Effective Tax Rates and Progressivity in the U.S. 1910-2020


Interpretation. From 1915 to 1980, the tax system was highly progressive in the U.S., in the sense that effective tax rates paid by the highest income groups (all taxes included, and as \% of pretax income) was significantly larger than the average effective tax rate paid by the the total population (and particularly by the bottom $50 \%$ incomes). Since 1980, the tax system has not been very progressive, with little differences in effective tax rates across groups. Sources and series: see piketty.pse.ens.frlequality (figure 22)

