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Estimates of Relative and Absolute Poverty Rates for the Working Population in Developed Countries

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Estimates of Relative and Absolute Poverty Rates for the Working Population in Developed Countries

This paper provides estimates of relative and absolute poverty for the working population in OECD countries, using the micro-data sets maintained by the Luxembourg Income Study (LIS).¹ To our knowledge, the paper presents the first ever estimates of absolute poverty calculated for the working population in developed countries. Earlier estimates of absolute poverty (e.g. UNDP (1997), ILO (1999) based on Smeeding (1997), focused on the total population.

The paper is divided into three major parts. The first part presents estimates of relative poverty rates for the working population. The relative poverty rate is defined as the proportion of households reporting labour income with income less than one half median equivalent income. The second part of the paper presents estimates of the rate of absolute poverty for the working population. The absolute poverty rate is defined as the proportion of households reporting labour income earning less than \$14 US per day per person. The third part of the paper provides estimates of the absolute number of persons and earners in poor working households.

I. Rates of Relative Poverty

Table 1 provides estimates of relative poverty lines or thresholds in all countries in the LIS data base over the 1969-97 period. The poverty line is defined as one half median equivalent after-tax family income for all households, including unattached individuals. The equivalence scale used is the square root of family size (0.5). Households with zero and negative income have been excluded. The poverty lines are expressed in national currency units per year in current prices. National currency units are not converted into a common currency through purchasing power parities.

LIS data are available for 24 countries (including certain non-OECD countries) for selected years from 1969 to 1997, for a total of 79 data sets or country-year observations (the distribution of the number of years for the countries [number of countries in brackets] was the following: one year of data (3 countries), two years (5), three years (5), four years (7), 5 years (2), six years (1), and seven years (1)).

A list of the countries with the years for which data are available for that country are given below.

- Australia (1981, 1985, 1989 and 1994)
- Austria (1987)
- Belgium (1985, 1988, 1992, and 1996)

¹ The Centre for the Study of Living Standards would like to thank Dmitry Kabrelyan for his excellent work in the calculation of the poverty rate estimates in this paper. An earlier version of this paper was prepared for the International Labour Organization's *World Employment Report, 2001*.

- Canada (1971, 1975, 1981, 1987,1991 and 1994)
- Czech Republic (1992)
- Denmark (1987 and 1992)
- Finland (1987, 1991 and 1995)
- France (1979, 1981, 1989 and 1994)
- Germany (1973, 1978, 1981, 1983, 1984, 1989 and 1994)
- Hungary (1991 and 1994)
- Israel (1979, 1986 and 1992)
- Italy (1986, 1991 and 1995)
- Luxembourg (1985, 1991 and 1994)
- Netherlands (1983, 1987, 1991 and 1994)
- Norway (1979,1986, 1991 and 1995)
- Poland (1986, 1992 and 1995)
- Taiwan (1981, 1986,1991 and 1995)
- Russia (1992 and 1995)
- Slovakia (1992)
- Spain (1980 and 1990)
- Sweden (1975, 1981, 1987, 1992 and 1995)
- Switzerland (1982 and 1992)
- United Kingdom (1969, 1997, 1979 and 1986)
- United States (1974, 1979, 1986, 1991 and 1994)

Table 2 and Exhibit 1 provide estimates of the relative poverty rate for working poor households for the countries in the LIS data base over the 1969-97 period based on the poverty lines given in Table 1. Working poor households are defined as those with at least one member reporting some labour income during the year. A number of observations can be made from the data.

First, the relative poverty rate for the working population is relatively low in the vast majority of countries. For the most recent year for which data are available, the relative poverty rate in the 24 countries averaged 5.71 per cent and was below 10 per cent in 21 of the 23 countries (the exceptions were the United States and Russia). The poverty rate was actually below 2 per cent in four countries, namely Belgium (1.9 per cent), Austria (1.5 per cent), Slovakia (1.0 per cent) and the Czech Republic (0.9 per cent).

This low relative poverty rate for the working population reflects the fact that the poverty line is defined in reference to the overall population, including households with all members without labour income due to retirement, study, disability, unemployment and other factors. These groups tend to have low income. Their inclusion produces a lower relative poverty line (one half median equivalent after-tax household income) than would be the case if only the incomes of households with an employed member were used to calculate the relative poverty line. Relatively equal earnings distribution may also account for the low relative poverty rate for the working population in many countries (see Table A19).

Exhibit 1

Summary of Absolute and Relative Poverty Rates for Working Households

	Absolute Poverty Rate		Relative Poverty Rate	
	%	% point change	%	% point change
Spain (1990)	35.8	-27.4	6.1	-6.8
Italy (1995)	22.5	-5.5	9.7	+3.1
Netherlands (1994)	15.8	+1.0	6.2	+3.8
Sweden (1995)	14.7	-0.8	8.5	+5.7
Finland (1995)	13.1	-2.6	3.7	-1.7
Australia (1994)	10.7	-0.6	6.7	+1.4
France (1994)	10.6	-4.6	5.7	-1.4
United States (1997)	10.6	-3.8	12.1	+1.0
Denmark (1992)	10.2	-0.1	5.6	-0.6
Norway (1995)	9.7	-9.2	6.4	+1.9
United Kingdom (1986)	9.2	-4.7	3.2	+0.9
Germany (1994)	9.1	+3.6	5.0	+1.8
Canada (1994)	8.6	-12.7	8.2	-3.1
Austria (1987)	5.2	-.	1.5	-.
Belgium (1996)	4.5	-4.6	1.9	+0.3
Luxembourg (1994)	4.2	-2.7	2.4	-0.1
Switzerland (1992)	1.9	-3.0	4.4	-2.2
Average	11.6	-5.1	5.7	+0.3
Median	10.2		5.6	

Source: Table 3 and 5

Note: Data are for the most recent year available. Percentage point changes are between the first and last year of available data points.

Second, there appear to be no overall trend in relative poverty rates for working households. Of the 21 countries with at least two years of data, 12 countries experienced an increase in the poverty rate between the first and last years for which data are available, while nine experienced a fall.²

² The countries that experienced an increase in the relative poverty rate between the earliest and most recent year for which LIS data are available (percentage point change in brackets) were in descending order of the absolute magnitude of the change: Sweden (5.7 points), Russia (3.6 points), Netherlands (3.8 points), Italy (3.1 points), Hungary (2.0 points), Norway (1.9 points), Germany (1.8 points), Australia (1.4 points), the United States (1.0 points), United Kingdom (0.9 points), Belgium (0.3 points), and Taiwan (0.3 points). The countries that experienced a decline were in descending order of absolute magnitude: Spain (-6.8 points), Canada (-3.1 points), Israel (-2.3 points), Switzerland (-2.2 points), Finland (-1.7 points), France (-1.4 points), Poland (-0.9 points), Denmark (-0.6 points), and Luxembourg (-0.1 points).

Third, relative poverty rates for working households appear to be quite stable over time. Of the 21 countries with at least two years of data, only six countries experienced an increase (Italy, Sweden, Netherlands, and Russia) or a decrease (Canada and Spain) of more than 3 percentage points (per cent changes are less relevant than percentage point changes because of the low levels of the poverty rate) between the first and last years for which data are available.

Fourth, the United States has consistently been the OECD country with the highest relative poverty rate for working households. Since 1974 the U.S. poverty rate has always been above 11 per cent, peaking at 13.3 per cent in 1994 before falling to 12.1 in 1997. This reflects the high degree of basic earnings inequality in the United States. The ratio of the earnings of the ninth and first deciles in the United States (5.0) was nearly double that of the average of 10 other OECD countries (2.8) (Appendix Table A19).

II. Rates of Absolute Poverty

In contrast to relative poverty, absolute poverty is defined in absolute terms. The World Bank (1999) has developed an absolute poverty metric or line for underdeveloped countries of one U.S. dollar or two U.S. dollars per day per family member (base years vary). Table A1 provides these estimates from the 2000 edition of the World Bank publication *World Development Indicators*. The ILO uses this definition of poverty in its *Key Indicators of the Labour Market* (KILM) publication. For study of trends in absolute poverty in developed countries, however, poverty lines defined as one or two U.S. dollars per day per person are obviously not realistic.

In this report, the absolute poverty line is defined as \$14 U.S. per day per person, expressed in terms of a 1997 base year. This figure (actually \$14.40) was first used by Tim Smeeding (1997) in a study for the United Nations Development Program that produced estimates of the absolute poverty rate for the total population. These estimates have been widely circulated by the UNDP (1997) in its annual *Human Development Report* and the International Labour Office in its *Key Indicators of the Labour Market* (KILM) publication (ILO, 1997). The \$14.40 figure corresponded to the single person poverty line in the United States in 1985 dollars.

Absolute poverty lines for LIS data base countries can be calculated by the following four-step procedure (see Table 3).

1. Transform the \$14 US per day (1997 dollars) absolute poverty line into the equivalent of \$14 US per day in current or nominal dollars for all other years by deflating by the US Consumer Price Index. For example, given the 50 per cent increase in the CPI between 1985 and 1997, \$14 US in 1997 was equivalent to \$9.39 US in 1985, expressed in 1997 dollars (Appendix Table A2).

2. Calculate the absolute daily poverty line on a household basis by multiplying the current dollar equivalent of \$14 US per day by average household size, adjusted by an equivalence scale. Data on average family size were also calculated from the LIS data base and are given in Appendix Table A3. The equivalence scale used is the square root of family size ($E=0.5$).
3. Transform the US dollar daily absolute household poverty line into national currency terms by multiplying by OECD purchasing power parities (Appendix Table A4). Unfortunately, this calculation is not possible at this time for the non-OECD countries in the LIS data base because of the lack of PPP estimates for these countries in the OECD data base. Penn Table or World Bank PPP estimates for these countries may be used in a later version of the paper.
4. Change the national currency daily absolute household poverty line into a yearly figure by multiplying by 365. These annual absolute household poverty lines, expressed in current price national currency units, are given in Table 3. For example, the absolute poverty line for an average size household in the United States in 1997 was \$12,543 US per year.

Table 4 compares relative and absolute poverty lines, with the relative line (Table 1) taken as a proportion of the absolute line (Table 3). For almost all countries in all years this proportion was less than 100 per cent, indicating that the relative poverty lines used in this paper are less than the absolute poverty lines (Switzerland was the only exception). The relative poverty line was 82.5 per cent of the absolute poverty line in the United States. As real income, measured on a PPP basis, it is lower in all other OECD countries than in the United States with the exception of Luxembourg (see Table 9). The relative poverty line is generally even a lower proportion of the absolute poverty line (which is the same in all countries as it is fixed in US dollars). For example, in Spain the relative poverty line is only 27.7 per cent of the absolute poverty line.

Table 5 and Exhibit 1 provide estimates of the absolute poverty rate for working households in selected OECD countries, defined as the proportion of households with at least one person having labour income living on less than \$14 US (1997 dollars) per day per person. A number of observations can be made from this table.

First, for all countries, the absolute poverty rates for working households, defined at \$14 US per person per day, are much higher than the relative poverty rates. Exhibit 1 shows that the average absolute poverty rate for working households averaged 11.6 per cent for the most recent year data are available in the 17 OECD countries, two times greater than the 5.7 per cent average for the relative poverty rate for working households. Of course, this result is somewhat arbitrary as absolute poverty rates depend on the poverty line one chooses. If the line were higher, the absolute poverty rate by definition would be higher, both in absolute terms and relative to the relative poverty rate.

