

# **Child poverty and social rights in Mexico: an approach from the multidimensional poverty measurement**

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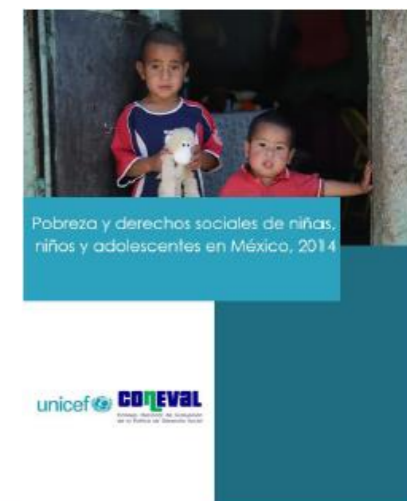
## Why is it relevant?:

- Child poverty has greater chance of becoming permanent or with irreversible effects.
- Greater potential for its reproduction in the future, i.e. intergenerational transmission.
- Children's economic, social and legal dependence of adults.

### UNICEF – CONEVAL RESEARCH AGENDA

## Contributions:

- Characterization of child poverty.
- Disaggregation of the information by groups of population (age, sex, regions, etc.)
- Public policy recommendations based on evidence.



# Background

**Measure poverty based on a multidimensional perspective**



**Evaluate social development policy**



General Lay of Social Development



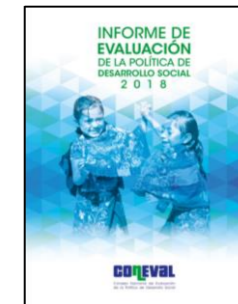
The 1st multidimensional poverty measurement

Objectives:  
To measure poverty and the state of social development

Methodology for Multidimensional Poverty Measurement in Mexico



Institutional planning 2018-2026



Evaluation report on social development policy IEPDS 2018

2004

2006

2009

2018

2019 ...

**UNICEF-CONEVAL AGENDA**

# Multidimensional Poverty Measurement in Mexico

## Poverty Dimensions

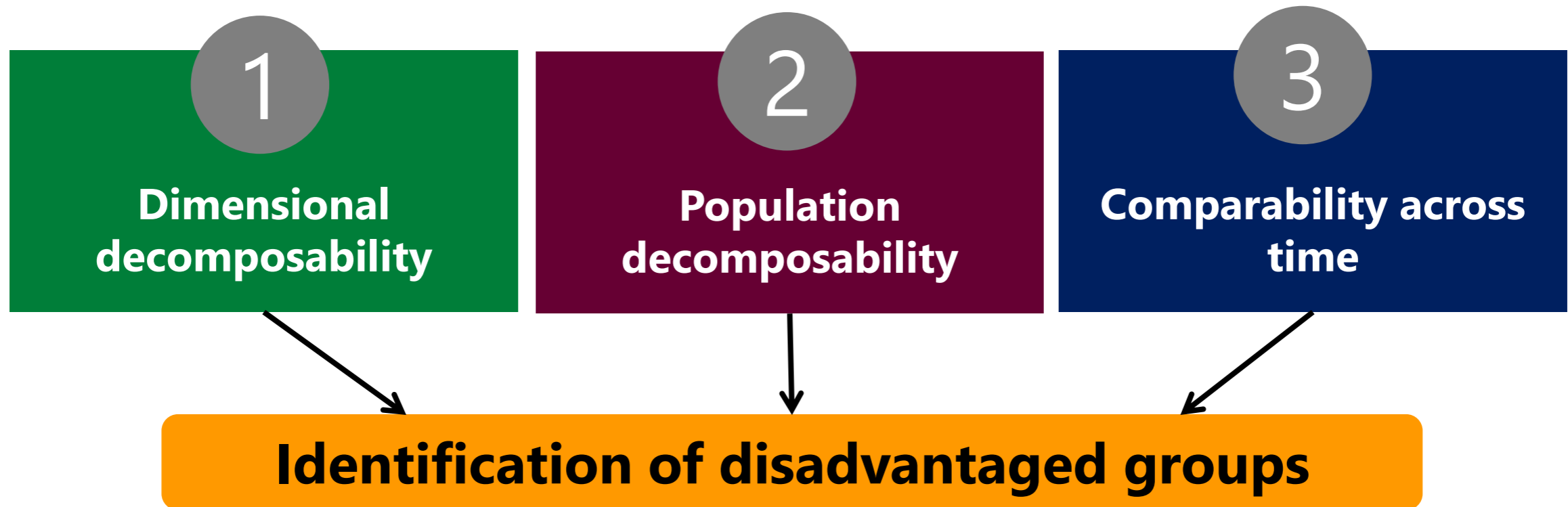
(General Law of Social Development, Article 36)



