Barbados

Sources:
Straw 1953
Paukert 1973, Table 6 p.104-105
Jain 1975
Cromwell 1977, Table 1
Downes 1987, Tables 6 and 7
Holder and Prescod 1989, Table 1, column D and column E (from 1971)

Surveys:
Income and Consumption Survey 1952
The survey was carried out in four areas of Barbados. The nature of the Barbadian sugar economy gave raise to two distinct periods of economic activity locally called "hard times" and "crop". The survey covered these two periods. The achieved sample size in the hard times survey was 733 households. The crop survey covered to a large extent the same households and covered 705 completed questionnaires. The incomes from the hard times survey were weighted by 32 (assuming that the period lasted 32 weeks) and from the crop survey by 20. The survey was carried out October 1951 to June 1952.

The income concept is not clearly defined but included income from home grown crops and livestock both sold and consumed at home. The measurement period was one week.

The Gini estimate in Straw (1953) is from the crop season but it is almost the same for the hard times (45.49 crop, 45.59, hard times). The Ginis and deciles are taken from Downes (1987) that is referring to this study.

Household Budget Survey 1978/1979
The data collection period was April 1978 to March 1979 and the study covered 1200 households. Estimates based both on gross and disposable incomes are included in Downes (1987) from this survey. Gross income includes wages and salaries, s-e income, capital income (rents, interests and dividends, royalties), inheritance, alimony, pensions, scholarships, remittances, family allowances and social security benefits. In-kind incomes include wage payments in-kind, goods and services given free by an enterprise, home production, net rental value of owner-occupied houses and the gross rental value of free housing. The disposable income was derived by deducting income tax and contributions from the gross income. The measurement period was one week. Incomes were available in thirteen classes to the author.

Income Tax Returns (individual) 1951-1955, 1957-1960, 1962, 1971-1973, 1976, 1978-1981
The reliability of the data is weakened by the coverage of the tax returns. In the 1950's, only some 6-10% of the population filled in tax returns. The percentage rose gradually and was 59.3% in 1981. The income concept comprises: income and pensions from public and private sources, income from profession, business, agriculture and rents of property, investment income from local and foreign sources and pensions from abroad.

Taxes were deducted, and from 1971, national insurance contributions (the scheme started already in 1967, but the first Gini coefficient after the change is from 1971). The reference period was one year. Gini coefficients were estimated by Holder and Prescod (1989) from grouped data with few income classes.