

TABLE 1—THE WORLD DISTRIBUTION OF INCOME AND LIFE EXPECTANCY:
INEQUALITY AND POVERTY INDICES FOR SELECTED YEARS

Index	1820		1850	1870	1890	1910	
	Estimate	SE ^a				Estimate	SE ^a
Income shares (percents)							
Bottom 20 percent	4.7	0.16	4.3	3.8	3.4	3.0	0.11
Bottom 40 percent	13.5	0.39	12.1	11.0	9.9	8.8	0.24
Bottom 60 percent	25.7	0.61	23.3	21.4	19.5	17.6	0.37
Bottom 80 percent	43.7	0.74	40.7	38.0	35.0	33.0	0.48
Top 10 percent	42.8	0.64	45.2	47.6	49.8	50.9	0.52
Top 5 percent	31.8	0.51	32.2	33.4	34.9	36.7	0.54
Summary inequality measures							
Coefficient of Gini	0.500	0.009	0.532	0.560	0.588	0.610	0.005
Theil index	0.522	0.018	0.598	0.672	0.745	0.797	0.017
Mean logarithmic deviation	0.422	0.016	0.485	0.544	0.610	0.668	0.015
Standard deviation of logarithm	0.826	0.016	0.873	0.919	0.971	1.027	0.015
Mean world income (PPP \$ 1990)	658.7	23.2	735.7	890.0	1,113.8	1,459.9	24.1
World population (millions)	1,057.0		1,201.1	1,266.0	1,450.5	1,719.0	
Poverty							
Headcount (percents)							
Poverty	94.4	0.32	92.5	89.6	85.7	82.4	0.38
Extreme poverty	83.9	0.94	81.5	75.4	71.7	65.6	1.21
Headcount (millions)							
Poverty	997.8	3.4	1,110.5	1,134.3	1,243.6	1,416.5	8.2
Extreme poverty	886.8	9.9	978.8	954.0	1,040.5	1,127.7	24.1
Life expectancy							
Mean	26.5				29.9	32.8	
Theil index (between countries)	0.012				0.032	0.045	

^a The computation of these standard errors is explained in the text.

Bourgignon and Morrison (2002)

TABLE 1—Continued

1929	1950			1960			1970			1980			1992		
	Estimate	SE*		Estimate	SE*		Estimate	SE*		Estimate	SE*		Estimate	SE*	
2.9	2.4	0.04		2.4			2.2			2.0			2.2		
8.2	6.8	0.10		6.8			6.1			5.7			6.4		
16.7	14.2	0.17		14.1			12.8			12.5			13.5		
32.3	31.1	0.23		31.9			30.4			29.5			28.2		
49.8	51.3	0.31		50.0			50.8			51.6			53.4		
35.0	35.5	0.31		34.1			34.2			35.0			36.0		
0.616	0.640	0.002		0.635			0.650			0.657			0.657		
0.777	0.805	0.009		0.776			0.808			0.829			0.855		
0.690	0.775	0.008		0.766			0.823			0.850			0.827		
1.064	1.154	0.007		1.161			1.210			1.234			1.184		
1,817.1	2,145.5	16.1		2,798.6			3,773.8			4,544.0			4,962.0		
2,042.1	2,511.3			3,024.7			3,664.5			4,414.0			5,459.1		
75.9	71.9	1.07		64.3			60.1			55.0			51.3		
56.3	54.8	0.42		44.0			35.6			31.5			23.7		
1,550.5	1,805.6	26.8		1,946.5			2,200.7			2,426.6			2,800.5		
1,149.7	1,376.2	9.0		1,330.1			1,304.7			1,390.3			1,293.8		
38.5	50.1						59.4						61.1		
0.046	0.025						0.012						0.013		

Table 2: Headcount indices: Percentages of population living below \$1 and \$2 per day

	\$1.08 per day at 1993 PPP							
	1981	1984	1987	1990	1993	1996	1999	2001
East Asia	57.7	38.9	28.0	29.6	24.9	16.6	15.7	14.9
Of which China	63.8	41.0	28.5	33.0	28.4	17.4	17.8	16.6
Eastern Europe and Central Asia	0.7	0.5	0.4	0.5	3.7	4.2	6.3	3.7
Latin America and Caribbean	9.7	11.8	10.9	11.3	11.3	10.7	10.5	9.5
Middle East and North Africa	5.1	3.8	3.2	2.3	1.6	2.0	2.6	2.4
South Asia	51.5	46.8	45.0	41.3	40.1	36.6	32.2	31.3
Of which India	54.4	49.8	46.3	42.1	42.3	42.2	35.3	34.7
Sub-Saharan Africa	41.6	46.3	46.8	44.6	44.0	45.6	45.7	46.9
Total	40.4	32.8	28.4	27.9	26.3	22.8	21.8	21.1
	\$ 2.15 per day at 1993 PPP							
	1981	1984	1987	1990	1993	1996	1999	2001
East Asia	84.8	76.6	67.7	69.9	64.8	53.3	50.3	47.4
Of which China	88.1	78.5	67.4	72.6	68.1	53.4	50.1	46.7
Eastern Europe and Central Asia	4.7	4.1	3.2	4.9	17.2	20.6	23.7	19.7
Latin America and Caribbean	26.9	30.4	27.8	28.4	29.5	24.1	25.1	24.5
Middle East and North Africa	28.9	25.2	24.2	21.4	20.2	22.3	24.3	23.2
South Asia	89.1	87.2	86.7	85.5	84.5	81.7	78.1	77.2
Of which India	89.6	88.2	87.3	86.1	85.7	85.2	80.6	79.9
Sub-Saharan Africa	73.3	76.1	76.1	75.0	74.6	75.1	76.0	76.6
Total	66.7	63.7	60.1	60.8	60.1	55.5	54.4	52.9

