

DESCRIPTION OF *ALL THE GINIS* DATASET

(This version August 2026)

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Original dataset created: Summer 2004

Previous version of the dataset: February 2019

Coverage of years: 1950-2024

Coverage of countries (or territories): 183

Total number of Ginis reported: 6762

Total number of country/years covered by Gini: 3176

Overall coverage: 26-28 percent¹

This dataset consists only of the Gini coefficients that have been calculated from actual household surveys. It uses no Ginis estimates produced by regressions or short-cut methods.

What is this database? This database represents a compilation and adaptation of Gini coefficients retrieved from nine sources. The nine sources are:

(1) *Luxembourg Income Study (LIS)* dataset that covers the period 1963-2024 and includes 58, mostly developed, countries. However, since the previous version of *All the Ginis*, there has been a significant increase in LIS country coverage and greater presence of middle-or low-income countries like the Philippines, Mali, Jordan or Palestine. This, combined with many more historical data for developed countries like the US, United

¹ The maximum coverage is obtained as the product of the number of countries and the number of years (1950 to 2024). There are 183 countries or territories which gives a maximum (fully-dense) coverage of 13,542 country/years. This is however somewhat of an overestimation because more than 40 countries did not exist in all the years included here, so the effective coverage is estimated at around 26%. In other words, on average, there are Gini data for a given country every four years.

Kingdom, Sweden, (West) Germany and France whose data now go back to the 1960s or early 1970s, has resulted in a large increase in the total number of Ginis. There are currently 1,082 Gini that originate from LIS which is almost three times as many as in the previous version of ATG. They are all calculated from direct access to household surveys and micro (unit record) data.² They represent the status of LIS as of the Summer of 2026. LIS data play a special role in this compilation because income definitions are harmonized across surveys and the Ginis are calculated in a fully consistent way (across disposable household per capita income).

(2) *PIP or Poverty and Inequality Platform* of the World Bank. This data base succeeds (and in many ways expands) the original POVCAL database maintained by the World Bank since the early 1990s. The Ginis included here cover the period from 1968 to 2024 and include 177 countries. There are 2,517 Gini observations, most of which are calculated from direct access to household surveys by the World Bank teams and are simply transposed here. PIP is currently, as in the past, the largest contributor to the ATG database. There is an almost 50 percent increase of PIP-based Ginis compared to the previous version of ATG. The data for China, India, and Indonesia are also presented separately for rural and urban areas. PIP data cover the entire world with a few exception of the countries that are not members of the World Bank such as Cuba and North Korea or countries that have never fielded household surveys like Saudi Arabia. There are also countries that conduct household surveys but do not share the results with international organizations. Examples include Algeria, Syria (before the civil war) and a few others.

(3) *Socio-Economic Database for Latin America and the Caribbean (SEDLAC)* that covers the period 1974-2024 and includes 23 Latin American and Caribbean countries. There are 465 Gini observations all calculated from direct access to micro data from household surveys. Here too, there is an almost 50% increase in the number of Ginis available. The data are downloaded from the SEDLAC website in July 2026 and represent the then most recent version of SEDLAC from August 2025.

(4) *World Institute for Development Research WIDER (WIID)*. In the selection from the WIDER dataset made here, the data cover the period 1958-2024 and include 74

² The calculations are done by myself so these particular Ginis cannot be found on the LIS website of key statistics.

countries. In fact, WIDER, in its most recent version available on the Web (22 July 2026) is a much richer compilation with almost 27,000 Ginis, and approximately the same number of other inequality measures (quintile shares, the Palma ratio, Theil coefficient etc.). Most of the WIDER data however come from the same sources as used here (notably LIS, PIP and SEDLAC) so I have used from WIDER only the data from other sources (such as OECD, Eurostat etc.) that are not represented elsewhere, WIDER data are now much better coded and explained than before; for many surveys, WIDER presents Gini coefficients that are both income- and consumption-based, net or gross, or calculated on the household, equivalent unit, or per capita basis. My preference was to focus and to extract only Ginis of disposable (net) income, expressed in per capita terms. Similarly, as in previous versions of ATG, I have not used other (fairly heterogeneous) WIDER data that refer to inequality of earnings or where country coverage is incomplete (whether in terms of population or in terms of geographical areas). In total there are 1,165 observations extracted from WIDER which makes it the second largest source for ATG.

(5) *Individual data sets (INDIE)*. These are the data taken from individual studies (listed in the Appendix) which either report or provide their own Gini estimates calculated from micro data. As with the rest of ATG, Ginis from such studies have to be calculated from nationally representative household surveys. They must cover no fewer than three (ideally, successive) years. Their advantage is that they are generally consistently calculated, using the same type of survey and welfare aggregate. Such data are available for 33 countries. INDIE data cover the period 1950-2024 and include 502 Ginis. This is, compared to the previous version of ATG, a major expansion in this source with historical series from many new countries, especially from Latin America and the Caribbean. It is worth highlighting the datasets for the United States (75 consecutive annual observations), Great Britain (54 observations), Iran (41 observations), and China (39 observations).

The four sources listed below display only minor additions compared to the data that were used in the previous version of ATG. For some of them this is obvious because they deal with only one historical period, as for example CEPAL data from Latin America of the 1950s to 1970s. The situation is similar with World Income Distribution (WYD) database originally created by Christoph Lakner and myself for a specific

purpose and whose updating (as a separate data base) also ended in the mid-2010s. (More information on WYD and its “successor”, global data with the benchmark years of 2013 and 2018, can be found on the Stone Center on Socio-Economic Inequality website: <https://stonecenter.gc.cuny.edu/publications/the-three-eras-of-global-inequality-1820-2020-with-the-focus-on-the-past-thirty-years-published>). World Bank Eastern Europe and Central Asia dataset served a short-term function of inequality monitoring during the transition to market economy. The dataset has not been updated as most of inequality data were folded into the World Bank Poverty and Inequality Platform.

