



	Survey year	Gini index	Percentage share of income or consumption <sup>a</sup>						
			Lowest 10%	Lowest 20%	Second 20%	Third 20%	Fourth 20%	Highest 20%	Highest 10%
Afghanistan		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Albania	2005 <sup>b</sup>	33.0	3.2	7.8	12.2	16.6	22.6	40.9	25.9
Algeria	1995 <sup>b</sup>	35.3	2.8	6.9	11.5	16.3	22.8	42.4	26.9
Angola	2000 <sup>b</sup>	58.6	0.6	2.0	5.7	10.8	19.7	61.9	44.7
Argentina <sup>c</sup>	2005 <sup>d</sup>	50.0	1.2	3.4	7.8	13.3	21.6	53.9	37.3
Armenia	2003 <sup>b</sup>	33.8	3.7	8.6	12.3	15.7	20.7	42.8	28.9
Australia	1994 <sup>d</sup>	35.2	2.0	5.9	12.0	17.2	23.6	41.3	25.4
Austria	2000 <sup>d</sup>	29.1	3.3	8.6	13.3	17.4	22.9	37.8	23.0
Azerbaijan	2005 <sup>b</sup>	16.8	6.1	13.3	16.2	18.7	21.7	30.2	17.5
Bangladesh	2005 <sup>b</sup>	31.0	4.3	9.4	12.6	16.1	21.1	40.8	26.6
Belarus	2005 <sup>b</sup>	27.9	3.6	8.8	13.6	17.8	23.1	36.7	22.0
Belgium	2000 <sup>d</sup>	33.0	3.4	8.5	13.0	16.3	20.8	41.4	28.1
Benin	2003 <sup>b</sup>	38.6	2.9	6.9	10.9	15.1	21.2	45.9	31.0
Bolivia	2005 <sup>b</sup>	58.2	0.5	1.8	5.9	11.4	20.2	60.7	44.1
Bosnia and Herzegovina	2004 <sup>b</sup>	35.8	2.8	6.9	11.5	16.2	22.6	42.8	27.4
Botswana	1993–95 <sup>b</sup>	61.0	1.3	3.1	5.8	9.6	16.4	65.0	51.2
Brazil	2007 <sup>d</sup>	55.0	1.1	3.0	6.9	11.8	19.6	58.7	43.0
Bulgaria	2003 <sup>b</sup>	29.2	3.5	8.7	13.5	17.4	22.3	38.1	23.8
Burkina Faso	2003 <sup>b</sup>	39.6	3.0	7.0	10.6	14.7	20.6	47.1	32.4
Burundi	2006 <sup>b</sup>	33.3	4.1	9.0	11.9	15.4	21.0	42.8	28.0
Cambodia	2007 <sup>b</sup>	40.7	3.0	7.1	10.6	14.0	19.6	48.8	34.2
Cameroon	2001 <sup>b</sup>	44.6	2.4	5.6	9.3	13.7	20.5	50.9	35.5
Canada	2000 <sup>d</sup>	32.6	2.6	7.2	12.7	17.2	23.0	39.9	24.8
Central African Republic	2003 <sup>b</sup>	43.6	2.1	5.2	9.4	14.3	21.7	49.4	33.0
Chad	2002–03 <sup>b</sup>	39.8	2.6	6.3	10.4	15.0	21.8	46.6	30.8
Chile	2006 <sup>d</sup>	52.0	1.6	4.1	7.7	12.2	19.3	56.8	41.7
China	2005 <sup>d</sup>	41.5	2.4	5.7	9.8	14.7	22.0	47.8	31.4
