Pakistan

Sources:
Paukert 1973, Table 6 p.104-105
Jain 1975
Cromwell 1977, Table 1
Mahmood 1984, Tables 1 and 2
Fields 1989
Pakistan, Econ Survey 1990/91
WB Pakistan 2002
World Bank Poverty Monitoring Database 2002
Deininger & Squire, World Bank 2004
Pakistan, Statistical Division
Statistical Yearbook, Table 1.7, 1.8 and 1.9 p.6-7

Surveys:
Household Income and Expenditure Survey 1963-1997
This is a survey by the Federal Bureau of Statistics. At least for the later years, the sample size was around 15000 households. The survey from 1991 is an exception with only around 5000 households included. Apparently there is a high degree of comparability between the surveys after 1992.

Mahmood (1984) reports that a major shortcoming of the data is the small sample size of the highest income group which leads to an understatement of the incomes of that group. Moreover, the data do not include the corporate retained earnings which lead to a further understatement of income. According to Deininger & Squire (2004), households depending entirely on charity are likely to have been left out of the sample. In addition, some special areas (military restricted areas, tribal areas) covering approx 4% of the population were left out. These factors together would clearly lead to an underestimation of inequality. An additional shortcoming of the survey is that only male enumerators, interviewing mainly male household members, were used.

The grouped data used by Mahmood (1984) included fewer income groups in 1963-64 and 1979 than for the rest of the period. Moreover class intervals of different income groups for each year were not equal. The deciles were estimated using linear interpolation.

In Deininger & Squire (2004) documentation was scarce at least for 1990 and 1992 so the content of the variables were unclear. The consumption aggregate should include items paid for, received in in-kind or as assistance, gifts or dowry, and self-consumption. Imputed rent and the use value of durables appear to be included. Food items were apparently asked for the past month.

The aggregate household consumption in WB Pakistan (2002) includes consumption on food, fuel, housing, and other non-durable goods and services (reported as monthly or

yearly consumption). Items purchased and received as gifts or payments in-kind are included. Taxes and fines are not included. The equivalence scale used by WB Pakistan (2002) gives all adults a weight of 1 and all children a weight of 0.8.

Pakistan Integrated Household Survey 1998

The Household Income and Expenditure Survey was conducted independently before 1998 but was in this year combined with the Pakistan Integrated Household Survey to a single PIHS. There is a high degree of comparability between the surveys since the consumption questionnaires, sample sizes and sampling methodologies are rather comparable. One change is that a large proportion of the food items are asked for the two last weeks instead of last month as in HIES. Another change is that expenditures are reported with less detail as some categories were combined into single ones. The collection techniques are also a bit different. While HIES data were collected by single male enumerators, interviewing mainly male household members, there were both male and female enumerators for PIHS. This seems to have had an impact on the average household sizes, particularly for households in the lowest expenditure categories. The third change was that a new sample frame was used for rural areas based on the list of villages from the Housing and Population Census of 1998 whereas HIES used the information from the 1981 Census.

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