

RESEARCH AND EVALUATION OF PERCEPTIONS OF INCLUSIVE ECONOMIC GROWTH IN GEORGIA

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Abstract

The purpose of this work is to analyze and evaluate the perception of the inclusiveness of economic growth mainly for the young part of the Georgian population. Significant problems in Georgia today are poverty, inequality and low living standards. These are the factors whose elimination is the goal of inclusive economic growth. As a result, we want to evaluate Georgia's inclusive economic growth in terms of the perception of the population.

The work uses the methodology proposed by the Asian Development Bank and the World Economic Forum. The study uses quantitative methods of analysis. The results obtained were processed using the SPSS computer program.

The ongoing research revealed how the population perceives important factors of inclusive economic growth. The identification of relationships between factor and outcome variables made it possible to assess which factors determined a higher perception of the inclusiveness of economic growth.

Keywords: Inclusive economic growth, Standard of living, Georgia

JEL Classification Codes: 038, 043, 047

1. Introduction

Inclusive economic growth is becoming increasingly relevant on the world economic policy agenda. The ultimate goal of economic policy is a widespread and irreversible improvement in the standard of living. This is the bottom-line basis on which a society evaluates the economic dimension of its country's leadership. Economic growth is only a means to a goal, not a goal in itself. On the one hand, economic growth is necessary to achieve this goal, but, on the other hand, it does not ensure that existing growth is equally reflected in the entire population. (Kraay, A. 2006).

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We can think of economic growth as a critical measure of a country's economic progress, while inclusive growth can be considered a strategy to ensure that the overall outcome of economic progress is shared widely and evenly across society. That is, to achieve what society demands: the expansion of economic opportunities and the common good. (Rajan, R. 2010).

The concept and term "inclusive economic growth" has not yet been fully formed. There are many assumptions about the vision of this complex changeable process. Basically, researchers of international organizations look at it from the standpoint of sustainable development, focusing on eliminating socio-economic inequality and overcoming poverty. They offer an approach focused solely on the economic component of its implementation. Considering the main directions and approaches in the definition of inclusive economic growth, it can be noted that inclusive economic growth involves solving economic and socio-cultural issues. In modern research, these issues are today combined by leading economic organizations into two research areas: economic, represented by index and cluster characteristics, and social approach, based solely on the analysis of the social sphere. Bob Sternfels (Global Managing Partner, McKinsey and Company) on McKinsey's online page wrote: "We too often talk about trade-offs between growth on one hand and societal benefits on the other. I believe the future belongs to those who can drive growth that is both sustainable and inclusive". (Sternfels, B. 2021). It is clear that there is a causal relationship between sustainable and inclusive growth, which is evident in both social and economic indicators.

In 2011, the Asian Development Bank developed the Inclusive Growth Indicators to measure the inclusiveness of a country's development. This framework includes 35 indicators grouped into 8 groups. These 8 groups are: 1. Poverty and Inequality; 2. Economic Growth and Employment; 3. Key Infrastructure Endowments; 4. Access and Inputs to Education and Health; 5. Access and Inputs to Basic Infrastructure Utilities and Services; 6. Gender Equality and Opportunity; 7. Social Safety Nets; 8. Good Governance and Institutions. (ADB, 2011).

The methodology proposed by the World Economic Forum was developed in 2015. The 2017 Inclusive Growth and Development Report includes the Inclusive Development Index (IDI). this report provides indicators that should be used to assess inclusive economic growth in accordance with the recommendations of the authors. As mentioned in this report, the index provides a more holistic and complete picture of economic development (than GDP per capita). The goal of the Inclusive Development Index is to help governments formulate and guide their economic policies to achieve inclusive economic growth.

This report of the World Economic Forum presents 7 groups and 15 subgroups of areas that affect the broad participation of society in economic processes and ensure economic growth for all. The action of factors of groups and subgroups contributes to the functioning of the country's economy in such a way that the benefits derived from economic growth are widely available and productive for a significant part of the population. Ultimately, this should contribute to the elimination of inequalities. (World Economic Forum, 2015).

