

**The GC Wealth Project Warehouse Documentation** June 2023

**Authorship Note.** This documentation file is the result of a collaborative effort supervised by Salvatore Morelli, the director of the GC Wealth Project, who conceived and designed the overall research project. The following individuals played crucial roles in editing, reviewing, and refining the current document: Twisha Asher, Franziska Disslbacher, Ignacio Flores, Adam Rego Johnson, Salvatore Morelli, Giacomo Rella, and Manuel Schechtl. Different subgroups were responsible for specific sections within the documentation and the appendices. Ignacio Flores was responsible for the overall data warehouse architecture and description, including the section and appendix pertaining to Supplementary Variables. Franziska Disslbacher handled the Wealth Inequality Trends section, including the appendix tables documenting the treatment and classification of each data source. Giacomo Rella led the Wealth Topography section, including the appendix tables outlining the composition rules and methodological choices for each source in the database. Twisha Asher and Manuel Schechtl jointly oversaw the Estate, Inheritance, and Gift Taxes section, including the classification of concepts used in the database and the corresponding appendix section. Adam Rego Johnson took charge of the data source classification and citation reference organization.

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**Section 1**

# The GC Wealth Project

The GC Wealth Project, a central project of the Graduate Center’s [Stone Center on Socio-Economic In-](https://stonecenter.gc.cuny.edu/) [equality](https://stonecenter.gc.cuny.edu/), is a multi-year effort aimed at expanding and consolidating access to the most up-to-date research and information on wealth, wealth inequalities, and wealth transfers and related tax policies across countries and over time.

The GC Wealth Project website — first launched in June 2023 — is organized around two main components: a data warehouse of gathered and novel data that can be visualized in a variety of ways through the [interactive](https://wealthproject.gc.cuny.edu/index.html) [dashboard](https://wealthproject.gc.cuny.edu/index.html), and a [Digital Library of Research on Wealth Inequality](https://wealthproject.gc.cuny.edu/digital-library-of-research). Both are designed to provide researchers, policymakers, journalists, and others interested in wealth and wealth taxation with open, unlimited access to an array of high-quality information and resources.

All of the data, including the tailored visualizations that users can create using the interactive dashboard, can be exported.

## The Data Warehouse

The data warehouse includes four databases, which correspond to the four sections of the dashboard:

* + 1. [Wealth Topography](https://wealthproject.gc.cuny.edu/wealth-topography)
    2. [Wealth Inequality Trends](https://wealthproject.gc.cuny.edu/wealth-inequality-trends)
    3. [Estate, Inheritance, and Gift Taxes](https://wealthproject.gc.cuny.edu/wealth-topography/EIG)
    4. [Inheritance Trends](https://wealthproject.gc.cuny.edu/inheritance-trends): coming soon.

To create and populate the sections of our data warehouse, we drew on a large array of data sources. The sections were filled by assembling secondary sources, extracting policy data, and/or querying and working directly with primary microdatasets.

The sources are all listed in our [Data Sources Library](https://wealthproject.gc.cuny.edu/data/data-sources-library/).

The data warehouse is also complemented with full metadata descriptive information. The metadata provide detailed information on sources of data, longer descriptions of variables and the concepts used, procedures of aggregation and estimation, bibliography links, and complementary information.

All the code we wrote to scrape, clean, process, and analyze the data is available in a GitHub repository. This allows for transparency and reproducibility of the results, and provides a resource for researchers interested in replicating or extending our work.

## The Four Main Sections of the Warehouse

1. The [Wealth Topography](https://wealthproject.gc.cuny.edu/wealth-topography) section includes cross-country data that capture, at the aggregate level, the evolution of household portfolios of assets and debt. Assets are metaphorically represented as “moun- tains and hills,” while debts are visualized as “seas” of debt. The data come from national accounts, household surveys, and a range of research projects and reports.

