United Kingdom

Sources:

UN-ECE 1967, Table 6.10 p.15  Paukert 1973, Table 6 p.104-105
Jain 1975  Sawyer 1976
Cromwell 1977, Table 1  van Ginneken 1982  Wiedemann 1984
Johnson and Webb 1993, Table 3  Smeeding and Gottschalk 1995 (based on LIS-data)
Atkinson, Rainwater and Smeeding 1995b (based on LIS-data)  Collette 2000
IFS, Inequality Spreadsheet March 9 2004 (reference publication Goodman & Spephard (2002), in WIID1 a similar publication by Goodman and Webb (1994) using the same methods was used; this was replaced since minor changes had been made in the series)
European Commission 2005

2005-11:

Luxembourg Income Study (for more information please look at http://www.lisproject.org/techdoc/uk/ukindex.htm )
Eurostat- Statistics on income, social inclusion and living condition
OECD Database on Household Income Distribution and Poverty

Surveys:  Estimates by Baxter 1867  As reported by Collette (2000). The data are a mix of income tax data, census figures and various published sources on average earnings in different occupations.

Estimates by UN-ECE 1967

The income sharing unit is tax unit with husbands and wives considered as one unit. The estimates are based on gross income.

Family Expenditure Survey 1960-1993

The Family Expenditure Survey (FES) is a voluntary survey of a
random sample of private households in the United Kingdom carried out by the Office for National Statistics (ONS). The survey has been conducted annually since 1957. In 1994, the survey reference period changed from the calendar year to the financial year (April to the following March). At the same time the source for income distribution statistics changed from this survey to the Family Resources Survey.

Between 1961 and 1966, 3000-3500 questionnaires were completed, from 1967 the sample size was roughly doubled, and so a typical FES consists of information on around 7000 households. The response rate is around 70%. The sampling frame excludes those not living in private households. The weights correct for non-response bias. A so called SPI adjustment is also made involving a grossing up of the data to ensure that the right number of rich households is included and that they have the right level of average income. This is done with help of a survey based on tax returns, the Inland Revenue’s Survey of Personal Incomes.

The income concept is disposable income including income from employment, self-employment, social security benefits, private pensions, investment and all other sources net of direct taxes such as income tax, employee National Insurance contributions and local taxes. The reference period is one week.

The estimates of Goodman and Shephard (2002) in the continuously updated IFS Inequality Spreadsheet are weighted with the so called HBAI (Households below Average Income) scale as derived by McClements (1977).

Two types of HBAI scales exist, one before and one after housing costs. The one used here is before housing costs and gives the following weights to the household members:

First adult (head) 0.61 Spouse 0.39 Other second adult 0.46 Third
The Family Resources Survey (FRS) is a continuous survey with an annual target sample size of 24000 private households (25000 prior to April 1997). Fieldwork is carried out jointly by the Office for National Statistics and the National Centre for Social Research using computer-assisted personal interviewing. (Fieldwork in Northern Ireland is conducted by the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency.)

The survey was launched in October 1992 to meet the information requirements of Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) analysts. Although some of the information collected is available elsewhere, the FRS provides new or much more detailed information in a number of areas and brings some topics together in one survey for the first time.

The survey is conducted over the financial year; that is from April to March the following year. In WIID2, the first of the two years have been reported.

The income concept is the same as in the Family Expenditure Survey. As in the case for the FES, the estimates of Goodman and Shephard (2002) in the continuously updated IFS Inequality Spreadsheet are weighted with the HBAI (Households below Average Income) scale.

European Community Household Panel Survey (ECHP) 1995-2001

This is an input-harmonized longitudinal panel survey conducted by Eurostat together with institutions in the member states. The questionnaires are standardized and weighting and imputation was
done by Eurostat. The surveys have national coverage and a common set of definitions are used in all the countries. The income concept is net income with an extensive coverage of income items.

In the case of UK, no separate survey was conducted but The British Household Panel Survey was used as the input data.