**Data Source of information by the National Institute of Statistics and Geography (Instituto Nacional de Estadística y Geografía, INEGI)**

**Periodicity**  
Federal entities: 2 years  
Municipalities: 5 years

# Properties of the multidimensional poverty measurement



**Regions**

- National
- Rural / urban
- State
- Municipality



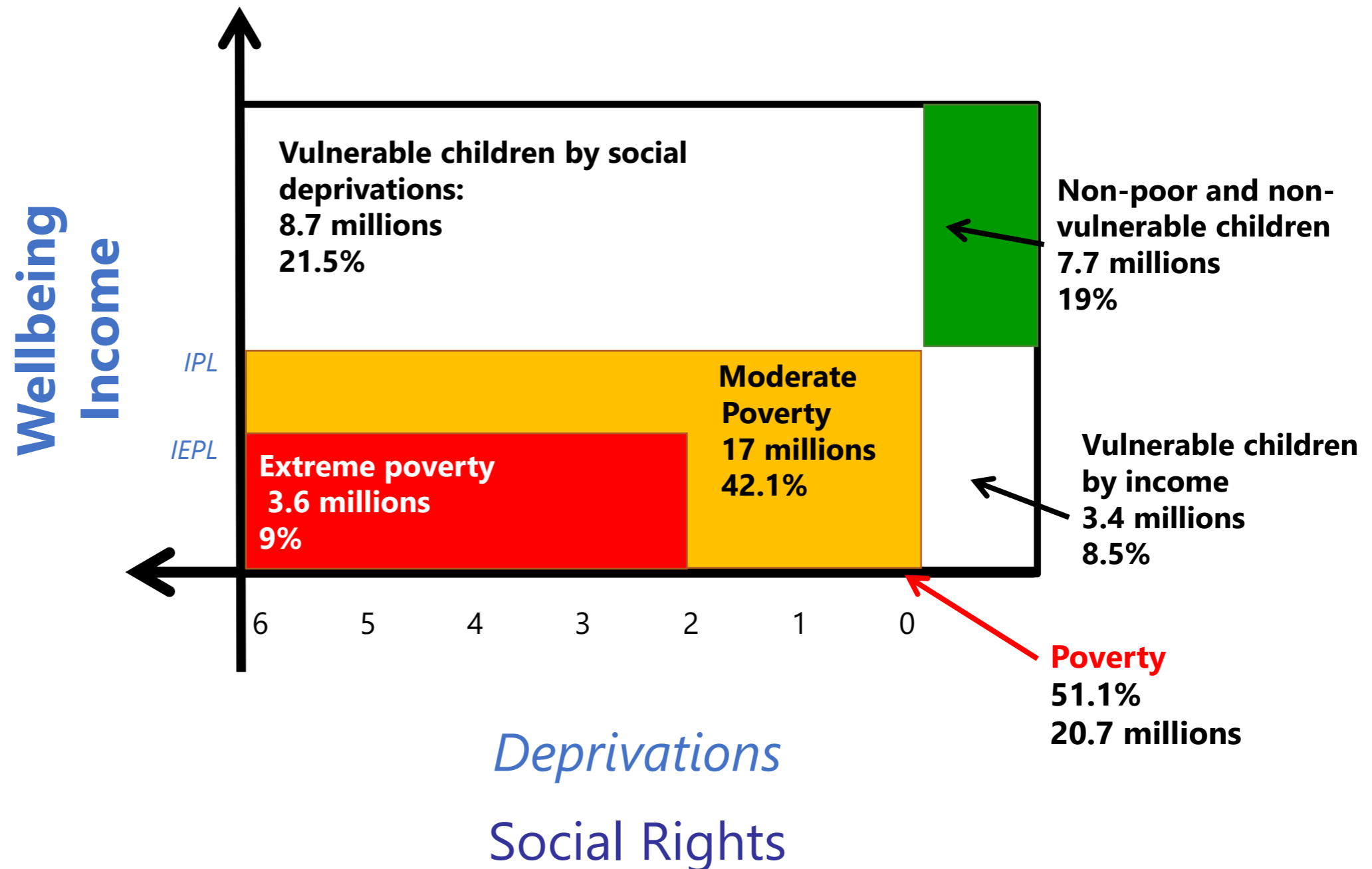
**Population**

- Gender
- Children and adolescents**
- Ethnic minorities
- Elderly population
- Young adults
- People with disabilities

# Child poverty results

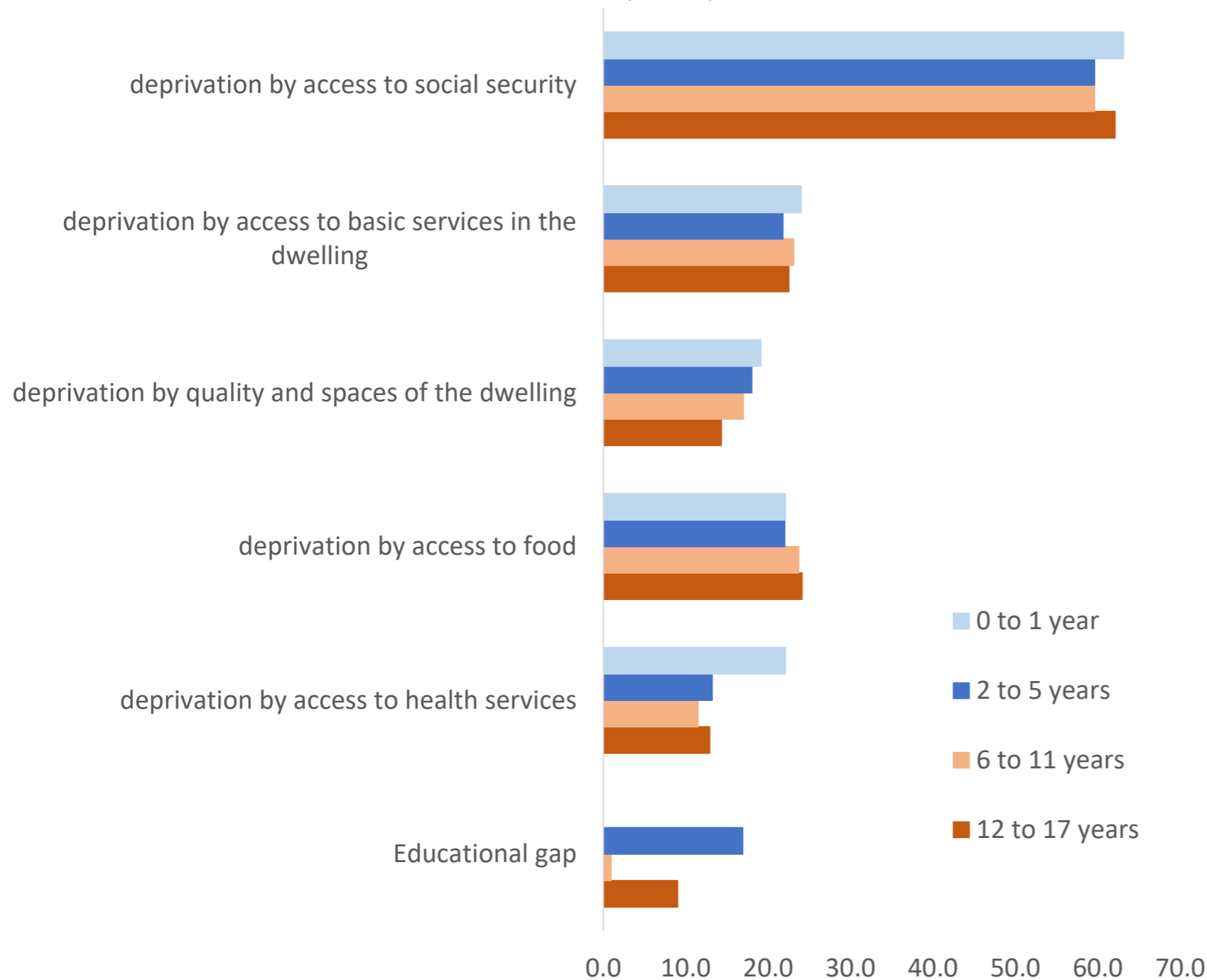
## Findings:

- In 2016, half of the Mexican child population (20.7 million) lived in **poverty**.
- Among them, 3.6 million (9%) lived in **extreme poverty**.
- Only one in five was free of any economic or social deprivation.



# Child poverty gaps

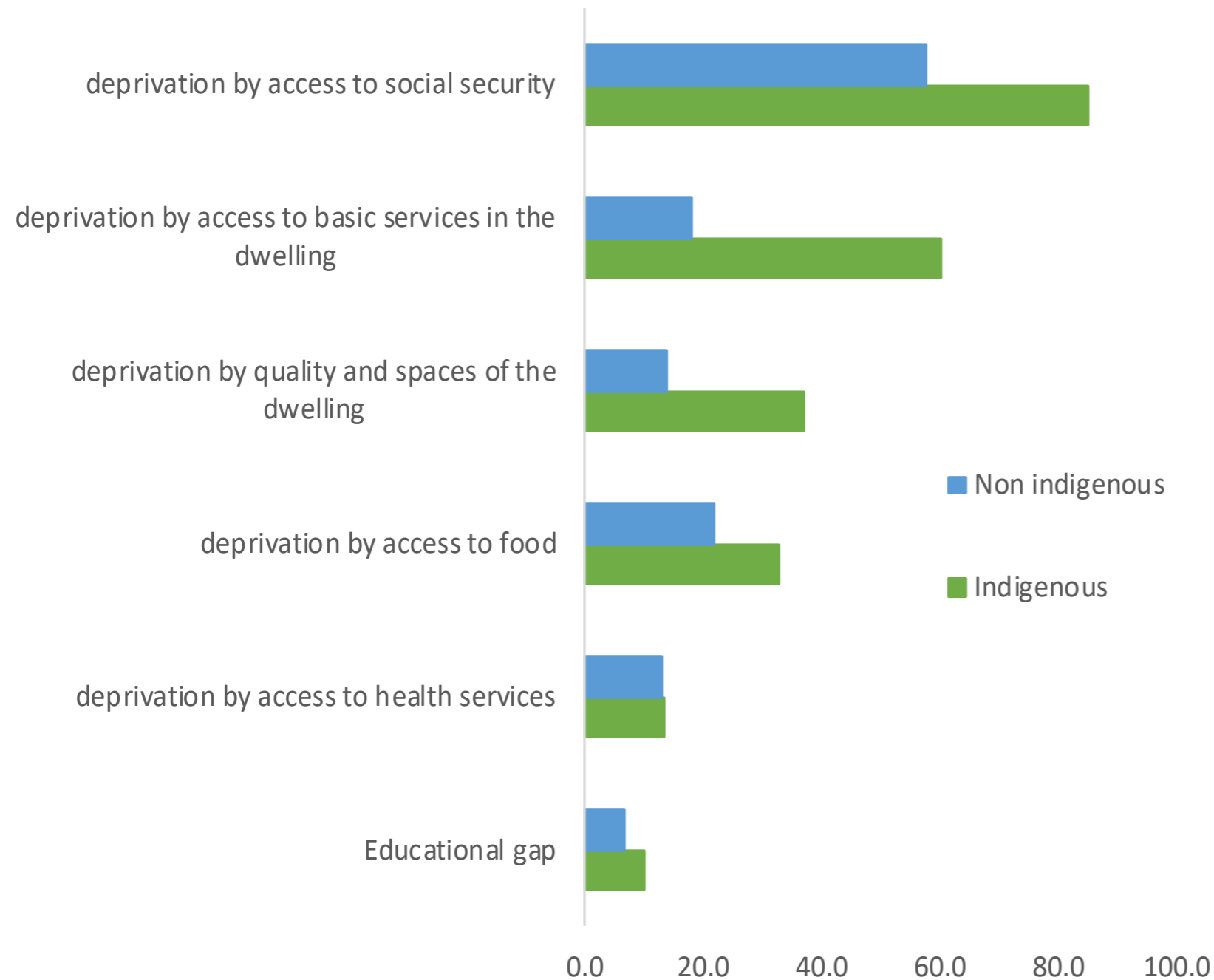
Percentage of child population due to social deprivation, by age groups, México (2016)