It would be interesting to compare absolute poverty rates for the working households with those for all households and this calculation may be made in a future

version of this paper. For an indication of this comparison, it is useful to compare Table A17 from Tim Smeeding (1997), which shows poverty rates at a range of definitions of absolute poverty for the total population, with the results in Table 5 for the working population.

Smeeding's absolute poverty measure of \$14.40 per day (in 1985 dollars) gives an average absolute poverty rate of 10.9 per cent for all households for the 16 countries in his LIS sample, very similar to the 11.6 per cent rate found in this study for working households. The similarity exists despite the different base years for the daily poverty metric (1985 versus 1997); the different years covered (Smeeding's data are for somewhat earlier years for many countries); different sets of countries (relative to the set of countries used in this study, Smeeding's set of countries includes Japan and Ireland and excludes Italy, Finland and Switzerland); and the different populations covered.

Second, in contrast to the stability of the relative poverty rates, the absolute poverty rates for working population in OECD countries has been falling, reflecting rising real incomes. For the 16 OECD countries for which two or more years of LIS data are available, 14 experienced a decline in the absolute poverty rate between the first and last years for which data are available, with the average decline for all countries 5.1 percentage points. The exceptions were Germany and the Netherlands. Data problems and the inclusion of the former East Germany in the LIS sample after 1990 may account for this anomaly in the German data.

In many cases, the declines in absolute poverty rate were very large. The largest decline was in Spain (27.4 percentage points), followed by Canada (12.7 points), Norway (9.2 points), Italy (5.5 points), the United Kingdom (4.7 points), France (4.6 points) and Belgium (4.6 points).

Table 6 compares relative and absolute poverty for working households for the most year for which data is available. Table 7 provides data on the change in absolute poverty rates for working households (in both per cent and percentage point terms) between the earliest and most recent years available for the country and on the per cent change in real GDP per capita and real output per worker between these two years.

Charts 1 and 2 plot the data in Table 7. A negative relationship is apparent in both Charts. As income increases, the absolute poverty rate declines. The countries with the largest increases in real income, such as Canada, and Norway had the largest per cent drops in absolute poverty although the non-standardized nature of the time periods may merit caution in the interpretation of the data. Equally, the country with the smallest increase in real income, Denmark, had the smallest decline in the absolute poverty rate.

Third, the level of a country's absolute poverty rate for working households is closely related to its productivity and income levels, as Chart 3 shows. For example, the two countries with the lowest absolute poverty rate for the most recent year - Switzerland (1.9 per cent in 1992) and Luxembourg (4.2 per cent in 1994) - are countries with very high GDP per capita (119.7 per cent and 95.8 per cent of the US level in the year of the

most recent data (Table 7)). Equally, countries with high absolute poverty rates, such as Spain (35.8 per cent in 1990), have relatively low income per capita (52.7 per cent of the US level in the year of the most recent data).

Fourth, there is positive relationship between the absolute poverty rate and the unemployment rate (see Chart 4). The two countries with the lowest poverty rate (Luxembourg and Switzerland) also had the lowest unemployment rate. Equally, both Spain and Italy have high poverty rates and high unemployment rates.

Fifth, earnings inequality can also influence the rate of absolute poverty. A country with a high degree of earning inequality and high average income may have a higher absolute poverty rate than countries with lower income levels but greater earnings equality.

For example, the United States has one of if not the highest degrees of earnings inequality in the OECD, measured by the ratio of average earning in the top decile to that in the bottom decile (Appendix Table A19). It also has one of the highest average incomes (Table 7), but has a relatively high absolute poverty level because of the unequal distribution of this income (10.6 per cent in 1997, near the median of the absolute poverty rate for the 17 countries for which LIS data are available). As the reference year for the rate for a number of the countries is several years before the US rate reference year of 1997, most recent data for these countries may lower their absolute poverty rate and mean that even more countries have a lower absolute poverty rate than the United States.

This version of the paper makes no attempt at this time to estimate the relative importance of trends in income, in income distribution and in other factors in explaining trends in absolute poverty. Smeeding (1997) undertook a simulation analysis to decompose the change in absolute poverty into real income growth, demographic change, and distributional change. He found that changes in real income were by far the most important factor in explaining changes in absolute poverty, although changes in income distribution could offset changes in real income.³ In certain countries he found that increased inequality offset somewhat or completely real income growth and prevented absolute poverty from declining or mitigated the fall.

³ Smeeding found the percentage point contribution of increases in average real incomes to the change in the absolute poverty rate was the following: Australia (-2.0 points), Canada (-1.6 points), Sweden (-7.6 points), United Kingdom (-9.1 points) and the United States (-2.8 points). In three of the countries increased inequality made the following percentage point contributions to the change in the absolute poverty rate: Australia (0.7 points), United Kingdom (8.4 points) and United States (1.9 points). The periods varied by country, but in most cases included the 1980s.

III. Estimates of the Numbers of Working Households and Earners in Absolute Poverty

In addition to the absolute poverty rates for working households, it is possible to calculate both the number of persons and the number of earners or employed persons in these poor households.

The following steps were taken to estimate the numbers of persons in poor working households.

- The number of working (defined as at least one household member with labour income) and non-working households was estimated from the LIS files (Appendix Tables A6-A8); this allows the calculation of the relative importance of the two types of households.
- The average size of the working and non-working households was calculated from the LIS files (Appendix Tables A9 and A10).
- Based on the average family size and the number of working and non-working households in the LIS files, the total number of persons in each household type in the LIS sample is calculated (Appendix A11 and A12).
- The relative share of the total population in working households is applied to the total population (taken from the OECD data base [Appendix A5]) to obtain the number of total persons in working households (Appendix Table A13).
- The absolute poverty rate for working households (Table 5) is then applied to the number of persons in working households to estimate the total number of persons in poor households (it is assumed that the size of poor and non-poor working households is the same).

Exhibit 2

Number of Total Persons and Earners in Poor Working Households in OECD Countries (in thousands)

	Total Persons	Earners
United States (1997)	24,721	9,909
Spain (1990)	11,526	3,522
Italy (1995)	10,246	3,600
Germany (1994)	6,402	2,551
United Kingdom (1986)	3,824	1,405
France (1989)	3,244	1,186
Canada (1994)	2,106	852
Netherlands (1994)	1,904	762
Australia (1994)	1,531	616
Sweden (1995)	1,049	525
Finland (1995)	612	261
Denmark (1992)	427	198
Norway (1995)	369	156
Belgium (1996)	340	125
Austria (1987)	230	104
Switzerland 1992)	101	40
Luxembourg (1994)	14	5
 17 Country total	 68,646	 25,817

Source: Table 8.

Table 8 provides estimates of the total number of persons in working poor households in 17 countries for selected years (Japan is the only major OECD country in the group that is missing). Exhibit 2 provides estimates for the most recent year for which LIS files are available. In the mid-1990s, nearly 70 million persons in OECD countries were members of working households (at least one person with labour income) that had income of less than \$14U.S. per day per person. With 25 million persons in working poor households, the United States had by far the largest numbers of persons in this situation, reflecting both the large size of the population (by far the largest in the OECD) and the high absolute poverty rate for working people. The United States was followed by Spain (12 million persons in poor working households), Italy (10 million), Germany (6 million) and France (3 million).

As the LIS files have individual information on earnings, one can calculate the number of persons in working households and in poor working households, and based on the numbers of these households, estimate the average numbers of earners in the two

types of households (Appendix Tables A15 and A16). For example, in 1997 the average working household in the United States had 1.73 earners, while the average poor working household had only 1.12 earners. Not surprisingly, in all countries, the average number of earners in working poor households was just slightly above unity, while the average number of earners for all working households was much higher, generally between 1.5 and 2. Indeed, the more workers in a household, the less the chance the household will experience poverty.

The total number of earners in working poor households can be calculated from the number of working poor households and the average number of earners in these households (Table 9). For example, in 1997 there were nearly 10 million Americans earners who were members of household with total income below \$14 per day per person. In all 17 OECD countries for which LIS data are available the number was nearly 26 million in the mid-1990s.

IV. Further work

This paper represents a first draft. Additional information will be added to a later version of the paper. This information may include:

- estimates of the absolute poverty rates for the working population for countries not included in the OECD PPP series (Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary, Israel, Poland, Taiwan, Russia) by using the Penn Table or World Bank PPP estimates;
- estimates of the relative and absolute poverty rates for the total population (all households) and for non-working households (broken down into elderly and non-elderly households) as a point of comparison with the relative and absolute poverty rates for working households;
- estimates of poverty based on narrower definitions of the working poor, such as households with a member who is employed on a full-time basis;
- estimates of the poverty gap (and hence poverty intensity) for the relative and absolute poverty rates for working households;
- estimates of the average family size for poor and non-poor working households;
- estimates of the absolute poverty rates based on other definitions of the absolute poverty line, including \$14.40 US in 1985 dollars; and
- estimates of absolute poverty rates with different equivalence scale to ascertain sensitivity of results to the choice of equivalence scale.

V. Conclusion

This paper has provided estimates of relative poverty rates, defined as one half median equivalent income, for working households for 25 countries over the 1979-97 period and of absolute poverty rates, defined as \$14 per person per day, for working households for 17 countries over the 1979-97 period. The data source used to calculate the estimates are the micro-data tapes maintained by the Luxembourg Income Study. To our knowledge, this is the first time that this data source, by far the best for work on income distribution in the developed countries, has been used to estimate absolute poverty rates for the working population. Of course, the validity of the results in the paper depend on the reliability of the data used so the caveats and limitations that apply to the LIS data base (see Peracchi, 1999) apply to this paper as well.

The two key findings of this study are the following:

- there appears to be no overall trend in relative poverty for working households, with some countries experiencing greater poverty and others less poverty; and

- unlike trends in relative poverty, there is a distinct downward trend in absolute poverty rates in almost all countries. The driving force behind this development has been increased real income.

The findings of this paper are consistent with that of other studies on poverty trends in developed countries that have focused on the overall population (see, for example, Forster, 2000). Poverty trends for working households do not appear to be greatly different from trends for the overall population. This is because the vast majority of households have a member who received labour income and hence these households dominate the overall trend for all households. A second factor, at least for absolute poverty, is that increased real income reduces the poverty rate for both working and non-working households.

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Table 1: Relative Poverty Lines for all Households in LIS Data Base Countries, 1969-97 (expressed in National Currency Units)

Country / Year	69	71	73	74	75	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	94	95	96	97	
Australia									4,325				5,873				7,954					9,020			
Austria															74,246										
Belgium													178,191			191,005				229,200			268,468		
Canada		1,945			3,360				6,227						8,640				10,262		10,775				
Czech Republic																					231				
Denmark														49,749							56,868				
Finland														28,400					39,300				37,195		
France							17,000		21,477								36,000					44,358			
Germany			6,317			8,372			9,526		11,844	10,300					12,198					14,004			
Hungary																			77,379			113,181			
Israel							5,292							4,137							1,042				
Italy (thous)														5,250					8,439				8,902		
Luxembourg													233,310						371,655			433,998			
Netherlands											8,883				9,336					13,262		13,667			
Norway							20,930							48,716						65,721			71,201		
Poland														125,800							13,839		2,672		
R.O.C Taiwan									55,730					74,950						137,727			186,082		
Russia																					17,192		13,194		
Slovak Republic																					207				
Spain								147,500										429,424							
Sweden					12,157				22,900						35,334						58,095		60,409		
Switzerland										13,950												20,113			
United Kingdom	670			1,297			1,357							2,396											
United States			2,819				4,267							6,730						8,124		8,624			10,349

Source: LIS data base.

