Nepal

Sources:
Dowling and Soo 1983, Table 2 in the appendix
van Ginneken and Park 1984
Fields 1989
World Bank Poverty Monitoring Database 2002
Deininger & Squire, World Bank 2004

Surveys:
Survey of Employment, Income Distribution and Consumption Patterns 1977
The survey was conducted by the National Planning Commission and was the first nation wide survey. 4040 rural households (0.19% of rural households) and 940 urban (0.82% of urban households) were included. The data was collected through interviews. The income concept is reported to be gross income including imputed rent and in-kind income.

Multipurpose Household Budget Survey 1984
The survey was conducted by the Nepal Rastra Bank. It is reported to be nation wide and included 5323 households. The field work was carried out from March 1984 to February 1985.

Nepal Living Standards Survey (NLSS) 1996
This is a World Bank Living Standards Measurement Survey. The sample was divided into four strata based on the geographic and ecological regions of the country: (i) mountains, (ii) urban hills, (iii) rural hills, and (iv) Terai. A two-stage stratified sampling procedure was used to select the sample. The smallest administrative unit in the 1991 Population Census was the ward and this was selected as the primary sampling unit (PSU) for the survey. In the first stage, 275 PSUs were selected with probability proportional to size (PPS) from each of the four ecological strata, using the number of households in the ward as the measure of size. The sample frame considered all the 75 districts in the country, and 73 of them were represented in the sample. In the second stage, a fixed number of households was selected from each PSU. The actual sample included 3373 households.

The data were normally collected in one visit to the households. The expenditures were asked with some detail but a drawback is that most of them were asked for the past 12 months. Food consumption was asked as the monthly average during the past 12 month. Items purchased, received in-kind and home produced were covered. Durables were also covered, and their service value should be included in the consumption aggregate. On the income side earnings and transfers were asked in-cash and in-kind. Home production does not seem to be included even if it is available. Imputed rent is calculated and should be included. The incomes are mostly asked for the past 12 months; the wage is also asked per day. Judging from the mean value (compared to consumption), incomes are heavily under-reported.