Household income per month by poverty status by sector, province and district - 2006/07	38
Table 9.2: Source of income by poor and non poor households -2006/07	39
Table 9.3: Household expenditure per month by poverty status sector, province and district - 2006/07	40
Table 9.4: Non food expenditure by poor & non poor households - 2006/07	41

Introduction

The department of Census and Statistics (DCS), under the National Household Survey Programme conducts Household Income and Expenditure Survey (HIES) once in every 5 years time since 1980/81. One of the main objectives of this survey is to measure the poverty and to compute the various poverty indicators. HIES 2006/07 is the sixth in the series and the field work of the survey was done during the period from July 2006 to June 2007 throughout the island excluding the Northern province and Trincomalle district in the Eastern province. **It is important to notice here that when the reference is made to Sri Lanka in this report, it the domain of Sri Lanka excluding the Northern province and Trincomalle district in the Eastern province.** For this survey, the questionnaire was expanded and it consisted of 9 sections to collect more information on poverty. In general the survey gathers information related to demographic characteristics of the members of the household, expenditure on food and non food items and income received from different sources. Apart from the above topics, the following additional areas are also covered in HIES 2006/07.

1. School education
2. Information related to Health
3. Inventory of durable goods
4. Access to facilities in the area
5. Debts of the household
6. Information about housing units
7. Agriculture holdings and livestock

Still being on arguments, the poverty or poor is expressed as lack of access to basic human needs, including food, safe drinking water sanitation facilities, health, shelter, education etc.

The poverty line specifies the minimum standard of living condition in the society to which everybody should be entitled. A person is identified as poor if he or she cannot enjoy this minimum condition. Thus the poverty line is the threshold line that identifies who the poor are, is the starting point of poverty analysis.

The official poverty line was derived by DCS with the assistance of international experts in 2002. Absolute poverty line was chosen for the study, so that changes in poverty over time could be compared easily. The Cost of Basic Needs method (CBN) was used to estimate poverty lines at which the members of the household can be expected meet their basic needs. (see Annex 1)

The poverty line should change over time because of changes in prices. This implies that the poverty line should be adjusted over time by means of true cost of living index. For the base year 2002, the Official poverty line (OPL) was estimated as Rs. 1423, real total expenditure per person per month and it was updated in 2006/07 for changes in the cost of living using Colombo Consumer Price Index (CCPI). Thus the poverty line in real terms did not change over time, which ensured that poverty estimates could be compared over time.

Head Count Index

Poverty Head Count Index is commonly used to measure poverty incidence in Sri Lanka. The proportion of poor population to total population is defined as Head Count Index (HCI) and it is generally represented as a percentage.

Table 1.1 :Poverty status by sector, province and district - 2006/07

Sector/ Province/ District	Head Count Index (%)	Poverty Gap Index (%)	Squared Poverty Gap Index (%)	Poor households (%)
Sri Lanka	15.2	3.1	0.9	12.6
Sector				
Urban	6.7	1.3	0.4	5.0
Rural	15.7	3.2	1.0	13.1
Estate	32.0	6.2	1.8	25.8
Province				
Western	8.2	1.5	0.4	6.5
Central	22.3	4.6	1.4	18.2
Southern	13.8	2.6	0.8	11.0
Eastern	10.8	2.1	0.6	9.0
North-western	14.6	2.9	0.9	12.2
North-central	14.2	2.8	0.8	11.8
Uva	27.0	6.2	2.1	23.8
Sabaragamuwa	24.2	4.9	1.5	20.2
District				
Colombo	5.4	1.0	0.3	3.9
Gampaha	8.7	1.4	0.4	7.2
Kalutara	13.0	2.7	0.8	10.3
Kandy	17.0	3.8	1.2	13.9
Matale	18.9	3.7	1.0	15.7
Nuwara eliya	33.8	6.8	2.0	27.5
Galle	13.7	2.9	0.9	10.7
Matara	14.7	2.4	0.6	11.7
Hambantota	12.7	2.5	0.7	10.5
Batticaloa	10.7	1.5	0.4	9.5
Ampara	10.9	2.4	0.7	8.7
Kurunegala	15.4	3.1	1.0	12.9
Puttalama	13.1	2.3	0.7	10.6
Anuradapura	14.9	2.8	0.8	12.7
Polonnaruwa	12.7	2.8	1.0	10.0
Badulla	23.7	5.3	1.7	21.0
Monaragala	33.2	7.8	2.8	29.2
Rathnapura	26.6	5.3	1.6	21.5
Kegalle	21.0	4.3	1.3	18.4

Sectoral poverty

According to the survey results, it is revealed that the poverty in terms of HCI in urban sector is the lowest (6.7 percent) and estate sector is the highest (32.0 percent) while in rural sector it records 15.7 percent. This means 7 people out of 100 in urban sector are below the OPL while 32 people out of 100 in estate sector are below the OPL. This reflects poverty incidence in estate sector more than 4 times that of urban sector. While comparing with rural sector, poverty incidence in estate sector is more than double that of rural sector and poverty incidence in urban sector is less than half that of rural sector. In Sri Lanka the biggest contribution (82 percent) comes from rural sector, reflecting its highest population share. Thus the highest number of poor persons is recorded from rural sector (2303 thousands). Although poverty in estate sector is the highest among all three sectors in Sri Lanka, out of a total of 2805 thousands poor persons in Sri Lanka only 318 thousand persons (11.3 percent) are recorded as poor in the estate sector.

So it is extremely important to consider both the HCI and the number of persons below poverty line in a domain.

Provincial poverty

According to the Table 1.1, in terms of OPL, the poverty in Uva province is the highest among all the provinces in Sri Lanka. The second and third places take Sabaragamuwa and Central provinces respectively. All those three provinces are recorded more than 22 percent of HCI. The largest share of poor population in Sri Lanka is reported from Central province while the next highest is reported from Western province although it records the lowest HCI (8.2 percent) among all provinces.

District level poverty

The poverty in Nuwara Eliya district is the highest (33.8 percent) among districts. On the other hand Ratnapura district reported the largest number of poor persons (292 thousands) although the HCI is 26.6 percent which is far behind the HCI of Nuwara Eliya and Moneragala districts when districts are compared. Further analysis, both Moneragala and Kalutara districts are contributed the same percentage of poor population to the total poverty (5.3 percent) but it can be significantly seen a high variation of HCI between those two districts. The HCI for Moneragala and Kalutara districts are 33.2 percent and 13.0 percent respectively.

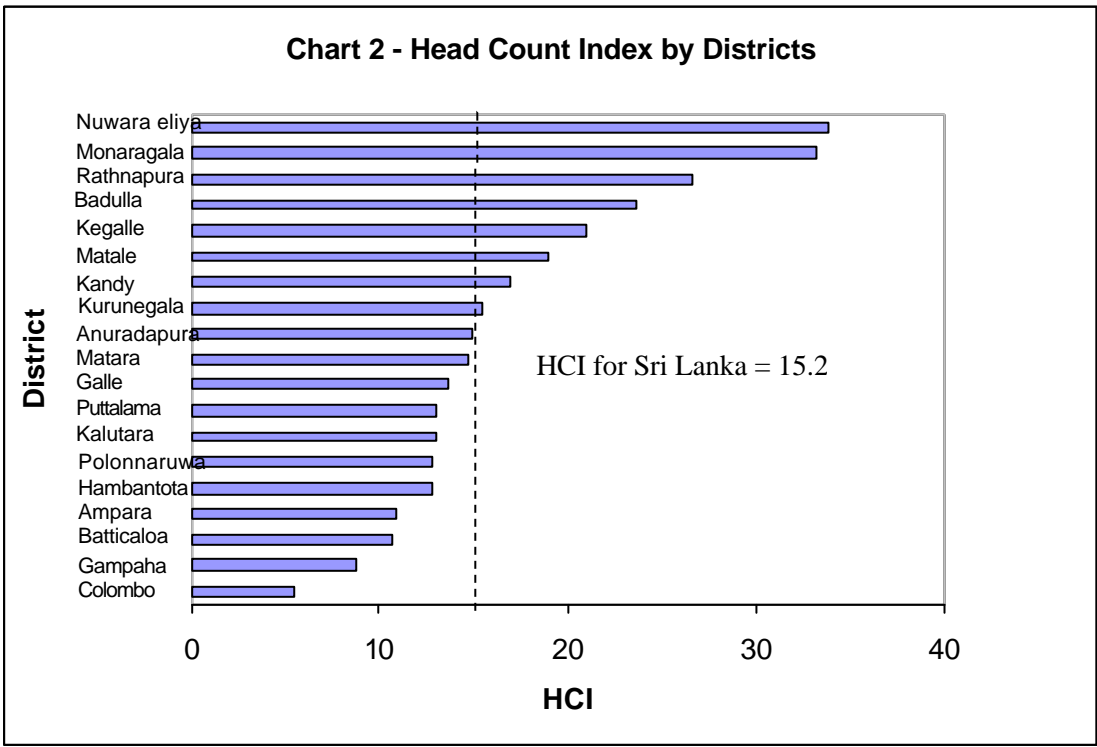
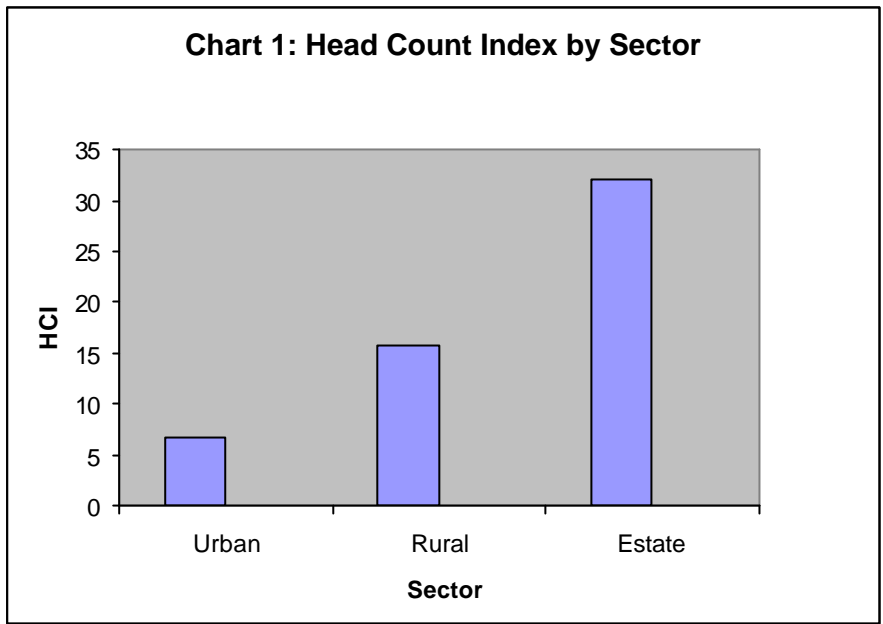
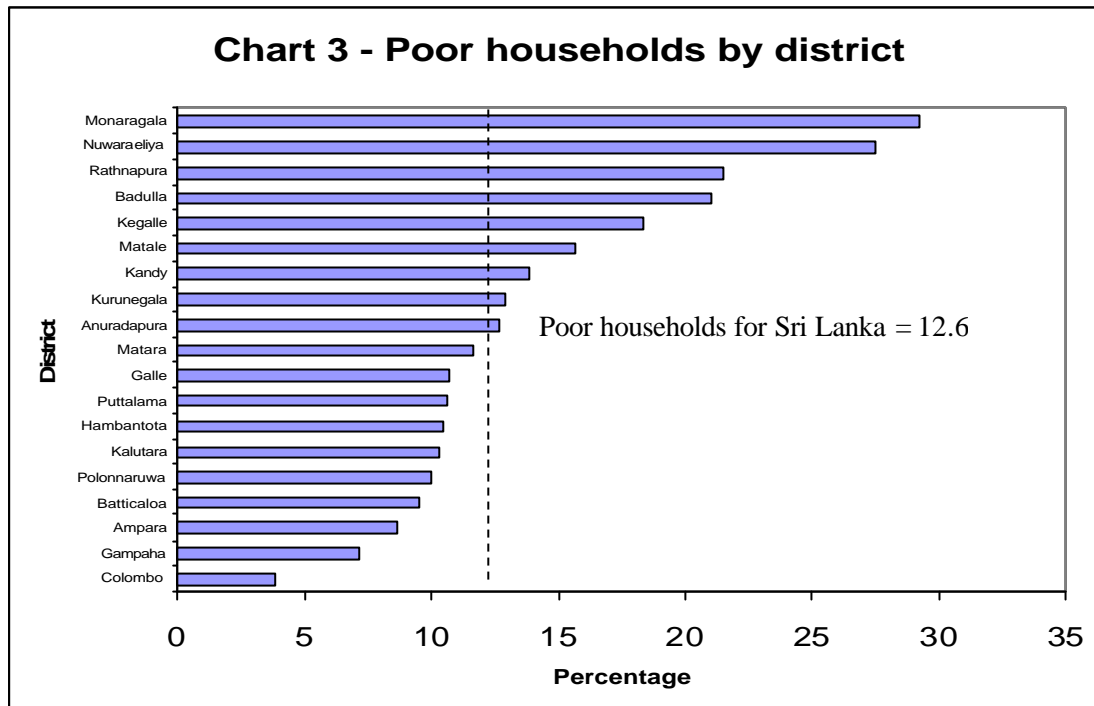