(6) *World Bank’s Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ECA)* database that covers the years 1990-2011 and includes 30 countries. There are 257 Gini observations all calculated from direct access to micro data from household surveys.

(7) *World Income Distribution (WYD)* dataset that covers the period 1980-2012 and includes 153 countries. There are 642 Gini observations, about 90 percent calculated from direct access to household surveys. For the years after 2000, that percentage is close to 100. It represents the database as of October 2016.

(8) *Survey of Income and Living Condition (SILC)* conducted by Eurostat that includes years 2005-2008 with 29 countries. There are 103 Gini observations all calculated from direct access to household survey data. More recent SILC data are included in PIP database or in some case in LIS.

(9) *CEPAL*. These are historical data on Latin American countries obtained from published documents by CEPAL. They cover the period 1950-1987 and include 6 countries. There are 29 Gini observations (see Annex 1 for the sources of CEPAL data).

This gives a grand total of 6762 Gini observations (see Table 1).

Table 1. Number of Gini observations and their characteristics by database

Database	Number of observations	Mean Gini	Standard deviation of Gini	Minimum Gini	Maximum Gini
LIS	1082	36.1	8.7	20.2	69.8
PIP	2517	37.4	8.9	17.7	74.2
SEDLAC	465	49.3	5.7	34.6	67.6
WIDER	1165	33.1	8.5	18	73
Independent Gini country series (INDIE)	502	40.8	8.3	23.7	62.5
World Bank ECA*	257	31.9	5.7	17.5	45.7
World Income Distribution (WYD)*	642	38.7	10.1	17.8	77.4
SILC*	103	30.8	3.9	23.1	38.9
CEPAL*	29	52.2	6.4	35	61
<i>Total</i>	<i>6762</i>	<i>37.4</i>		<i>17.5</i>	<i>77.4</i>

* No significant change compared to the previous version of ATG,

Variables in *All the Ginis*. Suffix “WY” refers to the data from the World Income Distribution database; suffix “SEDLAC” to the data obtained from the SEDLAC dataset; suffix “LIS” to the data from LIS; suffix “EE” to the data from World Bank ECA database; suffix “SILC” to the data obtained from SILC; suffix “PIP” to the data obtained from World Bank Poverty and Inequality Platform; suffix “W” refers to the variables taken from the WIDER dataset; suffix “CEPAL” to the data obtained from UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, and suffix “INDIE” to the data obtained from independent individual inequality studies. Thus, for example, *Dhh_LIS* indicates a dummy variable such that it takes the value of 1 if income recipient is household, and 0 if it is individual; the variable is taken from LIS (as shown by the “LIS” suffix), “hh” stands for household, and the prefix “D” denotes a dummy variable.

There are three kinds of variables: (a) country and year, (b) Gini value (in percent) which must come from a nationally-representative household survey covering the entire resident and non-institutionalized population, and (c) information on the welfare concept and recipient unit to which the reported Gini refers. The last point is

addressed by three dummy variables: `Dhh_database` which denotes whether the Gini refers to households (value=1) or individuals, as in household *per capita* income (value=0); `Dinc_database` which denotes whether the concept used is income (value=1) or consumption/expenditures (value=0); `Dgross_database` which denotes whether the concept used is gross (value=1) or net, as in disposable income (value=0).³ The most common concept used, household net per capita income, will therefore be characterized by the following combination of dummy values: `Dhh=0`, `Dinc=1`, `Dgross=0`.

It should be kept in mind that the Ginis shown here, even if full correction were made for the three observable characteristics of surveys (namely, `Dinc`, `Dgross` and `Dhh`) may still differ for at least two reasons. First, even if the observable characteristics are coded the same, there could still be differences as, for example, in the way benefits from owner-occupied housing or home-consumption are imputed (or not) and thus in the definition of income. The compiler cannot adjust for these differences. Second, the Ginis may be calculated from micro or grouped data; they may be calculated using slightly different formulas or using geometrical approximations to the Lorenz curve. Thus, there could be differences in the Gini values that are due to the apparently small but important differences in the type of data (micro or grouped) that the authors had access to, or in the formulas used to calculate Ginis. The latter is especially the case when the calculation is done from a tabulated source: the tabulated data alone yield the minimum Gini compatible with the underlying survey. The user should keep in mind that, like every compilation, this one suffers not only from the bias of the final compiler (which may be thought fixed) but from the biases of individual earlier producers or compilers of the data.

³ PIP does not provide information on whether the welfare concept is gross or net and hence that variable is absent. SEDLAC sources are coded as “gross” although they are in-between gross and net income. Namely, income data provided by SEDLAC are net of the wage tax, but do not deduct other direct taxes. Given that wage taxes are often greater than other direct taxes, one may be justified in treating it as net income, although to be on the conservative side it is more appropriate, I think, to use the “gross” label. LIS data are fully consistent: they are always on a net basis (disposable) income, and expressed per capita.

Gini estimates obtained using equalized household income and assigning such income to either households or individuals are not included in the data base. The main reason is the lack of between country comparability of such Ginis. Different countries use different equivalence scales, and consequently equivalent income and its distribution will differ in function of the equivalence scale used. It would be misleading to treat them as comparable just because they use an equivalence scale.

Regional coverage. In terms of the five big regions, namely Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, former transition countries of Eastern Europe and the USSR, and WENAO (Western Europe, North America and Oceania), the representation varies (see Table 2). When one takes into account the number of countries per region, the difference in representation becomes apparent. Africa has 51 countries included and only about 10 Gini observations on average per country. WENAO, on the other hand, has 26 countries included and an average of 85.5 observations per country (meaning that there may be several, differently defined, Ginis for one year). On average, there are 40 Gini observations per country. All the countries included in the data base are listed in Annex 2.

