

WIID 3.3 revision note

In WIID3.3, we retain the basic strategy and structure of the earlier database, WIID3.0, and try to report as thoroughly as possible the underlying data. The main changes with respect to WIID3.0 are the following:

New observations

The WIID3.3 version has now 7153 observations. The following summarizes the number of observations for different time periods:

Years:

Before 1970: 974

1970-89: 1,931

1990-99: 2,078

2000-13: 2,170

The new observations have been added from National Survey statistics obtained from the respective country official websites; the Socio-Economic Database for Latin America and the Caribbean (2012), Transmonee (2011), Luxembourg Income Study database, OECD, and EUROSTAT. Specific references are provided in the country documentation.

New observations have been added for a few Latin American countries from a new source, the Commitment to Equity Project, CEQ. This gives Gini's both for Pre and Post Transfers for these countries (See Lustig and Higgins (2013) for the methodology and Lustig et al. 2013 for country-specific information).¹

Changes to WIID3.3

The latest revision removes some duplicates and completes the Quality variable. New background variables have also been added: a 2-digit country code, categorical variables of EU and OECD membership, a regional grouping and a time period dummy.

We have added variables containing classification of the income level of the countries from the World Bank, population and exchange rates.

We now also offer simplified versions of some categorical variables, such as welfare definition and equivalence scales. The idea here is to combine categories, which are close to each other conceptually to simplify choosing between different types of Ginis.

Please refer to the User guide for complete description of variables and the format of the database.

¹ For more information, please also see <http://www.commitmentoequity.org/indicators.php>