The OECD report, "How is Life 2020", shows that life has improved in some ways since 2010 (we live longer, live safer), but risks remain in natural, economic, and social systems that threaten future well-being. The OECD Center on Well-being, Inclusion, Sustainability, and Equal Opportunity (WISE) uses innovative methodologies and new data to reduce inequalities and bridge the gap between people's expectations and government and business action. Through innovative tools like www.compareyourincome.org, WISE collects information about people and their perceptions about different issues. Have to note that since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, inequality has increased around the world. The OECD data confirms that people's fears about income inequality have grown over the past decades. Especially, and more significantly, it has increased in developing countries. (OECD, 2020)

Michael J. Boskin, in the article "Economic Growth Is the Answer", writes that rising inequality is a real problem, and the key issue is that living standards are not improving fast enough among those who are falling behind. (Michael J. Boskin, 2019). This is the main reason for the growing political tension in both developed and developing countries. However, it is necessary to understand what exactly worries people all over the world - that they cannot satisfy their material needs, or that they are not equal in their satisfaction? Undoubtedly, the struggle for equal rights for people and for the eradication of poverty (although this is also a relative concept) are the main components of the goal of economic development (respectively, inclusive economic growth), but if the first problem is solved by economic development, then the ways to solve the second problem are not given even in sacred scripture. The material needs of people are more or less limited, but greed and envy are not (that's why they are mortal sins). In a competitive environment, the problem of eradicating inequality is unsolvable, but the reduction of inequality should focus on the expanded introduction into our lives and the promotion of social values (especially such social values as justice).

This study proposes a socio-economic approach to the definition of perception inclusive growth. It takes into account not only its economic components but also the particular environment, including education, values, and personal self-determination, as well as institutions (social and legislative) that shape the environment and behavioral characteristics of people in the process of perception of inclusiveness. In this study, the emphasis is on the economic components that determine the circumstances for inclusive economic growth and its perception by survey respondents (Which manifests itself in the choice of answers).

We conducted an online survey of 385 respondents (0.01% of Georgian citizens) in the age group 18-44 years. Accordingly, the results were extended to 3,688,600 Georgian citizens. In comparison, the survey conducted by ESOMAR and Eurobarometer (conducted in April and May 2022) covered more than 27 thousand citizens (0.006% of the EU population). citizens) of the 27 EU countries, were extended to 446,774,579 EU citizens (Agerpres.ro, 2022). Accordingly, the results of the study can be considered as relevant for the purposes set for the article.

The study revealed that young citizens of Georgia in the age group of 18-44 are the most active users of the internet and social networks. Citizens of this age group make up 41.3% of the total population. We can explain the fact that mainly young respondents responded and took part in the online survey by the hyperactivity of their age group. However, it is the age group that creates problems or provides significant support in the implementation of economic policy. As for the adequacy of the perception of the inclusiveness of economic growth, this also does not always correspond to reality so unequivocally.

The adequacy of respondents' perception is also tied to place, time, age, religion, nationality, hierarchy, and other sociocultural conditions. What is acceptable for one person may not be acceptable for another. Perception also depends on the individual norm of relations within society. That is why an important and universal way is to understand the work of stereotypes and the effects of social perception, and for this, it is important to ask questions and have significant financial and statistical resources (which international organizations and large companies, such as McKinsey, have at their disposal). Evaluative interpretation of the answers is also not an easy job, since you need to have much more information about each respondent. However, questioning makes sense and is useful in the sense that it reveals the direction and level of passions in the most active part of society. This is of decisive importance for the successful implementation of economic policy.

The purpose of this article is to analyze and evaluate the perception of inclusive economic growth mainly for the young part of the population of Georgia. We obtain the research results mainly from the younger part of the population. We will analyze the approach to inclusive economic growth on crucial issues such as poverty, inequality, justice, the standard of living, the education system, the healthcare system, and other essential determinants necessary for achieving inclusive economic growth.

The purpose of the study is to see how the population evaluates the factors essential for inclusive economic growth and proceed from it. As a result, we want to evaluate the inclusive economic growth of Georgia from the point of view of the population of the 18-44 age group (according to the fact that citizens mainly of this group took part in the online survey). This assessment may differ from official statistics due to the respondents' subjective perception of the situation and their attitude to the problem. At the end of the article, conclusions and recommendations will be presented based on the research conducted.

2. Methodology

We use the methodology proposed by the Asian Development Bank and the World Economic Forum to assess the inclusive economic growth of Georgia. (Asia Development Bank, 2011) (World Economic Forum, 2017).

According to these methodologies, the defining determinants for inclusive economic growth are poverty, inequality, the healthcare system, the education system, the effective

functioning of state institutions, the level of corruption, and employment. The purpose of the questions used in the survey is to evaluate the directions mentioned above.

