Taiwan

Sources:

Jain 1975

Cromwell 1977, Table 1

Fei, Ranis and Kuo 1979, Table 2.16 p.66 was used for the estimates of 1953 and 1959.

Table 3.2 p. 92-93 was used for 1964-1972

Fields 1989

Smeeding and Gottschalk 1995 (based on LIS-data)

Taiwan CSO 2003, 2004 Luxembourg Income Study (for more information please have a look at http://www.lisproject.org/techdoc/tw/twindex.htm)

2010/11: Taiwan Family Income/Expenditure Survey

Surveys:Data from 1953 It is unclear what kind of study this is but only 301 families were included in the sample. The source mentioned in Fei, Ranis and Kuo (1979) is Kowie Chang, "An Estimate of Taiwan Personal Income Distribution in 1953- Pareto's Formula Discussed and Applied", *Journal of Social Science*, vol. 7 (August 1956). Although more than half of Taiwan's population in 1953 was in agriculture, 84 percent of the sample came from the more urbanized and industrialized areas, 58% of that group lived in Taiwan's four largest cities. The income concept is most likely gross income.

Pilot Study of Personal Income and Consumption in Taiwan 1959

The survey had a sample of 812 families. The income concept is most likely gross income. According to Fei, Ranis and Kuo (1979)

the quality of the data for the 1950s is suspect (already the sample sizes tell a great deal). For some reason Jain (1975) reports the survey year to be 1961.

The Survey of Family Income and Expenditure 1964-2003

(LIS calls this survey the Survey of Personal Income Distribution, Taiwan Area) The survey is conducted by the Directorate-General of Budget, Accounting and Statistics. The sample sizes have varied of the years being 0.13 to 0.l6 percent of the population in the beginning and in later surveys 0.3 to 0.4 percent. From 1984 on, the sample was fixed at 16434 households. The sampling method is a two-stage stratified sample. Data are collected through both interviews and diaries with some households taking part in the interview and some other keeping diaries. A few households are doing both so that the results can be compared. The fieldworkers are inspecting the entries done by the households.

The household is defined as persons who take part in the common living of the households and other persons officially or not officially registered under the household head who lives in the Taiwan area and are 1) sending more than 50% of the personal income to the household, 2) acquiring more than 50% of the personal consumption from the household, or 3) supplying more than 50% of the household expenditure

The income concept is disposable income and includes compensation of employees, entrepreneurial income, net property income and net transfer income. The compensation of employees includes payroll for full- and part-time jobs and other income such as overtime pay, transportation allowance, year-end bonus, meritorious awards, full- attendance award, in-kind benefits, death benefits, educational allowance, maternal allowance and marriage allowance. Entrepreneurial income refers to the net profit earned by a household unit from participation in unincorporated enterprise activities. Property income refers to both interest and dividends

received and paid; imputed rents; rents received and paid for use of land, housing units and other assets; and royalties. Transfers include both paid and received items such as social security benefits, social assistance grants, hazard and severance pays for employees, other transfers received (both private, employment related, from government and from abroad), direct taxes, social security contributions, private pension contributions, current transfer of payment to private non- profit institutions and other transfers paid.

The Gini coefficients for 1964-1974 reported by the Taiwan CSO (2003) are estimated from grouped data (deciles). Starting from 1976 the Gini coefficients are estimated from unit record data.

2010/11:

Family Income/Expenditure: Regular income includes employee compensation, business owner earnings, property income, rent, regular transfers and miscellaneous. Regular expenditure includes non-consumer expenses (interests and regular transfers) and consumer expenses.

Refer to “Taiwan Family Income/Expenditure Survey” for the survey method and the sampling method.