

## #20 – State of inequality – OECD Income IDD and Wealth (WDD) distribution databases

### Short description

**Type of object:** Dataset

**Source (organisation):** OECD

**Issues:** Income inequality, wealth inequality, poverty at national and regional levels. IDD indicators include Gini coefficient, S80/S20 income share ratio; Income share in total income; poverty rate (relative threshold), poverty rate (threshold “anchored” in 2005).

WDD key indicators on the distribution of household net wealth, 2018, are: mean net wealth (constant price, 2015 USD); median net wealth, mean to median ratio; shares in total revenue; debt indicators; asset poverty.

**Time span:** The time span varies upon countries. IDD indicators are available for the years 2007, 2017 and 2019 or the latest year available. WDD indicators are available for year 2019.

**Geographical coverage:** OECD Countries

**Link:** <https://www.oecd.org/social/income-distribution-database.htm>

### Note/Interpretations

To benchmark and monitor economic inequality across countries, the OECD relies on two dedicated statistical databases: the OECD Income Distribution Database (IDD), which offers data on levels and trends in income inequality and poverty, and the OECD Wealth Distribution Database (WDD), which collects information on the distribution of household net wealth. OECD IDD is updated on a rolling basis, two to three times a year. OECD WDD is updated every two or three years.

For each country is provided a note on Income distribution data review. For both IDD and WDD a note with concept and methodology used is also provided. The data (for both IDD and WDD indicators) are available by measure and by country (excel format).

[IDD indicators have been calculated also at NUTS2 level](#) (regional). Regional indicators are related to income distribution and relative poverty.

The link contains also references to:

- Articles commenting the data
- To the article on “Income levels and inequality in metropolitan areas: a comparative approach in OECD countries” (2016): This paper assesses levels and distribution of household disposable income in OECD metropolitan areas. All indicators were produced through a dedicated data collection, which, for most countries, uses administrative data from tax records available at detailed local scale (i.e., municipalities, local authorities, counties, etc.). Using different estimation techniques, we provide internationally comparable figures for 216 OECD metropolitan areas. The results highlight stark differences in both income levels and inequality within metropolitan areas, even for those belonging to the same country. Larger metropolitan areas feature, on average, higher levels of household disposable income but also higher income inequality. The paper then provides a measure of spatial segregation, or the extent to which households with similar incomes concentrate within a metropolitan area. On the governance side, the paper finds a stable and positive relationship between administratively fragmented metropolitan areas and spatial segregation by income
- And “Making cities for all: data and actions for inclusive growth” (2016): Cities are places where opportunities for prosperity coexist with stark inequalities between the richest and the poorest. Cities produce and attract highly educated workers and innovative employers. It is usually easier in cities than in other parts of the country for individuals to climb up the income, education or jobs ladder. But cities, especially the largest ones, also concentrate inequalities, both in income and in other well-being aspects, that remain remarkably high in many OECD economies. Access to opportunities seems stalled for many low-income urban residents, who often live in distressed neighbourhoods. This report provides ground-breaking, internationally comparable data on economic growth, inequalities and well-being at the city level in OECD countries. It provides empirical evidence on how cities are diverging from, or converging with, other parts of the country, and of the extent of inequality within cities. Finally, it proposes a framework for action, to help national and local governments reorient policies towards more inclusive growth in cities – a new approach to growth that ensures that no part of society is left behind.

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