Guyana

Sources:
Jain 1975
IADB Integration and Regional Programs Dept. web 1999
World Bank Poverty Monitoring Database 2002
Deininger & Squire, World Bank 2004
World Bank, World Development Indicators 2004

Surveys:
Survey of Family Expenditure 1956
Used by Jain (1975). No documentation available.

Guyana Living Standards Measurement Survey (GLSMS) 1993
This is a World Bank Living Standards Measurement Survey. Only 1410 households are included in the files used by Deininger & Squire (2004) even if the sample should be 1800 households in the LSMS-part of the survey (the survey was combined with a Household Income and Expenditure Survey with a bigger sample). A two-stage stratified sampling method was applied. For the first stage sample, enumeration districts (geographical areas designated during the 1991 population census) were selected from 16 geographical regions. In the second, households, the units of inquiry, were selected from a listing of all households in the selected enumeration districts. The objective was to get a national sample representative of rural and urban populations at all income levels. To capture seasonal variations, the survey was administered in four sub rounds (scheduled for 3 months each) beginning in May 1992. In practice, there were some limitations in the successful implementation of the fieldwork due to shortages in field staff. Implementation took approximately 18 months, exceeding the originally targeted 12 months. Interviewers made at least two visits to each household.

The income concept seems to be quite comprehensive. The following income items are included in the questionnaire: wage income in cash and in kind, self-employment income, home production, rent from land and buildings, royalties, interest, dividends, imputed rents, pensions, annuities, family allowances, other social security benefits, remittances and assistance (local and from abroad). Taxes are included in the questionnaire (on the expenditure side), but it is unclear whether they are deducted from the income since no documents are available about the summing up of total income.

According to the LSMS- documentation the data quality is considered fair.