Table 1.2: Number of poor persons and number of poor households by sector province and district - 2006/07

Sector/ Province/ District	Poor persons (thousand)	Poor households (thousand)
Sri Lanka	2805	571
Sector		
Urban	184	32
Rural	2303	478
Estate	318	61
Province		
Western	471	89
Central	573	115
Southern	338	65
Eastern	100	20
North-western	342	73
North-central	168	37
Uva	346	75
Sabaragamuwa	467	97
Distict		
Colombo	125	21
Gampaha	196	39
Kalutara	149	28
Kandy	230	45
Matale	89	19
Nuwara eliya	254	51
Galle	146	28
Matara	119	23
Hambantota	73	15
Batticaloa	36	8
Ampara	64	12
Kurunegala	238	52
Puttalama	104	21
Anuradapura	118	27
Polonnaruwa	50	10
Badulla	197	43
Monaragala	150	32
Rathnapura	292	59
Kegalle	175	38



Trends in Poverty

The national poverty head count for Sri Lanka, which declined from 26.1 percent in 1990/91 to 15.2 percent in 2006/07. So the poverty has decreased by 42 percent during that period. But the gap in poverty incidence between sectors widened from 1990/91 to 2006/07. Urban and rural poverty declined by 59 percent and 47 percent respectively, while the inverse trend shows in estate sector, which increased by about 56 percent over the last 15 years.

When compared provinces, it is evident that poverty incidence declined in all the provinces from 1990/91 to 2006/07 period. Western province and Southern province declined the poverty by more than 50 percent. Uva province still records the highest incidence in poverty among provinces and declined the poverty very slowly during the two periods.

A higher variation can be observed in poverty incidence between districts. All the districts other than Nuwara-Eliya achieved their goals to reduce poverty over the period of last 15 years. Extraordinary Nuwara-Eliya district increased poverty by about 68 percent over the two interim periods 1990/91 to 2006/07. It is noticed that the real total expenditure per month in estate sector with a low non food proportion remains much closer to the poverty line. It is also revealed that that nearly 73 percent population of the estate sector falls into poorest 40 percent population of the country. Under this situation change of economic pattern of consumption behavior in the country, (higher non food consumption) that pushes a large number of non poor population in estate sector beneath the poverty line. This can be explained Nuwara-Eliya district where large numbers of estates are located; hence the higher estate sector poverty incidence may affect the entire district.

These trends are similar for the contribution to poverty of the poverty gap (depth) and the squared poverty gap (severity) as well.

Poverty by characteristics of head of the household.

Sex

HIES 2006/07 survey reveals that about 23.3 percent of the population live in household headed by females. The Table 2.1 shows that poverty in female headed households is not significantly different from male headed households at national level. In urban sector female headed households is much higher than male headed households.

Table 2.1 :Head Count Index by sex of head of the household - 2006/07

Sector	Male	Female	Total
Urban	6.0	9.3	6.7
Rural	15.8	15.2	15.7
Estate	31.8	33.2	32.0
Total	15.3	15.1	15.2

According to the survey definition of household, members who do not usually live there were not listed as members. As such husbands who were employed elsewhere in the country or abroad were excluded from these households. In such cases some other person in the household had to be classified as the head of the household and in most cases it was the wife. Therefore not only separated, widowed or divorced women but their husbands migrating for work in another place are also included as a head of the household.

Education

Table 2.2 shows a clear relationship between the education and the poverty. Educational attainment universally considered a pre condition for better living or well being is inversely correlated poverty in Sri Lanka. The incidence of poverty is highest among the population living in households with a head with little or no education and the lowest when the head has a high level educational attainment. For example the poor persons belong to the households whose heads had no schooling is 35.7 percent and schooling up to grade 5 is 24.6 percent. On the other hand such persons belong to the households whose heads had completed G.C.E. (A.L.) and above are only 1.6 percent.

Table 2.2 :HCI by education level of head of the household and by sector - 2006/07

Level of education	Sri Lanka	Urban	Rural	Estate
No schooling	35.7	23.3	35.1	44.8
Up to grade 5	24.6	13.9	24.9	32.8
Grade 5-10	13.6	7.1	14.3	25.9
Passed G.C.E. (O.L)	3.7	0.9	4.3	13.6
Passed G.C.E (A.L.) & above	1.6	1.5	1.6	-
Total	15.2	6.7	15.7	32.0

HCI is higher for male heads than female heads for almost all educational categories. An also noticeable difference exists by heads educational attainment with regard to residential sectors. (Table 2.3)

Table 2.3: HCI by education level of head of the household and by sex - 2006/07

Level of education	Sri Lanka	Male	Female
No schooling	35.7	39.0	32.0
Up to grade 5	24.6	26.1	19.6
Grade 5-10	13.6	13.9	12.5
Passed G.C.E. (O.L)	3.7	3.7	4.0
Passed G.C.E (A.L.) & above	1.6	1.8	0.5
Total	15.2	15.3	15.1

Regarding the level of education passed G.C.E.(O.L.) and other below categories, poverty incidence is severely affected for heads in estate sector than those who achieved the same education qualification in other two sectors.

Another angle of analysis, heads who had not passed at least G.C.E.(O.L.) as their education qualifications, associated with 95 percent of the poverty. Conversely the contribution to the poverty by G.C.E.(A.L.) passers and graduates is only recorded less than 1 percent.(Table 2.4)

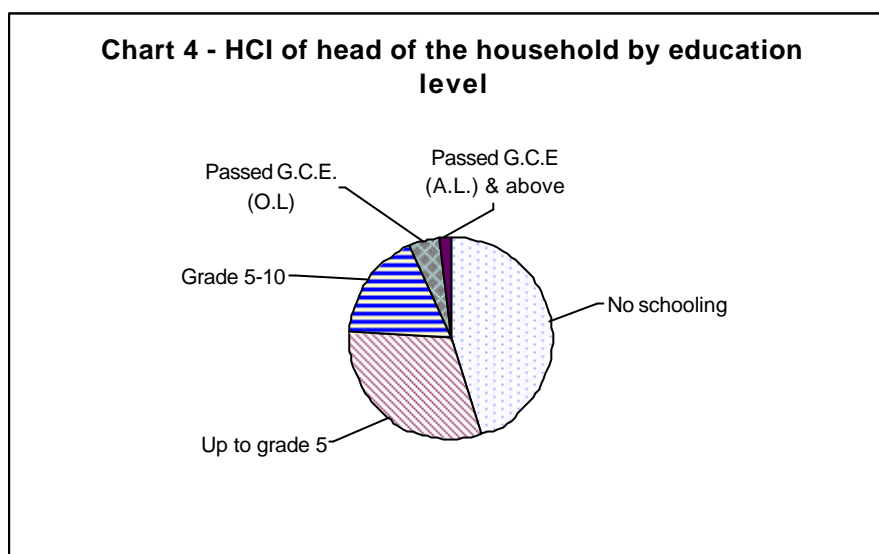


Table 2.4: Percentage of poor households by level of education of head of the household - 2006/07

Level of education	Sri Lanka (%)	Non-poor (%)	Poor (%)
No schooling	5.5	4.5	13.0
Up to grade 5	27.1	24.7	44.3
Grade 5-10	42.3	43.0	38.0
Passed G.C.E. (O.L.)	15.1	16.7	3.7
Passed G.C.E (A.L.) & above	9.9	11.2	0.9
Not stated	0.1	0.1	0.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Industry, Occupation and Employment status

Information on industrial category to which the occupations of the employed heads belong was divided into 3 broad groups. As expected the highest poverty incidence shows among households whose heads work in the industry of agriculture sector. (Table 2.5) This share is 45 percent among poor households in Sri Lanka. In estate sector, heads work in the industry of agriculture sector contributes the highest percentage (73.2 percent) among major industrial groups. In rural sector this proportion is 44.4 percent.

Table 2.5 :Percentage of poor households by major industrial groups of head of the household and by sector - 2006/07

Major industrial groups	Sri Lanka (%)	Urban (%)	Rural (%)	Estate (%)
Agriculture	45.0	6.4	44.4	73.2
Industry	23.2	28.2	24.4	9.1
Services	31.8	65.3	31.1	17.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 2.6 :HCI by major industrial group of head of the household and by sector -2006/07

Major industrial groups	Sri Lanka	Urban	Rural	Estate
Agriculture	21.6	8.3	20.8	29.4
Industry	15.1	8.3	16.0	29.2
Services	11.3	6.5	12.1	26.4
Total	15.4	7.1	16.0	28.8

The survey results show that poverty is highly associated with the employment of household heads. Poverty incidence is largest among households headed by persons with elementary occupation (unskilled labourers) and agricultural and fishery workers following next. Household headed by senior officials and managers have recorded 4.7, whereas the proprietors and managers of enterprises are included in that group.