Note: All households poverty line defined as one half of median equivalent income. Median equivalent income is the median of net family income after taxes adjusted by equivalence scale. Square root of family size was used as the equivalence scale. Households with negative or zero income were excluded from calculations.

Table 2: Relative Poverty Rates for Working Households in LIS Data Base Countries, 1969-97

Country / Year	69	71	73	74	75	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	94	95	96	97
Australia									5.3				5.1				6.0				6.7			
Austria															1.5									
Belgium													1.6			1.2				1.3			1.9	
Canada		11.3			9.2				8.7						9.6				8.8		8.2			
Czech Republic																				0.9				
Denmark															6.2					5.6				
Finland															5.4				5.3				3.7	
France							7.1		4.7								2.2				5.7			
Germany			3.2			1.6			2.3		1.9	3.5					4.4				5.0			
Hungary																			3.4		5.4			
Israel							7.2							5.9						4.9				
Italy														6.6					10.5				9.7	
Luxembourg													2.5						2.8		2.4			
Netherlands											2.4								4.4		6.2			
Norway							4.5							10.2					4.8				6.4	
Poland														5.6						1.9		4.7		
R.O.C Taiwan									5.4					5.0					6.3				5.7	
Russia																				8.1		11.7		
Slovak Republic																				1.0				
Spain								12.9										6.1						
Sweden					2.8				5.7						9.6					7.5		8.5		
Switzerland										6.6										4.4				
United Kingdom	2.3			3.1			2.6							3.2										
United States				11.1			11.1							12.5					12.8		13.3			12.1

Source: LIS data base.

Note: Working poor households is defined as households with a least one person with labour income whose overall income is less that one half median equivalent income of all households.

Poverty rates are the head count ratios calculated on the base of poverty line - one half of median equivalent income. Median equivalent income is the median of net family income after taxes adjusted by equivalence scale. Square root of family size was used as the equivalence scale. Households with negative or zero income were excluded from calculations.

Table 3: Absolute Poverty Lines (\$14 U.S. per day per person) for all Households in LIS Data Base Countries, 1969-97 (expressed in National Currency Units)

\$14

Country / Year	69	71	73	74	75	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	94	95	96	97	
Australia									8,147				10,321				14,061				15,553				
Austria															115,878										
Belgium													392,860			420,856					447,878		456,500		
Canada		4,142			5,999				9,835						12,151				14,071		14,823				
Czech Republic																					n/a				
Denmark															71,384						81,684				
Finland															50,248				61,166				64,344		
France							35,245		51,880								68,089					74,294			
Germany			9,633			12,333			16,604		17,253	17,846					18,319						22,316		
Hungary																			n/a		n/a				
Israel							n/a							n/a						n/a					
Italy (thous)														15,523					19,519				22,969		
Luxembourg													420,316						460,722		511,800				
Netherlands											22,397				20,565						22,510		29,053		
Norway							47,117							77,719					94,779				99,561		
Poland														n/a						n/a		n/a			
R.O.C Taiwan									n/a					n/a					n/a		n/a		n/a		
Russia																				n/a		n/a			
Slovak Republic																				n/a					
Spain								684,926										1,552,493							
Sweden					23,499				39,901						57,195						80,272		89,387		
Switzerland										13,100											19,100				
United Kingdom	1,156			1,468			2,998							4,901											
United States				4,822			6,576							9,059					11,043		11,914			12,543	

Source: Appendix Tables AT2, AT3, AT4. PPP, NCU per \$, OECD Health Data 98 CDROM, "A Comparative Analysis of 29 Countries"; US CPI - Economic Report of the President, 2000; Average household size - LIS database.

Note: Working poor level is defined as follows: 1997 US\$14 per day per household member multiplied by average household size, adjusted respectively with US CPI deflator for given year and PPP exchange rate for given country-year.

Source:

Table 4: Comparison of Relative to Absolute (\$14 U.S. per day per person) Poverty Lines for all Households in LIS Data Base Countries, 1969-97

Country / Year	69	71	73	74	75	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	94	95	96	97
Australia									53.1				56.9				56.6				58.0			
Austria															64.1									
Belgium													45.4			45.4					51.2			58.8
Canada		47.0			56.0				63.3						71.1				72.9		72.7			
Czech Republic																				n/a				
Denmark															69.7						69.6			
Finland															56.5					64.3			57.8	
France							48.2		41.4								52.9				59.7			
Germany			65.6			67.9			57.4		68.6	57.7					66.6				62.8			
Hungary																			n/a		n/a			
Israel							n/a							n/a							n/a			
Italy (thous)														33.8						43.2			38.8	
Luxembourg													55.5							80.7		84.8		
Netherlands											39.7				45.4					58.9		47.0		
Norway							44.4								62.7					69.3			71.5	
Poland														n/a							n/a		n/a	
R.O.C Taiwan									n/a					n/a						n/a			n/a	
Russia																					n/a		n/a	
Slovak Republic																					n/a			
Spain								21.5																
Sweden					51.7				57.4						61.8						72.4		67.6	
Switzerland										106.5											105.3			
United Kingdom	57.9			88.3			45.3							48.9										
United States				58.5			64.9							74.3						73.6		72.4		82.5

Source: T1, T3.

Note: Working poor households level is defined as follows: 1997 US\$14 per day per household member multiplied by average household size, adjusted respectively with US CPI deflator and PPP exchange rate for given country-year.

Table 5: Absolute Poverty Rates (\$14 U.S. per day per person) for Working Households in Selected OECD Countries, 1969-97

Country / Year	69	71	73	74	75	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	94	95	96	97
Australia									11.3				9.2				10.5				10.7			
Austria														5.2										
Belgium													9.1		7.9					6.3			4.5	
Canada		20.7			14.2				11.7						10.6				9.5		8.6			
Czech Republic																				n/a				
Denmark															10.3					10.2				
Finland														15.7					11.0				13.1	
France							15.2		11.7								7.8				10.6			
Germany			5.5			3.3			6.3		3.3	8.2					7.0				9.1			
Hungary																			n/a		n/a			
Israel							n/a							n/a						n/a				
Italy														28.0					29.2				22.5	
Luxembourg													6.9						4.7		4.2			
Netherlands											14.8					9.6				8.2	15.8			
Norway							18.9							21.8						8.5			9.7	
Poland														n/a						n/a		n/a		
R.O.C Taiwan									n/a					n/a						n/a		n/a		
Russia																				n/a		n/a		
Slovak Republic																				n/a				
Spain								63.2										35.8						
Sweden					15.5				16.1						17.9					11.8		14.7		
Switzerland										4.9										1.9				
United Kingdom	13.9			15.1			11.9							9.2										
United States				14.4			13.2							11.1						11.4	13.0			10.6

Source: LIS data base.

Note: Working poor households below US\$14 per day is defined as households with at least one person with labour income whose overall income is less than 1997 US\$14 equivalent income per person per day.

Table 6: Comparison of Relative and Absolute Poverty Rates for Working Households
(most recent year for which data available)

	Relative Poverty Rate (%)	Absolute Poverty Rate (%)
Australia (1994)	6.7	10.7
Austria (1987)	1.5	5.2
Belgium (1996)	1.9	4.5
Canada (1994)	8.2	8.6
Czech Republic (1992)	0.9	n/a
Denmark (1992)	5.6	10.2
Finland (1995)	3.7	13.1
France (1994)	5.7	10.6
Germany (1994)	5.0	9.1
Hungary (1994)	5.4	n/a
Israel (1992)	4.9	n/a
Italy (1995)	9.7	22.5
Luxembourg (1994)	2.4	4.2
Netherlands (1994)	6.2	15.8
Norway (1995)	6.4	9.7
Poland (1995)	4.7	n/a
Taiwan (1995)	5.7	n/a
Russia (1995)	11.7	n/a
Slovakia (1992)	1.0	n/a
Spain (1990)	6.1	35.8
Sweden (1995)	8.5	14.7
Switzerland (1992)	4.4	1.9
UK (1986)	3.2	9.2
US (1997)	12.1	10.6
Average	5.5	11.6

Source: Tables 2 and 5

Table 7: Change in Absolute Poverty Rate for Working Households, GDP per Capita and GDP per Worker, Selected Periods

	Years	Percentage point change in absolute poverty (%)	Percent change in absolute poverty (%)	Percent change in GDP per capita (%)	Percent change in GDP per worker (%)	GDP per capita as % of U.S. *	Absolute poverty rate (%) *	Unemployment rate (%) *
Australia	1981-94	-0.6	-5.3			76.7	10.7	9.7
Austria						74.6	5.2	4.0
Belgium	1985-96	-4.6	-50.5	32.7	30.3	79.6	4.5	9.7
Canada	1971-94	-12.1	-58.5	55.6		83.8	8.6	10.4
Czech Republic								
Denmark	1987-92	-0.1	-1.0	6.5	11.3	81.3	10.2	9.2
Finland	1987-95	-2.6	-16.6			68.3	13.1	15.3
France	1979-94	-4.6	-30.3	22.7	30.3	76.1	10.6	12.3
Germany	1973-94	3.6	65.5			78.2	9.1	8.5
Hungary								
Israel								
Italy	1986-95	-5.5	-19.6	19.0	27.6	74.6	22.5	11.6
Luxembourg	1985-94	-2.7	-39.1			119.7	4.2	3.2
Netherlands	1983-94	1.0	6.8	26.8	11.4	76.1	15.8	7.1
Norway	1979-95	-9.2	-48.7	49.5	44.2	87.3	9.7	5.0
Poland								
R.O.C Taiwan								
Russia								
Slovakia								
Spain	1980-90	-27.4	-43.4			52.7	35.8	16.3
Sweden	1975-95	-0.8	-5.2	24.1	34.0	71.8	14.7	8.8
Switzerland	1983-92	-3.0	-61.2			95.8	1.9	3.1
United Kingdom	1969-86	-4.7	-33.8	39.2	42.6	71.2	9.2	12.0
United States	1973-97	-3.8	-26.4	58.6	33.7	100.0	10.6	4.9

Note: The longest period was taken for all countries

* Data are for each country for the year which most recent LIS data are available.

