INCLUSIVE GROWTH

Wealth inequalities: measurement and policies

Who’s Who

26 April 2018, Boulogne, Auditorium
Annette Alstadsæter is Professor at School of Economics and Business, Norwegian University of Life Sciences. Her research is on tax evasion, tax avoidance, and inequality. She is member of the Norwegian Special Board of Appeal for Petroleum Taxation and member of the Swedish Expert Group on Public Economics.

Facundo Alvaredo is Professor at the Paris School of Economics, researcher at Conicet, and affiliated member of Nuffield College, Oxford. He is also Co-Director of the World Inequality Database and the World Inequality Lab.

Richard A. Benton is Assistant Professor of Labor and Employment Relations at the University of Illinois. Richard’s research interests include economic sociology, social stratification, and social networks. Richard’s primary research stream examines how elite social networks and institutional change affects corporate governance and other organizational outcomes, including earnings management, shareholder activism, and human capital policies. Other research examines how organizational and social processes affect social stratification, including how the structure of economic value-chains shape workers’ opportunities and how intergenerational stratification processes reproduce wealth inequality.
David Bradbury is the Head of the Tax Policy and Statistics Division of the Centre for Tax Policy and Administration at the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). David is an Australian national and joined the OECD in April 2014, where he leads a team of economists, lawyers and statisticians who are focused on providing internationally comparable revenue statistics and delivering high quality economic analysis and tax policy advice.

Prior to joining the OECD, David was a lawyer, a Member of the House of Representatives in the Australian Parliament, and a Minister in the Australian Government. As a lawyer, David worked for an international corporate law firm, specialising in taxation law.

He served in the Australian Government as the Assistant Treasurer, Minister for Competition Policy and Consumer Affairs, Minister Assisting for Financial Services and Superannuation, and Minister Assisting for Deregulation. As a Minister, David led the Australian contribution to the debate on Base Erosion and Profit Shifting and implemented key taxation reforms including landmark amendments to the General Anti-Avoidance Rule - Part IVA - and the modernisation of Australia’s transfer pricing laws. David has completed an undergraduate degree in Arts (majoring in Government and Public Administration), an Honours degree in Law, and has completed post graduate studies in Taxation Law at the University of Sydney.

Jesse is an economist at the Federal Reserve Board and is part of a team working on the Survey of Consumer Finances, a household wealth survey. Jesse has research interests in economic measurement and household finance, and has recently published research on income and wealth measurement, homeownership, and economic insecurity. Jesse also has on-going research on social capital and on stress testing household debt. You can find a link to some of his work here: https://www.federalreserve.gov/econres/jesse-bricker.htm.
CANTILLON, Bea
Professor of Social Policy and Director of the Herman Deleeck Centre for Social Policy
University of Antwerp

Bea Cantillon is Professor of Social Policy and Director of the Herman Deleeck Centre for Social Policy at the University of Antwerp. She has acted as a consultant to, among others, the OECD, the European Commission, and the Belgian government. Next to being the Chair of the National Administration for Family Allowances, she also served as a Belgian senator (1995-1999) and she was the president of the National Reform Commission on the Belgian Social Security for independent workers (2000-2002). She is secretary-general of the Foundation for International Studies on Social Security and acted as the coordinator of the FP7 funded ImPRovE project. She is also a Fellow of the Royal Belgian Academy and a member of the Belgian High Council for Employment and of the Commission on Pension Reform in Belgium. Recent book publications include Reconciling Work and Poverty Reduction (with F. Vandenbroucke) and Children of Austerity (with B. Nolan, C. Chzhzn and S. Handa) both with Oxford University Press.

D’ALESSIO, Giovanni
Staff Manager, Statistical Analysis Directorate
Bank of Italy

Giovanni D’Alessio is a staff Manager in the Statistical Analysis Directorate of the Bank of Italy. Graduated with honors in Economics at University of Naples “Federico II”, he earned his PhD in Statistics at University of Rome “La Sapienza”. As the Head of Sample Survey Division of the Bank of Italy from 2001 to 2015 he has been responsible for the Survey of Household Income and Wealth and other surveys. He is author of several research papers on the measurement of economic well-being and on income and wealth distribution.