Table 2.7: HCI by major occupation group of head of the household - 2006/07

Major occupation group	HCI
1.Senior officials & Managers	4.7
2. Professionals	-
3. Technical & Associate professionals	5.0
4. Clerks	4.3
5. Sales & Services workers	6.7
6. Skilled agricultural & Fishery workers	19.2
7. Craft & related workers	15.1
8. Plant & Machine operators	7.8
9.Elementary occupation	28.3
Total	15.4

No mark difference can be observed among usual activity status of heads as regards the poverty incidence in Sri Lanka. But in urban sector HCI is slightly higher among unemployed heads than those who belong to other two categories.

Table 2.8: HCI by usual activity status of head of the household - 2006/07

Main activity	Sri Lanka	Urban	Rural	Estate
Employed	15.4	7.1	16.0	28.8
Unemployed	15.5	13.7	14.7	33.4
Inactive & Other	14.7	5.4	15.0	41.8
Total	15.2	6.7	15.7	32.0

The contribution of poverty is highest among those households whose household heads are in elementary occupations and agriculture, livestock and fishery workers. Most of those occupations the heads engage as casual labourers or own account workers. Therefore the highest poverty contribution is recorded among private sector employees (private sector includes both formal private sector and informal private sector) (22 percent) when the employment status of head of the households is considered. HCI for own account workers is 13 percent in Sri Lanka.

Table 2.9: Poverty status by employment status of head of the household - 2006/07

Employment status	HCI	Contribution to poverty (%)
Employee (Govt./Semi Govt.)	3.7	3.3
Employee(Private)	22.0	63.5
Employer	4.9	1.1
Own account worker	13.0	31.7
Unpaid family worker	12.3	0.4
Total	15.4	100.0

Household size

Poverty incidence is strongly associated with the household size. One can argue that the larger households, especially those with children are more likely to be poor. According to the Table 3.1 it can be seen that the average household size for poor households is reported as 4.9 noticeably larger than the average household size for non poor households (3.9) at national level. The average household size in urban sector for poor households is reported as 5.8, compared with the national level it shows the higher value. Western province, the most urbanized province in Sri Lanka shows the highest average household size for poor households among districts. Table 3.2 indicates that the largest average household size for poor households is reported from Colombo district (5.9) compared with the other districts.

Table 3.1: Household size by poverty status by sector and province - 2006/07

Sector/ Province	All households	Poor households	Non- poor households
Sri Lanka	4.1	4.9	3.9
Sector			
Urban	4.3	5.8	4.3
Rural	4.0	4.8	3.9
Estate	4.2	5.2	3.9
Province			
Western	4.2	5.3	4.1
Central	4.1	5.0	3.9
Southern	4.1	5.2	4.0
Eastern	4.2	5.1	4.1
North-western	3.9	4.7	3.8
North-central	3.8	4.5	3.7
Uva	4.1	4.6	3.9
Sabaragamuwa	4.0	4.8	3.8

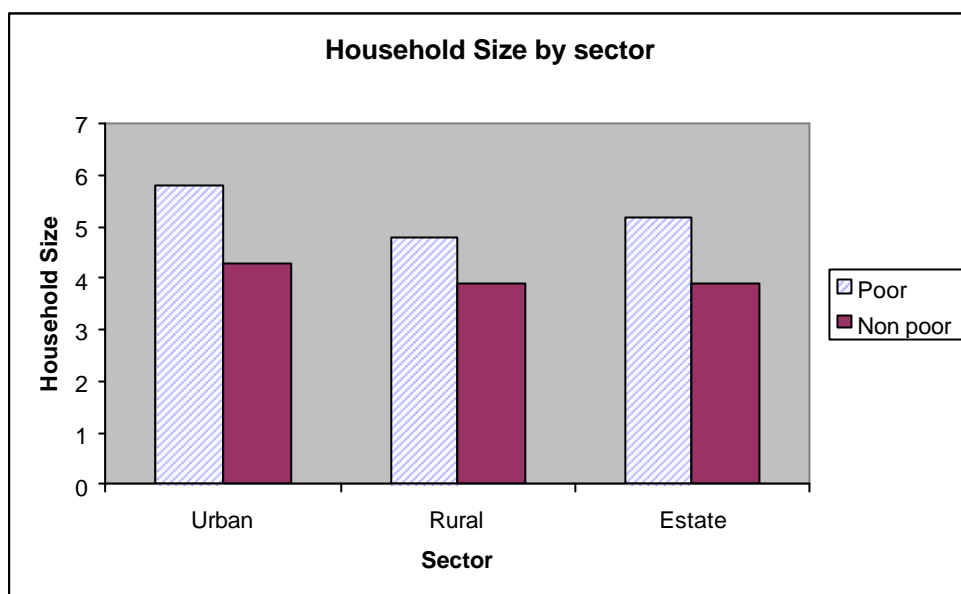
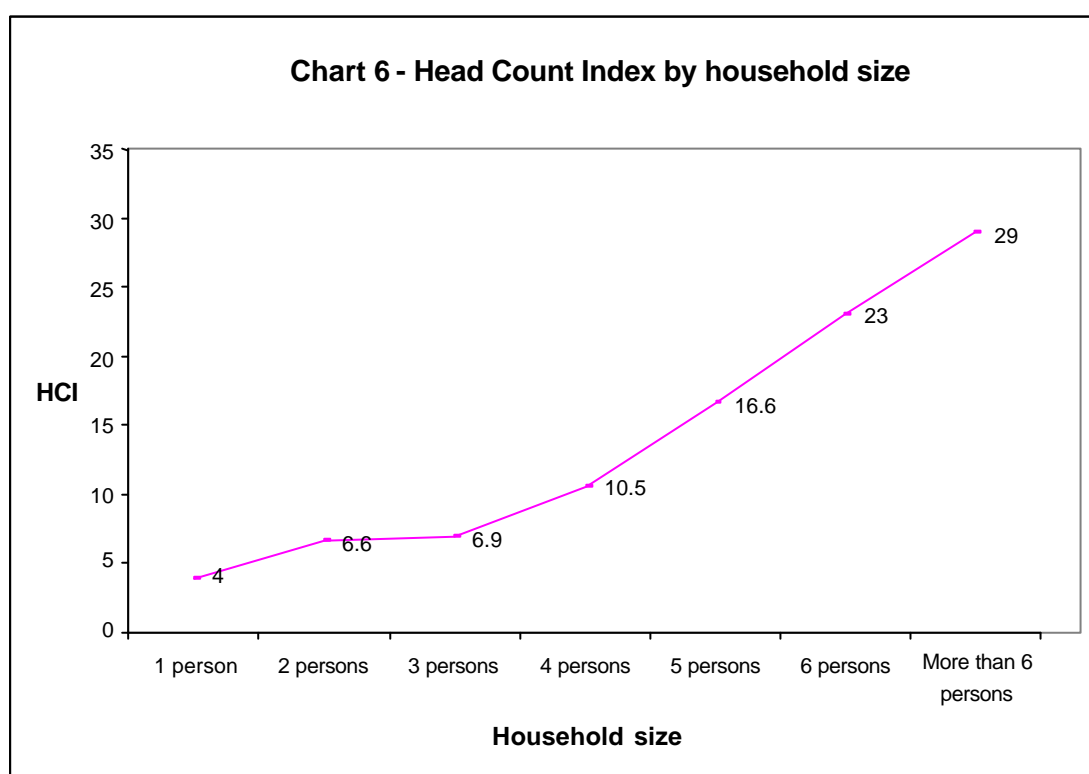


Table 3.2: Household size by poverty status by District -2006/07

District	All households	Poor households	Non-poor households
Sri Lanka	4.1	4.9	3.9
Colombo	4.2	5.9	4.1
Gampaha	4.1	5.0	4.0
Kalutara	4.2	5.3	4.0
Kandy	4.1	5.1	4.0
Matale	3.9	4.7	3.7
Nuwara eliya	4.1	5.0	3.7
Galle	4.1	5.3	4.0
Matara	4.2	5.2	4.0
Hambantota	4.2	5.0	4.1
Batticaloa	4.0	4.5	4.0
Ampara	4.3	5.4	4.2
Kurunegala	3.8	4.6	3.7
Puttalama	4.0	5.0	3.9
Anuradapura	3.7	4.4	3.6
Polonnaruwa	3.8	4.9	3.7
Badulla	4.1	4.6	3.9
Monaragala	4.2	4.7	3.9
Rathnapura	4.0	5.0	3.8
Kegalle	4.0	4.6	3.9

Table 3.3: HCI by household size and by sector - 2006/07

Household size	Sri Lanka	Urban	Rural	Estate
1 person	4.0	-	4.1	8.5
2 persons	6.6	0.4	7.2	10.1
3 persons	6.9	2.4	7.1	16.3
4 persons	10.5	3.2	11.1	22.7
5 persons	16.6	6.7	17.6	28.9
6 persons	23.0	8.4	23.9	43.3
More than 6 persons	29.0	14.9	30.6	54.9
All persons	15.2	6.7	15.7	32.0



There is a positive correlation between household size and the poverty incidence. It is evident that the household size increases from 1 person household to more than 6 persons household and it also increases the HCI from 4 percent to 29 percent at national level. The highest poverty incidence can be observed in estate sector with regarding the household size. The HCI is 43.3 percent for the household with 6 persons and more than 6 person households it is recorded as nearly 55 percent.

When a household has more than 3 persons the contribution to the poverty is relatively high at Sri Lanka level as well as in all sectors as shown in Table 3.4.

Table 3.4: Contribution to poverty by household size and by sector - 2006/07

Sector and Household size	All households	Non-poor	Poor
Sri Lanka			
1 person	4.0	4.4	1.3
2 persons	12.1	12.9	6.3
3 persons	21.0	22.4	11.5
4 persons	27.3	28.0	22.8
5 persons	19.1	18.2	25.0
6 persons	10.0	8.8	18.2
More than 6 persons	6.6	5.4	14.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Urban			
1 person	3.1	3.3	*
2 persons	10.3	10.8	0.9
3 persons	18.6	19.1	8.9
4 persons	27.2	27.7	17.5
5 persons	20.5	20.1	27.3
6 persons	10.1	9.8	17.1
More than 6 persons	10.1	9.2	28.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Rural			
1 person	4.0	4.4	1.3
2 persons	12.4	13.2	6.8
3 persons	21.7	23.2	11.8
4 persons	27.6	28.2	23.5
5 persons	18.9	17.9	25.5
6 persons	9.8	8.5	17.9
More than 6 persons	5.7	4.6	13.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Estate			
1 person	6.3	7.8	2.1
2 persons	13.1	15.9	5.1
3 persons	17.1	19.3	10.8
4 persons	22.5	23.5	19.8
5 persons	18.3	17.5	20.5
6 persons	12.7	9.7	21.4
More than 6 persons	9.9	6.3	20.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Housing Characteristics

Using electricity for lighting, use safe drinking water and availability of water seal sanitation are some factors associated with better living conditions in Sri Lanka.