The unemployment rates are OECD standardized unemployment rates apart from U.K which is the official unemployment rate

Source: Poverty data are from Table 5, changes in GDP per Capita data and GDP per worker are obtained from BLS, based on their International Comparisons of Foreign Labor Statistics Data, <http://stats.bls.gov/flshome.htm>; GDP per capita as % of U.S. are from OECD, Main Economic Indicators, Dec 1998; Absolute poverty rate data are from Table 6; Unemployment rates are from the OECD Employment Outlook, June 2000

Table 8: Total Number of Persons in Working Poor Households in Total Population (thousands)

Country / Year	69	71	73	74	75	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	94	95	96	97
Australia									1241				1182				1459				1531			
Austria															280									
Belgium													700			605				491			340	
Canada		4022			2955				2586						2434				2270		2106			
Czech Republic																				n/a				
Denmark															442					427				
Finland															726				507			612		
France							7280										3244							
Germany			3331			1995			4213		2218	5391					4740				6402			
Hungary																			n/a		n/a			
Israel							n/a							n/a						n/a				
Italy														13469									10246	
Luxembourg													22						16		14			
Netherlands											1650				1090				983		1904			
Norway							691												344			369		
Poland														n/a						n/a		n/a		
R.O.C Taiwan									n/a					n/a					n/a			n/a		
Russia																				n/a		n/a		
Slovak Republic																				n/a				
Spain																		11526						
Sweden					1181				1248						1430						946		1049	
Switzerland										278											101			
United Kingdom	6985			7449			5500							3824										
United States				27415			26220							23126						24811		28984		24721

Source: Tables T5, AT12.

Table 9: Total Number of Earners in Working-Poor Households in Total Population (thousands)

Country / Year	69	71	73	74	75	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	94	95	96	97
Australia									449.1				460.2				567.0				616.1			
Austria															103.7									
Belgium													231.9			199.5				163.7			124.6	
Canada		1446.3			1065.3				993.1						979.8				898.5		852.4			
Czech Republic																				n/a				
Denmark															201.7					197.9				
Finland															305.8				220.6				261.0	
France							2577.8		n/a								1186.0				n/a			
Germany			1371.9			768.0			1580.1		805.9	2013.7					1980.9				2550.9			
Hungary																			n/a		n/a			
Israel							n/a							n/a						n/a				
Italy														4408.4					n/a				3600.0	
Luxembourg													7.0						5.1		4.6			
Netherlands											607.7				414.3				410.0		761.9			
Norway							264.7							n/a					138.4				157.7	
Poland														n/a						n/a		n/a		
R.O.C Taiwan									n/a					n/a					n/a				n/a	
Russia																				n/a		n/a		
Slovak Republic																				n/a				
Spain								n/a										3521.7						
Sweden					537.7				615.0						746.3					476.0		525.3		
Switzerland										129.4										39.3				
United Kingdom	1879.2			2579.6			1948.3						1405.0											
United States			10334				10652						9731.1						10393		12092			9809.0

Source: Appendix Tables AT13, AT15.

Note: Working poor households is defined as households with at least one person with labour income whose overall income is less than 1997 US\$14 equivalent income per person per day.

Appendix Table A1: World Bank Estimates of Absolute Poverty Rates in Underdeveloped Countries, various years

	Survey year	Population		Poverty	
		below \$1 a day (%)	Poverty gap at \$1 a day (%)	below \$2 a day (%)	gap at \$2 a day (%)
Algeria	1995	<2	<0.5	15.1	3.6
Bangladesh	1996	29.1	5.9	77.8	31.8
Belarus	1998	<2	<0.5	<2	0.1
Bolivia	1990	11.3	2.2	38.6	13.5
Botswana	1985-86	33.3	12.5	61.4	30.7
Brazil	1997	5.1	1.3	17.4	6.3
Bulgaria	1995	<2	<0.5	7.8	1.6
Burkina Faso	1994	61.2	25.5	85.8	50.9
Central African Republic	1993	66.6	38.1	84	58.4
Chile	1994	4.2	0.7	20.3	5.9
China	1998	18.5	4.2	53.7	21
Colombia	1996	11	3.2	28.7	11.6
Costa Rica	1996	9.6	3.2	26.3	10.1
Cote d'Ivoire	1995	12.3	2.4	49.4	16.8
Czech Republic	1993	<2	<0.5	<2	<0.5
Dominican Republic	1996	3.2	0.7	16	5
Ecuador	1995	20.2	5.8	52.3	21.2
Egypt, Arab Rep.	1995	3.1	0.3	52.7	11.4
El Salvador	1996	25.3	10.4	51.9	24.7
Estonia	1995	4.9	1.2	17.7	6
Ethiopia	1995	31.3	8	76.4	32.9
Gambia, The	1992	53.7	23.3	84	47.5
Guatemala	1989	39.8	19.8	64.3	36.6
Honduras	1996	40.5	17.5	68.8	36.9
Hungary	1993	<2	<0.5	4	0.9
India	1997	44.2	12	86.2	41.4
Indonesia	1999	15.2	2.5	66.1	22.6
Jamaica	1996	3.2	0.7	25.2	6.9
Jordan	1997	<2	<0.5	7.4	1.4
Kazakhstan	1996	1.5	0.3	15.3	3.9
Kenya	1994	26.5	9	62.3	27.5
Korea, Rep.	1993	<2	<0.5	<2	<0.5
Latvia	1998	<2	<0.5	8.3	2
Lesotho	1993	43.1	20.3	65.7	38.1
Lithuania	1996	<2	<0.5	7.8	2
Madagascar	1993	60.2	24.5	88.8	51.3
Mali	1994	72.8	37.4	90.6	60.5
Mauritania	1995	3.8	1	22.1	6.6
Mexico	1995	17.9	6.1	42.5	18.1
Moldova	1992	7.3	1.3	31.9	10.2
Mongolia	1995	13.9	3.1	50	17.5
Morocco	1990-91	<2	<0.5	7.5	1.3
Mozambique	1996	37.9	12	78.4	36.8
Namibia	1993	34.9	14	55.8	30.4
Nepal	1995	37.7	9.7	82.5	37.5

	Survey year	Population below \$1 a day (%)	Poverty gap at \$1 a day (%)	Population below \$2 a day (%)	Poverty gap at \$2 a day (%)
Nicaragua	1993	3	0.5	18.1	5.4
Niger	1995	61.4	33.9	85.3	54.8
Nigeria	1997	70.2	34.9	90.8	59
Pakistan	1996	31	6.2	84.7	35
Panama	1997	10.3	3.2	25.1	10.2
Paraguay	1995	19.4	8.3	38.5	18.8
Peru	1996	15.5	5.4	41.4	17.1
Poland	1993	5.4	4.3	10.5	6
Portugal	1994	<2	<0.5	<2	<0.5
Romania	1994	2.8	0.8	27.5	6.9
Russian Federation	1998	7.1	1.4	25.1	8.7
Rwanda	1983-85	35.7	7.7	84.6	36.7
Senegal	1995	26.3	7	67.8	28.2
Sierra Leone	1989	57	39.5	74.5	51.8
Slovak Republic	1992	<2	<0.5	<2	<0.5
Slovenia	1993	<2	<0.5	<2	<0.5
South Africa	1993	11.5	1.8	35.8	13.4
Sri Lanka	1995	6.6	1	45.4	13.5
Tanzania	1993	19.9	4.8	59.7	23
Thailand	1998	<2	<0.5	28.2	7.1
Trinidad and Tobago	1992	12.4	3.5	39	14.6
Tunisia	1990	<2	<0.5	11.6	2.9
Turkey	1994	2.4	0.5	18	5
Turkmenistan	1993	20.9	5.7	59	23.3
Uganda	1992	36.7	11.4	77.2	35.8
Ukraine	1996	<2	<0.5	23.7	4.4
Uruguay	1989	<2	<0.5	6.6	1.9
Uzbekistan	1993	3.3	0.5	26.5	7.3
Venezuela, RB	1996	14.7	5.6	36.4	15.7
Yemen, Rep.	1998	5.1	0.9	35.5	10.1
Zambia	1996	72.6	37.7	91.7	61.2
Zimbabwe	1990-91	36	9.6	64.2	29.4

Source: The World Bank, World Development Indicators, 2000,
<http://www.worldbank.org/data/>

**Appendix Table A2: US Consumer Price Index and Absolute Poverty Line
(\$14 US Per Day in 1997 Dollars) in Current Dollars, 1960-99**

	CPI		Absolute Poverty Line
	82-84=100	97=100	\$14 value
1960	29.6	18.4	2.58
1961	29.9	18.6	2.61
1962	30.2	18.8	2.63
1963	30.6	19.1	2.67
1964	31.0	19.3	2.70
1965	31.5	19.6	2.75
1966	32.4	20.2	2.83
1967	33.4	20.8	2.91
1968	34.8	21.7	3.04
1969	36.7	22.9	3.20
1970	38.8	24.2	3.38
1971	40.5	25.2	3.53
1972	41.8	26.0	3.65
1973	44.4	27.7	3.87
1974	49.3	30.7	4.30
1975	53.8	33.5	4.69
1976	56.9	35.5	4.96
1977	60.6	37.8	5.29
1978	65.2	40.6	5.69
1979	72.6	45.2	6.33
1980	82.4	51.3	7.19
1981	90.9	56.6	7.93
1982	96.5	60.1	8.42
1983	99.6	62.1	8.69
1984	103.9	64.7	9.06
1985	107.6	67.0	9.39
1986	109.6	68.3	9.56
1987	113.6	70.8	9.91
1988	118.3	73.7	10.32
1989	124.0	77.3	10.82
1990	130.7	81.4	11.40
1991	136.2	84.9	11.88
1992	140.3	87.4	12.24
1993	144.5	90.0	12.60
1994	148.2	92.3	12.93
1995	152.4	95.0	13.29
1996	156.9	97.8	13.69
1997	160.5	100.0	14.00
1998	163.0	101.6	14.22
1999	166.6	103.8	14.53

Source: Economic Report of the President, 2000; Table B-60.
http://w3.access.gpo.gov/usbudget/fy2001/pdf/2000_erp.pdf

Appendix Table A3: Average Household Size in LIS Data Base Countries, 1969-97

Country / Year	69	71	73	74	75	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	94	95	96	97
Australia									2.681				2.553				2.562				2.460			
Austria															2.178									
Belgium													2.832			2.806				2.651			2.457	
Canada		2.817			2.802				2.655					2.584					2.515		2.513			
Czech Republic																				2.654				
Denmark															2.056						1.999			
Finland															2.315				2.239			2.206		
France							2.767		3.145								2.578				2.379			
Germany			2.123			2.122			2.381		2.335	2.377					2.199				2.285			
Hungary																			2.896		2.639			
Israel							3.578							3.432							3.508			
Italy														3.473					3.078				2.980	
Luxembourg													2.887						2.692		2.712			
Netherlands											2.706				2.430				2.381		2.359			
Norway							2.486							2.413					2.277			2.190		
Poland														3.213						3.144		3.058		
R.O.C Taiwan									4.795					4.528					4.161			3.937		
Russia																				2.747		2.818		
Slovak Republic																				2.984				
Spain								3.702										3.407						
Sweden					2.178				1.970						1.876						1.832		1.848	
Switzerland										1.822										1.980				
United Kingdom	3.534			2.834			2.702							2.554										
United States				3.072			2.845							2.596						2.547		2.525		2.455

Source: LIS data base.

Square root of family size was used as the equivalence scale. Households with negative or zero income were excluded from calculations.