Table 2. Number of Gini observations by geographical area

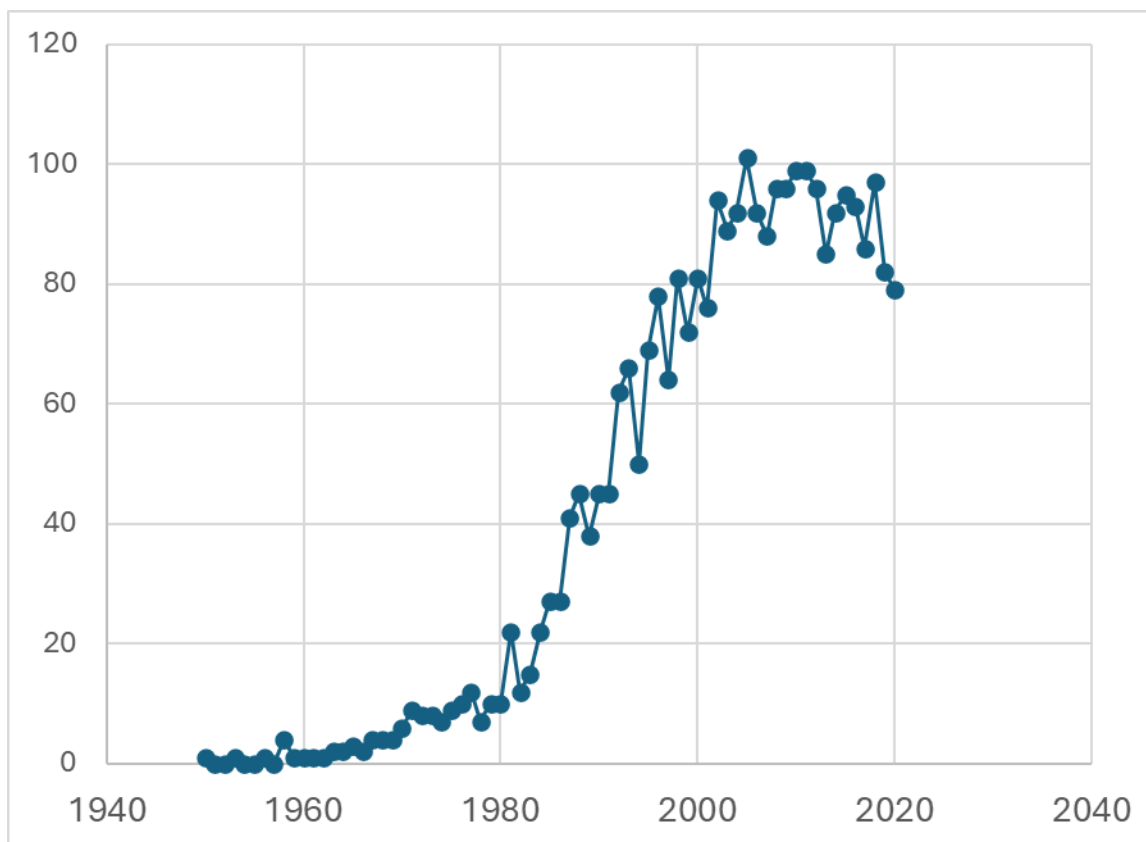
	Number of Gini observations from all sources (country/years)	Average Gini	Number of countries or territories included	Average number of observations per country or territory
Africa	518	44.4	51	10.2
Asia	861	36.4	48	17.9
L America & Caribbean	1469	49.8	26	56.5
Former transition	1691	31.5	32	52.8
WENAO	2223	32.4	26	85.5
<i>Total</i>	<i>6762</i>	<i>37.4</i>	<i>183</i>	<i>40.0</i>

Time coverage. Not surprisingly, the number of Gini observations increases as we come closer to the present (see Figure 1). We show the data only up to the year 2020 because for the very recent years, the number of available Ginis is low since the lag between the year of the survey and the time when the Gini coefficient from such a survey is included in one of the databases is at least a year and may often be four or five years.

As the graph shows, it took up to the 1980s to have about 20 countries included annually.⁴ There was a very fast increase in coverage over the next two decades so that by the year 2000, there were regularly about 80 countries included each year. The plateau of about 100 countries was reached in the first decade of the 21st century. Although it does not appear clearly in the data here, there was probably some decrease in the coverage during the past decade due to the lower frequency of surveys in many African countries, and data issues even in some countries, like India, that were in the past pioneers in the methodology and production of household surveys.

⁴ It should be noted that if more sustained efforts were made to collect the published and tabulated statistics from the 1950s and the 1960s, the under-representation of these years could be reduced. The first substantial Gini compilation was done in 1974 by Shail Jain from the World Bank; see “Size Distribution of Income: Data Compilation”, Bank Staff Working Paper No. 190, November 1974. available at <<https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/637191468740412077/pdf/multi0page.pdf>>. Jain provided 350 estimates from 79 countries. It was a major step forward in better knowledge of income distribution across the world, particularly when one realizes that less than twenty years prior to it, Simon Kuznets, in his famous papers on which the theory of the inverted U curve of inequality was based, had access to less than 10 Gini observations.