Hong Kong, China	1996 <sup>d</sup>	43.4	2.0	5.3	9.4	13.9	20.7	50.7	34.9
Colombia	2006 <sup>d</sup>	58.5	0.8	2.3	6.0	11.0	19.1	61.6	45.9
Congo, Dem. Rep.	2005–06 <sup>b</sup>	44.4	2.3	5.5	9.2	13.8	20.9	50.6	34.7
Congo, Rep.	2005 <sup>b</sup>	47.3	2.1	5.0	8.4	13.0	20.5	53.1	37.1
Costa Rica	2005 <sup>d</sup>	47.2	1.5	4.2	8.6	13.9	21.7	51.8	35.5
Côte d'Ivoire	2002 <sup>b</sup>	48.4	2.0	5.0	8.7	12.9	19.3	54.1	39.6
Croatia	2005 <sup>b</sup>	29.0	3.6	8.7	13.3	17.5	22.8	37.7	23.1
Cuba		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Czech Republic	1996 <sup>d</sup>	25.8	4.3	10.2	14.3	17.5	21.7	36.2	22.7
Denmark	1997 <sup>d</sup>	24.7	2.6	8.3	14.7	18.2	22.9	35.8	21.3
Dominican Republic	2005 <sup>d</sup>	50.0	1.5	4.0	8.0	12.9	20.6	54.5	38.7
Ecuador	2007 <sup>d</sup>	54.4	1.2	3.4	7.2	11.8	19.2	58.5	43.3
Egypt, Arab Rep.	2004–05 <sup>b</sup>	32.1	3.9	9.0	12.6	16.1	20.9	41.5	27.6
El Salvador	2005 <sup>d</sup>	49.7	1.0	3.3	8.1	13.6	21.6	53.4	37.0
Eritrea		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Estonia	2004 <sup>b</sup>	36.0	2.7	6.8	11.6	16.2	22.5	43.0	27.7
Ethiopia	2005 <sup>b</sup>	29.8	4.1	9.3	13.2	16.8	21.4	39.4	25.6
Finland	2000 <sup>d</sup>	26.9	4.0	9.6	14.1	17.5	22.1	36.7	22.6
France	1995 <sup>d</sup>	32.7	2.8	7.2	12.6	17.2	22.8	40.2	25.1
Gabon	2005 <sup>b</sup>	41.5	2.5	6.1	10.1	14.6	21.2	47.9	32.7
Gambia, The	2003 <sup>b</sup>	47.3	2.0	4.8	8.6	13.2	20.6	52.8	36.9
Georgia	2005 <sup>b</sup>	40.8	1.9	5.4	10.4	15.4	22.4	46.4	30.6
Germany	2000 <sup>d</sup>	28.3	3.2	8.5	13.7	17.8	23.1	36.9	22.1
Ghana	2006 <sup>b</sup>	42.8	1.9	5.2	9.8	14.8	21.9	48.3	32.5
Greece	2000 <sup>d</sup>	34.3	2.5	6.7	11.9	16.8	23.0	41.5	26.0
Guatemala	2006 <sup>d</sup>	53.7	1.3	3.4	7.2	12.0	19.5	57.8	42.4
Guinea	2003 <sup>b</sup>	43.3	2.4	5.8	9.6	14.1	20.8	49.7	34.4
Guinea-Bissau	2002 <sup>b</sup>	35.5	2.9	7.2	11.6	16.0	22.1	43.0	28.0
Haiti	2001 <sup>d</sup>	59.5	0.9	2.5	5.9	10.5	18.1	63.0	47.8