Chen and Ravallion (2004)

Table 3: Numbers of people living below \$1 and \$2 per day

	\$1.08 per day (million)							
	1981	1984	1987	1990	1993	1996	1999	2001
East Asia	795.6	562.2	425.6	472.2	415.4	286.7	281.7	271.3
Of which China	633.7	425.0	308.4	374.8	334.2	211.6	222.8	211.6
Eastern Europe and Central Asia	3.1	2.4	1.7	2.3	17.4	19.8	29.8	17.6
Latin America and Caribbean	35.6	46.0	45.1	49.3	52.0	52.2	53.6	49.8
Middle East and North Africa	9.1	7.6	6.9	5.5	4.0	5.5	7.7	7.1
South Asia	474.8	460.3	473.3	462.3	476.2	461.3	428.5	431.1
Of which India	382.4	373.5	369.8	357.4	380.0	399.5	352.4	358.6
Sub-Saharan Africa	163.6	198.3	218.6	226.8	242.3	271.4	294.0	315.8
Total	1481.8	1276.8	1171.2	1218.5	1207.5	1096.9	1095.1	1092.7
	\$2.15 per day (million)							
	1981	1984	1987	1990	1993	1996	1999	2001
East Asia	1169.8	1108.6	1028.3	1116.3	1079.3	922.2	899.6	864.3
Of which China	875.8	813.8	730.8	824.6	802.9	649.6	627.5	593.6
Eastern Europe and Central Asia	20.2	18.3	14.7	22.9	81.1	97.4	112.3	93.5
Latin America and Caribbean	98.9	118.9	115.4	124.6	136.1	117.2	127.4	128.2
Middle East and North Africa	51.9	49.8	52.5	50.9	51.8	60.9	70.4	69.8
South Asia	821.1	858.6	911.4	957.5	1004.8	1029.1	1039.0	1063.7
Of which India	630.0	661.4	697.1	731.4	769.5	805.7	804.4	826.0
Sub-Saharan Africa	287.9	326.0	355.2	381.6	410.4	446.8	489.1	516.0
Total	2450.0	2480.1	2477.5	2653.8	2763.5	2673.7	2737.9	2735.6

Chen and Ravallion (2004)

Table 4: Poverty gap indices

Poverty gap index as %	\$1.08 per day							
	1981	1984	1987	1990	1993	1996	1999	2001
East Asia	20.58	11.11	7.69	7.65	6.13	3.52	3.57	3.35
Of which China	23.41	11.82	8.17	8.87	7.34	3.82	4.18	3.94
Eastern Europe and Central Asia	0.17	0.13	0.10	0.11	0.84	1.22	1.85	0.79
Latin America and Caribbean	2.75	3.45	3.36	3.57	3.52	2.36	4.03	3.36
Middle East and North Africa	1.00	0.76	0.61	0.49	0.27	0.39	0.53	0.45
South Asia	16.06	13.86	12.35	11.00	10.21	8.97	6.63	6.37
Of which India	17.27	14.99	12.68	11.09	10.86	10.55	7.22	7.08
Sub-Saharan Africa	17.03	19.65	20.10	19.07	19.24	19.80	20.14	20.29
Total	13.92	10.20	8.64	8.23	7.62	6.44	6.19	5.96
	\$ 2.15 per day							
	1981	1984	1987	1990	1993	1996	1999	2001
East Asia	47.20	36.45	29.36	30.55	27.22	19.95	18.94	17.78
Of which China	50.82	37.92	29.67	32.94	29.85	20.33	19.79	18.44
Eastern Europe and Central Asia	1.39	1.16	0.86	1.35	5.47	7.00	8.18	5.94
Latin America and Caribbean	10.66	12.44	11.48	11.81	12.04	9.25	10.97	10.20
Middle East and North Africa	8.81	7.36	6.80	5.69	5.05	5.74	6.54	6.14
South Asia	45.78	43.02	41.86	39.92	38.84	36.52	32.98	32.35
Of which India	47.22	44.68	42.52	40.43	40.10	39.93	34.89	34.43
Sub-Saharan Africa	38.54	41.77	42.14	40.77	40.53	41.24	41.76	41.42
Total	35.02	30.79	27.86	27.80	26.82	23.76	23.04	21.21

Chen and Ravallion (2004)