Figure 1. Total number of country Gini observation by year, 1950-2020

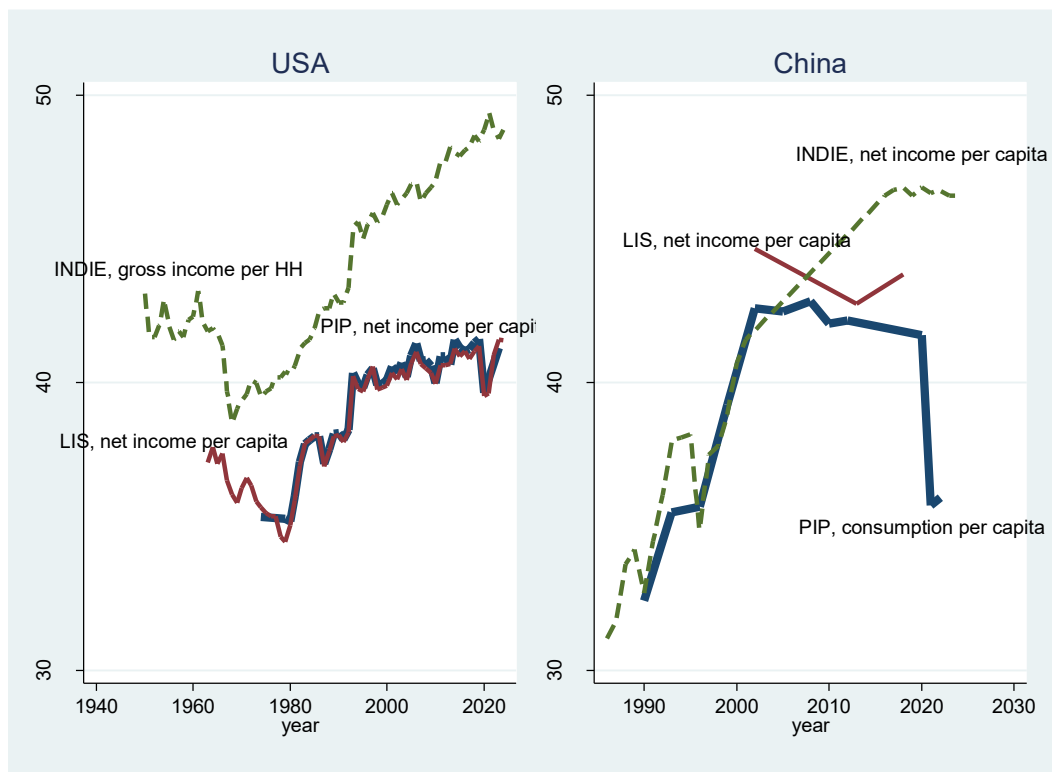


All the Ginis database gives the user full flexibility, whether she wishes to use the data from only one source, or to combine various sources, or to use various sources but to keep the definitions of the aggregates and recipients the same. A simple illustration is provided in Figure 2 which shows US and Chinese Ginis drawn from three different sources each. In the US case, INDIE uses gross (pre-tax and pre-cash social transfers) household income. This is the preferred statistic used by the US Census Bureau and is often cited in popular media. LIS and PIP use net (post tax and post cash social transfers) income per person (that is, household disposable per capita income). The two latter series almost fully coincide (the LIS series however begins earlier, in 1963). The original source is always the US Current Population Survey. Inequality is some 5 to 8 Gini points lower with disposable per capita income than with gross household income. It is noticeable that gross income inequality increased during Covid-19 while disposable

income inequality (that includes large government transfers made during the epidemic) went significantly down, more than in any other year shown here.

For China, the most dramatic difference is between INDIE source (which is mostly composed of the official government Ginis) and uses per capita income, and PIP which relies on the same surveys but, in most years, uses consumption. Not surprisingly, inequality measured by income tends to be higher than inequality measured by consumption, but the striking difference appears from approximately the mid-2010s when consumption inequality begins to decrease and then plummets during the covid years while income-based inequality continues its rise until it reaches a current plateau of 47 Gini points (some 5-6 Gini points higher than US disposable income inequality). Note also that all sources here adjust for household size.

Figure 2. Ginis for the United States and China 1950s to 2020s: different sources, different welfare aggregates and income recipients



To see what data exist for a given country it is useful to list the data as shown here for the Unites States.

```
. list year gini_LIS gini_WYD gini_PIP gini_INDIE if contcod=="USA"
```