# Distribution of income or consumption

# 2.9

**PEOPLE**

	Survey year	Gini index	Percentage share of income or consumption <sup>a</sup>						
			Lowest 10%	Lowest 20%	Second 20%	Third 20%	Fourth 20%	Highest 20%	Highest 10%
Honduras	2006 <sup>d</sup>	55.3	0.7	2.5	6.7	12.1	20.4	58.4	42.2
Hungary	2004 <sup>b</sup>	30.0	3.5	8.6	13.1	17.1	22.5	38.7	24.1
India	2004–05 <sup>b</sup>	36.8	3.6	8.1	11.3	14.9	20.4	45.3	31.1
Indonesia	2005 <sup>b</sup>	39.4	3.0	7.1	10.7	14.4	20.5	47.3	32.3
Iran, Islamic Rep.	2005 <sup>b</sup>	38.3	2.6	6.4	10.9	15.6	22.2	45.0	29.6
Iraq		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ireland	2000 <sup>d</sup>	34.3	2.9	7.4	12.3	16.3	21.9	42.0	27.2
Israel	2001 <sup>d</sup>	39.2	2.1	5.7	10.5	15.9	23.0	44.9	28.8
Italy	2000 <sup>d</sup>	36.0	2.3	6.5	12.0	16.8	22.8	42.0	26.8
Jamaica	2004 <sup>b</sup>	45.5	2.1	5.2	9.0	13.8	20.9	51.2	35.6
Japan	1993 <sup>d</sup>	24.9	4.8	10.6	14.2	17.6	22.0	35.7	21.7
Jordan	2006 <sup>b</sup>	37.7	3.0	7.2	11.1	15.2	21.1	45.4	30.7
Kazakhstan	2003 <sup>b</sup>	33.9	3.1	7.4	11.9	16.6	23.0	41.3	25.9
Kenya	2005 <sup>b</sup>	47.7	1.8	4.7	8.8	13.3	20.3	53.0	37.8
Korea, Dem. Rep.		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Korea, Rep.	1998 <sup>d</sup>	31.6	2.9	7.9	13.6	18.0	23.1	37.5	22.5
Kuwait		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Kyrgyz Republic	2004 <sup>b</sup>	32.9	3.6	8.1	12.0	16.2	22.3	41.4	25.9
Lao PDR	2002–03 <sup>b</sup>	32.6	3.7	8.5	12.3	16.2	21.6	41.4	27.0
Latvia	2004 <sup>b</sup>	35.7	2.7	6.8	11.6	16.3	22.6	42.7	27.4
Lebanon		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Lesotho	2003 <sup>b</sup>	52.5	1.0	3.0	7.2	12.5	21.0	56.4	39.4
Liberia	2007 <sup>b</sup>	52.6	2.4	6.4	11.4	15.7	21.6	45.0	30.1
Libya		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Lithuania	2004 <sup>b</sup>	35.8	2.7	6.8	11.5	16.3	22.7	42.8	27.4
Macedonia, FYR	2003 <sup>b</sup>	39.0	2.4	6.1	10.6	15.6	22.5	45.2	29.5
Madagascar	2005 <sup>b</sup>	47.2	2.6	6.2	9.6	13.1	17.7	53.5	41.5
Malawi	2004–05 <sup>b</sup>	39.0	2.9	7.0	10.8	14.9	20.9	46.4	31.7
Malaysia	2004 <sup>d</sup>	37.9	2.6	6.4	10.8	15.8	22.8	44.4	28.5
Mali	2006 <sup>b</sup>	39.0	2.7	6.5	10.7	15.2	21.6	46.0	30.5
Mauritania	2000 <sup>b</sup>	39.0	2.5	6.2	10.5	15.4	22.3	45.7	29.6
Mauritius		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Mexico	2006 <sup>b</sup>	48.1	1.8	4.6	8.6	13.2	20.3	53.3	37.9
Moldova	2004 <sup>b</sup>	35.6	3.0	7.3	11.6	16.0	22.0	43.1	28.2
Mongolia	2005 <sup>b</sup>	33.0	2.9	7.2	12.2	17.1	23.4	40.2	24.8
Morocco	2007 <sup>b</sup>	40.9	2.7	6.5	10.5	14.5	20.6	47.9	33.2
Mozambique	2002–03 <sup>b</sup>	47.1	2.1	5.4	9.2	13.1	19.0	53.3	39.2
Myanmar		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Namibia	1993 <sup>d</sup>	74.3	0.6	1.5	2.8	5.5	12.0	78.3	65.0
Nepal	2003–04 <sup>b</sup>	47.3	2.7	6.1	8.9	12.5	18.4	54.2	40.4
Netherlands	1999 <sup>d</sup>	30.9	2.5	7.6	13.2	17.2	23.3	38.7	22.9
New Zealand	1997 <sup>d</sup>	36.2	2.2	6.4	11.4	15.8	22.6	43.8	27.8
Nicaragua	2005 <sup>d</sup>	52.3	1.4	3.8	7.7	12.3	19.4	56.9	41.8
Niger	2005 <sup>b</sup>	43.9	2.3	5.9	9.8	13.9	20.1	50.3	35.7
Nigeria	2003–04 <sup>b</sup>	42.9	2.0	5.1	9.7	14.7	21.9	48.6	32.4
Norway	2000 <sup>d</sup>	25.8	3.9	9.6	14.0	17.2	22.0	37.2	23.4
Oman		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pakistan	2004–05 <sup>b</sup>	31.2	3.9	9.1	12.8	16.3	21.3	40.5	26.5
Panama	2006 <sup>d</sup>	54.9	0.8	2.5	6.6	12.1	20.8	58.0	41.4
Papua New Guinea	1996 <sup>b</sup>	50.9	1.9	4.5	7.7	12.1	19.3	56.4	40.9
Paraguay	2007 <sup>d</sup>	53.2	1.1	3.4	7.6	12.2	19.4	57.4	42.3
Peru	2006 <sup>d</sup>	49.6	1.5	3.9	8.0	13.2	21.0	54.0	37.9
Philippines	2006 <sup>b</sup>	44.0	2.4	5.6	9.1	13.7	21.2	50.4	33.9
Poland	2005 <sup>b</sup>	34.9	3.0	7.3	11.7	16.2	22.4	42.4	27.2
Portugal	1997 <sup>d</sup>	38.5	2.0	5.8	11.0	15.5	21.9	45.9	29.8
Puerto Rico		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..