These data offer a unique view of aggregate household balance sheets. Country-specific portfo- lios are shaped by, and reflect, national characteristics, including demographic trends, inflation and interest rate dynamics, features of financial and credit markets, the relative importance of stock exchanges versus banking systems, the strength of asset management industries, and the preferential tax treatment of assets, as well as the preferences of households and the generosity of pensions systems.

1. The [Wealth Inequality Trends](https://wealthproject.gc.cuny.edu/wealth-inequality-trends) section presents a large comprehensive compilation of cross-national time-series data on wealth inequality. This section contains wealth inequality indicators (such as top shares and Gini coeﬀicients) for many countries, as estimated in the existing literature and as derived from existing micro data sources. These data are accompanied by Methodological Tables that provide systematic assessments of the underlying concepts, methods, and sources for the estimation of wealth inequality trends.

This section provides access to, and detailed information about, wealth inequality across countries and over time. To date, there is no comprehensive database that offers “off the shelf” indicators on wealth inequality levels and trends for a variety of different sources. Estimates of wealth distributions are much less settled than those of income distributions, and there is substantial controversy about how wealth inequality has evolved in recent years. A core value-added of this section is that users have access to detailed information about the values provided and methodological information that will help them to navigate the inevitable complexity. Users can also exploit our classification of data types, source types, and unit of analysis to guide the choice of the most suitable indicator for their purpose.

1. The [Estate, Inheritance, and Gift Taxes](https://wealthproject.gc.cuny.edu/EIG) section contains a comprehensive database on the evolution of estate, inheritance, and gift (EIG) taxation, both across countries and (forthcoming) across the U.S. states. This section focuses on the taxation of wealth transfers, that is, transfers from one household or individual to another, either when the donor is living (inter vivos gifts) or at the time of the donor’s death (bequests). When assessing taxes, we distinguish among three types of taxes: those levied on estates (on the total amount bequeathed), on inheritances (on amounts received by individual recipients), and on gifts (given by living donors). The EIG sections contain information on statutory tax schedules, marginal tax rates, top marginal rates, exemption thresholds, and tax revenues. Information on effective taxation is also derived and presented.

Understanding how governments tax these transfers is essential because bequests, inheritances, and inter vivos gifts are crucial economic resources for households and because their scale has increased substantially in recent decades relative to total national income. Very little work has been done to analyze how patterns of wealth transfer taxation affect the extent of these transfers across countries and across households within countries. This systematic compilation of tax data will provide researchers a crucial tool for scholarship and policy analysis focused on the behavioral effects of wealth taxes.

1. The [Inheritance Trends](https://wealthproject.gc.cuny.edu/inheritance-trends) section, forthcoming later in 2023, will present cross-country estimates of annual flows of wealth left at death as well as gifts from living donors. The included estimates will be taken from existing works in the literature or derived using a variety of approaches drawing on national accounts data and survey data, as well as estate, inheritance, and gifts tax records.

## The Digital Library of Research on Wealth Inequality

The [Digital Library of Research on Wealth Inequality](https://wealthproject.gc.cuny.edu/digital-library-of-research) is a large, comprehensive, searchable database that includes abstracts and (when possible) full texts of important, innovative, and high-quality articles, chapters, and books focused on wealth inequality. The library is updated regularly and categorizes the included literature into eight subsections. Complete reference information is available in the BibTeX format, as are abstracts and (when possible) full texts.

## The Stone Center on Socio-Economic Inequality

The GC Wealth Project is a component of the [James M. and Cathleen D. Stone Center on Socio-Economic](https://stonecenter.gc.cuny.edu/) [Inequality](https://stonecenter.gc.cuny.edu/), a research center housed at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York (CUNY).

The Stone Center conducts and promotes quantitative research using inequality as a lens on society, the economy, and politics. The faculty, postdoctoral scholars, and students working within the Stone Center share a commitment to scholarship that is data-driven, interdisciplinary, oriented toward policy and institutional change, and that addresses questions about inequality throughout the world.