	year	gini_LIS	gini_WYD	gini_PIP	gini_I-E
105.	1950	.	.	.	43.1
192.	1951	.	.	.	41.6
312.	1952	.	.	.	41.6
477.	1953	.	.	.	42
637.	1954	.	.	.	42.9
722.	1955	.	.	.	42
859.	1956	.	.	.	41.5
1021.	1957	.	.	.	41.8
1135.	1958	.	.	.	41.6
1335.	1959	.	.	.	42.2
1418.	1960	.	.	.	42.3
1578.	1961	.	.	.	43.2
1699.	1962	.	.	.	42.1
1849.	1963	37.23915	.	.	41.8
1976.	1964	37.75454	.	.	41.9
2107.	1965	37.17482	.	.	41.7
2259.	1966	37.53356	.	.	41.3
2432.	1967	36.61518	.	.	39.7
2546.	1968	36.1088	.	.	38.6
2670.	1969	35.82365	.	.	39.1
2826.	1970	36.33901	.	.	39.4
3022.	1971	36.68891	.	.	39.6
3063.	1972	36.41905	.	.	40.1
3220.	1973	35.87325	.	.	40
3323.	1974	35.68055	.	35.32728	39.5
3578.	1975	35.46732	.	.	39.7
3661.	1976	35.36818	.	.	39.8
3744.	1977	35.36921	.	.	40.2
3974.	1978	34.64844	.	.	40.2
4101.	1979	34.4759	.	35.27261	40.4
4260.	1980	35.05665	.	35.17755	40.3
4348.	1981	35.9232	.	36.04218	40.6
4643.	1982	37.10739	.	37.25632	41.2
4797.	1983	37.89646	.	37.88115	41.4
4848.	1984	38.01587	.	38.00096	41.5
5170.	1985	38.15422	.	38.13977	41.9
5228.	1986	38.15143	37.04661	38.13659	42.5
5483.	1987	37.10431	.	37.18338	42.6
5634.	1988	37.63259	.	37.69059	42.6
5770.	1989	38.14488	.	38.22445	43.1
5990.	1990	38.18883	.	38.24675	42.8
6069.	1991	37.94078	.	38.03073	42.8
6333.	1992	38.28	.	38.35893	43.3
6500.	1993	40.24	.	40.33427	45.4
6743.	1994	39.79	39.38738	39.96025	45.6
6921.	1995	39.7	.	39.82693	45
7128.	1996	40.14	.	40.27429	45.5
7260.	1997	40.56	39.88	40.49408	45.9
7307.	1998	39.76	.	39.92305	45.6
7522.	1999	39.82668	.	39.95885	45.8
7692.	2000	39.9003	39.9	40.10659	46.2
7937.	2001	40.3542	.	40.5637	46.6
7955.	2002	40.1193	.	40.3274	46.2
8243.	2003	40.4873	.	40.698	46.4
8341.	2004	40.1088	40.28456	40.22106	46.6
8585.	2005	40.6851	.	40.93676	46.9
8635.	2006	41.09	.	41.36745	47
8785.	2007	40.6635	.	40.77213	46.3
8962.	2008	40.4983	43.17992	40.78471	46.6
9098.	2009	40.3382	.	40.58272	46.8
9223.	2010	39.9621	.	39.99092	47
9422.	2011	40.6133	.	40.91341	47.7
9564.	2012	40.613	.	40.91429	47.7
9662.	2013	40.6527	.	40.63268	48.2
9770.	2014	41.1867	.	41.49241	48
9878.	2015	40.9204	.	41.21902	47.9
10010.	2016	41.101	.	41.1001	48.1
10073.	2017	40.84	.	41.15952	48.2
10178.	2018	41.11	.	41.38608	48.6
10306.	2019	41.27092	.	41.51468	48.4
10398.	2020	39.55522	.	39.66397	48.8
10469.	2021	39.62633	.	39.72696	49.4
10559.	2022	40.96295	.	.	48.8
10615.	2023	41.51009	.	41.20814	48.5
10669.	2024	41.47821	.	.	48.8

How to refer to *All the Ginis* database? Simply as *All the Ginis* or by abbreviation *ATG* database (version August 2026); and the web reference [All the Ginis \(ALG\) Dataset - Stone Center on Socio-Economic Inequality](#) or <https://stonecenter.gc.cuny.edu/publications/all-the-ginis-alg-dataset/>

Where to find the original (source) databases? The data, descriptions, and explanations regarding the source databases can be found on the following Websites.

For Luxembourg Income Study, see <http://www.lisdatacenter.org/>.

For PIP, see <https://pip.worldbank.org/>

For SEDLAC, see

<https://www.cedlas.econo.unlp.edu.ar/wp/en/estadisticas/sedlac/estadisticas/>

For WIDER, see: <https://www.wider.unu.edu/data>

Detailed sources and explanations of how WYD dataset was created can be found at [Lakner-Milanovic \(2013\) World Panel Income Distribution | Data Catalog \(worldbank.org\)](#) or <https://stonecenter.gc.cuny.edu/research/lakner-milanovic-world-panel-income-distribution/> These data cover the period 1988-2008 are served for Lakner and Milanovic paper “Global income distribution: from the fall of the Berlin Wall to the Great Recession”, *World Bank Economic Review*, vol. 30, No. 2, pp. 203-232, July 2016. For the “successor” datasets for the benchmark years 2008, 2013 and 2018, see [The Three Eras of Global Inequality, 1820–2020 with the Focus on the Past Thirty Years - Stone Center on Socio-Economic Inequality](#) <<https://stonecenter.gc.cuny.edu/publications/the-three-eras-of-global-inequality-1820-2020-with-the-focus-on-the-past-thirty-years-published/>>

Additional information. Please contact me at <bmilanovic@gc.cuny.edu>

APPENDIX: Sources of INDIE data (33 countries) ⁵

Africa

No countries included

Asia

China, 1985-2001 (17 data points): From Ximing Wu and Jeffrey Perloff, “China’s income distribution and inequality 1985-2001”, *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 87 (2005): 763-775. Calculations by the authors based on published official urban and rural fractiles of the income distribution. Chinese annual surveys have been (until 2013) conducted separately for rural and urban areas, and here the results are put together to generate distribution for the entire country.

China, 2003-2024 (22 data points). 2003-2015 based official National Bureau of Statistics estimates as reported in Juzhong Zhuang and Li Shi, “Understanding recent trends in income inequality in the People’s Republic of China”, ADB Working Paper No. 489, July 2016. 2016-2024 from the same source as reported in Statistical Yearbooks of China.

Japan, 1981-2007 (with interruptions) (9 data points). Based on Income Redistribution Survey (IRS) conducted at three-year intervals. From Toshiaki Tachibanaki and Tadashi Yagi, “Distribution of economic well-being in Japan: towards a more unequal society”, Table 6.3, p. 113 in *Changing patterns in the distribution of economic welfare: an international perspective*, ed. By Peter Gottschalk, Bjorn Gustafsson, and Edward Palmer, Cambridge University Press, 1999. Data from the same source for 1992-2007 from Colin McKenzie, “Income and Wealth Inequality in Japan” in Janet G. Gornick and Markus Jäntti (eds), *Income Inequality: Economic Disparities and the Middle Class*, Stanford University Press, 2013.