The study uses quantitative methods of analysis. The survey lasted four weeks, from February 21, 2022, to March 20, 2022. To conduct research, we mainly used the professional social network <https://www.linkedin.com/>. Since the study was conducted during the post-pandemic period, the study presents several questions assessing the impact of the pandemic on the population. The questionnaire was sent out to over 1000 people. Completed questionnaires were received from 385 respondents, primarily young citizens. In this study, we will consider the mentioned 385 questionnaires valid. The population survey was conducted in different regions of Georgia. The results were processed using the SPSS computer program to obtain the Chi-Square Tests and calculate the Pearson Chi-Square. Based on the Chi-Square test, relationships are only found between categorical variables, and no conclusions are drawn about a causal relationship between them. The questionnaire included 30 questions. (Morgan, G. A., Leech, N. L., Gloeckner, G. W., & Barrett, K. C. (2004)).

We used the Likert scale method to assess respondents' perceptions of inclusive economic growth in the questions in Tables 9, 11, and 12. The ongoing research revealed how the population perceives important factors of inclusive economic growth. Identifying relationships between factor and outcome variables allows us to assess which factors determined the higher perception of the inclusiveness of economic growth.

3. Materials and results of the study

Various international organizations pay close attention to inclusive economic growth. The eighth of the 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals is sustainable, inclusive development, which should create decent employment opportunities for all. (United Nations, 2015: 16). The need for inclusive economic growth first appeared in the strategy of the Asian Development Bank in 2008. This was the first of the three main directions of Strategy-2020. (Along with environmentally sustainable growth and regional integration). (Asia Development Bank, 2008: 11) Also, the 2nd of the four main directions of the "Strategy 2030" is inclusiveness. (Asia Development Bank, 2018: 1). There is no generally accepted definition of inclusive economic growth. The Asian Development Bank considers inclusive economic growth as expanding economic opportunities, on the one hand, and greater access to these opportunities for public members to participate in and benefit from economic processes. (Asia Development Bank, 2008: 11). According to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, economic growth is not a goal. The main goal is to improve the general standard of living of the population. Addressing the problem of inequality and its impact on different groups in society is essential only for inclusive economic growth. (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, 2014: 8).

According to the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), inclusive economic growth aims to improve living standards and more equitably distribute the benefits of economic growth among different social groups of the

population. (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, 2014: 8). According to the World Economic Forum, inclusive economic growth is the growth of sustainable production over decades, which covers the entire economy, employs a large part of the country's labor force, and thus contributes to poverty reduction. (World Economic Forum, 2015: 1).

The above definitions of various international organizations are not identical. The inclusiveness of a country's economic growth depends on several factors, although there are common features we can use to characterize inclusive growth:

- Inclusive growth means economic growth that should cover most sectors of the economy and spread throughout the country;
- A large part of the population should participate in the process of economic growth, and all citizens of the country should have equal opportunities to engage in economic activity.;
- The benefits of economic growth should be fairly distributed among the entire population, in proportion to the work done by each person and his/her contribution;
- Such economic development and the broad involvement of the population in this process should lead to a reduction in poverty and inequality between different segments of the population.

International organizations identify three reasons why economic growth should be inclusive (Asia Development Bank, 2011: 4):

- For ethical considerations of equity and fairness, growth must be shared and should be inclusive across different segments of populations and regions. Economic and other shocks hurt the poor and the vulnerable most, and growth that results in high disparity is unacceptable;
- Growth with persisting inequalities within a country may endanger social peace, force poor and unemployed people into criminal activities, make women more vulnerable to prostitution, force children into undesirable labor, and further weaken other disadvantaged and vulnerable sections of the population - resulting in a waste of vast human capital that could otherwise be used productively in creating economic outputs for sustainable growth;
- Continued inequalities in outcomes and access to opportunities in a country may result in civil unrest and violent backlash from people who are continually deprived, derailing a sustainable growth process. This may create political unrest and disrupt the social fabric and national integration, undermining the potential for long-term, sustained growth.

Human capital and its maximum involvement in economic processes are essential factors of inclusive economic growth. That is why the World Economic Forum, in its Report on Inclusive Growth and Development, recommends that governments pursue

active labor market policies, promote equal and affordable education for all, maintain gender balance, ensure that precarious workforces are protected as much as possible, and provide adequate remuneration. (World Economic Forum, 2017).

To assess the effectiveness of the above economic policy measures in Georgia, let us turn to the survey results and various statistical indicators.

Determinants of inclusive economic growth

A total of 385 people took part in the survey. The gender composition of the respondents is shown in Figure 1.

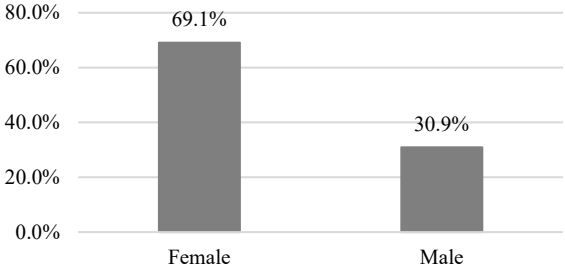


Figure 1. Gender of respondents in percentage

The age of the majority of respondents (54.5%) ranged from 25-34 years old, 34.3% of respondents were between 18 and 24 years old, and only 11.2% of respondents were 35 years of age or older. (Figure 2).