The Stone Center’s core functions include:

* Researching the causes, nature, and consequences of socio-economic inequality, with a specific mandate to expand research and research capacity related to wealth inequality;
* Training and teaching emerging inequality scholars at The Graduate Center/CUNY across a number of academic disciplines;
* Participating in discussions and debates on inequality through public programs and collaboration with journalists;
* Engaging in special programs and projects, such as the [Inequality by the Numbers](https://stonecenter.gc.cuny.edu/inequality-by-the-numbers/) workshop, the [Lee](https://stonecenter.gc.cuny.edu/news-and-commentary/lee-rainwater-memorial-lecture-series/) [Rainwater Lecture Series](https://stonecenter.gc.cuny.edu/news-and-commentary/lee-rainwater-memorial-lecture-series/), the [Stone Center Working Paper Series](https://stonecenter.gc.cuny.edu/research-data/stone-center-working-paper-series/), and an ever-expanding compilation of [research spotlights](https://stonecenter.gc.cuny.edu/category/news/research-spotlights/) (briefs), [scholar interviews](https://stonecenter.gc.cuny.edu/category/news/scholar-interviews/), and [blog postings](https://stonecenter.gc.cuny.edu/category/news/blog/);
* Housing the [U.S. Oﬀice of LIS](https://stonecenter.gc.cuny.edu/about/us-office-of-lis/), the renowned cross-national data center based in Luxembourg.

The Stone Center was created in 2016 with a generous gift from the James M. and Cathleen D. Stone Foundation.

## How to cite our data source

If you are using more than one database from the warehouse in your work, the proper way to cite is as follows:

* GC Wealth Project Data, [year], accessed via [http://wealthproject.gc.cuny.edu](http://wealthproject.gc.cuny.edu/), on [date]. If you are only using one specific database from our data warehouse, the proper way to cite the database is as follows:
* GC Wealth Project Data - Wealth Inequality Trends Database, [year], accessed via [http:](http://wealthproject.gc.cuny.edu/)

[//wealthproject.gc.cuny.edu](http://wealthproject.gc.cuny.edu/), on [date].

* GC Wealth Project Data - Wealth Topography Database, [year], accessed via [http://wealthproject.gc.](http://wealthproject.gc.cuny.edu/) [cuny.edu](http://wealthproject.gc.cuny.edu/), on [date].
* GC Wealth Project Data - Estate, Inheritance, and Gifts Taxation Database, [year], accessed via [http://wealthproject.gc.cuny.edu](http://wealthproject.gc.cuny.edu/), on [date].

Please include the citation in your bibliography: If you use GC Wealth Project data in a report, mono- graph, paper, book, book chapter, journal article, dissertation, etc., include the citation in your bibliography, alphabetized under “G.”

**Section 2**

# General warehouse structure

This section provides a comprehensive overview of the general structure of the data warehouse of the GC Wealth Project.

The data warehouse is organized in long format with a total of nine columns.

First of all, important information codifying the nature of the variable listed in the warehouse is stored in the column named *varcode*, and this is detailed in its own subsection below. The column *value* stores numerical values like amounts in nominal currency, indices, shares, or rates.

There are five additional columns providing geographical and temporal information, population of reference, and sources (*GEO, GEO\_long, year, percentile, source*). The *GEO* column refers to 2-character ISO codes for countries, while the *GEO\_long* column refers to their full name. The *year* column is an integer variable, while the *percentile* column defines the population to which each observation corresponds. This is a string variable that takes values such as “p0p100” when observations refer to the whole population, as mostly happens with the Wealth Topography dashboard. Other percentiles, as appear in the Wealth Inequality Trends section, can be defined using values between 0 and 100. For instance, the top 0.1% share of the population would be referred to as “p99.9p100”. The source column contains information about the identifier of the specific source of the data.

Table 2.1: Warehouse Columns

GEO GEO\_long year percentile varcode value value\_str source longname last\_update

Finally, the variable *longname* is a string variable providing a description in plain language of each observation.

. This is defined automatically by an algorithm that draws all labels from our codebook/dictionary file (named dictionary.xlsx), available in our GitHub repository.