- Early childhood presents a particular vulnerability: children at younger ages live in dwellings with a lower, greater deprivation in access to health care services.
- Other deprivations are accentuated for older children, such as educational gap and access to food.

# Child poverty gaps

Percentage of child population due to social deprivation, by ethnicity, México (2016)



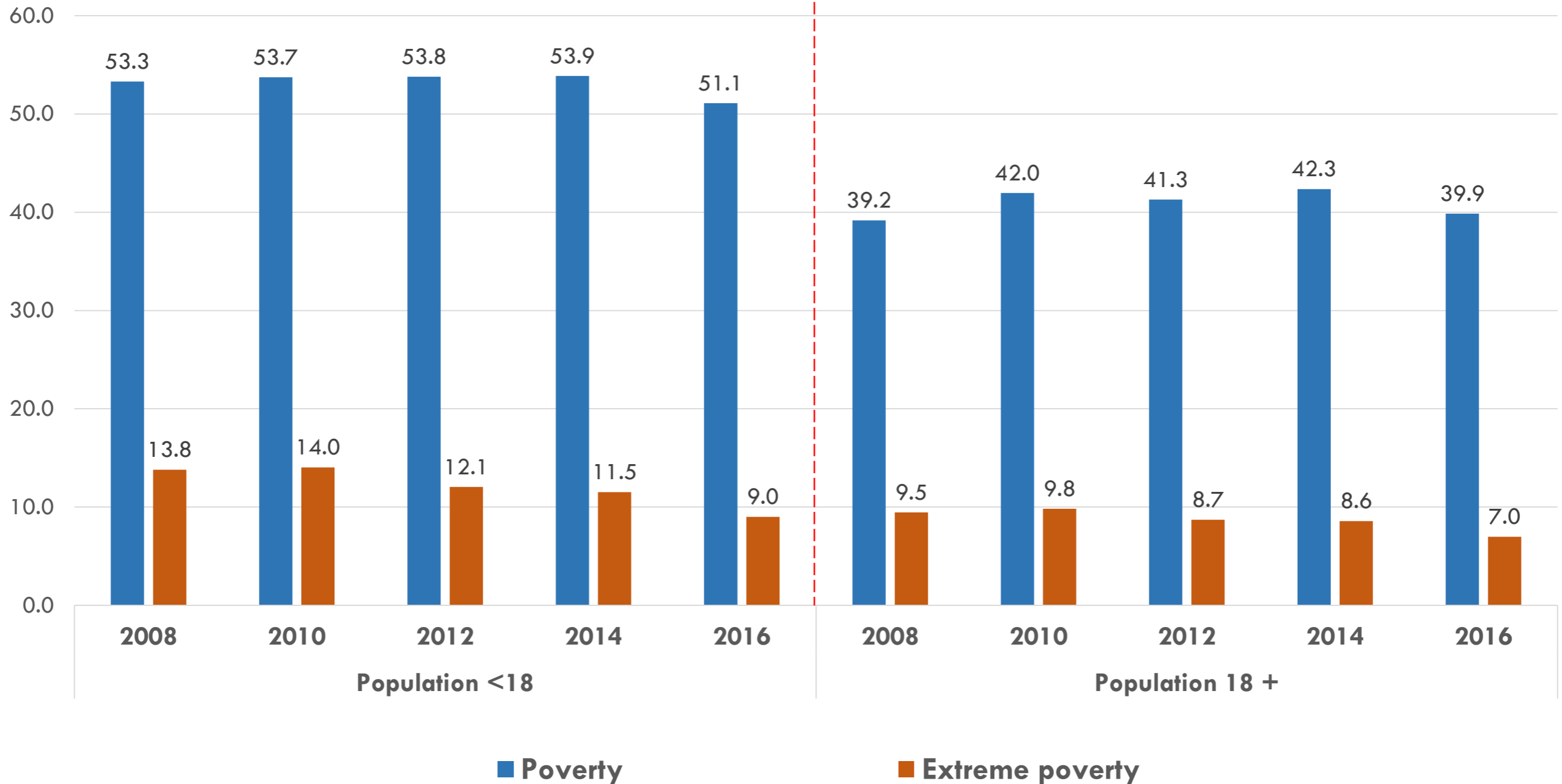
- Attributes such as ethnicity are linked to racial discrimination that keep indigenous children in a situation of historical backwardness.