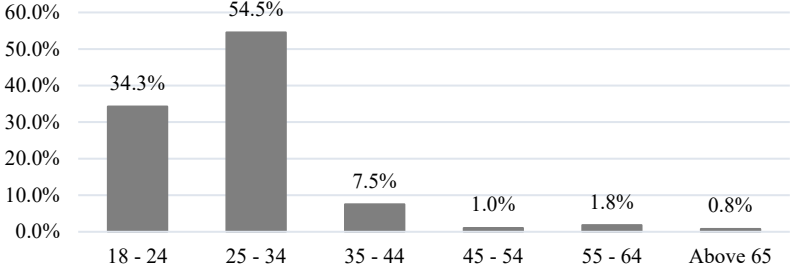


Figure 2. Age Groups of respondents in percentage

7% of respondents had vocational or complete/incomplete general education. Only a bachelor's degree in higher education is held by 46.8% of respondents, a master's degree - 39.2%, and a doctorate degree - 7%. (Figure 3).

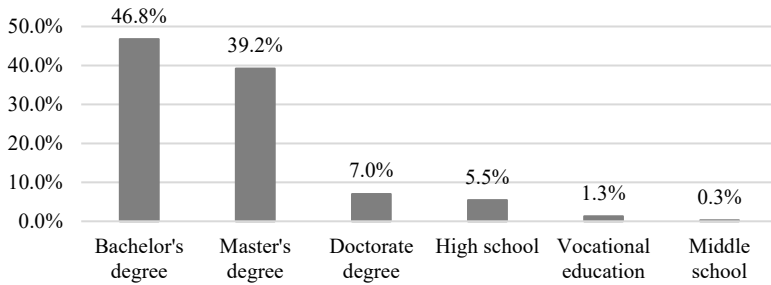


Figure 3. Education level of respondents in percentage

88.3% of respondents lived in Tbilisi, so the results practically reflect the attitude of the population in Tbilisi. The opinions of people living in the regions may differ from the survey results. Given that the standard of living in Tbilisi as the capital is higher than in the other areas of the country, it can be assumed that the results of this study will change to more negative in the case of the country as a whole. As a result, we are now facing a more optimistic assessment of inclusive economic growth. (Table 1).

Table 1. Place of living of respondents in percentage

Tbilisi	88.3%
Imereti	3.4%
Kvemo Kartli	3.1%
Kakheti	1.3%
Adjara	1.0%
Shida Kartli	1.0%
Samegrelo-Zemo Svaneti	1.0%
Mtskheta-Mtianeti	0.5%
Samtskhe-Javakheti	0.3%

67.5% of the respondents were never married, 26.5% were married, and 6% were divorced, widowed, or refused to answer. (Table 2).

Table 2. Family status of respondents in percentage

To Marry	67.5%
Married	26.5%
Divorced	4.9%
Refuse to answer	0.8%
Widow/widower	0.3%

46.8% of the respondents only worked, while 45.7% worked and studied. As a result, 92.5% of the respondents were employed citizens and actively involved in various

economic activities. Therefore, their opinions can be considered an actual assessment of the economic situation in the country. (Figure 4).

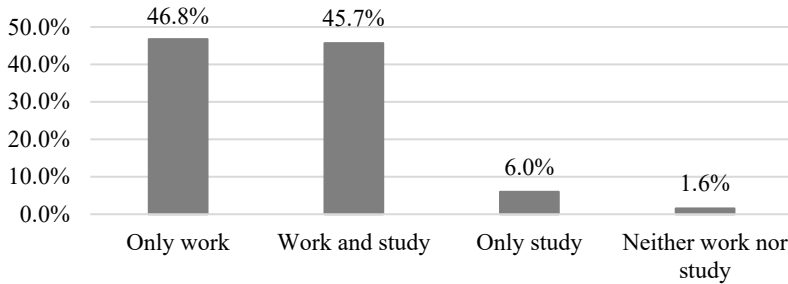


Figure 4. Studying and working status of the respondents in percentage

Significant differences in income characterize respondents. Citizens with both high and medium and low incomes were interviewed. The results from different social groups can be considered favorable conditions for assessing the country's inclusive economic growth. (Table 3).

Table 3. Income of respondents (Exchange rate 1€ = 2.85 GEL).