⁵ Countries are not listed in the alphabetical order.

Iran, 1984-2024 (41 data points). From Djavad Salehi-Isfahani, “Poverty, inequality and populist politics in Iran”, *Journal of Economic Inequality*, vol. 7:5–28, 2009, Table 4. The data are from the official annual Household Income and Expenditures Surveys conducted by the Statistical Center of Iran. Period 2006-2024, based on the same original source; unpublished results from a personal communication by Djavad Salehi-Isfahani (29 July 2026). The series exist for both consumption and income, but only income data are shown here.

India, 1983-1997 (with interruptions) (11 data points). From Martin Ravallion, “Should poverty measures be anchored to national accounts?” *Economic and Political Weekly*, August 26, 2000, p. 3247. Calculated from the annual National Sample Survey.

Indonesia, 1999-2010 (with one interruption) (10 data points). From Riyana Miranti, Yogi Vidyattama, Erick Hansnata, Rebecca Cassells, Alan Duncan “Trends in Poverty and Inequality in Decentralising Indonesia”, OECD Social, Employment and Migration Working Paper No. No. 148, OECD Publishing; Figure 12, p. 31. Available at <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/5k43bvt2dwjk-en>.

Latin America and the Caribbean

Brazil 1970-1980 (with interruptions) (5 data points). José Luis Londoño and Miguel Szekely “Distributional Surprises after a Decade of Reforms: Latin America in the Nineties, Working Paper No. 352, Inter-American Development Bank, Appendix B. Based on *Pesquisa Nacional por Amostra de Domicílios*.

Brazil 1981-2004 (with interruptions) (21 data points), “The rise and fall of Brazilian inequality 1981-2004”, World Bank Working Paper No. 3867, March 2006 by Francisco H. Ferreira, Philippe D. Leite and Julie Litchfield, Table 1, p. 6. Data are from PNAD survey (*Pesquisa Nacional por Amostra de Domicílios*) conducted annually by the Instituto Brasileiro de Geografia e Estatística.

Barbados, 1951-1981 (with interruptions) (18 data points). From Carlos Holder and Ronald Prescod, “The distribution of personal income in Barbados”, *Social and Economic Studies*, vol. 38, pp. 87-113, 1989, Table 1; column D, p. 92.

The Bahamas, 1970-1993 (with interruptions) (10 data points). José Luis Londoño and Miguel Szekely “Distributional Surprises after a Decade of Reforms: Latin America in the Nineties”, Working Paper No. 352, Inter-American Development Bank, 1997. Appendix B.

Colombia, 1970-1993 (with interruptions) (8 data points). José Luis Londoño and Miguel Szekely “Distributional Surprises after a Decade of Reforms: Latin America in the Nineties”, Working Paper No. 352, Inter-American Development Bank, 1997. Appendix B. Based on *Encuesta Nacional de Hogares* (not all methodologically fully consistent).

Costa Rica, 1970-1995 (with interruptions) (15 data points), José Luis Londoño and Miguel Szekely “Distributional Surprises after a Decade of Reforms: Latin America in the Nineties”, Working Paper No. 352, Inter-American Development Bank, 1997. Appendix B. Based on *Encuesta de Hogares de Propósitos*.

Dominican Republic, 1984-1992 (with interruptions) (4 data points), José Luis Londoño and Miguel Szekely “Distributional Surprises after a Decade of Reforms: Latin America in the Nineties”, Working Paper No. 352, Inter-American Development Bank, 1997. Appendix B.

Guatemala, 1979-1989 (with interruptions) (3 data points). José Luis Londoño and Miguel Szekely “Distributional Surprises after a Decade of Reforms: Latin America in the Nineties”, Working Paper No. 352, Inter-American Development Bank, 1997. Appendix B.

Honduras, 1970-1995 (with interruptions) (6 data points). José Luis Londoño and Miguel Szekely “Distributional Surprises after a Decade of Reforms: Latin America in the Nineties”, Working Paper No. 352, Inter-American Development Bank, 1997. Appendix B.

Mexico, 1970-1994 (with interruptions) (6 data points). José Luis Londoño and Miguel Szekely “Distributional Surprises after a Decade of Reforms: Latin America in the Nineties”, Working Paper No. 352, Inter-American Development Bank, 1997. Appendix B.

Jamaica, 1975-1993 (with interruptions) (7 data points). José Luis Londoño and Miguel Szekely “Distributional Surprises after a Decade of Reforms: Latin America in the Nineties”, Working Paper No. 352, Inter-American Development Bank, 1997. Appendix B.

Peru, 1970-1994 (with interruptions) (4 data points). José Luis Londoño and Miguel Szekely “Distributional Surprises after a Decade of Reforms: Latin America in the Nineties”, Working Paper No. 352, Inter-American Development Bank, 1997. Appendix B.

Panama, 1970-1991 (with interruptions) (6 data points). José Luis L. Londoño and Miguel Szekely “Distributional Surprises after a Decade of Reforms: Latin America in the Nineties”, Working Paper No. 352, Inter-American Development Bank, 1997. Appendix B.

Venezuela 1970-1995 (with interruptions) (21 data points). José Luis Londoño and Miguel Szekely “Distributional Surprises after a Decade of Reforms: Latin America in the Nineties”, Working Paper No. 352, Inter-American Development Bank, 1997. Appendix B.

Chile, 1987-1994 (with interruptions) (4 data points). From Francisco H.G. Ferreira and Julie A. Litchfield, “Calm after the storm: income distribution in Chile, 1987-1994”, World Bank Research Working Paper No. 1960, November 1998.

