



# EQUALITY INSIGHTS RAPID

## Key Findings - Tonga 2022



**82%**



**OF PEOPLE DID NOT MEET THE DEPRIVATION THRESHOLD, IN WHICH, CLOTHING DEPRIVATION WAS RELATIVELY UNCOMMON**

**ONE IN THREE PEOPLE MET THE THRESHOLD FOR EXPERIENCING SOME LEVEL OF ENERGY DEPRIVATION. A HIGHER PROPORTION OF MEN WERE SEVERELY DEPRIVED COMPARED TO WOMEN. ENERGY DEPRIVATION ALSO VARIED BY LOCATION, WITH RURAL AREAS MORE LIKELY TO BE DEPRIVED**

**11%**

**OF PEOPLE WERE SEVERELY DEPRIVED, AND 50 PERCENT WERE MODERATELY DEPRIVED IN THE EDUCATION DIMENSION. THERE WAS A LARGE AMOUNT OF VARIATION IN EDUCATION DEPRIVATION ACROSS AGE GROUPS**

**ENVIRONMENT DEPRIVATION WAS THE MOST COMMON TYPE OF DEPRIVATION EXPERIENCED BY PEOPLE SURVEYED, WITH 93 PERCENT EXPERIENCING SOME LEVEL OF DEPRIVATION. THERE WERE SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCES BY LOCATION; A SIGNIFICANTLY HIGHER PROPORTION OF PEOPLE LIVING IN RURAL TONGATAPU AND 'EUA WERE SIGNIFICANTLY DEPRIVED IN THE ENVIRONMENT DIMENSION**



**57%**



**OF RESPONDENTS MET THE THRESHOLD FOR SEVERE DEPRIVATION IN THE FAMILY PLANNING DIMENSION**

**WHILE 29 PERCENT OF RESPONDENTS MET THE THRESHOLD FOR MODERATE DEPRIVATION IN FOOD, EIGHT PERCENT MET THE THRESHOLD FOR BEING SEVERELY DEPRIVED. AGE WAS A SIGNIFICANT FACTOR WITH PEOPLE AGED 30-59 MORE LIKELY THAN OTHER AGE GROUPS TO MEET THE THRESHOLD FOR DEPRIVATION IN FOOD**





**HEALTH WAS THE DIMENSION WITH THE LOWEST PROPORTION OF PEOPLE MEETING THE THRESHOLD FOR DEPRIVATION.**

**FOUR PERCENT OF RESPONDENTS EXPERIENCED MODERATE DEPRIVATION AND SIX PERCENT EXPERIENCED SEVERE DEPRIVATION**

**37%**



**OF PEOPLE MET THE SEVERELY DEPRIVED SCORING CRITERIA AND ANOTHER 40 PERCENT MET THE MODERATELY DEPRIVED SCORING CRITERIA IN THE RELATIONSHIPS DIMENSION**

**33%**

**MET THE THRESHOLD FOR SOME LEVEL OF SAFETY DEPRIVATION, WITH 23 PERCENT EXPERIENCING MODERATE DEPRIVATION AND 10 PERCENT EXPERIENCING SEVERE DEPRIVATION.**

**WOMEN WERE SIGNIFICANTLY MORE LIKELY TO MEET THE DEPRIVATION THRESHOLD THAN MEN. AGE WAS ALSO ASSOCIATED, WITH THE PROPORTION OF PEOPLE EXPERIENCING MODERATE AND SEVERE DEPRIVATION BOTH DECREASING WITH AGE**

**SOME LEVEL OF DEPRIVATION IN RELATION TO SANITATION WAS EXPERIENCED BY ONE IN FOUR PEOPLE, WITH EIGHT PERCENT MODERATELY DEPRIVED AND 17 PERCENT SEVERELY DEPRIVED**



**24%**



**OF PEOPLE MET THE THRESHOLD FOR SHELTER DEPRIVATION, WITH MODERATE DEPRIVATION MORE COMMON THAN SEVERE DEPRIVATION**

**AROUND 34%**

**OF PEOPLE WERE MODERATELY DEPRIVED, WITH A FURTHER 20 PERCENT EXPERIENCING SEVERE DEPRIVATION IN THE TIME USE DIMENSION. MEN WERE LESS LIKELY TO MEET THE THRESHOLD. PEOPLE AGED 30-59 WERE MORE LIKELY THAN THOSE IN OTHER AGE GROUPS TO MEET THE THRESHOLD FOR ANY DEPRIVATION**

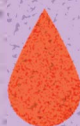






**A MAJORITY OF RESPONDENTS (63%) MET THE THRESHOLD FOR SEVERE DEPRIVATION IN THE VOICE DIMENSION, WITH AN ADDITIONAL 25 PERCENT MEETING THE THRESHOLD FOR MODERATE DEPRIVATION. YOUNG PEOPLE WERE SIGNIFICANTLY MORE LIKELY TO BE SEVERELY DEPRIVED**

**JUST OVER 1 IN 5 PEOPLE (21%) MET THE THRESHOLD FOR WATER DEPRIVATION, WITH ALMOST ALL OF THOSE MEETING THE THRESHOLD FOR SEVERE DEPRIVATION**



**61 %**

**OF PEOPLE EXPERIENCED SOME LEVEL OF WORK DEPRIVATION, WITH 33 PERCENT MODERATELY DEPRIVED AND 28 PERCENT SEVERELY DEPRIVED**

## Background

Equality Insights is IWDA's flagship program, which has a focus on individual-level, gender-sensitive measurement of multidimensional poverty and inequality influenced by various social, economic, and environmental factors and contexts. This poverty and inequality measure was implemented in Tonga in 2022 using Equality Insights Rapid - a new, shorter, phone-based survey that measures deprivation across 15 dimensions of life. All adults in a sampled household are surveyed individually, with a complimentary household survey used to identify all eligible household members and collect information on a number of questions where circumstances are similar for all household members.

A representative, multi-stage cluster sampling approach was utilised to gather survey responses from across Tonga. Five strata were identified following the Tongan Statistics Department (TSD) formal census designations. Responses were gathered from people residing in Tongatapu, Vava'u, Ha'apai, and Eua. Niuaus was excluded based on its remote location and limited population size.

Data collection took place over seven weeks from early May 2022 to 30 June 2022. Survey instruments, study design, findings and results were shared and contextualised with the TSD. The final dataset included 6,703 individuals from 2,551 households. Results presented in this report are weighted to be representative of population levels. Key findings for each dimension are presented here, for more detail including definitions of dimensions see the full report.<sup>[1]</sup>

[1] Carroll, M., Greaves, A., Crawford, J., Pradela, J., 2023. Equality Insights Rapid: Report, Tonga Survey 2022, Melbourne: International Women's Development Agency

A program by

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Understand poverty.  
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