Less than 300 GEL	6.0%
300 - 500 GEL	5.5%
500 - 1,000 GEL	14.5%
1,000 - 1,500 GEL	19.5%
1,500 - 2,000 GEL	18.4%
2,000 - 5,000 GEL	29.1%
5,000 GEL or more	7.0%

41.0% of respondents answered that they have an additional source of income besides their primary income. This result can be assessed on a bilateral basis. On the one hand, an additional source of revenue indicates that the country has ample economic opportunities. However, on the other hand, an additional source of income may mean that the primary source is insufficient, and citizens have to find extra work due to additional workload and free time. (Figure 5).

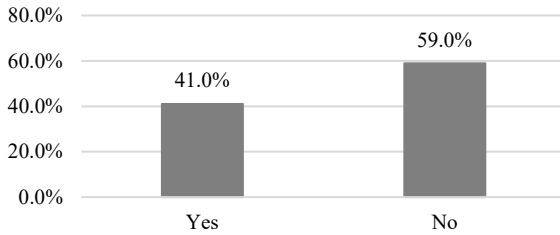


Figure 5. An additional source of income

40.8% of respondents have increased their income amid the Covid-19 pandemic. 38.4% of incomes did not change, 19.7% decreased, and only 1% of respondents were left without income. These figures suggest that the Georgian economy has coped well with the Covid-19 pandemic and has not had a strong negative impact on workers' incomes. (Table 4). It should also be noted that during the pandemic and after, the Gini coefficient slightly decreased: estimated 2011-46; 2019 - 36.4; 2022 - 35.9. (The World Factbook. 2022).

Table 4. Change in income during COVID-19

Increased	40.8%
Did not change	38.4%
Decreased	19.7%
I was left without income	1.0%

The share of necessary expenses in total income is normally distributed among the respondents. The largest group of respondents, 31.7%, spend 40-60% of their income on basic expenses. (Table 5).

Table 5. Share of necessary expenses (Rent, food, utilities, medicines, transport) in income

1-20%	16.6%
20-40%	27.8%
40-60%	31.7%
60-80%	17.4%
80-100%	6.5%

41.6% of respondents do not have the opportunity to save their income. However, most respondents still manage to make savings at various levels. This result can be considered average. (Table 6)

Table 6. Share of savings in income

Save less than 10%	28.3%
Save between 10-30%	21.6%
Save between 30-50%	5.7%
Save 50% or more	2.9%
Do not save money at all	41.6%

44.4% of the surveyed population do not have financial obligations. 19.5% have short-term, 27.5% medium-term and only 8.6% long-term liabilities. The data show that the majority of respondents (55.6%) did not increase their financial obligations during the Covid-19 pandemic, which indicates that the country coped with the pandemic effectively and did not negatively affect the majority of the population. (Table 7, 8).

Table 7. Loans of respondents

Short-term loan (period up to 1 year)	19.5%
Medium-term loan (period 1-10 years)	27.5%
Long-term loan (Period more than 10 years)	8.6%
Do not have a loan at all	44.4%

Table 8. Debt change During COVID-19

Increased	38.7%
Decreased	5.7%
Did not change	55.6%

Table 9 presents the respondent's standard of living and the standard of living in the country. Since raising living standards is an explicit goal of inclusive economic growth, the answer to this question can be considered an essential criterion for assessing inclusive economic growth.

As seen from the table, most respondents assess their standard of living as average (70.1%) and 20.5% - as good. We can say that this figure is above average. Regarding the standard of living in the country, most respondents (58.7%) consider the standard of living in Georgia average, while 19.2% assess it as low and 21.0% as very low. Only 0.8% consider the standard of living to be high, and the number of ratings "very high" is practically minimal. (Table 9). In general, the rating can be considered average.

Table 9. Assessment of standard of living

	Very high	High	Middle	Low	Very low
How would you rate your standard of living?	1.6%	20.5%	70.1%	7.3%	0.5%
How would you rate the standard of living in Georgia?	0.3%	0.8%	58.7%	19.2%	21.0%

Not so good results with private real estate. 57.1% of respondents do not own real estate, while 34.0% own only a house. Such a figure can be considered inferior since most people cannot afford to buy real estate. (Table 10).

Table 10. Real estate statistics of respondents

Only have a country house	1.6%
Only have a house	34.0%
Have a house and a country house	7.3%
Do not have any	57.1%

Table 11 presents a survey of respondents' satisfaction with such significant issues as the state of socio-economic development, the education system, the healthcare system, the ecological state, and the quality of work of public institutions. These indicators directly determine how much a country can achieve inclusive economic growth.