Appendix Table A4: OECD GDP Deflator Purchasing Power Parity Estimates for OECD Countries, 1960-97, NCU per \$

	Australia	Austria	Belgium	Canada	Czech	Denmark	Finland	France	Germany	Greece	Hungary	Iceland	Ireland	Italy	Japan	Korea	Luxembo	Mexico	Netherlan
1960	0.76	16.00	39.41	1.16		4.99	2.63	3.90	2.92	23.06		0.34	0.25	362.49	196.36		40.70	0.01	2.23
1961	0.76	16.70	39.50	1.15		5.15	2.75	3.99	3.03	23.18		0.38	0.25	368.99	209.61		38.83	0.01	2.33
1962	0.75	16.95	39.25	1.14		5.37	2.79	4.08	3.08	23.70		0.42	0.26	381.61	213.52		39.44	0.01	2.29
1963	0.76	17.30	39.86	1.15		5.60	2.90	4.28	3.13	23.68		0.44	0.26	407.91	222.04		40.09	0.01	2.37
1964	0.78	17.55	40.98	1.16		5.75	3.05	4.38	3.17	24.13		0.51	0.28	426.73	229.75		41.69	0.01	2.53
1965	0.77	18.04	41.93	1.16		6.01	3.12	4.38	3.20	24.42		0.56	0.28	432.55	234.99		41.68	0.01	2.61
1966	0.77	17.98	42.22	1.18		6.21	3.17	4.36	3.20	24.74		0.59	0.29	427.30	238.35		41.86	0.01	2.67
1967	0.77	18.04	42.33	1.19		6.41	3.31	4.37	3.15	24.64		0.59	0.29	426.90	244.43		40.87	0.01	2.71
1968	0.76	17.70	41.45	1.18		6.54	3.53	4.34	3.08	23.90		0.64	0.29	414.17	244.56		40.93	0.01	2.69
1969	0.76	17.29	41.00	1.17		6.65	3.50	4.40	3.05	23.50		0.74	0.30	409.75	242.84		40.98	0.01	2.72
1970	0.75	17.23	40.82	1.17		6.86	3.44	4.42	3.12	23.24		0.82	0.31	416.73	246.05	130.07	44.88	0.01	2.75
1971	0.75	17.33	40.85	1.14		6.99	3.51	4.45	3.19	22.70		0.87	0.32	421.13	244.85	140.25	42.15	0.01	2.82
1972	0.78	17.82	41.50	1.15		7.30	3.62	4.55	3.21	22.78		0.99	0.35	427.08	247.06	157.28	42.61	0.01	2.94
1973	0.82	18.11	41.81	1.18		7.59	3.88	4.64	3.21	25.59		1.22	0.38	456.73	261.92	168.83	44.97	0.01	3.02
1974	0.89	18.27	43.37	1.24		7.91	4.37	4.79	3.17	28.51		1.55	0.37	507.59	291.54	203.46	48.47	0.01	3.03
1975	0.94	17.80	44.53	1.25		8.14	4.50	4.98	3.06	29.32		2.01	0.41	539.54	286.07	234.67	43.99	0.01	3.06
1976	1.00	17.65	44.97	1.27		8.34	4.81	5.19	2.98	31.76		2.51	0.47	599.07	290.04	269.71	46.34	0.01	3.13
1977	1.03	17.46	45.23	1.27		8.54	4.95	5.28	2.89	33.57		3.11	0.49	663.78	289.71	293.31	43.87	0.01	3.12
1978	1.03	17.19	43.90	1.25		8.72	4.99	5.43	2.80	35.24		4.23	0.51	701.82	281.65	336.47	42.87	0.01	3.06
1979	1.04	16.34	42.14	1.26		8.61	4.98	5.51	2.67	38.40		5.47	0.53	748.03	265.78	371.29	41.87	0.02	2.92
1980	1.05	15.67	40.30	1.27		8.51	5.00	5.62	2.56	41.26		7.62	0.55	825.86	255.89	423.35	41.26	0.02	2.82
1981	1.05	15.13	38.55	1.28		8.49	5.07	5.70	2.41	44.79		10.35	0.59	891.41	241.46	451.34	40.08	0.02	2.69
1982	1.10	15.02	38.84	1.31		8.85	5.20	6.02	2.36	52.81		14.96	0.64	983.54	231.67	454.07	41.87	0.03	2.67
1983	1.14	14.90	39.35	1.32		9.12	5.43	6.32	2.33	60.21		25.22	0.68	1083.55	225.65	457.27	42.81	0.06	2.61
1984	1.16	14.91	39.54	1.30		9.21	5.69	6.49	2.27	69.23		30.25	0.69	1155.61	221.39	461.14	42.72	0.09	2.53
1985	1.18	14.84	40.50	1.29		9.28	5.79	6.64	2.23	78.69		38.36	0.70	1216.94	218.40	466.14	42.50	0.14	2.49
1986	1.23	14.88	40.96	1.29		9.47	5.91	6.82	2.24	90.27		46.99	0.73	1280.85	216.91	475.84	42.63	0.24	2.43
1987	1.29	14.71	40.49	1.30		9.60	6.00	6.80	2.20	99.83		54.35	0.72	1315.64	210.16	483.74	41.64	0.55	2.34
1988	1.35	14.39	39.82	1.31		9.56	6.18	6.75	2.15	111.14		64.30	0.72	1353.03	203.80	497.12	40.39	1.07	2.28
1989	1.39	14.16	39.91	1.32		9.54	6.29	6.69	2.11	121.81		73.77	0.73	1377.54	199.17	501.49	40.03	1.29	2.21
1990	1.39	14.04	39.45	1.30		9.39	6.38	6.61	2.09	140.80		82.63	0.69	1421.00	195.30	528.29	39.68	1.59	2.17
1991	1.37	14.17	39.15	1.29		9.18	6.30	6.51	2.09	161.15		85.72	0.67	1462.41	193.06	560.04	39.47	1.88	2.18
1992	1.37	13.99	37.82	1.28		9.15	6.36	6.42	2.07	170.23		83.10	0.64	1460.02	188.10	571.35	38.92	1.73	2.14
1993	1.35	13.86	37.30	1.26		8.79	6.09	6.57	2.10	184.34		82.93	0.65	1533.83	184.31	584.72	39.62	1.84	2.13
1994	1.34	13.92	37.29	1.25		8.71	6.15	6.62	2.07	196.20		84.05	0.64	1533.35	180.71	603.72	40.00	1.95	2.12
1995	1.34	14.07	37.65	1.24		8.63	6.01	6.62	2.07	208.12		77.75	0.65	1588.73	175.59	623.52	39.84	2.63	2.08
1996	1.34	13.68	37.19	1.22	11.70	8.50	6.02	6.58	2.00	214.94	74.65	77.81	0.67	1610.92	170.92	630.54	39.87	3.33	2.10
1997	1.34	13.61	37.10	1.21		8.53	5.97	6.51	1.98	224.53		78.30	0.66	1620.58	169.40	630.60	39.79	3.91	2.11

Source: OECD Health Data 98 CDROM, "A Comparative Analysis of 29 Countries".

New	Norway	Poland	Portugal	Spain	Sweden	Switzerla	Turkey	United	United
0.57	6.62		15.11	25.31	5.09	2.63	4.73	0.26	1.00
0.55	6.73		15.27	25.68	5.19	2.71	4.89	0.26	1.00
0.57	6.90		14.89	26.64	5.28	2.80	5.23	0.27	1.00
0.57	7.03		15.03	28.31	5.35	2.89	5.45	0.27	1.00
0.59	7.23		15.03	29.55	5.48	2.99	5.49	0.28	1.00
0.58	7.37		15.19	31.39	5.66	3.02	5.56	0.28	1.00
0.55	7.40		15.45	32.81	5.82	3.06	5.72	0.28	1.00
0.58	7.41		15.61	34.61	5.94	3.11	5.93	0.28	1.00
0.58	7.38		15.13	34.96	5.80	3.06	5.87	0.28	1.00
0.56	7.31		15.45	34.95	5.71	2.98	5.88	0.28	1.00
0.60	7.85		15.00	35.24	5.71	2.97	6.24	0.29	1.00
0.64	7.93		14.91	35.98	5.79	3.07	6.93	0.30	1.00
0.67	7.96		15.36	37.31	5.92	3.22	7.37	0.31	1.00
0.69	8.17		15.82	39.25	5.96	3.28	8.43	0.31	1.00
0.65	8.30		17.32	41.93	6.01	3.23	9.99	0.33	1.00
0.68	8.36		18.43	44.83	6.30	3.17	11.06	0.38	1.00
0.76	8.44		20.12	49.02	6.62	3.05	11.95	0.41	1.00
0.83	8.55		23.80	56.60	6.85	2.86	13.83	0.44	1.00
0.87	8.46		27.06	63.46	6.97	2.76	18.85	0.46	1.00
0.92	8.20		29.68	68.14	6.91	2.58	30.44	0.48	1.00
0.96	8.47		32.77	70.53	7.05	2.42	52.27	0.52	1.00
1.01	8.67		34.93	71.97	7.00	2.32	68.24	0.53	1.00
1.05	9.02		39.74	77.29	7.15	2.34	82.49	0.53	1.00
1.09	9.24		47.39	82.73	7.53	2.30	99.69	0.54	1.00
1.12	9.39		56.48	88.27	7.74	2.27	141.25	0.54	1.00
1.24	9.54		66.42	91.85	7.97	2.25	208.84	0.55	1.00
1.43	9.23		78.09	99.55	8.32	2.26	277.25	0.55	1.00
1.55	9.55		83.22	101.99	8.43	2.25	358.57	0.56	1.00
1.62	9.65		89.63	103.79	8.65	2.23	584.83	0.58	1.00
1.64	9.78		96.29	106.47	8.95	2.20	982.99	0.59	1.00
1.61	9.73		103.70	109.50	9.34	2.20	1491.00	0.60	1.00
1.57	9.60		109.92	110.38	9.94	2.23	2280.19	0.63	1.00
1.52	8.98		115.67	114.87	9.81	2.16	3666.03	0.62	1.00
1.51	8.93		116.96	116.96	9.83	2.13	5989.79	0.64	1.00
1.50	9.12		118.10	121.31	9.90	2.10	12104.49	0.65	1.00
1.51	9.37		122.03	125.10	9.97	2.06	22162.07	0.67	1.00
1.51	9.47	1.25	124.05	124.42	9.83	2.08	38536.76	0.66	1.00
1.50	9.62		125.26	124.26	9.81	2.04	68768.07	0.66	1.00