Table 4.1: Percentage distribution of households using drinking water (safe or unsafe) by sector, province and district - 2006/07

Sector / Province / District	Safe (%)	Unsafe (%)
Sri Lanka	84.8	15.2
Sector		
Urban	97.7	2.3
Rural	85.0	15.0
Estate	46.2	53.8
Province		
Western	94.3	5.7
Central	70.6	29.4
Southern	84.4	15.6
Eastern	92.2	7.8
North-western	90.5	9.5
North-central	86.4	13.6
Uva	81.4	18.6
Sabaragamuwa	67.2	32.8
Colombo	97.8	2.2
Gampaha	95.0	5.0
Kalutara	86.2	13.8
Kandy	78.2	21.8
Matale	79.6	20.4
Nuwara eliya	51.4	48.6
Galle	87.5	12.5
Matara	76.3	23.7
Hambantota	89.9	10.1
Batticaloa	96.5	3.5
Ampara	89.5	10.5
Kurunegala	89.4	10.6
Puttalama	92.8	7.2
Anuradapura	85.3	14.7
Polonnaruwa	88.6	11.4
Badulla	79.3	20.7
Monaragala	85.4	14.6
Rathnapura	61.9	38.1
Kegalle	74.2	25.8

According to the Table 4.1 about 85 percent of households in Sri Lanka use safe drinking water. Using the safe drinking water may be a course of reduce the poverty incidence. Among the sectors, the highest percentage of households use safe drinking water is reported from urban sector (97.7 percent) in which recorded the lowest poverty incidence. On the other hand the reverse trend shows in estate sector whereas the lowest percentage of households uses safe drinking water (46.2 percent) and also the highest poverty incidence is reported. At provincial level Western province and Eastern provinces are reported lower poverty incidence and households in those provinces use higher percentage of safe drinking water. At district level the story is the same. Districts like Colombo, Gampaha, Batticaloa, and Puttalam record lower HCI and also households in those provinces use higher percentage of safe drinking water. In Nuwara Eliya district nearly half of the households use safe water as drinking purpose and at the same time Nuwara Eliya district reports the highest HCI.

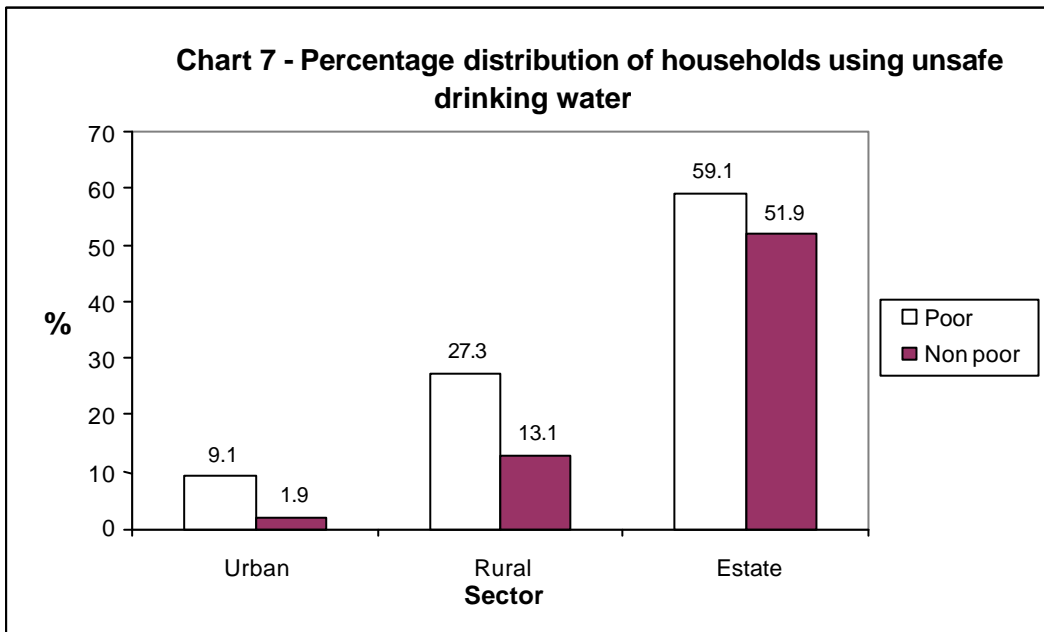


Table 4.2: Percentage distribution of households by poverty status using drinking water by sector and province - 2006/07

Sector/ Province	Poor households		Non poor households	
	Safe water (%)	Unsafe water (%)	Safe water (%)	Unsafe water (%)
Sri Lanka	70.3	29.7	86.9	13.1
Sector				
Urban	90.9	9.1	98.1	1.9
Rural	72.7	27.3	86.9	13.1
Estate	40.9	59.1	48.1	51.9
Province				
Western	85.5	14.5	95.0	5.0
Central	51.5	48.5	74.9	25.1
Southern	74.9	25.1	85.6	14.4
Eastern	-	-	-	-
North-western	86.3	13.7	91.1	8.9
North-central	81.9	18.1	87.0	13.0
Uva	76.7	23.3	82.9	17.1
Sabaragamuwa	51.6	48.4	71.2	28.8

Nearly 30 percent of poor households in Sri Lanka do not have to drink safe water. Comparing to the non poor households this proportion is only 13 percent. This situation is really bad in estate sector, whereas 59 percent of households drink unsafe water.

At provincial level nearly half of the poor households in both Sabaragamuwa and Central provinces do not have to drink safe drinking water.

According to the Table 4.3 about 80 percent of households in Sri Lanka use electricity as their lighting purpose. According to HIES 2006/07 only 55 percent of poor households have electricity as lighting and compared to the non poor households it is reported as 84 percent (Table 4.4). All sectors as well as all provinces and districts in Sri Lanka using electricity tend to be very low for poor households when compared their counterparts households.

Table 4.3: Percentage distribution of households by type of lighting and by sector, province and district -2006/07

Sector/ Province/ District	Electricity (%)	Other (%)
Sri Lanka	80.0	20.0
Sector		
Urban	94.9	5.1
Rural	78.5	21.5
Estate	62.3	37.7
Province		
Western	92.8	7.2
Central	78.2	21.8
Southern	84.4	15.6
Eastern	68.0	32.0
North-western	70.7	29.3
North-central	69.1	30.9
Uva	69.2	30.8
Sabaragamuwa	71.3	28.7
Colombo	94.5	5.5
Gampaha	94.0	6.0
Kalutara	87.1	12.9
Kandy	81.7	18.3
Matale	72.8	27.2
Nuwara eliya	75.8	24.2
Galle	87.2	12.8
Matara	88.1	11.9
Hambantota	73.8	26.2
Batticaloa	70.8	29.2
Ampara	66.3	33.7
Kurunegala	71.6	28.4
Puttalama	69.0	31.0
Anuradapura	66.6	33.4
Polonnaruwa	74.4	25.6
Badulla	77.9	22.1
Monaragala	52.7	47.3
Rathnapura	62.7	37.3
Kegalle	82.5	17.5

Table 4.4: Percentage distribution of households by poverty status by type of lighting and by sector -2006/07

Sector	Poor households		Non poor households	
	Electricity (%)	Other (%)	Electricity (%)	Other (%)
Sri Lanka	55.1	44.9	83.6	16.4
Urban	74.1	25.9	96.0	4.0
Rural	54.1	45.9	82.2	17.8
Estate	53.1	46.9	65.5	34.5

Table 4.5: Percentage distribution of households by poverty status by type of lighting and by province -2006/07

Province	Poor households		Non poor households	
	Electricity (%)	Other (%)	Electricity (%)	Other (%)
Sri Lanka	55.1	44.9	83.6	16.4
Western	71.2	28.8	94.3	5.7
Central	62.6	37.4	81.7	18.3
Southern	66.3	33.7	86.6	13.4
Eastern	26.4	73.6	72.1	27.9
North-western	46.2	53.8	74.1	25.9
North-central	40.2	59.8	73.0	27.0
Uva	46.7	53.3	76.2	23.8
Sabaragamuwa	48.8	51.2	76.9	23.1

Table 4.6: Percentage distribution of households by poverty status by availability of toilet exclusive for the household and sector -2006/07

Sector	Poor households		Non poor households	
	Exclusive for the household (%)	Other (%)	Exclusive for the household(%)	Other (%)
Sri Lanka	81.7	18.3	90.2	9.8
Urban	58.7	41.3	88.0	12.0
Rural	85.2	14.8	91.8	8.2
Estate	65.6	34.4	68.4	31.6

Table 4.7 : Percentage distribution of households by availability of toilet exclusive for the household and by sector, province and district - 2006/07

Sector/Province District	Exclusive for the household (%)	Other (%)
Sri Lanka	89.1	10.9
Sector		
Urban	86.5	13.5
Rural	90.9	9.1
Estate	67.7	32.3
Province		
Western	91.0	9.0
Central	86.5	13.5
Southern	91.6	8.4
Eastern	82.4	17.6
North-western	87.1	12.9
North-central	90.7	9.3
Uva	88.8	11.2
Sabaragamuwa	88.7	11.3
District		
Colombo	88.2	11.8
Gampaha	92.0	8.0
Kalutara	94.8	5.2
Kandy	89.8	10.2
Matale	88.7	11.3
Nuwara eliya	79.0	21.0
Galle	89.5	10.5
Matara	93.2	6.8
Hambantota	93.3	6.7
Batticaloa	72.7	27.3
Ampara	88.3	11.7
Kurunegala	90.1	9.9
Puttalama	81.0	19.0
Anuradapura	90.0	10.0
Polonnaruwa	92.1	7.9
Badulla	87.3	12.7
Monaragala	91.7	8.3
Rathnapura	86.1	13.9
Kegalle	91.9	8.1

Also the similar pattern can be seen for sanitation like safe drinking water and electricity among poor and non poor households at national, sectoral and district level.

Table 4.8 shows that 2.3 percent households haven't any single room for sleeping purpose (no bed rooms). Those houses are not separated or not covered as rooms, thus the occupants in those housing units use the whole house for all daily routine activities including sleeping purpose. The proportion of no bed rooms for poor households in Sri Lanka is 5.5 percent and the single room for sleeping purpose for poor households in Sri Lanka is 38.6 percent.

Table 4.8: Percentage distribution of households by poverty status and availability of bed rooms - 2006/07

Bed rooms	Total (%)	Non- poor (%)	Poor (%)
No bedrooms	2.3	1.9	5.5
1 bed room	22.9	20.6	38.6
2 bed rooms	34.1	34.0	34.5
3 bed rooms	27.0	28.7	14.9
4 bed rooms or more	12.8	14.0	4.5
Not stated	0.9	0.7	2.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 4.9: Percentage distribution of households by poverty status and availability of bed rooms by sector- 2006/07

Bed rooms	Poor households				Non poor households			
	Sri Lanka (%)	Urban (%)	Rural (%)	Estate (%)	Sri Lanka (%)	Urban (%)	Rural (%)	Estate (%)
No bedrooms	5.5	12.9	4.9	6.4	1.9	3.0	1.5	4.3
1 bed room	38.6	50.6	35.8	54.7	20.6	26.6	18.0	47.6
2 bed rooms	34.5	30.6	35.9	25.2	34.0	35.3	33.9	32.7
3 bed rooms	14.9	3.2	16.5	8.1	28.7	22.3	31.1	7.1
4 bed rooms or more	4.5	1.4	4.8	4.2	14.0	12.4	14.7	6.5
Not stated	2.0	1.3	2.2	1.5	0.7	0.4	0.7	1.9
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Considering poor households in urban and rural sector, housing units without any bed room or housing units only have single bed room are recorded as more than 60 percent. Line rooms and raw houses are mostly seen in estate sector and slums and shanties are the most common houses for poor people in urban sector. In terms of limited floor area even many occupants live, those houses are usually built as no bed room or one bed room houses.