Satisfaction in this direction is low. Respondents have a neutral attitude towards the healthcare system. At the same time, there is a high level of dissatisfaction with the work of the education system. Most respondents are dissatisfied with the ecological state, socio-economic development, and the work of state institutions. (Table 11).

According to the results, significant reforms are needed in several areas to achieve inclusive economic growth as well as it is crucial to have more communication with the population to inform them properly. This is necessary since dissatisfaction can be caused by the fact that the population does not have accurate information about what is being done in a particular area.

Table 11. Satisfaction survey

Are you satisfied with:	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Do not know / Do not have an answer
The current state of socio-economic development of Georgia?	11.4%	34.8%	51.9%	1.8%
The education system in Georgia?	1.8%	13.0%	83.4%	1.8%
The existing healthcare system in Georgia?	5.7%	66.5%	25.7%	2.1%
The ecological situation in Georgia?	3.4%	41.3%	53.0%	2.3%
The quality of work of state institutions?	7.3%	40.8%	51.9%	0.0%

The results in table 12 show the respondents' opinions about other important factors. As mentioned above, an equal and fair environment is important in assessing inclusive economic growth. 46.5% of the respondents mostly agree, and 37.9% mostly disagree with the statement that they live in a fair environment. These figures are 48.1% and 40.5% of an equal society, respectively. We can consider this result as an average.

Most respondents do not feel safe in the country, and the majority believe they cannot fully realize themselves, which also hinders inclusive economic growth.

We can say that most respondents consider themselves happy, although the majority cannot afford a good rest, which is also a critical component of a healthy life. (Table 12).

Table 12. Assessment of place of residence

Do you agree with the following statement:	Completely agree	Mostly agree	Mostly disagree	Completely disagree	Do not have an
I believe I live in a fair environment	2.1%	46.5%	37.9%	13.0%	0.5%
I believe I live in an equal society	1.8%	48.1%	40.5%	8.1%	1.6%
I feel safe in the country	2.6%	29.6%	37.1%	26.5%	4.2%
I think that I can fully realize myself	2.6%	34.8%	44.4%	15.1%	3.1%
I consider myself happy	10.1%	56.9%	20.8%	3.9%	8.3%
I have the opportunity to have a good rest	4.4%	44.2%	21.0%	28.1%	2.3%

44.7% of respondents believe that their financial situation and standard of living have a negative impact on their health. (Table 13).

Table 13. Impact of the standard of living on health

Affects positively	20.0%
Affects negatively	44.7%
Does not affect	19.7%
Do not know	15.6%

The question of how the population perceives the level of corruption in Georgia also provides important information. 44.9% of respondents believe that corruption is at an average level, 30.9% believe that corruption is at a high level, and 14.3% consider corruption at a very high level. Only 9.9% of respondents believe that corruption is low or very low. Corruption is one of the main obstacles to inclusive economic growth, and a high level of perception of corruption by the population indicates that the citizens of the country will have fewer incentives and opportunities to expand economic activity, which also negatively affects inclusive economic growth. (Table 14).

Table 14. Assessment of the level of corruption

Very Low	2.3%
Low	7.5%
Medium	44.9%
High	30.9%
Very High	14.3%

The majority of respondents, 56.6%, consider the education system to be the most important for the country. In second place is territorial integrity (39.2%), in third is poverty (35.6%), in fourth is price increase/inflation (33.2%), in fifth is working places (26.0%). As already mentioned, the education system plays an important role in achieving inclusive economic growth. The fact that most respondents consider the education system the essential issue points to challenges in this area that may hinder inclusive economic growth. The top five issues, such as poverty, inflation, and working places, are direct challenges to the economy and important factors of inclusive economic growth. (Figure 6).