D’ARCY, Conor
Senior Research & Policy Analyst
Resolution Foundation

Conor D’Arcy is a Senior Research & Policy Analyst at the Resolution Foundation, a think-tank that works to improve the living standards of those in Britain on low to middle incomes. He leads the Foundation’s research on wealth and low pay. He previously worked for the Joseph Rowntree Foundation and for an MP. He has a master’s in social policy from the London School of Economics and studied sociology and English literature at Trinity College Dublin.
Together with the policy studies teams, Mr. de Mello provides leadership and strategic direction within the economics department, ensuring the design and implementation of analysis and policies which promote stronger, cleaner, fairer and more inclusive economic growth for member and partner countries. Structural policy surveillance, short and long term economic outlooks, public finance and macroeconomic policy analysis are among the key workstreams for policy studies.

Earlier in his career, Mr. de Mello held senior positions at the OECD, including Deputy-Director of the Public Governance Directorate and Chief of Staff and Counsellor to the Chief Economist. Prior to joining the OECD, he worked as a Senior Economist at the Fiscal Affairs Department of the International Monetary Fund, and as a Lecturer at the Economics Department of the University of Kent, United Kingdom. He holds a PhD in Economics from the University of Kent, United Kingdom.

Martine Durand is the Director of Statistics and Data and Chief Statistician of the OECD. She is responsible for providing strategic orientation for the Organisation's statistical policy and oversees all of OECD's statistical activities. She is in particular responsible for the Organisation’s work on the measurement of people’s well-being and societal progress, promoting the analysis and use of well-being and sustainability indicators for policy-making. This work features regularly in the flagship publication How’s Life? and related reports on well-being, inequalities and sustainable development. She was formerly Deputy-Director of Employment, Labour and Social Affairs where she was responsible for OECD's work on employment and training policies, health and social policies, and international migration published in OECD flagship reports such as the OECD International Migration Outlook, the OECD Employment Outlook, Pensions at a Glance and Health at a Glance. Prior to that, she was Deputy-Head of the OECD Secretary-General's Private Office where she worked on a number of national and international policy issues requesting the attention of the Secretary-General and his Deputies. Ms. Durand also worked for many years in the Economics Department on OECD Economic Surveys and the OECD Economic Outlook as well as on policy issues related inter alia to international competitiveness, European integration and labour market performance. Ms. Durand graduated in mathematics, statistics and economics from the Paris VI University, the Ecole Nationale de la Statistique et de I'Administration Economique (ENSAE) and the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She is married with three children.
Serena Fatica is a senior research economist at the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission. Prior to this, she worked as an economist in the Fiscal Policy Directorate of the Directorate General for Economic and Financial Affairs (DG ECFIN). She holds a PhD in Economics from the Catholic University of Leuven and is a graduate from LUISS Guido Carli university in Rome. Her main research interests include public finance and the impacts of taxation on household and firm behavior.

Andrew is Assistant Director of the Income Statistics Division of Statistics Canada, and is responsible for census, survey and administrative data programs on income, pensions, housing and wealth. He is also a member of the Human Capital Policy Council of the CD Howe Institute as well as a member of the Research and Advisory Evaluation Committee for the Ontario Basic Income Pilot (Canada). Andrew is also a member of the UNECE Task Force on Disaggregated Poverty Measurement. Andrew has collaborated on a number of research projects on the topics of income inequality and low income. Most recently, Andrew contributed two chapters to the 2016 book “Income Inequality: the Canadian Story” published by the Institute for Research on Public Policy. In 2017, Andrew was co-recipient of the Mike McCracken Award for Economic Statistics from the Canadian Economics Association, which recognizes theoretical and applied contributions to the development or use of economic statistics in Canada.

John Hills is Richard Titmuss Professor of Social Policy, Co-Director of the International Inequalities Institute and Chair of the Centre for Analysis of Social Exclusion (CASE) at the London School of Economics. His research interests include the distribution of income and wealth, the welfare state, social security, pensions, housing and taxation. Recent books include Good Times, Bad Times: The welfare myth of them and us (Policy Press, second edition 2017), Social Policy in a Cold Climate (co-editor, Policy Press, 2016) and Wealth in the UK (co-author, Oxford, 2013). He led a review of fuel poverty for the Department of Energy and Climate Change (2011-2012), was Chair of the National Equality Panel (2008-2010), carried out a review of the aims of social housing for the Secretary of State for Communities in 2006-07 and was one of the three members of the UK Pensions Commission from 2003 to 2006. He was Co-Director of the LSE’s Welfare State Programme (1988-1997), and Senior Adviser to the Commission of Inquiry into Taxation, Zimbabwe (1984-86). He worked at the Institute for Fiscal Studies (1982-84), for the House of Commons Select Committee on the Treasury (1980-82), and at the Department of the Environment (1979-80).
Mari Kiviniemi took up her duties as OECD Deputy Secretary-General in August 2014. Her role consists of sharing her extensive experience to help increase the impact and relevance of OECD work and to contribute to the public policy challenges of promoting inclusive growth, jobs, equality and trust. She is responsible for the strategic oversight of the OECD’s work on Efficient and Effective Governance; Territorial Development; Trade and Agriculture, Statistics; for advancing the Better Life Initiative; as well as Entrepreneurship, SMEs’, Regions and Cities. Ms. Kiviniemi was Finland’s Prime Minister from 2010 to 2011. Previously, she was Special Advisor on Economic Policy to the Prime Minister, Minister for Foreign Trade and Development, Minister for European Affairs and Minister of Public Administration and Local Government. Elected for the first time at the age of 26, she was a Member of Parliament from 1995 to 2014, chairing and participating in a vast number of committees. She also held a variety of leadership positions in her political party, the Finnish Center Party. An economist by training, she studied political science at the University of Helsinki and holds a Master’s degree in Social Sciences.