Appendix Table A5: Total population - Thousands of persons

	1969	1971	1973	1974	1975	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1994	1995	1996	1997
Australia	12553	13067	13505	13723	13893	14359	14516	14695	14923	15184	15393	15579	15788	16018	16264	16532	16814	17065	17284	17489	17838	18049	18289	18485
Austria	7441	7501	7586	7599	7579	7562	7549	7549	7569	7576	7567	7571	7578	7588	7598	7615	7659	7729	7813	7914	8030	8047	8059	8115
Belgium	9613	9673	9738	9768	9795	9830	9837	9847	9854	9862	9867	9871	9879	9888	9901	9915	9932	9961	10001	10045	10116	10137	10157	10185
Canada	21001	22026	22559	22875	23209	24036	24277	24593	24900	25202	25456	25702	25942	26204	26550	26895	27379	27791	28118	28436	29256	29615	29964	30231
Czech	9897	9831	9922	9989	10062	10246	10297	10327	10303	10314	10323	10331	10337	10341	10349	10356	10362	10363	10309	10318	10336	10331	10316	10303
Denmark	4891	4963	5022	5045	5060	5104	5117	5123	5122	5118	5114	5112	5114	5121	5127	5130	5132	5140	5154	5170	5205	5228	5262	5273
Finland	4624	4612	4666	4691	4712	4753	4765	4780	4800	4827	4856	4882	4902	4918	4932	4946	4964	4986	5014	5042	5088	5108	5124	5139
France	50318	51251	52118	52460	52699	53376	53606	53880	54182	54492	54772	55026	55284	55547	55824	56118	56423	56735	57055	57374	57900	58138	58375	58585
Germany	77143	78345	78956	78979	78679	78082	78104	78303	78418	78335	78122	77846	77668	77690	77718	78115	78677	79364	79984	80595	81423	81662	81895	82165
Hungary	10294	10368	10432	10479	10541	10685	10711	10711	10712	10706	10689	10668	10649	10631	10613	10596	10578	10365	10346	10324	10245	10106	10049	10174
Israel																								
Italy	53538	54073	54751	55111	55441	56155	56318	56434	56510	56579	56626	56652	56674	56675	56674	56688	56705	56737	56760	56859	57204	57283	57473	57488
Luxembourg	338	342	351	355	359	362	363	364	365	366	366	366	367	368	371	374	378	382	387	393	404	410	416	421
Netherlands	12873	13194	13438	13543	13660	13939	14034	14148	14247	14312	14368	14423	14488	14567	14664	14760	14846	14947	15068	15182	15381	15460	15523	15608
Norway	3851	3903	3961	3985	4007	4060	4073	4086	4100	4115	4128	4140	4153	4167	4187	4209	4227	4241	4262	4286	4337	4359	4381	4670
Poland	32300	32800	33371	33691	34022	35010	35256	35578	35902	36227	36571	36914	37203	37456	37664	37862	37963	38119	38245	38365	38544	38588	38618	38653
R.O.C Taiwan																								
Russia																								
Slovak																								
Spain	33566	34190	34810	35147	35515	36778	37108	37510	37741	37944	38123	38279	38420	38537	38632	38717	38792	38851	38920	39008	39150	39210	39270	39694
Sweden	7970	8098	8137	8161	8193	8276	8294	8311	8320	8325	8329	8337	8350	8370	8398	8436	8493	8559	8617	8692	8816	8837	8844	8848
Switzerland	6212	6343	6441	6460	6404	6333	6351	6385	6429	6467	6482	6505	6534	6573	6619	6671	6723	6796	6873	6943	7037	7081	7108	7159
United	55461	55928	56223	56236	56226	56178	56240	56330	56352	56318	56377	56506	56685	56852	57009	57158	57358	57561	57808	58006	58395	58606	58782	58841
United States	202677	207661	211909	213854	215973	222585	225055	227726	229966	232188	234307	236348	238466	240651	242804	245021	247342	249911	252643	255407	260682	263168	265557	267735

Source: OECD Health Data 98 CDROM, "A Comparative Analysis of 29 Countries".

Appendix Table A6: Number of All Households in LIS Data Base Sample

Country / Year	69	71	73	74	75	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	94	95	96	97
Australia									17021				8407				16331				7441			
Austria															11147									
Belgium													6471			3779				3281			4632	
Canada		25927			26569				15136						11960				21647		39039			
Czech Republic																				16234				
Denmark															12462					12895				
Finland															11863				11749			9262		
France							11044		3639								9038							
Germany			46770			46068			2862		42752	5159					4187				6045			
Hungary																			2019		1992			
Israel							2271							5000						5212				
Italy														8022					8188			8135		
Luxembourg													2049						1957		1813			
Netherlands											4833				4190				4378		5187			
Norway							10414							4975					8073			10127		
Poland														10646						6602		32009		
R.O.C Taiwan									15286					16434					16434			14706		
Russia																				6361		3518		
Slovak Republic																				15990				
Spain								23972											21153					
Sweden					10306				9625						9530					12484		16260		
Switzerland										7036										6301				
United Kingdom	7005			6695			6777							7178										
United States	11978			12328			15928							12600					16052		66014			50320

Source: LIS data base.

Note: Households with negative or zero income were excluded from calculations.

Appendix Table A7: Number of Working Households in LIS Data Base Sample

Country / Year	69	71	73	74	75	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	94	95	96	97
Australia									11550				6183				12135				5361			
Austria															6116									
Belgium													4313			2489				2584			2926	
Canada		20431			21767				12360						9498				16617		29488			
Czech Republic																				11386				
Denmark															9215					9238				
Finland															10424				10164			7904		
France							8901										5432							
Germany			33057			31797			2112		32286	3925					2862				4554			
Hungary																			1401		1172			
Israel							1941							3911						3992				
Italy														6016									5453	
Luxembourg													1558						1500		1310			
Netherlands											3161				2758				2955		3562			
Norway							8269												7361			8032		
Poland														8000						3465		19746		
R.O.C Taiwan									14990					15892					15740			13608		
Russia																				4481		2236		
Slovak Republic																				11439				
Spain																		15270						
Sweden					9118				8609						8761					10936		11888		
Switzerland										5615										4023				
United Kingdom	5668			5228			4877						4461											
United States	10208			10064			12980						9944						12681		51989			39856

Source: LIS data base.

Note: Working households is defined as households with a least one person with labour income. Households with negative or zero income were excluded from calculations.

Appendix Table A8: Number of Non-Working Households in LIS Data Base Sample

Country / Year	69	71	73	74	75	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	94	95	96	97
Australia									5470				2224				4196				2034			
Austria															5031									
Belgium													2157			1290				1237			1706	
Canada		5444			4756				2750						2449				4999		9505			
Czech Republic																				4847				
Denmark															3205					3626				
Finland															1432				1577			1346		
France							2100										3158							
Germany			13694			14255			746		10461	1234					799				1283			
Hungary																			618		766			
Israel							330							1089						1220				
Italy														2006									2632	
Luxembourg													491						457		503			
Netherlands											1604				1360				1401		1613			
Norway							2058												712			2082		
Poland														2646						3137		11840		
R.O.C Taiwan									296					542					694			1098		
Russia																				1871		1281		
Slovak Republic																				4551				
Spain																		5881						
Sweden					1159				988						729					1500		4337		
Switzerland										1413										2111				
United Kingdom	1336			1464			1882							2634										
United States	1770			2209			2913							2618					3342		13910			10400

Source: LIS data base.

Note: Non-Working households is defined as households without a least one person with labour income. Households with negative or zero income were excluded from calculations.

Appendix Table A9: Average Family Size of Working Households in LIS Data Base Sample

Country / Year	69	71	73	74	75	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	94	95	96	97
Australia									2.908				2.837				2.836				2.722			
Austria															2.737									
Belgium													3.295			3.286				3.096			2.925	
Canada		3.123			3.052				2.881						2.800				2.763		2.777			
Czech Republic																				3.119				
Denmark															2.317					2.258				
Finland															2.555				2.492			2.483		
France							3.174										3.034							
Germany			2.452			2.615			2.805		2.785	2.780					2.521				2.628			
Hungary																			3.342		3.171			
Israel							3.820							3.962						3.915				
Italy														3.518									3.411	
Luxembourg													3.133						3.088		3.094			
Netherlands											3.222				2.915				2.819		2.697			
Norway							2.818												2.559			2.452		
Poland														3.706						3.588		3.472		
R.O.C Taiwan									4.848					4.614					4.258			4.106		
Russia																				3.166		3.271		
Slovak Republic																				3.504				
Spain																		3.896						
Sweden					2.230				2.066						2.002					2.029		2.018		
Switzerland										2.173										2.627				
United Kingdom	3.947			3.180			3.090							2.967										
United States	3.315			3.092			2.810							2.774					2.746		2.656			2.821

Source: LIS data base.

Note: Working households is defined as households with a least one person with labour income. Households with negative or zero income were excluded from calculations.

Appendix Table A10: Average Family Size of Non-Working Households in LIS Data Base Sample

Country / Year	69	71	73	74	75	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	94	95	96	97
Australia									2.200				1.756				1.752				1.735			
Austria															1.410									
Belgium													1.905			1.912				1.806			1.725	
Canada		1.577			1.634				1.601						1.655				1.609		1.667			
Czech Republic																				1.565				
Denmark															1.304					1.339				
Finland															1.303				1.319			1.392		
France							1.600										1.868							
Germany			1.815			1.633			1.431		1.544	1.590					1.418				1.487			
Hungary																			1.887		1.765			
Israel							1.771							2.125						2.155				
Italy														1.895									1.839	
Luxembourg													1.632						1.742		1.687			
Netherlands											1.818				1.685				1.557		1.663			
Norway							1.312												1.331			1.378		
Poland														1.722						2.406		2.450		
R.O.C Taiwan									2.113					2.006					1.947			1.795		
Russia																				1.712		2.052		
Slovak Republic																				1.678				
Spain																		2.097						
Sweden					1.328				1.280						1.287					1.302		1.293		
Switzerland										1.289										1.661				
United Kingdom	1.781			1.598			1.697							1.858										
United States	1.679			1.729			1.675							1.680					1.696		1.695			1.643

Source: LIS data base.

Note: Non-Working households is defined as households without a least one person with labour income. Households with negative or zero income were excluded from calculations.

Appendix Table A11: Total Number of Persons in Working Households in LIS Data Base Sample

Country / Year	69	71	73	74	75	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	94	95	96	97
Australia									33582				17541				34411				14595			
Austria															16737									
Belgium													14210			8179				7999			8560	
Canada		63801			66429				35605						26595				45907		81886			
Czech Republic																				35512				
Denmark															21347					20857				
Finland															26636				25327			19626		
France							28249										16483							
Germany			81067			83164			5924		89910	10910					7214				11966			
Hungary																			4682		3716			
Israel							7415							15496						15628				
Italy														21162									18599	
Luxembourg													4881						4633		4054			
Netherlands											10185				8039				8329		9608			
Norway							23303												18838			19691		
Poland														29644						12432		68567		
R.O.C Taiwan									72677					73332					67020			55874		
Russia																				14188		7313		
Slovak Republic																				40077				
Spain																		59496						
Sweden					20334				17789						17537					22190		23990		
Switzerland										12203										10570				
United Kingdom	22374			16626			15070							13234										
United States	33844			31114			36476							27583					34823		#####			#####

Source: Appendix Tables AT6, AT8.

Appendix Table A12: Total Number of Persons in Non-Working Households in LIS Data Base Sample

Country / Year	69	71	73	74	75	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	94	95	96	97
Australia									12032				3905				7351				3529			
Austria															7091									
Belgium													4109			2466				2234			2944	
Canada		8585			7771				4402						4054				8046		15843			
Czech Republic																				7584				
Denmark															4179					4854				
Finland															1866				2080			1873		
France							3360										5900							
Germany			24858			23277			1068		16147	1962					1133				1907			
Hungary																			1166		1352			
Israel							584							2314						2629				
Italy														3802									4841	
Luxembourg													801						796		849			
Netherlands											2916				2291				2181		2683			
Norway							2701												948			2869		
Poland														4557						7548		29006		
R.O.C Taiwan									625					1087					1351			1971		
Russia																				3202		2628		
Slovak Republic																				7637				
Spain																		12335						
Sweden					1539				1265						939					1953		5609		
Switzerland										1821										3507				
United Kingdom	2380			2340			3194							4894										
United States	2971			3819			4879							4398					5668		23571			17085

Source: Appendix Tables AT7, AT9.

