



BETTER POLICIES FOR BETTER LIVES

OECD Conference Centre, 21-22 February 2013  
Meeting of providers of OECD Income Distribution Data  
[www.oecd.org/social/soc/inequality-meeting2013.htm](http://www.oecd.org/social/soc/inequality-meeting2013.htm)

## 2.1 The OECD Income Distribution Database: Collection process, statistical infrastructure and indicators

### Inputs (1)

- Standardized excel questionnaire (three tables) based on comparable definitions and harmonized methodological framework ([Terms of References](#)) send to country providers
  - Ex-post harmonization exercise
  - No micro data collected
- **2012 timeline:**
  - Questionnaire sent late-March / early-April (deadline end-May)
  - Reminder sent before the summer
  - Compilation during the second half of the year, extended to early 2013 for some countries (in-house programmes for some EU countries, computed based on Eurostat datafiles)



## Inputs (2)

- Table 1:

Table 1: Inequality and Poverty indicators

	Entire population	Working age population (1)	Retirement age population (2)
<b>General information</b>			
Total number of individuals			
Total number of households			
Mean disposable income (3)			
Median disposable income (3)			
<b>Inequality</b>			
Gini			
Gini before taxes and transfers			
Standard error Gini (after taxes and transfers)			
<b>Poverty (5)</b>			
Threshold = 60% of the current median income (relative poverty)			
Before taxes and transfers			
headcount ratio			
mean pov gap			
median pov gap			
After taxes and transfers			
headcount ratio			
mean pov gap			
median pov gap			
Threshold = 50% of the current median income (relative poverty)			
Before taxes and transfers			
headcount ratio			
mean pov gap			
median pov gap			
After taxes and transfers			
headcount ratio			
mean pov gap			
median pov gap			
Threshold = 50% of the median income in the mid-90s ("anchored" poverty)			
Before taxes and transfers			
headcount ratio			
mean pov gap			
median pov gap			
After taxes and transfers			
headcount ratio			
mean pov gap			
median pov gap			
Threshold = 50% of the median income in 2005 ("anchored" poverty)			
Before taxes and transfers			
headcount ratio			
mean pov gap			
median pov gap			
After taxes and transfers			
headcount ratio			
mean pov gap			
median pov gap			



## Inputs (3)

- Table 2:

Table 2: Disposable income per deciles

Deciles	Upper bound value (2)	Mean income (3)	Mean value per components (3)						TA (negative sign)	TOTAL
			EH	ES	EO	K	SE	TR		
Entire population	1									
	2									
	3									
	4									
	5									
	6									
	7									
	8									
	9									
	10									
Total										
Working age population (1)	1									
	2									
	3									
	4									
	5									
	6									
	7									
	8									
	9									
	10									
Total										



## Inputs (4)

- Table 3:

**Table 3: Disposable income per household groups**

	Population shares	Mean income (2)	Poverty headcount for 50% threshold (3)	
			After taxes and transfers	Before taxes and transfers
Persons in households with a working-age head (1)  Breakdown by household structure and work attachment	Single adult, no children, working			
	Single adult, no children, non working			
	Single adult, with children, working			
	Single adult, with children, non working			
	Two or more adults, no children, two or more working			
	Two or more adults, no children, one working			
	Two or more adults, no children, non working			
	Two or more adults, children, two or more working			
	Two or more adults, children, one worker			
	Two or more adults, children, no workers			
<b>Total (all households with a working-age head)</b>				
Entire population  Breakdown by age of individuals	0-17 years old			
	18-25 years old			
	26-40 years old			
	41-50 years old			
	51-65 years old			
66-75 years old				
above 75				
<b>Total</b>				



## Output

- OECD income distribution database:

ctry	yearcode	pop	ind	hhd	mean	median	gini	giniib
AUS		5 old	1827062	1397196	21113.11434	17766.75969	0.260032385	0.723924195
AUS		5 tot	17608189	6546577	31653.97902	27819.0352	0.309124888	0.4671958
AUS		5 wa	11157940	5586759	35022.63194	31987.95989	0.301076883	0.42142392
AUS		7 old	2027698	1508776	24018.66712	18772.54384	0.307912289	0.763337038
AUS		7 tot	18652175	7121222	34512.074	30071.6579	0.317221148	0.476360988
AUS		7 wa	11801834	6049848	38302.9145	34846.82365	0.291978248	0.41062349
AUS		9 old	2216205	1658335	26537.6357	20599.18836	0.302660283	0.735482539
AUS		9 tot	19606630	7735778	39142.79618	34245.39494	0.31464303	0.46529167
AUS		9 wa	12512806	6570687	42704.15604	38347.39695	0.304644677	0.417703334
AUS		10 old	2429155	1801677	31671.04578	24692.36565	0.32822464	0.712416754
AUS		10 tot	20643129	8077302	49869.58369	42645.90392	0.33593915	0.46764134
AUS		10 wa	13260803	6827301	55382.4065	48208.62722	0.323562645	0.41804274
AUS		11 old	2540767	1867872	32433	24592.05859	0.316721779	0.706690071
AUS		11 tot	21589428	8398520	49607	42048.303	0.333739702	0.469076553
AUS		11 wa	13967154	7119006	54629	47559.68902	0.318402418	0.414495321



## Dissemination

- Database heavily used in OECD reports
- Growing demand from external users
- <http://www.oecd.org/els/soc/inequality-database.htm>: portal for data, methods and concepts
- Recent release of an assessment of the cross-country comparability of the database (following item)



## For discussion

- Is the data collection weight bearable and how could we improve it or make it quicker?
- Should we add some new indicators?
- Do you agree to collect a more complete questionnaire irregularly (4-years): e.g. gender breakdown, elderly indicators, employment –related breakdowns?
- Is communication on the database sufficiently transparent?
- Should we create an electronic discussion group?
- Should we meet face-to-face more regularly?

