Japan

Sources:
Podder 1972, Table 11
Paukert 1973, Table 6 p.104-105
Jain 1975
Sawyer 1976, Table 4 and 6
Cromwell 1977, Table 1
Mizoguchi and Takayama 1984
Mizoguchi 1985
Oshima 1994
Japan Statistics Bureau 1997
Shirahase, 2001, Figure 1

The documentation is also relying on the paper
Fukui, T. *Outline of Household Income Statistics in Japan*. Paper presented at Expert Group on Household Income Statistics, Canberra, 2-4 Dec 1996.

Surveys:
Synthetic data 1890, 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930, 1940
Used by Mizoguchi (1985). To derive the estimates, a method combining data on low-income units and data from national accounts was mostly used. It is not clear to what unit this exercise refers.

Employment Status Survey 1956, 1959, 1962, 1965, 1968, 1971
This survey was conducted every three years since 1956 by the Statistics Bureau. It covered approximately 1 per cent of all households residing in Japan and was selected through a stratified random sampling process. The income concept was that of cash income and profit only and no estimates were made of income in-kind.

The estimates for 1956 and 1959 are reported by Mizoguchi (1985) but are based upon calculations by Wada (1975). Since the income information in the survey is very poor (cash income of individuals) the original source (Wada, 1975) estimated cash income of households using some additional information on household property and transfer income. Income in-kind was also imputed and the property income figures were revised. Jain (1975) uses estimates from 1962-1971.

Family Income and Expenditure Survey 1954, 1969, 1971, 1980, 1982, 1983, 1984, 1985, 1986, 1997
Used by several authors. The survey is conducted monthly by the Statistics Bureau, the Management and Coordination Agency. It covers only non-agricultural multi-member households; one person households, agricultural, forestry and fishery households are thereby excluded. Also foreign households and households which manage restaurants, hotels, boarding houses or dormitories are excluded. Before 1962 the survey only covered urban areas. The survey employs a threes-stage stratified sampling and has about 8000 sample households. The sampling units at the three stages are the municipalities, the unit

area formed by combining two enumeration districts of the population census, and the households.

The income and expenditure information is collected both through diaries and an interview. The family account book is used by the households to make a daily record, item by item, of income and expenditures for six months. The diaries are collected by the enumerators twice a month. For employee households and inactive households, both income and expenditure in-cash and in-kind are collected, while for other households cash payments and consumption in-kind only. The yearly income questionnaire is used to obtain information about yearly income. The yearly income refers to the total gross income of the household.

Five items are included under income: gross income from employment (regular, bonus and other extraordinary income), business profits (net of expenses), income from homework (net of expenses), annuities and pensions, and other income (dividend, interest on deposits and savings, pensions, annuities, remittances, rents received etc). It is mentioned that retirement allowance and capital gains are not included in the yearly income.

Sawyer (1976) reports estimates based on net incomes. To derive the post-tax distribution, the average effective tax rates by income classes given in the Japanese Statistical Yearbook were applied.

Survey of People's Living Conditions 1962-1965, 1967-1982, 1986-1998

Used by several authors. This is a survey conducted by the Ministry of Health and Welfare. Since 1986 the survey is conducted every three years as a large scale survey and in interim years as a small scale survey. The survey covers all households in Japan. It seems to be the preferred survey of some authors since it unlike the Family Income and Expenditure Survey covers all households. The income concept is reported to be net disposable incomes but not details are given on income items included. Shirahase (2001) uses the years with the big samples and excludes households with negative or zero incomes, households with no pension income even if the head was over 70, and self-employed reporting non self-employment income.