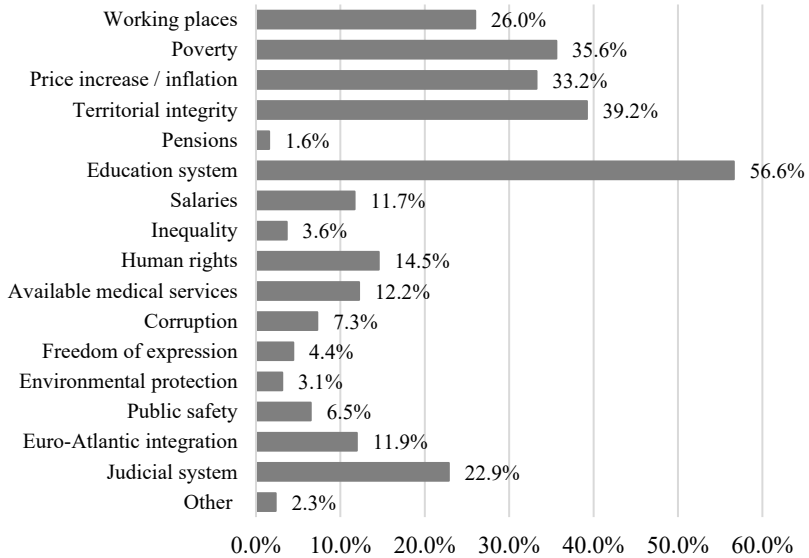


Figure 6. The most important issues for the country

To assess the country's inclusive economic growth, we will use factors such as the standard of living of respondents, the standard of living in the country, and a fair and equal environment. Various institutions and areas must work effectively to create such an environment in the country. We believe that the main directions that contribute to inclusive economic growth (which is manifested in a high correlation between them) are: the current state of socio-economic development of Georgia, the education system, the healthcare system, the environmental situation, the quality of work of state institutions and the level of corruption.

To see to what extent these variables depend on each other, we conducted a Chi-Square test. The results obtained are shown in Table 15.

Table 15. Chi-Square test results

Determining variable	Outcome variable	Value	df	Asymptotic Significance (2-sided)	Status
Education system	Respondents' standard of living	12.858 ^a	12	0.3794435	No correlation
	Standard of living in Georgia	41.317 ^a	12	0.0000434	Very high correlation
	Fair environment	70.936 ^a	12	0.0000000	Very high correlation
	Equal society	14.616 ^a	12	0.2630874	No correlation
Level of corruption	Respondents' standard of living	25.644 ^a	16	0.0592525	high correlation
	Standard of living in Georgia	88.559 ^a	16	0.0000000	Very high correlation
	Fair environment	67.993 ^a	16	0.0000000	Very high correlation
	Equal society	70.958 ^a	16	0.0000000	Very high correlation
Healthcare system	Respondents' standard of living	40.865 ^a	12	0.0000516	Very high correlation
	Standard of living in Georgia	32.645 ^a	12	0.0010993	high correlation
	Fair environment	69.154 ^a	12	0.0000000	Very high correlation
	Equal society	29.772 ^a	12	0.0030218	high correlation
Ecological situation	Respondents' standard of living	10.927 ^a	12	0.5351811	No correlation
	Standard of living in Georgia	54.444 ^a	12	0.0000002	Very high correlation
	Fair environment	73.176 ^a	12	0.0000000	Very high correlation
	Equal society	50.918 ^a	12	0.0000010	Very high correlation
Socio-economic development	Respondents' standard of living	3.852 ^a	12	0.9859654	No correlation
	Standard of living in Georgia	33.546 ^a	12	0.0007951	Very high correlation
	Fair environment	71.532 ^a	12	0.0000000	Very high correlation

	Equal society	49.079 ^a	12	0.0000020	Very high correlation
Quality of work of state institutions	Respondents' standard of living	8.777 ^a	8	0.3614407	No correlation
	Standard of living in Georgia	11.551 ^a	8	0.1724034	No correlation
	Fair environment	104.439 ^a	8	0.0000000	Very high correlation
	Equal society	43.371 ^a	8	0.0000007	Very high correlation

As seen from the table above, of the 24 relationships presented, in 15 cases, the relationship between the variables is very high. In 3 cases, the relationship between the variables is high, and in 6 cases, there is no relationship between the variables.

4. Results and Discussion

The results show that the presented factors largely determine inclusive economic growth and an equal and fair environment in the country. The correlation with the level of corruption is exceptionally high, which is a direct determinant of an equitable and fair environment. If we draw a parallel with the recommendations regarding the status of an EU candidate adopted by the European Commission on June 17, 2022, we will see that one of the 12 recommendations presented concerns strengthening the fight against corruption. If we also consider the assessment of corruption (45.2% of respondents believe that corruption is at a high level), we can assume that this is one of the country's important problems. At the same time, it should be noted that according to the Corruption Perceptions Index 2021, Georgia has a higher score (55) than such countries as Czechia, Slovakia, Greece, Romania, Hungary, Bulgaria, Moldova, and Ukraine. However, young citizens of Georgia do not satisfy.

Among the most important issues that need to be addressed, a special place is occupied by reducing corruption, further developing the healthcare system, and improving the environmental situation and socio-economic development.

The state of socio-economic development has a very high correlation with all variables, which is logical because economic development is a prerequisite for developing all other areas. The main problem in this area is the unfinished pension reform, as well as improving the efficiency of structural and regional policies. The quality of work of state institutions is significant for creating an equal and fair environment.