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## Distribution of income or consumption

	Survey year	Gini index	Percentage share of income or consumption <sup>a</sup>						
			Lowest 10%	Lowest 20%	Second 20%	Third 20%	Fourth 20%	Highest 20%	Highest 10%
Romania	2005 <sup>b</sup>	31.5	3.3	8.2	12.8	16.8	22.3	39.9	25.3
Russian Federation	2005 <sup>b</sup>	37.5	2.6	6.4	11.0	15.9	22.7	44.1	28.4
Rwanda	2000 <sup>b</sup>	46.7	2.3	5.4	9.0	13.2	19.6	52.8	38.2
Saudi Arabia		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Senegal	2005 <sup>b</sup>	39.2	2.5	6.2	10.6	15.3	22.0	45.9	30.1
Serbia <sup>e</sup>	2003 <sup>b</sup>	30.0	3.4	8.3	13.0	17.3	23.0	38.4	23.4
Sierra Leone	2003 <sup>b</sup>	42.5	2.6	6.1	9.7	14.0	20.9	49.3	33.6
Singapore	1998 <sup>d</sup>	42.5	1.9	5.0	9.4	14.6	22.0	49.0	32.8
Slovak Republic	1996 <sup>d</sup>	25.8	3.1	8.8	14.9	18.6	22.9	34.8	20.8
Slovenia	2004 <sup>b</sup>	31.2	3.4	8.2	12.8	17.0	22.6	39.4	24.6
Somalia		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
South Africa	2000 <sup>b</sup>	57.8	1.3	3.1	5.6	9.9	18.8	62.7	44.9
Spain	2000 <sup>d</sup>	34.7	2.6	7.0	12.1	16.4	22.5	42.0	26.6
Sri Lanka	2002 <sup>b</sup>	41.1	2.9	6.8	10.4	14.4	20.5	48.0	33.3
Sudan		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Swaziland	2001 <sup>b</sup>	50.7	1.8	4.5	8.0	12.3	19.4	55.9	40.8
Sweden	2000 <sup>d</sup>	25.0	3.6	9.1	14.0	17.6	22.7	36.6	22.2
Switzerland	2000 <sup>d</sup>	33.7	2.9	7.6	12.2	16.3	22.6	41.3	25.9
Syrian Arab Republic		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Tajikistan	2004 <sup>b</sup>	33.6	3.2	7.7	12.0	16.4	22.4	41.4	26.4
Tanzania	2000-01 <sup>b</sup>	34.6	3.1	7.3	11.8	16.3	22.3	42.3	27.0
Thailand	2004 <sup>b</sup>	42.5	2.6	6.1	9.8	14.2	21.0	49.0	33.7
Timor-Leste	2001 <sup>b</sup>	39.5	2.9	6.7	10.4	14.8	21.3	46.8	31.3
Togo	2006 <sup>b</sup>	34.4	3.3	7.6	11.7	16.1	22.2	42.4	27.1
Trinidad and Tobago	1992 <sup>d</sup>	40.3	2.1	5.5	10.3	15.5	22.7	45.9	29.9
Tunisia	2000 <sup>b</sup>	40.8	2.4	5.9	10.2	14.9	21.8	47.2	31.6
Turkey	2005 <sup>b</sup>	43.2	1.9	5.2	9.8	14.6	21.6	48.8	33.2
Turkmenistan	1998 <sup>b</sup>	40.8	2.5	6.0	10.2	14.9	21.7	47.2	31.8
Uganda	2005 <sup>b</sup>	42.6	2.6	6.1	9.8	14.1	20.7	49.3	34.1
Ukraine	2005 <sup>b</sup>	28.2	3.8	9.0	13.4	17.6	22.9	37.2	22.5
United Arab Emirates		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
United Kingdom	1999 <sup>d</sup>	36.0	2.1	6.1	11.4	16.0	22.5	44.0	28.5
United States	2000 <sup>d</sup>	40.8	1.9	5.4	10.7	15.7	22.4	45.8	29.9
Uruguay	2006 <sup>d</sup>	46.2	1.7	4.5	8.7	14.0	21.8	51.1	34.8
Uzbekistan	2003 <sup>b</sup>	36.7	2.9	7.1	11.5	15.7	21.5	44.2	29.5
Venezuela, RB	2006 <sup>d</sup>	43.4	1.7	4.9	9.6	14.8	22.1	48.6	32.7
Vietnam	2006 <sup>b</sup>	37.8	3.1	7.1	10.8	15.2	21.6	45.4	29.8
West Bank and Gaza		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Yemen, Rep.	2005 <sup>b</sup>	37.7	2.9	7.2	11.3	15.3	21.0	45.3	30.8
Zambia	2004-05 <sup>b</sup>	50.7	1.3	3.6	7.8	12.8	20.6	55.2	38.9
Zimbabwe	1995 <sup>b</sup>	50.1	1.8	4.6	8.1	12.2	19.3	55.7	40.3

a. Percentage shares by quintile may not sum to 100 percent because of rounding. b. Refers to expenditure shares by percentiles of population, ranked by per capita expenditure. c. Urban data. d. Refers to income shares by percentiles of population, ranked by per capita income. e. Includes Montenegro.