Marco Mira d’Ercole is Head of the Division for Household Statistics and Progress Measurement in the Statistics and Data Directorate at the OECD, and was previously the Counselor in the same Directorate. He has worked on measures of well-being, on income distribution and on various aspects of social policies. He was editor of the 2010 edition of the OECD Factbook and of the 2005 and 2007 editions of Society at a Glance – OECD Social Indicators and was among the main contributors of the OECD report Growing Unequal? Income Distribution and Poverty in OECD Countries, 2008. He has been one of the “rapporteurs” of the Commission on the Measurement of Economic Performance and Social Progress established by President Sarkozy in early 2008. Since joining the OECD he has worked in the Directorate for Employment, Labour and Social Affairs, in the Economics Department and in the Private Office of the OECD Secretary General, as well as spending two years at the International Monetary Fund. He holds a degree in Economics from the University of Modena and a M.Phil from Oxford University.
Piotr Paradowski works at LIS in Luxembourg where he is mainly responsible for the Luxembourg Wealth Study (LWS) database. He is also affiliated with the Faculty of Management and Economics, Centre for Econometrics, at Gdansk University of Technology. He received his Ph.D. from Loyola University Chicago, M.A. from University of Central Florida and MSc from University of Luxembourg. Piotr also taught courses at Central Michigan University, Loyola University Chicago and El Colegio de Mexico. He was a member of OECD Expert Group on Micro Statistics on Household Income, Consumption and Wealth. Piotr conducts interdisciplinary research using the LIS and LWS data with the focus on income and wealth distributions as they relate to economic inequality, welfare state politics, and voting behavior. His current research involves the statistical matching methods and imputation of missing data.

Mark Pearson is Deputy-Director for Employment, Labour and Social Affairs (ELS) at the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). Mr. Pearson works with the Director to provide leadership in the co-ordination and management of the activities of ELS and ensure that it is at the forefront of the international social and employment agenda.
Mr. Pearson joined the Organisation in 1992, initially working in DAF on tax issues. After working on the OECD Jobs Study, he moved to ELS where he headed work on employment-oriented social policies, including developing the concept of ‘Making Work Pay’ and starting the publication ‘Society at a Glance’. He became head of the Social Policy Division from 2000-2008, during which time he initiated work on ‘Babies and Bosses’, ‘Pensions at a Glance’, led the first cross-directorate work on gender, and work on income inequality in OECD countries.
In 2009 he became Head of the Health Division where the central focus of work has been on how to deliver health care with greater efficiency, including putting much more effort into prevention of obesity and harmful use of alcohol.
He gave evidence to the US Senate on ‘Obamacare’, and has been on a panel advising the Chinese government on its health reforms.
Prior to joining the OECD, Mr. Pearson worked for the Institute for Fiscal Studies in London, and also as a consultant for the World Bank, the IMF and the European Commission.
Mr. Pearson is British, and has a degree in Politics, Philosophy and Economics from Oxford, and an MSc in Economics and Econometrics from Birkbeck, University of London.
Gabriela Ramos is Chief of Staff and OECD Sherpa to the G7 and G20. Besides supporting the Strategic Agenda of the Secretary General, she is responsible for the contributions of the Organisation to the global agenda, including the G20 and the G7. Ms Ramos also leads, and sets strategic direction for, the OECD’s flagship Inclusive Growth Initiative and the New Approaches to Economic Challenges, while also overseeing the OECD’s work on Education, Employment and Social Affairs. A champion for gender equality, Ms Ramos has overseen the launching of the OECD’s Gender Strategy, and pioneered initiatives such as NiňaSTEM Pueden, an initiative to challenge stereotypes and encourage young girls in Mexico to take up STEM subjects. In recognition of her efforts on inclusive growth and gender equality, Ms Ramos was awarded the Forbes Prize for Entrepreneurial Excellence in June 2017.

