

Table 7.3. Inequality of total income (labor and capital) across time and space

Share of different groups in total income (labor + capital)	Low inequality (≈ Scandinavia, 1970s- 80s)	Medium inequality (≈ Europe 2010)	High inequality (≈ U.S. 2010, Europe 1910)	Very high inequality (≈ U.S. 2030 ?)
The top 10% "Upper class"	25%	35%	50%	60%
<i>including: the top 1%</i> <i>("dominant class")</i>	7%	10%	20%	25%
<i>including: the next 9%</i> <i>("well-to-do class")</i>	18%	25%	30%	35%
The middle 40% "Middle class"	45%	40%	30%	25%
The bottom 50% "Lower class"	30%	25%	20%	15%
Corresponding Gini coefficient (synthetic inequality index)	0.26	0.36	0.49	0.58

In societies where the inequality of total income is relatively low (such as Scandinavian countries during the 1970s-1980s), the 10% highest incomes receive about 20% of total income, the 50% lowest income receive about 30%. The corresponding Gini coefficient is equal to 0.26. See technical appendix.