Appendix Table A13: Total Number of Persons in Working Households in Total Population (thousands)

Country / Year	69	71	73	74	75	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	94	95	96	97
Australia									10987				12913				13855				14365			
Austria															5337									
Belgium													7663			7618				7852			7558	
Canada		19414			20778				22160						23038				23925		24513			
Czech Republic																				8502				
Denmark															4288					4194				
Finland															4609				4634			4663		
France							47907										41550							
Germany			60427			61007			66442		66228	65979					67995					70230		
Hungary																			8283			7513		
Israel							n/a							n/a						n/a				
Italy														48044									45453	
Luxembourg													315							330		334		
Netherlands											11170				11412					11941		12023		
Norway							3650													4058			3805	
Poland														32465							23871		27117	
R.O.C Taiwan									n/a					n/a					n/a			n/a		
Russia																				n/a		n/a		
Slovak Republic																				n/a				
Spain																			32179					
Sweden					7617				7768							7971					7989		7162	
Switzerland										5627											5213			
United Kingdom	50129			49298			46405							41504										
United States	186319			190473			198502							207557						217278		222667		232415

Source: Appendix Tables AT5, AT10, AT11.

Appendix Table A14: Total Number of Working Poor Households in Total Population (thousands)

Country / Year	69	71	73	74	75	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	94	95	96	97
Australia									426.8				416.6				514.4				562.4			
Austria															102.2									
Belgium													212.5		184.1					158.7			116.2	
Canada		1288.0			968.3				897.7						869.4				821.6		758.5			
Czech Republic																				n/a				
Denmark															190.8					189.0				
Finland															284.0				203.6				246.4	
France							2294.0										1069.2							
Germany			1358.5			762.7			1502.0		796.5	1939.5					1880.5				2436.6			
Hungary																			n/a		n/a			
Israel							n/a							n/a						n/a				
Italy														3829.1									3004.1	
Luxembourg													7.0						5.1		4.5			
Netherlands											512.1				374.0				348.6		706.0			
Norway							245.3												134.5				150.4	
Poland														n/a						n/a				
R.O.C Taiwan									n/a					n/a					n/a				n/a	
Russia																				n/a			n/a	
Slovak Republic																				n/a				
Spain																		2958.3						
Sweden					529.7				603.8						714.5					466.1		520.0		
Switzerland										127.8										38.5				
United Kingdom	1769.5			2342.4			1779.8							1289.0										
United States				8867.4			9330.6							8337.4					9035.1		10914			8763.9

Source: Tables T6, AT8.

Appendix Table A15: Average Number of Earners in Working Households in LIS Data Base Sample

Country / Year	69	71	73	74	75	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	94	95	96	97
Australia									1.398				1.662				1.699				1.680			
Austria															1.547									
Belgium													1.513			1.548				1.565			1.543	
Canada		1.540			1.637				1.728						1.816				1.799		1.798			
Czech Republic																				1.779				
Denmark															1.698					1.666				
Finland															1.775				1.745			1.659		
France							1.501		1.493								1.481							
Germany			1.360			1.354			1.513		1.375	1.523					1.552					1.578		
Hungary																				1.692		1.607		
Israel							1.346							1.521						1.612				
Italy														1.470						1.738			1.550	
Luxembourg													1.427							1.548		1.513		
Netherlands											1.418				1.364					1.549		1.536		
Norway							1.411							1.893						1.766			1.710	
Poland														1.460							1.318		1.400	
R.O.C Taiwan									1.741					1.760						1.724			1.730	
Russia																					1.594		1.570	
Slovak Republic																					1.751			
Spain								1.561											1.519					
Sweden					1.348				1.449						1.479						1.469		1.438	
Switzerland											1.206										1.419			
United Kingdom	1.703			1.729			1.732							1.608										
United States	1.689			1.692			1.678							1.723						1.703		1.641		1.726

Source: LIS data base.

Note: Working households is defined as households with a least one person with labour income. Households with negative or zero income were excluded from calculations.

Appendix Table A16: Average Number of Earners in Working-Poor Households in LIS Data Base Sample

Country / Year	69	71	73	74	75	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	94	95	96	97
Australia									1.052				1.105				1.102				1.096			
Austria															1.015									
Belgium													1.091			1.084				1.032			1.073	
Canada		1.123			1.100				1.106						1.127				1.094		1.124			
Czech Republic																				n/a				
Denmark															1.057					1.047				
Finland															1.077				1.084			1.059		
France							1.124		1.120								1.109				1.091			
Germany			1.010			1.007			1.052		1.012	1.038					1.053				1.047			
Hungary																			n/a		n/a			
Israel							n/a							n/a						n/a				
Italy														1.151					1.217			1.198		
Luxembourg													1.006						1.008		1.007			
Netherlands											1.187				1.108				1.176		1.079			
Norway							1.079							1.093					1.029			1.049		
Poland														n/a						n/a		n/a		
R.O.C Taiwan									n/a					n/a					n/a			n/a		
Russia																				n/a		n/a		
Slovak Republic																				n/a				
Spain								1.365										1.190						
Sweden					1.015				1.019						1.044					1.021		1.010		
Switzerland										1.012										1.020				
United Kingdom	1.062			1.101			1.095						1.090											
United States	1.179			1.165			1.142						1.167						1.150		1.108			1.119

Source: LIS data base.

Note: Working poor households is defined as households with at least one person with labour income whose overall income is less than 1997 US\$14 equivalent income per person per day.

Appendix Table A17: Smeeding's Estimates of Poverty Rates in Sixteen Countries Using Absolute and Relative Poverty Measures

Country	Year	Absolute Poverty * Measure							Relative ** Poverty Measures		
		\$1/day	\$2/day	\$4/day	\$7.20/day	\$10.80/day	\$14.40/day	\$18/day	33%	50%	75%
Australia	1989	0.6	0.9	1.3	2.2	4.1	7.8	14.9	4.6	12.9	31.6
Belgium	1992	0.9	0.9	1.1	1.6	4.1	12.0	26.9	1.8	5.5	25.7
Canada	1991	0.3	0.4	0.7	1.3	2.8	5.9	10.2	4.0	11.7	29.3
Denmark	1992	0.8	1.0	1.4	2.1	3.7	7.6	17.0	3.1	7.5	27.5
Finland	1991	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.5	1.4	3.8	8.3	1.5	6.2	23.1
France	1984	0.7	0.9	1.3	2.6	5.2	12.0	25.5	3.2	7.5	27.6
Germany	1989	0.6	0.8	1.8	3.4	5.9	11.5	21.6	4.4	7.6	23.7
Ireland	1987	0.9	1.3	2.2	4.6	20.7	36.5	51.0	3.3	11.1	32.0
Luxembourg	1985	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.9	4.3	10.8	0.9	5.4	25.1
Netherlands	1991	1.4	1.9	2.4	3.2	5.7	14.4	29.3	3.4	6.7	26.2
Norway	1991	0.3	0.5	0.6	1.1	1.7	2.6	7.0	1.9	9.9	30.7
Spain ^	1990	0.3	0.5	1.0	3.3	9.5	21.1	34.3	3.5	10.4	29.9
Sweden	1992	0.3	0.4	0.8	1.7	3.0	4.6	7.5	3.2	6.7	23.4
United Kingdom	1991	0.5	0.6	0.9	1.9	4.6	13.1	23.1	3.4	14.6	33.6
United States	1994	1.1	1.5	2.3	4.3	8.4	14.1	20.3	9.4	19.1	35.0
Japan	1992	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.8	2.4	3.7	na	na	11.8	29.7
Overall Average		0.6	0.8	1.2	2.2	5.3	10.9	20.5	3.4	9.7	28.4

Notes

* Incomes are adjusted by $E=0.5$ where adjusted disposable personal income (DPI) = actual DPI divided by household size (s) to the power E: Adjusted DPI = DPI/s^{**E}
Penn World Tables, Mark V, were used to transform real incomes into 1985 US dollars.

** Relative poverty is measured as a percent of median adjusted disposable personal income (DPI) for individuals.

^ PPP taken from unpublished WorldBank data.

Source: Smeeding, Tim (1997) "Financial Poverty in Developed Countries: Evidence from the Luxembourg Income Study," Human Development Paper 1997: Poverty and Human Development, New York, UNDP. (available at www.olin.wustl.edu/macarthur/working%20papers/wp-smeeding/pdf.), Table 5.

Appendix Table 18: Poverty in Developed (Industrialized) Countries

(Percentage of the population below US \$14.40 (1985 PPPs))

	Year	Rate
Major Europe		
Belgium	1992	12
Denmark	1992	8
Finland	1991	4
France	1984	12
Germany (western)	1989	12
Ireland	1987	37
Luxembourg	1985	4
Netherlands	1991	14
Norway	1991	3
Spain	1990	21
Sweden	1992	5
United Kingdom	1991	13
Major non-Europe		
Australia	1989	8
Canada	1991	6
Japan	1992	4
United States	1994	14

Source: Table 18b, *Key Indicators of the Labour Market*, 1999 (Geneva: International Labour Office), based on the UNDP's Human Development Report, 1997 and Smeeding (1997).

Appendix Table 19: Basic earnings inequality indicators (1) in some OECD countries (heads of households between the ages of 25 and 54 (2))