Inventory of Durable goods

According to Table 5.1 and Table 5.2, it is obvious that poor households in Sri Lanka use long durable goods such as refrigerators, sewing machines, cookers, electric fans, both domestic and mobile telephones etc. comparatively very low than those use in non poor households. At the time of the survey the sample was not adequate or a negligible percentage was contributed for poor households in Sri Lanka, having ownership of personal computers, washing machines, motor cars/vans and three wheelers. In contrast bicycle, radio and television are the three major items which were widely used in poor households.

Table 5.1: Percentage distribution of households by poverty status and ownership of durable goods -Sri Lanka - 2006/07

Durable goods	Total (%)	Non-poor (%)	Poor (%)
Television	77.3	80.9	52.6
Sewing machines	43.4	47.4	15.6
Refrigerators	35.1	39.5	3.9
Telephone(domestic)	31.3	35.2	4.2
Telephone(mobile)	30.1	33.7	5.4
Bicycles	41.1	42.0	34.7
Motor cycles	20.2	22.6	4.1
Motor cars/vans	5.8	6.6	*
Cookers (Gas,kerosene,electric)	36.4	40.9	4.9
Electric fans	45.6	50.9	9.2
Computers	7.0	8.0	*
Three wheelers	4.5	5.2	*
Radio	81.3	82.9	70.6
Washing machines	10.8	12.3	*

* Sample size is not adequate to provide estimate

Table 5.2: Percentage distribution of households by poverty status and ownership of durable goods by sector and province - 2006/07

Sector/ Province	Television		Swing machine		Bicycles		Telephone (Domestic+Mobile)	
	Non-poor (%)	Poor (%)	Non-poor (%)	Poor (%)	Non-poor (%)	Poor (%)	Non-poor (%)	Poor (%)
Sri Lanka	80.9	52.6	47.4	15.6	42.0	34.7	51.9	9.2
Sector								
Urban	88.2	55.1	54.2	19.8	34.9	30.2	69.6	16.7
Rural	80.3	52.9	47.9	15.8	45.3	38.8	50.3	8.9
Estate	66.3	48.9	15.0	11.6	6.6	5.1	20.6	7.9
Province								
Western	88.9	61.5	56.9	21.2	34.7	38.7	66.5	12.4
Central	80.1	57.5	44.9	16.1	15.6	13.4	47.6	9.1
Southern	78.3	45.5	48.4	13.2	54.2	44.1	51.5	6.1
Eastern	63.4	27.8	26.0	*	75.7	64.3	35.0	7.9
North-western	77.7	50.5	42.5	18.1	63.5	54.0	48.0	12.2
North-central	76.2	47.2	40.6	*	77.4	76.5	44.2	9.6
Uva	76.3	50.6	40.0	13.9	30.9	31.4	36.3	6.1
Sabaragamuwa	78.3	53.3	44.7	14.9	19.3	16.2	38.9	8.7

* Sample size is not adequate to provide estimate

Access to facilities

Mean distance for accessing facilities tend to be higher for poor households than for non poor households in Sri Lanka. A noticeable difference can be observed between poor and non poor households with regard of mean distance of accessing the places given in Table 6.1 at national level. In estate sector, the mean distances to the nearest accessibility point from both poor and non poor households are higher than that of the other two sectors. Mean distance to the nearest M.O.H. office, M.C/U.C./P.S. , Divisional secretariat, Agrarian services center from estate sector is recorded more than 14 Km.

There is a relationship between poverty incidence and mean distance of accessibility at district level. As discussed earlier, the highest HCI is reported from Nuwara Eliya district and followed by Badulla, Moneragala and Ratnapura districts respectively. The mean distance from households in those districts to Divisional secretariat, M.O.H. office, M.C/U.C./P.S. , Agrarian services etc. is relatively higher than the other districts. The mean distance from households to the nearest hospital in Moneragala district is reported as 11.2 Km. The corresponding figure for Colombo district is 4.2 Km (Table 6.2).

Educational attainment at the provincial or district level is associated with higher poverty incidence. This situation tends to be schools are located far away from the households in poor districts. For example Badulla and Moneragala districts, mean distance to the nearest Maha Vidyalaya, Madya Maha Vidyalaya or Jatika pasala is reported as more than 4 Km.

Table 6.1: Mean distance to the nearest place of facility by poverty status and by sector - 2006/07

Place of facility	Sri Lanka		Urban		Rural		Estate	
	Non poor (km)	Poor (km)	Non poor (km)	Poor (km)	Non poor (km)	Poor (km)	Non poor (km)	Poor (km)
Bus halt	0.5	0.7	0.1	0.3	0.5	0.7	0.9	1.0
Pre school	0.5	0.7	0.1	0.3	0.6	0.7	1.0	0.9
Primary school	1.0	1.2	0.5	0.8	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.4
M.V/M.M.V./Jatika pasala	2.5	3.5	0.9	1.0	2.7	3.5	4.7	5.0
Hospital	6.6	7.7	3.0	3.6	7.1	7.9	9.4	8.8
Maternity home	5.0	6.2	2.2	2.0	5.6	6.5	5.6	5.8
Government dispensary	3.9	5.1	1.8	1.9	4.3	5.2	5.3	5.7
Private dispensary	2.3	3.7	0.3	0.5	2.5	3.8	5.1	4.7
Clinic (Maternity/infancy)	2.5	3.3	1.4	1.5	2.6	3.3	4.4	4.2
M.O.H. office	6.7	8.9	2.1	2.1	7.0	8.4	16.5	16.5
M.C./U.C./P.S.	7.3	10.1	2.6	2.8	7.7	9.7	16.7	17.4
Divisional secretariat	7.5	10.1	3.0	3.2	7.7	9.3	19.3	19.5
G.N. office	0.7	1.0	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.9	1.8	1.9
Post office/sub post office	1.6	2.2	0.6	0.7	1.6	2.2	3.7	3.6
Bank(Govt./private)	3.5	5.0	1.0	1.1	3.8	5.2	6.0	5.7
Agrarian services center	6.5	7.8	5.2	5.4	6.3	7.1	14.1	14.9

Table 6.2: Mean distance to the nearest place of facility by poverty status and by province and district- 2006/07

Province/ District	Bus halt		Pre school		Primary school		M.V/M.M.V. /Jatika pasala	
	Non poor (km)	poor (km)	Non poor (km)	poor (km)	Non poor (km)	poor (km)	Non poor (km)	poor (km)
Sri Lanka	0.5	0.7	0.5	0.7	1.0	1.2	2.5	3.5
Province								
Western	0.2	0.5	0.3	0.6	0.8	1.0	2.0	2.7
Central	0.4	0.7	0.5	0.7	0.9	1.2	2.4	3.0
Southern	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.8	1.2	1.3	2.2	2.8
Eastern	0.6	0.7	0.3	0.2	0.5	0.6	2.5	3.1
North-western	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	1.1	1.0	3.0	3.3
North-central	0.7	1.2	0.8	1.0	1.5	1.6	3.5	4.3
Uva	0.6	1.0	0.8	0.9	1.4	1.5	3.7	5.6
Sabaragamuwa	0.4	0.6	0.7	0.8	1.2	1.4	3.2	3.8
District								
Colombo	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.8	0.9	1.5	1.4
Gampaha	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.7	0.8	1.7	2.0
Kalutara	0.5	1.0	0.6	0.9	1.0	1.4	3.7	4.8
Kandy	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.9	1.0	2.1	2.5
Matale	0.3	0.8	0.4	0.4	0.8	1.0	2.1	2.8
Nuwara eliya	0.8	0.9	0.7	0.9	1.0	1.5	3.1	3.4
Galle	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.7	1.2	1.1	2.1	2.8
Matara	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.7	1.2	1.3	2.1	2.6
Hambantota	0.5	0.7	0.8	1.2	1.2	1.8	2.3	3.0
Batticaloa	0.3	0.7	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	1.2	2.4
Ampara	0.8	0.7	0.4	0.3	0.7	1.0	3.2	3.6
Kurunegala	0.5	0.6	0.8	0.8	1.1	1.1	3.3	3.5
Puttalama	1.1	1.0	0.5	0.4	0.9	0.7	2.5	2.7
Anuradapura	0.7	1.2	0.9	1.1	1.8	1.7	3.8	4.5
Polonnaruwa	0.7	1.1	0.5	0.5	1.0	1.5	2.9	3.7
Badulla	0.5	1.2	0.8	1.1	1.4	1.5	3.7	6.0
Monaragala	0.6	0.8	0.7	0.7	1.4	1.5	3.9	5.1
Rathnapura	0.5	0.7	0.8	0.8	1.3	1.6	3.5	4.2
Kegalle	0.4	0.4	0.7	0.8	0.9	1.1	2.7	3.3

Table 6.2: Mean distance to the nearest place of facility by poverty status and by province and district - 2006/07 (continued)

Province/ District	Hospital		Maternity home		Government dispensary		Private dispensary	
	Non poor (km)	Poor (km)	Non poor (km)	Poor (km)	Non poor (km)	Poor (km)	Non poor (km)	Poor (km)
Sri Lanka	6.6	7.7	5.0	6.2	3.9	5.1	2.3	3.7
Province								
Western	5.2	6.6	3.5	3.7	2.8	3.4	0.9	1.5
Central	6.0	6.2	4.7	5.0	3.7	4.5	3.0	3.3
Southern	6.4	7.6	5.4	6.2	3.9	4.5	2.3	2.5
Eastern	4.7	5.9	4.7	5.7	5.6	6.2	2.6	3.9
North-western	8.4	7.4	7.0	6.7	4.4	4.9	2.5	3.5
North-central	9.4	9.5	6.6	7.9	5.3	5.0	4.3	5.1
Uva	8.6	10.9	6.9	9.6	5.6	8.4	5.3	8.3
Sabaragamuwa	7.2	8.2	5.3	5.9	4.5	5.0	2.5	3.2
District								
Colombo	4.2	4.5	2.8	2.6	2.3	2.3	0.4	0.4
Gampaha	6.0	7.2	4.0	4.4	2.5	2.7	0.8	1.2
Kalutara	5.8	7.3	4.1	3.8	4.3	5.1	1.9	2.9
Kandy	4.5	4.8	3.7	3.7	2.9	3.3	2.1	2.4
Matale	8.6	6.9	6.0	6.3	3.7	4.1	2.8	3.8
Nuwara eliya	7.2	7.1	5.6	5.6	5.4	5.8	5.0	4.0
Galle	6.2	7.8	6.0	7.1	3.4	4.3	2.2	2.1
Matara	7.2	7.7	5.2	6.4	4.4	5.0	2.1	2.5
Hambantota	5.6	7.1	4.4	4.3	4.1	4.1	2.8	3.1
Batticaloa	3.5	4.7	3.5	4.7	3.0	3.7	2.6	3.8
Ampara	5.4	6.7	5.5	6.4	7.1	8.0	2.6	3.9
Kurunegala	8.1	7.7	6.9	6.6	4.3	4.8	2.8	4.0
Puttalama	8.9	6.6	7.1	7.0	4.6	5.3	2.1	2.4
Anuradapura	9.6	7.7	6.3	5.1	5.6	5.1	4.6	4.8
Polonnaruwa	9.2	14.2	7.2	15.2	4.9	4.8	3.5	6.0
Badulla	7.4	10.7	6.9	10.0	5.6	9.5	5.3	9.6
Monaragala	11.1	11.2	7.0	8.9	5.6	7.0	5.2	6.5
Rathnapura	8.1	8.6	5.5	5.6	4.9	5.3	2.5	3.2
Kegalle	6.1	7.7	5.1	6.4	4.0	4.4	2.4	3.2