Importantly, the data warehouse is also available in a more detailed version, which contains a long list of de- scriptive metadata information. The complete warehouse is *warehouse\_meta*. Metadata include information such as comments on the methodology used to compile the data, and any limitations or caveats associated with the data, as well as detailed information about the definition of our variables, units of analysis, and full spelling of the sources of data, including links to full curated bibliographic citation details. The metadata version is essential for researchers and analysts who require a deeper understanding of the underlying data and its quality. It is available for download alongside the warehouse and can also be accessed through our website and repository.

## The varcode

The *varcode* column allows users to identify the variable and concept at hand. It is also designed to indicate information about the specific warehouse section and sector, as well as section-specific information. Each *varcode* variable has a pre-determined structure, and consists of five main components: Section, Sector, Variable Type, Concept, and Section-Specific info.

𝐴⏟

− 𝐵⏟

− 𝐶⏟𝐶

− 𝐷⏟⏟𝐷⏟𝐷𝐷⏟⏟𝐷 − 𝑍⏟𝑍

𝑆𝑒𝑐𝑡𝑖𝑜𝑛

𝑆𝑒𝑐𝑡𝑜𝑟

𝑉 𝑎𝑟𝑖𝑎𝑏𝑙𝑒𝑇 𝑦𝑝𝑒

𝐶𝑜𝑛𝑐𝑒𝑝𝑡

𝑆𝑒𝑐𝑡𝑖𝑜𝑛−𝑆𝑝𝑒𝑐𝑖𝑓𝑖𝑐

The first 1-digit component, Section, defines the broad section in which the variable belongs, such as the Wealth Inequality Trends or the Wealth Topography section.

The 2-digit Sector component provides additional granularity, such as the specific institutional sector being measured, e.g., the Household sector including the Non-Profit Institutions Serving Households., or the levels of kinships to which a given tax applies.

The 3-digit Variable Type component denotes the type of variable being measured, e.g., the Gini coeﬀicient, Top or Bottom shares, a tax threshold or aggregate wealth.

The 6-digit Concept component provides more detailed information about the variable being measured, such as the specific metric being used, while the 2-digit Section-Specific component can be used to further characterize the variable within a particular section of the warehouse (e.g., in the context of the Estate, Inheritance, and Gift Taxes section, each variable will be associated to a particular tax bracket if necessary).

Table 2.2: Section codes

code label

x Estate, Inheritance, and Gift Taxes t Wealth Inequality Trends

p Wealth Topography

## Supplementary variables

To facilitate broader use and comparability of the general warehouse data, a set of additional supplementary variables covering various applications – World Inequality Database, World Bank, and political data – has been provided. These additional variables are available on our GitHub repository and stored in a downloadable file named “supplementary\_var”. This file contains all the supplementary information, and it is structured in a wide format i.e., all additional variables displayed in columns, with each row uniquely identified by the combination of *GEO* and *year*. Therefore, these supplementary variables can be merged with the warehouse data using *GEO* and *year* as identifiers.

The World Inequality Database – downloaded on November 4th, 2022 – allows our website to offer various transformations of the data through data visualizations.. These transformations encompass inflation adjustments, currency conversion rates, population estimates (such as per capita or per adult), and macroeconomic values, and are intended to enhance users’ capacity for insightful comparisons and analysis. ~~The data used for these transformations is sourced from the World Inequality Database, downloaded on November 4th, 2022.~~

Furthermore, to improve comparability with other institutional data, we provide the official country denomination adopted by the World Bank, along with their income groups classification updated as of July 1, 2024 (low, lower-middle, upper-middle, high income) and regional classification (East Asia & Pacific, Europe & Central Asia, Latin America & Caribbean, Middle East & North Africa, North America, South Asia, Sub-Saharan Africa). [World Bank – <https://datatopics.worldbank.org/world-development-indicators/the-world-by-income-and-region.html> REFERENCE TO BE ADDED BY ADAM].

For additional details about the income group classification, please visit the “Knowledge Base” page of the World Bank.