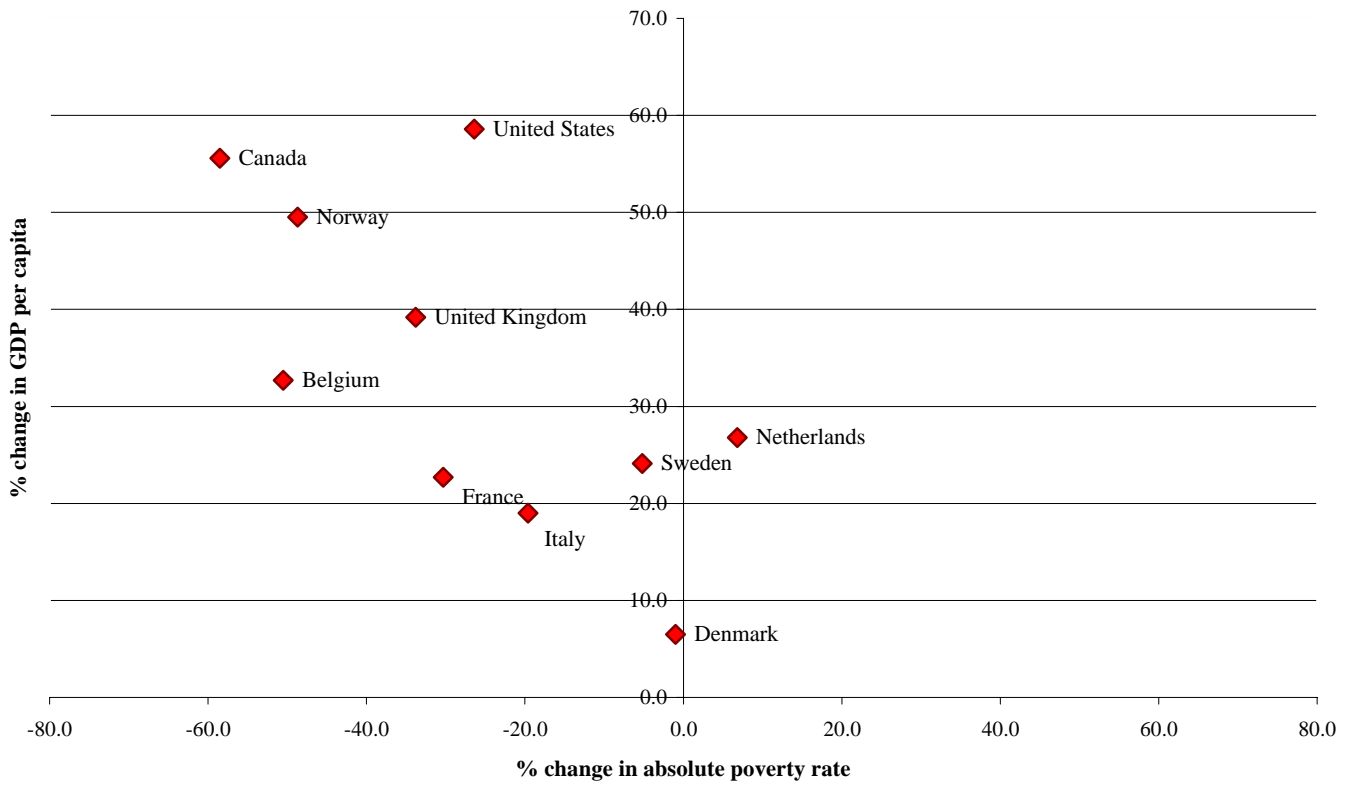
Country	Year	Coefficients between decile limits			Gini
		D9 / D1	D9 / D5	D5 / D1	Index
Australia	1981	2.48	1.56	1.59	0.21159
	1985	2.49	1.58	1.58	0.21933
	1989	2.59	1.61	1.60	0.22688
Belgium	1988	2.17	1.73	1.25	0.16434
	1992	2.06	1.56	1.31	0.17031
Canada	1981	2.77	1.59	1.74	0.22345
	1987	3.45	1.64	2.11	0.27055
	1991	3.83	1.70	2.25	0.28735
	1994	3.68	1.67	2.20	0.27919
France	1984	2.77	1.82	1.52	0.24845
	1989	2.90	1.92	1.51	0.26142
Germany	1984	2.45	1.68	1.46	0.21497
	1989	2.47	1.69	1.46	0.23511
	1994	2.99	1.73	1.72	0.24321
Italy	1986	2.34	1.56	1.50	0.20378
	1991	2.17	1.55	1.40	0.18531
Spain	1980	2.98	1.72	1.73	0.25927
	1990	3.04	1.73	1.75	0.26301
Sweden	1981	2.06	1.52	1.36	0.18533
	1992	2.62	1.65	1.59	0.23140
United Kingdom	1979	2.45	1.58	1.55	
	1986	2.87	1.73	1.66	
	1991	3.17	1.83	1.73	
United States	1979	3.75	1.67	2.25	0.27690
	1986	4.59	1.94	2.37	0.32358
	1991	4.93	1.87	2.64	0.31658
	1994	5.00	2.03	2.46	0.34757

Notes: (1) Gross salaries except for Belgium, Spain, France and Italy

(2) In the case of the UK, males of all ages

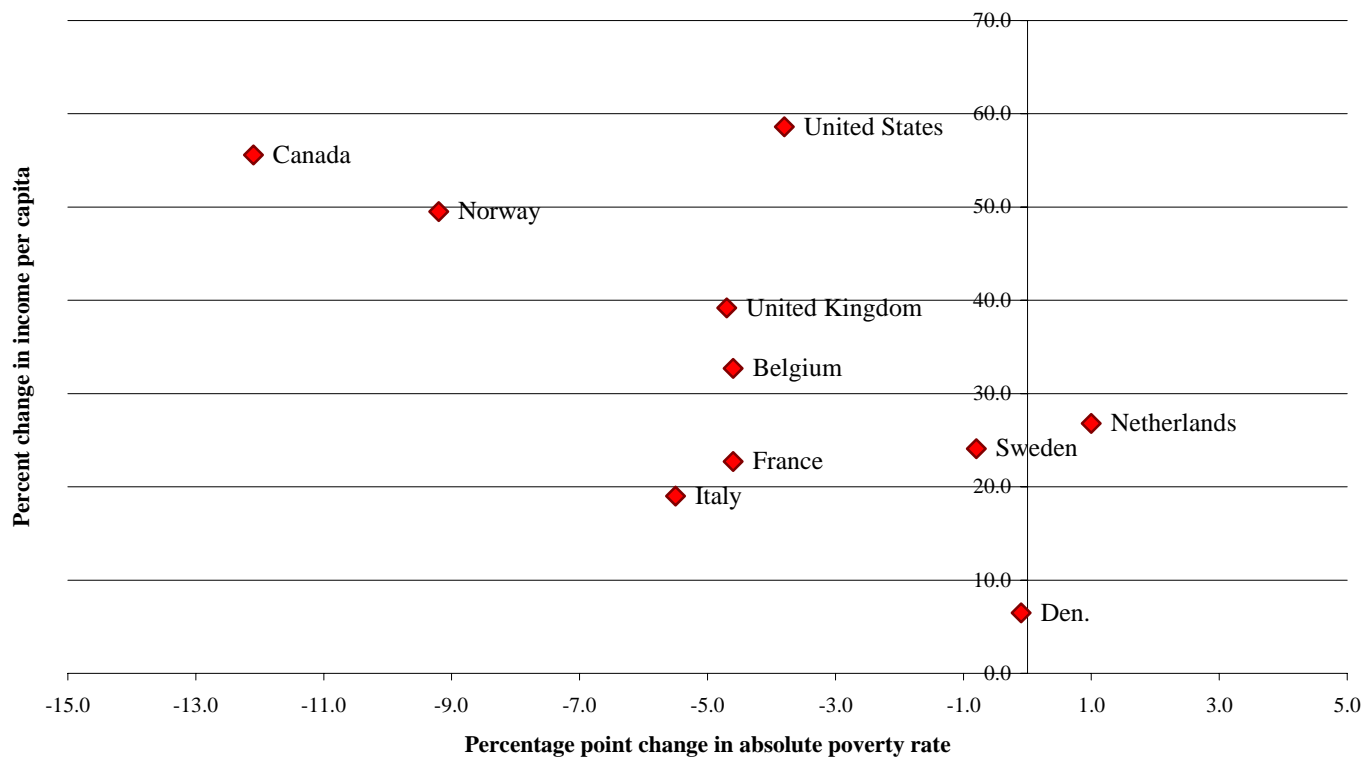
Source: Ruiz-Huerta, Jesus and Rosa Martinez and Luis Ayala (1999) "Earnings Inequality, Unemployment and Income Distribution in the OECD", LIS Working Paper No. 214, Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, Syracuse University, June.

Chart 1: Trends in Absolute Poverty Rates (Percent Change) and GDP per Capita in Developed Countries, Selected Periods



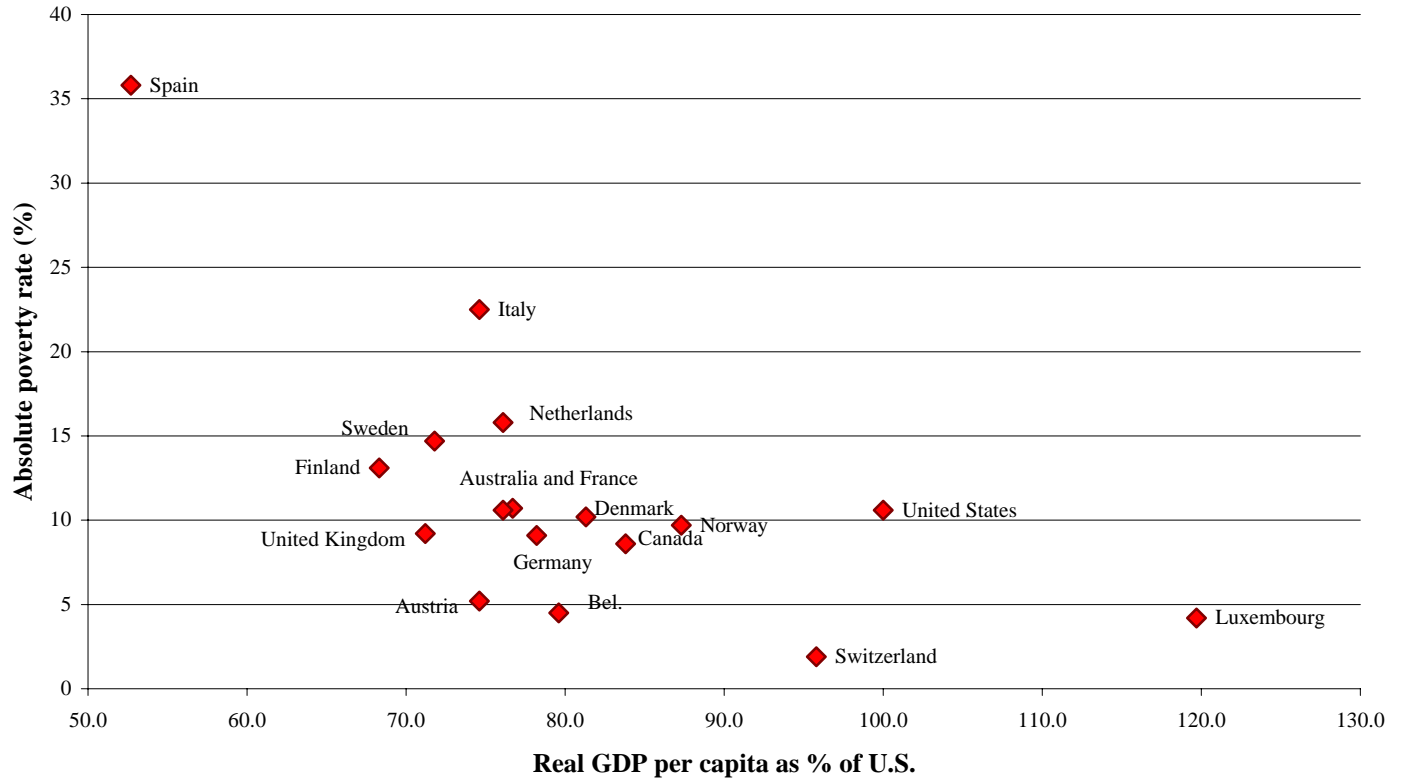
Source: Based on Table 7

Chart 2: Trends in Absolute Poverty Rates (Percentage Point Change) and GDP per Capita in Developed Countries, Selected Periods



Source: Based

Chart 3: Absolute Poverty Rates and Levels of GDP per Capita in Developed Countries, Most Recent Year



Source: Based on Table 7

Chart 4: Absolute Poverty Rates and Unemployment Rates in Developed Countries, Most Recent Year