Table 6.2: Mean distance to the nearest place of facility by poverty status and by province and district - 2006/07 (continued)

Province/ District	Clinic Maternity/infancy)		M.O.H. office		M.C./U.C. /P.S.		Divisional secretariat	
	Non poor (km)	Poor (km)	Non poor (km)	Poor (km)	Non poor (km)	Poor (km)	Non poor (km)	Poor (km)
Sri Lanka	2.5	3.3	6.7	8.9	7.3	10.1	7.5	10.1
Province								
Western	1.9	2.2	4.4	5.9	4.9	6.5	5.6	7.3
Central	2.9	4.0	8.6	12.0	9.5	13.4	10.5	13.8
Southern	2.5	2.4	6.0	6.0	6.2	6.9	6.6	7.3
Eastern	2.6	2.7	4.7	5.9	5.3	6.5	4.9	6.5
North-western	2.8	3.0	8.6	8.9	8.7	9.5	8.0	8.0
North-central	2.5	2.8	7.7	9.1	8.8	12.3	9.1	12.0
Uva	2.7	4.1	10.2	10.6	12.0	13.6	10.5	12.9
Sabaragamuwa	3.5	4.1	8.0	9.2	9.1	9.4	9.0	9.5
District								
Colombo	1.8	1.4	2.8	2.6	4.0	4.4	4.1	4.2
Gampaha	2.0	2.5	5.4	6.7	5.0	6.7	6.6	8.1
Kalutara	2.0	2.3	5.6	7.2	6.5	7.9	6.8	8.5
Kandy	1.9	2.3	5.5	7.7	7.2	9.8	6.9	8.4
Matale	1.9	2.7	6.0	6.4	6.9	8.0	6.7	6.7
Nuwara eliya	5.5	6.1	17.2	18.2	16.3	18.5	20.8	21.4
Galle	2.6	2.4	6.4	5.6	6.1	6.6	6.7	7.1
Matara	2.5	2.5	5.8	6.8	5.9	6.8	6.0	7.8
Hambantota	2.2	2.2	5.7	5.4	6.9	7.8	7.1	6.7
Batticaloa	2.9	4.2	3.7	4.4	4.0	6.0	3.9	5.4
Ampara	2.3	1.7	5.3	6.9	6.1	6.9	5.5	7.1
Kurunegala	2.8	3.0	9.1	9.8	9.2	9.4	8.0	7.5
Puttalama	2.9	3.2	7.6	6.6	7.8	9.7	7.9	9.2
Anuradapura	2.6	2.5	8.3	9.3	8.9	11.5	9.1	11.0
Polonnaruwa	2.4	3.4	6.6	8.6	8.6	14.3	8.9	14.6
Badulla	2.9	4.3	9.4	13.5	11.2	15.5	10.8	15.2
Monaragala	2.4	3.7	12.1	6.7	13.8	11.0	9.7	9.7
Rathnapura	3.8	4.0	9.2	10.4	9.7	10.1	9.3	10.0
Kegalle	3.0	4.2	6.6	7.4	8.2	8.4	8.5	8.8

Table 6.2: Mean distance to the nearest place of facility by poverty status and by province and district - 2006/07 (continued)

Province/ District	G.N. office		Post office sub post office		Bank Govt./private)		Agrarian services center	
	Non poor (km)	Poor (km)	Non poor (km)	Poor (km)	Non poor (km)	Poor (km)	Non poor (km)	Poor (km)
Sri Lanka	0.7	1.0	1.6	2.2	3.5	5.0	6.5	7.8
Province								
Western	0.6	0.7	1.0	1.2	2.1	2.9	5.7	6.5
Central	0.6	0.9	1.7	2.3	3.6	4.6	7.6	9.5
Southern	0.6	0.8	1.8	1.9	3.4	3.4	5.9	6.0
Eastern	0.4	0.6	1.3	1.6	4.1	5.9	4.2	5.5
North-western	0.8	0.8	1.8	2.3	3.4	4.3	5.9	6.3
North-central	0.6	0.7	2.1	2.2	6.7	8.5	7.6	9.9
Uva	1.0	1.7	2.1	3.6	6.4	8.4	9.1	8.8
Sabaragamuwa	1.0	1.2	1.9	2.4	3.6	4.7	8.0	8.4
District								
Colombo	0.6	0.6	0.8	0.8	1.2	1.1	5.9	7.3
Gampaha	0.4	0.4	0.9	1.0	2.1	2.3	5.3	5.5
Kalutara	1.0	1.1	1.4	2.0	3.8	5.1	6.3	7.4
Kandy	0.4	0.4	1.2	1.3	2.7	3.4	5.5	5.8
Matale	0.3	0.6	1.4	1.7	3.5	4.8	5.1	6.7
Nuwara eliya	1.3	1.5	3.1	3.3	5.6	5.6	13.8	13.8
Galle	0.5	0.5	1.8	1.5	3.2	3.0	4.9	4.9
Matara	0.7	0.9	1.4	1.9	3.6	3.8	6.5	6.6
Hambantota	0.6	1.1	2.3	2.6	3.6	3.7	6.8	7.1
Batticaloa	0.1	0.2	0.9	1.6	3.5	5.2	3.8	4.7
Ampara	0.5	0.9	1.6	1.6	4.5	6.4	4.4	6.0
Kurunegala	0.9	0.9	1.8	2.2	3.3	4.4	5.8	5.9
Puttalama	0.6	0.5	1.9	2.5	3.4	4.2	6.3	7.2
Anuradapura	0.7	0.7	2.5	2.3	7.7	7.4	7.7	8.4
Polonnaruwa	0.6	0.5	1.4	2.0	4.6	11.4	7.5	14.0
Badulla	1.0	1.9	2.0	4.2	6.2	9.6	8.5	9.7
Monaragala	1.1	1.4	2.3	2.8	6.9	6.8	10.2	7.6
Rathnapura	1.1	1.2	2.3	2.8	4.0	5.1	7.0	7.5
Kegalle	0.9	1.3	1.5	1.9	3.3	3.9	9.1	9.8

Table 6.3: Mean distance to the nearest place of facility by sector, province and district - 2006/07

Sector/ Province/ District	Bus halt (km)	Pre school (km)	Primary school (km)	M.V/M.M.V. /Jatika pasala (km)	Hospital (km)	Maternity home (km)	Government dispensary (km)	Private dispensary (km)
Sri Lanka	0.5	0.6	1.0	2.7	6.7	5.2	4.1	2.5
Sector								
Urban	0.1	0.2	0.5	0.9	3.0	2.1	1.8	0.3
Rural	0.5	0.6	1.1	2.8	7.2	5.7	4.4	2.7
Estate	0.9	1.0	1.3	4.8	9.2	5.7	5.4	5.0
Province								
Western	0.3	0.3	0.8	2.0	5.3	3.5	2.8	0.9
Central	0.5	0.6	0.9	2.5	6.0	4.8	3.9	3.0
Southern	0.6	0.7	1.2	2.2	6.5	5.5	4.0	2.3
Eastern	0.6	0.3	0.5	2.5	4.8	4.8	5.6	2.7
North-western	0.7	0.7	1.0	3.0	8.3	7.0	4.4	2.7
North-central	0.8	0.8	1.5	3.6	9.4	6.8	5.3	4.4
Uva	0.7	0.8	1.4	4.2	9.1	7.5	6.3	6.0
Sabaragamuwa	0.5	0.7	1.2	3.3	7.4	5.4	4.6	2.6
District								
Colombo	0.1	0.1	0.8	1.5	4.2	2.8	2.3	0.4
Gampaha	0.3	0.4	0.7	1.7	6.1	4.1	2.5	0.8
Kalutara	0.5	0.7	1.0	3.8	6.0	4.1	4.4	2.0
Kandy	0.3	0.5	0.9	2.2	4.5	3.7	3.0	2.2
Matale	0.4	0.4	0.8	2.2	8.4	6.1	3.8	2.9
Nuwara eliya	0.9	0.8	1.1	3.2	7.2	5.6	5.5	4.7
Galle	0.6	0.7	1.2	2.2	6.4	6.1	3.5	2.2
Matara	0.6	0.7	1.3	2.2	7.3	5.4	4.5	2.2
Hambantota	0.5	0.8	1.2	2.4	5.7	4.4	4.1	2.8
Batticaloa	0.3	0.1	0.1	1.3	3.6	3.6	3.1	2.7
Ampara	0.8	0.4	0.7	3.3	5.5	5.6	7.2	2.7
Kurunegala	0.5	0.8	1.1	3.3	8.1	6.9	4.3	2.9
Puttalama	1.1	0.4	0.9	2.5	8.7	7.1	4.7	2.2
Anuradapura	0.8	1.0	1.8	3.9	9.3	6.1	5.5	4.6
Polonnaruwa	0.8	0.5	1.1	3.0	9.7	8.0	4.9	3.8
Badulla	0.7	0.8	1.4	4.1	8.1	7.5	6.4	6.2
Monaragala	0.7	0.7	1.4	4.2	11.2	7.5	6.0	5.6
Rathnapura	0.5	0.8	1.4	3.7	8.2	5.5	5.0	2.6
Kegalle	0.4	0.7	1.0	2.8	6.4	5.3	4.1	2.5

Table 6.3: Mean distance to the nearest place of facility by sector, province and district - 2006/07 (continued)