Alessandra Sanelli is Head of the Withholding Tax Division in the Tax Directorate of the Bank of Italy. Until 2012 she worked in the Tax Analysis Division of the same Directorate as Senior Tax Analyst and then Deputy Head of Division. Since joining the Bank in 1994, Alessandra has been involved both in tax advice and tax policy analysis and research, with a specific focus on tax issues affecting the financial sector. Her research interests include, among others, international tax evasion and avoidance and the role of tax havens, personal income taxation, capital income and financial asset taxation, tax administration and the role of third-party-reporting as a tool to fight tax evasion at national and international level. Her latest work, “What do external statistics tell us about undeclared assets held abroad and tax evasion?” (Bank of Italy Occasional Paper No. 367, November 2016), co-authored with two colleagues from the Statistics Directorate of the Bank of Italy, tries to estimate – on a global level – the potential amount of undeclared financial assets held abroad and the related personal and capital income tax evasion.

Alessandra has been member of several working groups at the Italian Ministry of the Economy. Between 2003 and 2004 she was Alessandro Di Battista Fellow at the Centre for Tax Policy and Tax Administration of the OECD, carrying on a research project on the economics of bank secrecy. She holds a degree in Business Administration and Economics from the University “Gabriele D’Annunzio” of Chieti-Pescara, and is certified public accountant and certified account auditor. She is also member of the International Fiscal Association (IFA).
Anthony Shorrocks is an Honorary Professor at Manchester University and Director of Global Economic Perspectives Ltd. After receiving his PhD from the London School of Economics, he taught at the LSE until 1983, when he became Professor of Economics at Essex University. From 2001-2009, he was Director of the World Institute for Development Economics Research (UNU-WIDER) in Helsinki.

He has published extensively in leading economic journals on topics concerned with income and wealth distribution, inequality, poverty and mobility. In 1996 he was elected a Fellow of the Econometric Society. For the past ten years his research has focussed mainly on the level and distribution of global household wealth, the results of which are published annually by the Credit Suisse Research Institute in the Global Wealth Report and the Global Wealth Databook. Other wealth-related publications include “The age-wealth relationship: A cross section and cohort analysis” (Review of Economics and Statistics 1975); “The distribution of wealth” (Handbook of Income Distribution 2000); “The world distribution of household wealth” in Personal Wealth from a Global Perspective (Oxford University Press 2008); “The global pattern of household wealth” (Journal of International Development 2009); “The Level and Distribution of Global Household Wealth” (Economic Journal 2011) and “Estimating the Level and Distribution of Global Wealth, 2000-2014” (Review of Income and Wealth, 2017).

Richard Tonkin is currently on secondment to the OECD from the UK Office for National Statistics (ONS), where he is Assistant Director for Well-being, Inequalities, Sustainability & the Environment. At ONS, Richard has published a wide range of policy-focussed analysis on material living standards, poverty and inequality. He has also conducted methodological research on a variety of issues relating to the measurement and use of data on income, consumption and wealth, and worked with international organisations including the OECD, World Bank, UNECE and Eurostat on best practice in this area. Prior to joining ONS, Richard completed his PhD at the University of Nottingham, before working as a policy analyst for a number of UK Government departments, focussing on topics including education, inequalities and social cohesion.
Philip Vermeulen joined the European Central Bank in September 1999, where he is a Senior Economist at the Monetary Policy Research Division in the Directorate General Research. He was a visiting scholar at the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco and before joining the European Central Bank he was a researcher at the National Bank of Belgium and at Ghent University. Philip Vermeulen studied economics at Stanford University from where he holds a Ph. D. degree and where he also lectured a course in economic policy.

Philip Vermeulen’s research focuses on empirical macroeconomics and household finance. His research covers a range of topics such as investment and financing constraints, investment and uncertainty, markups, price setting and the wealth distribution. He was a member of a number of Eurosystem Research Networks: The Monetary Transmission Network, The Inflation Persistence Network and The Wage Dynamics Network. Currently he is a member of the Household Finance and Consumption Network.


Daniel Waldenström is Professor of Economics at the Research Institute of Industrial Economics and visitor at the Paris School of Economics. His research deals with inequality and mobility in the income and wealth distributions, the role of taxation, and economic history.