Former transition countries

Russia, 1997-2009 (13 data points). 1997-2000 from Elena Frolova (personal communication) based on tabulated data from the Russian Statistical Office. 2001-2009: from Irina Denisova, “Income distribution and Poverty in Russia”, OECD Social, Employment and Migration Working Papers, No. 132, OECD, 2012, p 9, Table 1. Gini of net per capita disposable monetary income calculated from the official annual national Household Income and Expenditure Survey.

Poland, 1985-1997 (13 data points). Unpublished calculations by Branko Milanovic from individual data from the official annual Household Budget Surveys supplied by the Polish Central Statistical Office.

Soviet Union, 1980-1989 (with interruption) (4 data points). From Anthony B. Atkinson and John Micklewright, *Economic transformation in Eastern Europe and the Distribution of Income*, Cambridge University Press, 1992, Table UI1, no page.

Yugoslavia, 1973-86 (with interruptions) (4 data points). From Branko Milanovic. *Ekonomska nejednakost u Jugoslaviji*, Institut ekonomskih nauka, 1990, Table 5.6, p. 150. For 1986, direct calculation from survey tabulations.

Bulgaria, 1995-2002 (8 data points). Own calculations from decile (tabulated) data published in Bulgarian *Statistical Yearbooks* 1998 to 2003.

Western Europe, North America and Oceania

USA, 1950-2024 (75 data points) “Income, poverty and health insurance coverage in the United States:2009”, US Census Bureau, September 2010, Table A.2, pp. 40-43, and the subsequent such publications “Income and poverty in the United States” (Table A.2 or Table A-4b in “Income in the United States, 2024”; website

<https://www.census.gov/data/tables/2025/demo/income-poverty/p60-286.html>

from years 2010 to 2024 (all based on *Current Population Survey*); plus “Income, poverty and health insurance coverage in the United States 2012, US Census Bureau, September 2012, Table A.2. p. 38. Almost exactly the same data are given in “The Changing Shape of Nation's Income Distribution, 1947-1998”, Current population report, June 2000, Table 4 by Arthur F. Jones Jr. and Daniel H. Weinsberg. Data are for household gross income across households; all based on annual March *Current Population Surveys*.

Italy, 1967-2008 (with interruption) (29 data points) from Giovanni Vecchi and Andrea Brandolini, published in Gianni Toniolo (ed.) *The Oxford Handbook of the Italian Economy since Unification*, Oxford University Press, 2013. Tables kindly provided by Giovanni Vecchi. Data from household surveys conducted annually (with a few interruptions) by Banca d'Italia.

Great Britain (UK), 1961-2014 (54 data points). Data calculated especially for Branko Milanovic by Jonathan Cribb from the Institute for Fiscal Studies, using micro data from Family Expenditure Surveys and Family Resource Surveys.

France, 1975-1990 (with interruptions) (4 data points). From Andrea Brandolini, “A Bird’s Eye View of Long-run Changes in Income Inequality”, Table A11. Estimates by INSEE. Detailed original sources given in Brandolini.

(West) Germany, 1950-1985 (with interruptions) (13 data points). From Andrea Brandolini, “A Bird’s Eye View of Long-run Changes in Income Inequality”, Table A10. Estimates by the Central Statistical Office. Detailed original sources given in Brandolini.

Canada, 1971-1994 (24 data points). From Andrea Brandolini, “A Bird’s Eye View of Long-run Changes in Income Inequality”, Table A10. Data from Statistics Canada. . Detailed original sources given in Brandolini.

Netherlands, 1981-1989 (with interruptions) (6 data points). From Andrea Brandolini, “A Bird’s Eye View of Long-run Changes in Income Inequality”, Table A9. Estimates by Statistics Netherlands. Detailed original sources given in Brandolini.

Ireland, 1973-1987 (with interruptions) (3 data points). From Tim Callan and Brian Nolan, “Income inequality and poverty in Ireland in the 1970s and 1980s”, Table 10.4, p. 224 in *Changing patterns in the distribution of economic welfare: an international perspective*, edited by Peter Gottschalk, Bjorn Gustafsson, and Edward Palmer, Cambridge University Press, 1999. Data are from the annual Household Budget Surveys (income and expenditures) conducted by the Central Statistical Office.

Spain, 1973-2001 (with interruptions) (4 data points). From Francisco Goerlich and Matilde Mas, “Personal income distribution in Spain. 1973-2001”, Munich Personal REPEC Archive No. 15830, 2004, Table 1, p. 6. Available at https://mpra.ub.uni-muenchen.de/15830/1/MPRA_paper_15830.pdf

Annex 1, Sources of CEPAL data

	Period	Number of years used	Source
Argentina	1953-72	4 observations	Table 5.1 in <i>Antecedentes estadísticos de la distribución del ingreso Argentina 1953-82</i> , United Nations, Santiago de Chile 1987.
Brazil	1972-87	11 observations	Table 5.1 in <i>Antecedentes estadísticos de la distribución del ingreso Brasil 1970-88</i> , United Nations, Santiago de Chile 1990. All based on Pesquisa Nacional por Amostra de Domicílios (PNAD)
Chile	1968-71	2 observatons	Table 5.1 in <i>Antecedentes estadísticos de la distribución del ingreso Chile 1940-82</i> United Nations, Santiago de Chile 1987. Data processed by CEPAL and World Bank
Colombia	1970-72	3 observations	Table 5.1 in <i>Antecedentes estadísticos de la distribución del ingreso Colombia 1951-82</i> , United Nations, Santiago de Chile 1986. Data from Encuesta Nacional de Hogares, Presupuestos Familiares
Mexico	1950-77	7 observations	Table 5 in <i>Antecedentes estadísticos de la distribución del ingreso Mexico 1960-77</i> , United Nations, Santiago de Chile 1988. All data but one from O.Altamir's calculations based on micro data (EDIGF or ENIG).
Peru	1971-81	2 observations	Table 5.1 <i>Antecedentes estadísticos de la distribución del ingreso Peru 1961-82</i> . United Nations, Santiago de Chile 1989. Based on national survey micro data