## About the data

Inequality in the distribution of income is reflected in the percentage shares of income or consumption accruing to portions of the population ranked by income or consumption levels. The portions ranked lowest by personal income receive the smallest shares of total income. The Gini index provides a convenient summary measure of the degree of inequality. Data on the distribution of income or consumption come from nationally representative household surveys. Where the original data from the household survey were available, they have been used to directly calculate the income or consumption shares by quintile. Otherwise, shares have been estimated from the best available grouped data.

The distribution data have been adjusted for household size, providing a more consistent measure of per capita income or consumption. No adjustment has been made for spatial differences in cost of living within countries, because the data needed for such calculations are generally unavailable. For further details on the estimation method for low- and middle-income economies, see Ravallion and Chen (1996).

Because the underlying household surveys differ in method and type of data collected, the distribution data are not strictly comparable across countries. These problems are diminishing as survey methods improve and become more standardized,

but achieving strict comparability is still impossible (see *About the data* for tables 2.7 and 2.8).

Two sources of noncomparability should be noted in particular. First, the surveys can differ in many respects, including whether they use income or consumption expenditure as the living standard indicator. The distribution of income is typically more unequal than the distribution of consumption. In addition, the definitions of income used differ more often among surveys. Consumption is usually a much better welfare indicator, particularly in developing countries. Second, households differ in size (number of members) and in the extent of income sharing among members. And individuals differ in age and consumption needs. Differences among countries in these respects may bias comparisons of distribution.

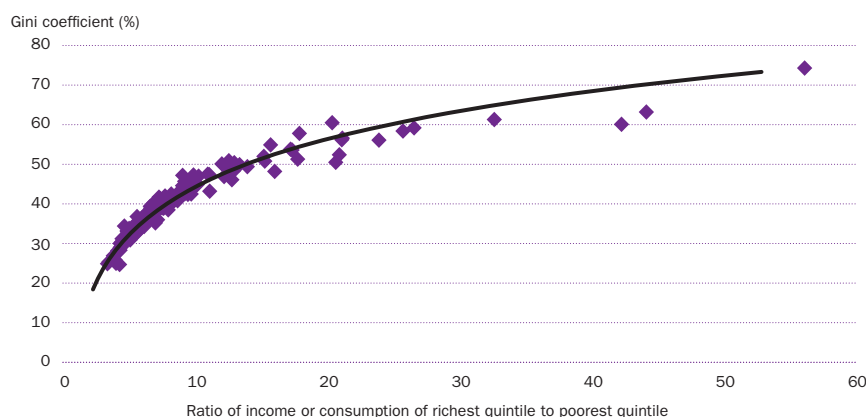
World Bank staff have made an effort to ensure that the data are as comparable as possible. Wherever possible, consumption has been used rather than income. Income distribution and Gini indexes for high-income economies are calculated directly from the Luxembourg Income Study database, using an estimation method consistent with that applied for developing countries.

## Definitions

• **Survey year** is the year in which the underlying data were collected. • **Gini index** measures the extent to which the distribution of income (or consumption expenditure) among individuals or households within an economy deviates from a perfectly equal distribution. A Lorenz curve plots the cumulative percentages of total income received against the cumulative number of recipients, starting with the poorest individual. The Gini index measures the area between the Lorenz curve and a hypothetical line of absolute equality, expressed as a percentage of the maximum area under the line. Thus a Gini index of 0 represents perfect equality, while an index of 100 implies perfect inequality. • **Percentage share of income or consumption** is the share of total income or consumption that accrues to subgroups of population indicated by deciles or quintiles.

### The Gini coefficient and ratio of income or consumption of the richest quintile to the poorest quintiles are closely correlated

2.9a



There are many ways to measure income or consumption inequality. The Gini coefficient shows inequality over the entire population; the ratio of income or consumption of the richest quintile to the poorest quintiles shows differences only at the tails of the population distribution. Both measures are closely correlated and provide similar information. At low levels of inequality the Gini coefficient is a more sensitive measure, but above a Gini value of 45–55 percent the inequality ratio rises faster.

Source: World Development Indicators data files.

## Data sources

Data on distribution are compiled by the World Bank's Development Research Group using primary household survey data obtained from government statistical agencies and World Bank country departments. Data for high-income economies are from the Luxembourg Income Study database.