Sector/ Province/ District	Clinic Maternity /infancy (km)	M.O.H. office (km)	M.C./U.C. /P.S. (km)	Divisional secretariat (km)	G.N. office (km)	Post / sub post office (km)	Bank Govt./private) (km)	Agrarian services center (km)
Sri Lanka	2.6	7.0	7.7	7.8	0.7	1.6	3.6	6.7
Sector								
Urban	1.4	2.1	2.7	3.0	0.5	0.6	1.0	5.3
Rural	2.7	7.2	7.9	7.9	0.7	1.7	3.9	6.4
Estate	4.3	16.5	16.9	19.3	1.9	3.7	6.0	14.4
Province								
Western	1.9	4.5	5.0	5.7	0.6	1.0	2.1	5.8
Central	3.1	9.2	10.2	11.1	0.6	1.8	3.8	7.9
Southern	2.5	6.0	6.3	6.6	0.6	1.8	3.4	5.9
Eastern	2.6	4.8	5.4	5.0	0.4	1.4	4.3	4.3
North-western	2.8	8.6	8.8	8.0	0.8	1.9	3.5	6.0
North-central	2.6	7.9	9.2	9.4	0.6	2.1	6.9	7.9
Uva	3.1	10.3	12.4	11.0	1.2	2.5	6.9	9.0
Sabaragamuwa	3.6	8.3	9.1	9.1	1.0	2.0	3.9	8.1
District								
Colombo	1.7	2.8	4.0	4.1	0.6	0.8	1.2	5.9
Gampaha	2.0	5.5	5.1	6.7	0.4	0.9	2.1	5.3
Kalutara	2.1	5.8	6.6	6.9	1.0	1.5	3.9	6.4
Kandy	2.0	5.8	7.5	7.1	0.4	1.2	2.8	5.6
Matale	2.1	6.1	7.1	6.7	0.4	1.5	3.7	5.3
Nuwara eliya	5.7	17.4	16.9	21.0	1.3	3.1	5.6	13.8
Galle	2.6	6.3	6.1	6.7	0.5	1.7	3.1	4.9
Matara	2.5	5.9	6.0	6.2	0.7	1.5	3.6	6.5
Hambantota	2.2	5.6	7.0	7.0	0.7	2.3	3.6	6.9
Batticaloa	3.1	3.8	4.2	4.0	0.1	1.0	3.6	3.9
Ampara	2.3	5.5	6.2	5.6	0.5	1.6	4.6	4.5
Kurunegala	2.8	9.2	9.2	7.9	0.9	1.9	3.5	5.8
Puttalama	3.0	7.5	8.0	8.0	0.6	2.0	3.5	6.4
Anuradapura	2.6	8.4	9.3	9.4	0.7	2.4	7.7	7.8
Polonnaruwa	2.5	6.8	9.2	9.5	0.6	1.5	5.3	8.1
Badulla	3.2	10.2	12.1	11.7	1.1	2.5	6.9	8.8
Monaragala	2.8	10.5	13.0	9.7	1.2	2.5	6.9	9.5
Rathnapura	3.9	9.5	9.8	9.4	1.1	2.4	4.2	7.1
Kegalle	3.3	6.7	8.2	8.6	1.0	1.5	3.4	9.2

Ownership of Land and Housing

In terms of ownership of land and housing, the difference between the poor and non poor households is not much noticeable in Sri Lanka. But in contrast, differences can be significantly seen in urban sector between poor and non poor households for both ownership of land and housing. The poor households in urban sector contribute 55 percent of possession of land and 65 percent of possession of housing while the corresponding figure for non poor households are 76 percent and 81 percent respectively (Table 7.1 and Table 7.2).

Table 7.1: Contribution of Owner occupied housing units by poverty status and by sector - 2006/07

Sector	Total (%)	Non-poor (%)	Poor (%)
Sri Lanka	86.8	87.6	81.8
Urban	80.3	81.1	65.2
Rural	92.0	92.2	90.8
Estate	23.8	25.0	20.2

Table 7.2: Contribution of land ownership by households by poverty status and by sector - 2006/07

Sector	Total (%)	Non-poor (%)	Poor (%)
Sri Lanka	85.7	86.5	79.7
Urban	74.8	75.9	55.0
Rural	90.1	90.7	86.4
Estate	45.4	47.5	39.5

Nuwara Eliya district shows the highest poverty incidence and nearly 52 percent of households in that district do not have their own house to live. It is very common to provide line rooms and raw houses for its workers rent free basis in estates. Therefore out of 100 only 24 households in estate sector have ownership their houses. At the community level, the general condition of estate housing is seen as a one of the factors to poverty. Land ownership also shows the similar pattern when sectors and district are compared. Households in estate sector (45.4 percent) and Nuwara Eliya district (63.9 percent) is reported the lowest ownership of land among sectors and districts respectively (Table 7.3 and Table 7.4).

Table 7.3: Percentage distribution of household tenure ship by sector, province and district - 2006/07

Sector / Province / District	Owned (%)	Not owned (%)
SriLanka	86.8	13.2
Sector		
Urban	80.3	19.7
Rural	92.0	8.0
Estate	23.8	76.2
Province		
Western	85.1	14.9
Central	74.1	25.9
Southern	91.3	8.7
Eastern	91.4	8.6
North-western	92.6	7.4
North-central	93.0	7.0
Uva	88.6	11.4
Sabaragamuwa	88.6	11.4
District		
Colombo	83.0	38.4
Gampaha	85.5	13.7
Kalutara	88.6	11.9
Kandy	84.0	18.4
Matale	86.8	15.1
Nuwara eliya	48.2	49.6
Galle	89.2	23.0
Matara	91.5	9.1
Hambantota	95.1	3.4
Batticaloa	92.1	6.7
Ampara	91.0	11.1
Kurunegala	94.3	9.8
Puttalama	89.0	20.0
Anuradapura	93.5	7.6
Polonnaruwa	92.0	0.1
Badulla	85.7	17.2
Monaragala	93.9	7.8
Rathnapura	87.7	17.2
Kegalle	89.7	21.8

Table 7.4: Percentage distribution of land ownership
by households by sector, province and district- 2006/07

Sector / Province / District	Owned (%)	Not owned (%)
SriLanka	85.7	14.3
Sector		
Urban	74.8	25.2
Rural	90.1	9.9
Estate	45.4	54.6
Province		
Western	81.4	18.6
Central	79.0	21.0
Southern	89.6	10.4
Eastern	95.8	4.2
North-western	85.4	14.6
North-central	97.5	2.5
Uva	93.5	6.5
Sabaragamuwa	84.4	15.6
District		
Colombo	77.6	22.4
Gampaha	84.6	15.4
Kalutara	82.9	17.1
Kandy	83.2	16.8
Matale	90.5	9.5
Nuwara eliya	63.9	36.1
Galle	86.5	13.5
Matara	89.7	10.3
Hambantota	95.4	4.6
Batticaloa	95.4	4.6
Ampara	96.1	3.9
Kurunegala	89.4	10.6
Puttalama	77.1	22.9
Anuradapura	98.1	1.9
Polonnaruwa	96.2	3.8
Badulla	91.8	8.2
Monaragala	96.6	3.4
Rathnapura	83.2	16.8
Kegalle	86.0	14.0

Debts

The information on whether households are in debited or not was also collected in HIES 2006/07 survey. In an overall view it can be seen nearly 63 percent of households are in debt to the banks, financial companies, leasing companies, money lenders, retail outlets, and at their own place of work. Some households had taken loans by purchasing long durable household goods on lease. According to the Table 8.1, 47 percent of poor households are not in debt compared to 37 percent for non poor households and 32 percent of poor households are debt up to Rs. 10000 compared to 15 percent for non poor households.

Table 8.1: Distribution of households by poverty status and amount of debt - 2006/07

Rupees	Non-poor (%)	Poor (%)	Total (%)
Not in debt	37.3	46.8	38.5
Less than 10000	15.4	32.2	17.5
10001-25000	11.6	11.0	11.6
25001-50000	11.6	6.1	10.9
50001-100000	9.3	3.9	8.5
100001-500000	11.4	-	10.1
More than 500000	3.3	-	2.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

At district level 69 percent of households in Nuwara Eliya district are in debt to an institution or an other person. Among the poverty group, the highest proportion of debited households is reported from Nuwara Eliya district (11.3 percent), while the lowest is reported from Batticaloa district (1.1 percent) and followed by Hambantota district (2.1 percent) among all other districts.

Table 8.2: Percentage of households by indebtedness by sector, province and district - 2006/07

Sector / Province / District	Debited (%)	Not debited (%)
Sri Lanka	61.5	38.5
Sector		
Urban	58.7	41.3
Rural	61.4	38.6
Estate	70.5	29.5
Province		
Western	61.7	38.3
Central	65.4	34.6
Southern	61.5	38.5
Eastern	60.8	39.2
North-western	62.8	37.2
North-central	68.5	31.5
Uva	60.6	39.4
Sabaragamuwa	50.3	49.7
District		
Colombo	61.5	38.5
Gampaha	64.0	36.0
Kalutara	57.5	42.5
Kandy	64.1	35.9
Matale	63.0	37.0
Nuwara eliya	69.2	30.8
Galle	61.9	38.1
Matara	60.9	39.1
Hambantota	61.5	38.5
Batticaloa	57.7	42.3
Ampara	62.6	37.4
Kurunegala	62.8	37.2
Puttalama	62.8	37.2
Anuradapura	64.1	35.9
Polonnaruwa	77.8	22.2
Badulla	62.7	37.3
Monaragala	56.5	43.5
Rathnapura	52.0	48.0
Kegalle	48.0	52.0

Income and Expenditure of the poor and the non poor

Table 9.1 shows that the mean household income for poor households in Sri Lanka is reported as Rs. 11534 per month and at sectoral level the lowest mean income for poor households is reported from estate sector (Rs. 10640). At district level, the mean income for poor households in Kurunegala district is reported as Rs. 9431 which is the lowest mean income for poor households among districts. Table 9.1 also shows that the median household income per month for poor households in Sri Lanka is Rs. 9539, which means half of the poor households in Sri Lanka received less than Rs 9539 per month per household in the year 2006/07. The lowest median income for poor households is reported from Moneragala district among districts.

Any income received by all the members of the household from various sources, either in cash or in kind was collected from all sample households. The main income sources used in this survey were wages and salaries, income from agricultural activities (seasonal and non seasonal crops), income from non agricultural activities, other cash income, windfall income, income in kind (consumed quantities of home grown fruit and vegetables, firewood etc.) and estimated rental value of owner occupied housing units.

According to the Table 9.2 it can be seen that the wages and salaries is the prominent source of income for the household in Sri Lanka. The survey results also reveal that a larger proportion of poor households received wage income than non poor households as a source of income.