- The level of poverty of these abovementioned children is of 78.5% vs. 47.8% of non-indigenous children.



# Child poverty results

**Poverty and extreme poverty in population under and over 18 years old, 2008-2016**  
(percentage)



## Do we need specific child poverty indicators?: different approach, different implications for public policy

Specific child  
poverty  
indicators

*Vs.*

National  
multidimensional  
poverty measure



Complementar  
y studies

Disaggregated  
indicators for  
childhood



**We need a new  
political agreement**

Holistic approach  
including a human  
rights perspective &  
wellbeing.

Provide additional  
evidence for specific  
populations



**Political  
agreement since  
2005.  
MPI is being used.**



**Targeted policies for  
children in  
partnership with  
UNICEF**

## Conclusions and recommendations:

- **Breaking the intergenerational reproduction of poverty** is a core aspect for the design of public policies for children.
- **Strengthen access and quality of basic services** in early childhood, childhood and adolescence, through **coordinated work and a long-term vision** between various social and economic development sectors.
- **Strengthen social protection mechanisms** against all forms of **violence, discrimination** or **exploitation** that violate the fundamental **rights** of children and adolescents.

# Appendix

Indicators	Population aged 0 to 17 years		Population aged 18 and over	
	2008	2016	2008	2016
<b>Poverty</b>				
Population living in poverty	53.3	51.1	39.2	39.9
Population living moderate poverty	39.5	42.1	29.7	32.9
Population living extreme poverty	13.8	9.0	9.5	7.0
<b>Social deprivations</b>				
Educational gap	10.5	7.1	28.6	22.5
Access to health services	39.0	13.3	38.1	16.6
Access to social security	73.9	60.8	59.8	53.4
Quality and spaces of the dwelling	23.0	16.5	14.6	9.9
Access to basic services in the dwelling	27.3	22.7	20.3	17.7
Access to food	25.7	23.3	19.5	18.5
<b>Wellbeing (Income)</b>				
Income below the extreme poverty line by income	21.3	22.3	14.1	15.1
Income below the poverty line by income	58.1	59.6	43.7	46.2

Source: CONEVAL based on MCS-ENIGH 2008 and MEC of the 2016 ENIGH survey.