A strong connection is established between the education system and the standard of living in the country, as well as with a fair environment (Papachashvili, N., Mikaberidze, T., Tavartkiladze M. and Roblek, V. (2021). Given the importance of education, it should be noted that there are many problems in this area that have worsened with the onset of the pandemic. Covid-19. Many scientists are working on

improving higher education and are suggesting the idea of creating an expanded network of entrepreneurial universities. (Vesperi, W. and Gagnidze, I. (2021), Seturidze, R. and Topuria, N., (2021), Gagnidze, I. (2018).

The study of the importance of university companies for developing research programs is of particular importance for SMEs in the IT field, but, unfortunately, they have not been given due attention so far. (Lekashvili, E. and Bitsadze, M. (2021). To accelerate the development of the education system, it is of no minor importance to increase the material interest of teachers in both secondary and higher educational institutions. (Eerma, D. (2020); Raudjärvi, M. (2021).

For the successful development of social and social development and inclusive economic growth, special attention should be paid to accelerating the digitalization of the economy and telemedicine (Sepashvili, E. (2020). It should be noted that particular successes in this area already exist, but it is not enough to increase the competitiveness of resorts, medical, and health care institutions.

A survey of respondents revealed the problem of the deterioration of the environmental situation. Solving this problem is challenging since the development of logistics links and the implementation of infrastructure projects (expansion of seaports, construction of new highways, and increase in tourist flows.) creates an additional burden on nature, which cannot yet be prevented.

Of particular importance for improving the environmental situation in Georgia is the expansion of construction of wind and solar energy facilities. in an energy-rich and developed country like the United States, wind and solar accounted for 50% of total renewables in the first half of 2019, replacing the traditional dominance of hydropower (Sobolieva, T. and Harashchenko, N. (2020). The improvement of the environmental situation depends on the efficiency of the work of local municipal authorities, which at this stage of development do not have sufficient financial resources and motivation to address such issues. (Gogorishvili, I. and Zarandia, E., (2021).

Particular importance to the respondents is the issue of restoring the country's territorial integrity. In this regard, it should be noted that separatism rarely has historical prerequisites. (Eibner, W. and Eibner, C., (2020).

Today, separatism is first implanted, then used to carry out the occupation of the territory of another state. The war in Ukraine began under this pretext. Restoring the territorial integrity of Georgia by force cannot be achieved. However, with the help of strong partners, by peaceful means and by balancing economic interests, there is hope to carry out the de-occupation of the Georgian territories.

5. Conclusion

The survey showed that the respondents estimate the values of a number of factors that determine inclusive economic growth at an average level. Areas that are assessed more

negatively are identified. In our opinion, these are just those areas in which there has not yet been much success, but there is hope for positive changes that will be noticeable over time.

The appearance of indicators of positive assessments (which were identified in the course of the study) is due to the fact that the majority of respondents are educated young people who are employed. Their incomes are characterized by an upward trend, as it was during the Covid-19 pandemic, and now.

Such important components of inclusive economic growth as: the level of savings, financial obligations, standard of living and the healthcare system are assessed by respondents at an average level.

The pace of the country's socio-economic development, the environmental status and the quality of work of state institutions are assessed more negatively. The level of dissatisfaction with the education system is extremely high. The living environment and factors such as equality, justice, and security are assessed at an average level.

The respondents' assessment of Georgia's inclusive economic growth can be considered average. We want to highlight three main factors that, in our opinion, will largely determine how effectively inclusive economic growth will be achieved, and, based on the results of the study, we consider this important for Georgia today:

- Formation of an educated society. As we have already said, inclusive economic growth cannot be achieved if a large part of the population is not actively involved in economic activity, and their involvement does not contribute to the development of various industries. However, it will simply not be possible if a large part of the country's population does not have the qualifications and skills that meet the requirements of the development of the digital economy to contribute to the development of the economy. To do this, it is necessary to pay maximum attention to the improvement (creation of new specialties and new areas of research programs supported by the state) of the education system. The formation of an educated society should become the main priority of the state;
- Creating a fair environment. The second important issue we consider necessary for inclusive growth is creating an equal and fair environment for every citizen. Here we are talking about minimizing corruption and the availability of equal opportunities to have transparent and truthful information necessary for doing business or using various government programs. This is necessary so that each potential entrepreneur feels he has equal opportunities to start a business or run it successfully. The protection of private property remains a critical success factor today;
- Expansion of the state support program. Of course, it is also important that the state support the small and medium-sized business sector as much as possible by implementing various support programs to achieve economic prosperity through joint efforts.

The war in Ukraine has already made the development of inclusive economic growth in the world extremely difficult and it will be even more difficult in the future. However, we have hope that society in Georgia will make every effort to achieve the goals of sustainable and inclusive economic growth.

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