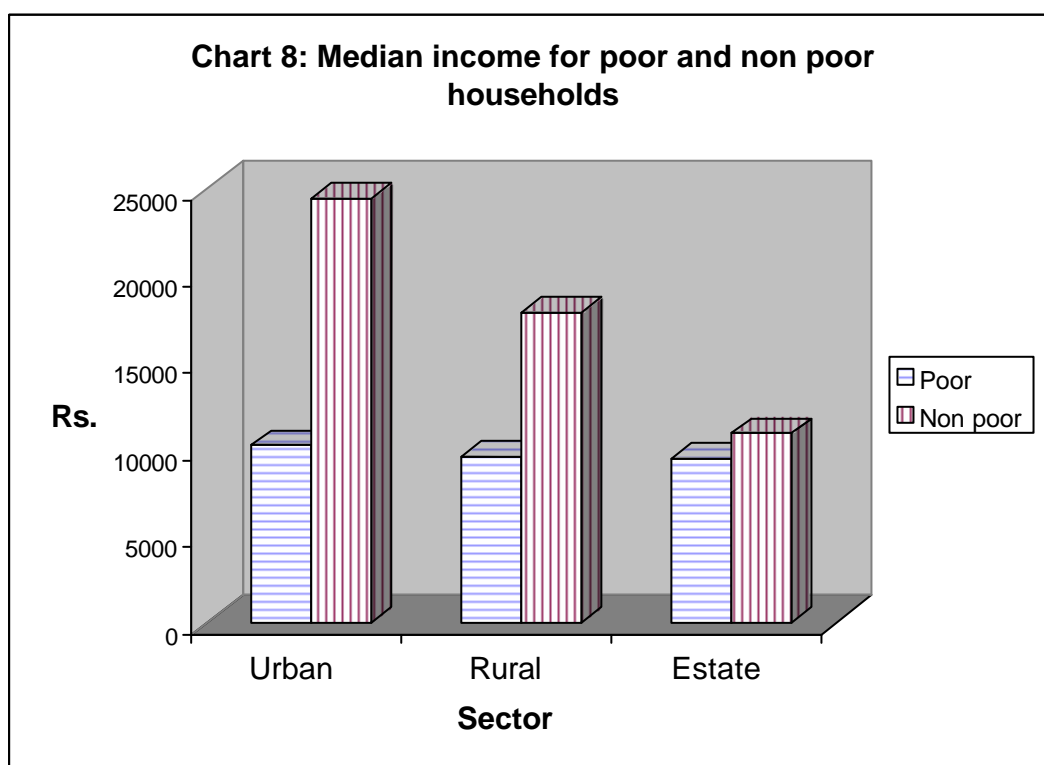


Table 9.1: Household income per month by poverty status by sector, province and district - 2006/07

Sector / Province / District	Poor households		Non poor households	
	Mean income (Rs)	Median income (Rs)	Mean income (Rs)	Median income (Rs)
SriLanka	11534	9539	28415	18206
Sector				
Urban	12513	10197	43476	24433
Rural	11584	9520	25913	17853
Estate	10640	9415	22297	10896
Province				
Western	13062	11100	35757	22782
Central	10548	9350	26840	15934
Southern	12467	11000	25487	18031
Eastern	11072	8010	21774	15867
North-western	9927	8836	24314	16239
North-central	11335	9531	26563	17283
Uva	11167	8771	24560	16441
Sabaragamuwa	12336	9149	22828	15164
District				
Colombo	12782	11000	44043	25285
Gampaha	13418	11943	30248	21521
Kalutara	12780	10150	29438	19871
Kandy	9808	9080	26807	17656
Matale	9653	8528	21542	15233
Nuwara eliya	11546	9833	30953	13153
Galle	13474	11979	26270	18693
Matara	12290	11129	24327	17404
Hambantota	10819	9313	25629	17982
Batticaloa	12720	7818	21901	16252
Ampara	9980	8269	21697	15230
Kurunegala	9431	8806	24867	16037
Puttalama	11176	9136	23210	16808
Anuradapura	10348	9531	23693	18015
Polonnaruwa	13955	10234	32373	16643
Badulla	11449	9815	24841	16768
Monaragala	10785	7933	23968	15090
Rathnapura	13280	9006	25335	15640
Kegalle	10892	9480	19677	14500

Table 9.2: Source of income by poor and non poor households -2006/07

Source of income	Mean income (Rs.)			Contribution (%)		
	Total	Non poor households	Poor households	Total	Non poor households	Poor households
Wage & Salary	9418	9931	5864	35.8	34.9	50.8
Agricultural activities	2944	3151	1508	11.2	11.1	13.1
Non agricultural activities	4507	5001	1080	17.1	17.6	9.4
Other income	3128	3436	997	11.9	12.1	8.6
Windfall income	2392	2684	365	9.1	9.4	3.2
Income in kind	1427	1501	914	5.4	5.3	7.9
Rental Value of owner occupied housing unit	2470	2710	806	9.4	9.5	7.0
Total	26286	28415	11534	100.0	100.0	100.0

Mean expenditure per month for poor households in Sri Lanka is reported as Rs. 8956 and it is about 2.8 times less than the mean expenditure per month for non poor households. When districts are compared, poor households in all districts other than Colombo and Kalutara districts have reported less than Rs. 10000 as their monthly expenditure (Table 9.3).

Table 9.4 shows the non food expenditure by poor and non poor households. Without considering liquor it is evident that the non poor households in Sri Lanka spend more than 5 times on non food expenditure than the poor households. A higher variation can be observed between poor and non poor households for all non food expenditure groups. Expenditure on liquor is highly reflected in poor households with 9 percent share of total non food expenditure.

The proportion of expenditure on food and drink (non alcoholic) to total expenditure is defined as the food ratio. The lower food ratio indicates the better living condition. The survey results reveal that the average monthly expenditure for both food and drink and non food is Rs.8956 for poor households in Sri Lanka. Of that value Rs. 5647 is spent on food and drink, hence the computed food ratio is 63.1 percent for poor households in Sri Lanka, where as it 36.3 percent for non poor households.

Table 9.3: Household expenditure per month by poverty status sector, province and district - 2006/07

Sector / Province / District	Poor households		Non poor households	
	Mean expenditure(Rs)	Median expenditure(Rs)	Mean expenditure(Rs)	Median expenditure(Rs)
Sri Lanka	8956	8582	24972	18494
Sector				
Urban	11341	10441	36534	25804
Rural	8694	8429	23357	17816
Estate	9780	9299	14733	13198
Province				
Western	10428	10033	32897	24133
Central	9150	8687	21247	16290
Southern	9353	9099	23476	18112
Eastern	9890	9342	23239	18640
North-western	8321	8057	20929	16301
North-central	7730	7780	22312	16564
Uva	7925	7902	18375	14442
Sabaragamuwa	8659	8327	18031	14443
District				
Colombo	11762	11175	38035	27862
Gampaha	9910	10353	30635	22739
Kalutara	10144	9289	26608	20534
Kandy	8997	8549	23823	18053
Matale	8299	8575	21068	15650
Nuwara eliya	9605	8842	15968	13312
Galle	9512	9048	24697	18591
Matara	9557	9358	22917	17649
Hambantota	8725	9045	21955	17821
Batticaloa	9787	8875	22826	18461
Ampara	9959	9860	23489	18925
Kurunegala	7956	7609	20013	15864
Puttalama	9240	8609	22760	17427
Anuradapura	7497	7638	22155	16458
Polonnaruwa	8348	8561	22631	16837
Badulla	8133	8338	19773	15401
Monaragala	7642	7747	15429	13025
Rathnapura	8892	8495	18489	14679
Kegalle	8304	8132	17455	14297

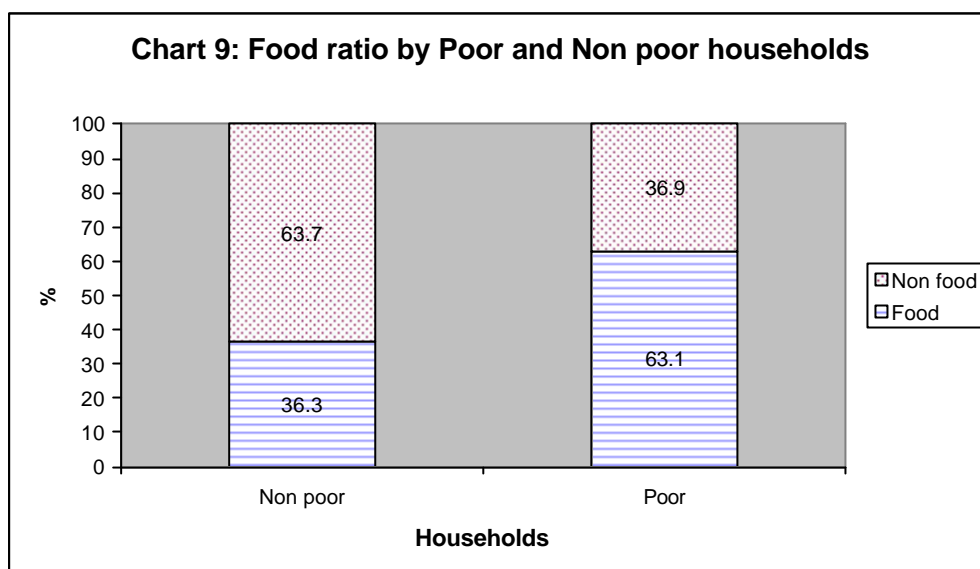


Table 9.4: Non food expenditure by poor & non poor households - 2006/07

Non food group	Sri Lanka (Rs)	Non poor households (Rs)	Poor households (Rs)
Housing	2639	2896	835
Fuel & Light	1042	1109	569
Personal care & health	980	1068	354
Transport	1862	2089	287
Communication	539	605	49
Education	632	702	151
Entertainments	260	291	32
Non durable goods & Household services	301	323	143
Clothing & Foot wear	694	752	277
Durable & long durable household goods	786	900	57
Other expenses	2292	2584	187
Adhoc expenses	1791	2060	70
Liquor	492	520	299
Total(Excluding Liquor)	13819	15379	3010
Total(Including Liquor)	14311	15899	3309

Annex 1

Main steps of CBN method

- Step 1: Set the minimum required calories per person per day at National level. (Calorie Norm)
- Step 2: Select a sub group of population those who are around the hypothetically assumed poverty line.
Assume this group as the households in 2 to 4 per capita total expenditure (as nominal values) deciles.
- Step 3: Calculate the spatial price indices for districts using items used by the sub group of the population selected in Step 2.
- Step 4: Convert all the nominal expenditure values into real values by using spatial price indices of the districts
- Step 5: Recalculate per capita real expenditure deciles and select households in 2 to 4 per capita real expenditure deciles
- Step 6: Calculate calorie cost for those who are in 2 to 4 per capita total expenditure (real value) deciles

$$\text{Calorie cost} = \frac{\text{Total expenditure of the basket}}{\text{Total calories intake}}$$

- Step 7: Calculate food poverty line using calorie cost and calorie norm
Food Poverty Line (FPL) = calorie cost * calorie norm * time period
- Step 8: Calculate non-food poverty line using the food poverty line
- Step 9: Calculate official poverty line
Lower poverty line = FPL+ Lower bound non food poverty line
Upper poverty line = FPL+ Upper bound non food poverty line
Official Poverty Line = (Lower poverty line + Upper poverty line) / 2

Annex 2

Calculation of total household calorie consumption

$$\text{Total calories} = \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{q_i * g_i * p_i * f_i}{700}$$

Where

q_i = Quantity of food item i consumed in seven days

g_i = Gram equivalent of the food item i

p_i = Percentage of edible portion for food item i

f_i = Conversion factor for the calories of food item i per 100 grams

N = Total number of food items

Annex 3

Daily recommended nutrient allowances by Age and Sex

Age group	Kilocalorie	
	Male	Female
< 1 Year	818	818
1 - 3 years	1212	1212
4 - 6 years	1656	1656
7 - 9 years	1841	1841
10 - 12 years	2414	2238
13 - 15 years	2337	2300
16 - 19 years	2500	2200
20 - 39 years	2530	1900
40 - 49 years	2404	1805
50 - 59 years	2277	1710
60 - 69 years	2024	1520
70 years +	1771	1330

Source:- Medical Research Institute of Sri Lanka