Annex 2. List of all countries and territories and their abbreviations in the database (in the alphabetic order according to the abbreviation)

Country or territory	Abbreviation
Afghanistan	AFG
Angola	AGO
Albania	ALB
Netherlands Antilles	ANT
United Arab Emirates	ARE
Argentina	ARG
Armenia	ARM
Australia	AUS
Austria	AUT
Azerbaijan	AZE
Burundi	BDI
Belgium	BEL
Benin	BEN
Burkina Faso	BFA
Bangladesh	BGD
Bulgaria	BGR
Bahrain	BHR
Bahamas	BHS
Bosnia & Herzegovina	BIH
Belarus	BLR
Belize	BLZ
Bermuda	BMU
Bolivia	BOL
Brazil	BRA
Barbados	BRB
Brunei	BRN
Bhutan	BTN
Botswana	BWA
Central African R.	CAF
Canada	CAN
Switzerland	CHE
Chile	CHL
China	CHN
China-rural	CHN-R
Chin-urban	CHN-U
Cote d'Ivoire	CIV
Cameroon	CMR
Congo, Dem. Rep.	COD
Congo, Rep. (Brazzaville)	COG
Colombia	COL
Comoros	COM
Cape Verde	CPV
Costa Rica	CRI
Czechoslovak Socialist Republic	CSK
Cyprus	CYP
Czech R	CZE
Germany	DEU
Djibouti	DJI
Denmark	DNK
Dominican Republic	DOM
Algeria	DZA
Ecuador	ECU
Egypt	EGY
Spain	ESP

Country or territory	Abbreviation
Estonia	EST
Ethiopia	ETH
Finland	FIN
Fiji	FJI
France	FRA
Micronesia, Federated Islands of	FSM
Gabon	GAB
United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Island	GBR
Georgia	GEO
Ghana	GHA
Guinea	GIN
Guadeloupe	GLP
Gambia	GMB
Guinea-Bissa	GNB
Equatorial Guinea	GNQ
Greece	GRC
Greenland	GRL
Guatemala	GTM
French Guiana	GUF
Guyana	GUY
Hong Kong, China	HKG
Honduras	HND
Croatia	HRV
Haiti	HTI
Hungary	HUN
Indonesia	IDN
Indonesia rural	IDN-R
Indonesia urban	IDN-U
India	IND
India rural	IND-R
India urban	IND-U
Ireland	IRL
Iran, Islamic Republic	IRN
Iraq	IRQ
Iceland	ISL
Israel	ISR
Italy	ITA
Jamaica	JAM
Jordan	JOR
Japan	JPN
Kazakhstan	KAZ
Kenya	KEN
Kyrgyz Republic	KGZ
Cambodia	KHM
Kiribati	KIR
St.Kitts and Navis	KNA
Korea, Republic	KOR
Kosovo	XKX
Kuwait	KWT
Laos	LAO
Lebanon	LBN
Liberia	LBR
Libya	LBY
St. Lucia	LCA
Sri Lanka	LKA
Lesotho	LSO
Lithuania	LTU
Luxembourg	LUX

Country or territory	Abbreviation
Latvia	LVA
Morocco	MAR
Moldova	MDA
Madagascar	MDG
Maldives	MDV
Mexico	MEX
Macedonia (Northern)	MKD
Mali	MLI
Malta	MLT
Myanmar	MMR
Montenegro	MNE
Mongolia	MNG
Mozambique	MOZ
Mauritania	MRT
Mauritius	MUS
Malawi	MWI
Malaysia	MYS
Namibia	NAM
New Caledonia	NCL
Niger	NER
Nigeria	NGA
Nicaragua	NIC
Netherlands	NLD
Norway	NOR
Nepal	NPL
New Zealand	NZL
Oman	OMN
Pakistan	PAK
Panama	PAN
Peru	PER
Philippines	PHL
Papua New Guinea	PNG
Poland	POL
Puerto Rico	PRI
Korea, Dem. People's Republic	PRK
Portugal	PRT
Paraguay	PRY
Palestine	PSE
Qatar	QAT
Reunion	REU
Romania	ROU
Russian Federation	RUS
Rwanda	RWA
Saudi Arabia	SAU
Sudan	SDN
Senegal	SEN
Singapore	SGP
Solomon	SLB
Sierra Leone	SLE
El Salvador	SLV
Somalia	SOM
Serbia	SRB
South Sudan	SSD
SaoTome & Principe	STP
Soviet Union	SUN
Suriname	SUR
Slovakia	SVK
Slovenia	SVN

Country or territory	Abbreviation
Sweden	SWE
Swaziland	SWZ
Seychelles	SYC
Syrian Arab Republic	SYR
Chad	TCD
Togo	TGO
Thailand	THA
Tajikistan	TJK
Turkmenistan	TKM
Timor Leste	TLS
Tonga	TON
Trinidad & Tobago	TTO
Tunisia	TUN
Turkey	TUR
Tuvalu	TUV
Taiwan, China	TWN
Tanzania	TZA
Uganda	UGA
Ukraine	UKR
Uruguay	URY
United States	USA
Uzbekistan	UZB
Venezuela	VEN
Vietnam	VNM
Vanuatu	VUT
Palestine (West Bank and Gaza)	WBG
Samoa	WSM
Yemen, Republic	YEM
Yugoslavia, Federative Socialist Republic	YUG
South Africa	ZAF
Zambia	ZMB
Zimbabwe	ZWE