Lastly, to foster interdisciplinary use of our data and stimulate research across the entire spectrum of social sciences, we introduce a new variable that captures the political orientation of the government in charge each year. This variable categorizes governments based on their political orientation (hegemony of right-wing, dominance of right-wing, balance between left and right parties, dominance of left, hegemony of left), by combining two primary sources concerning the political spectrum and election results [Armingeon et al., 2023, Comparative Political Data Set, 1960-2021; Holger et al., 2023, Parliaments and Government Database (ParlGov) - REFERENCES TO BE ADDED BY ADAM], both widely used in the European Journal of Political Research.

The definition of the political orientation adopted in these two main sources is based on the government composition. Following Armingeon et al., (2023, Comparative Political Data Set, 1960-2021), the cabinet composition takes different values depending on the ratio of the party seats in parliament over the total parliamentary seats of *all* governing parties. For example, there will be a “dominance of social-democratic and other left parties” if the seat share of all social-democratic and left governing parties exceeds 66.67% of the total parliamentary seats of all governing parties. Conversely, there is a “hegemony of right-wing (and centre) parties)” when no left-wing parties participate in the cabinet. The definitions of left and right in Armingeon et al., (2023) and Holger et al., (2023, ParlGov Database) follow the political science literature and are detailed in their specific documentation.

Due to distinctive nature of the United States political spectrum and history, its political cycle is typically identified using “Democrat” and “Republican”.

~~We have made the code used to extract these variables available on our GitHub repository, which are stored in a downloadable file called “supplementary\_var.xlsx”. Users can easily access and review the code, enabling them to understand the data processing steps and reproduce the results displayed in our website if desired. This file contains all the relevant data in a structured format, allowing users to explore the variables at their own pace and integrate them into their own analyses.~~

Table [A.1](#_bookmark66) in Appendix [A](#_bookmark65) below provides a summary of the supplementary variables employed in the project. For more comprehensive information on the construction of these variables, please consult their original documentation [**blanchet2017prices**, **blanchet2016sna;** Armingeon et al., (2023); Holger et al., (2023, ParlGov Database; World Bank].

**Section 3**

# Wealth Topography Section

## Introduction to the Wealth Topography Section

The Wealth Topography section includes cross-country data that capture, at the aggregate level, the evolution of household portfolios of assets and debt. Assets are metaphorically represented as “mountains and hills,” while debts are visualized as “seas” of debt. The data come from national accounts, household surveys, and a range of research projects and reports.

These data offer a unique view of aggregate household balance sheets. Country-specific portfolios are shaped by, and reflect, national characteristics, including demographic trends, inflation and interest rate dynamics, features of financial and credit markets, the relative importance of stock exchanges versus banking systems, the strength of asset management industries, and the preferential tax treatment of assets, as well as the preferences of households and the generosity of pensions systems.

This chapter introduces the reader the categories of the Wealth Topography database and the construction of each concept. We refer the interested reader to the Technical Documentation of the Wealth Topography for all information related the treatment of each source of data as well as the country-specific data coverage.

## The varcode in the Wealth Topography section

As described in the general warehouse structure section, for each country-source pair, the varcode is a string that identifies a unique time-series by means of five elements. The first element of the varcode is a 1-digit

code that identifies the Section of the GC Wealth Project, which for the case of the Wealth Topography takes the value p. Hence, varcode takes the following form:

𝑝⏟

− 𝐵⏟𝐵 − 𝐶⏟𝐶

− 𝐷⏟⏟𝐷⏟𝐷𝐷⏟𝐷⏟𝐷 − 𝑍⏟𝑍

### Sector

Section

Sector

Variable Type

Concept

Section Specific

The second element of the varcode identifies the sector to which the time-series refers to. The Wealth Topography reports aggregate wealth and the composition of assets and liabilities of three institutional sectors: Households, NPISH (non-profit institutions serving households), and Households & NPISH sectors.[1](#_bookmark14) The classification of institutional sectors used in the Wealth Topography (and in the GC Wealth Project more in in general) mirrors the classification used by the System of National Accounts 2008 (SNA2008, hereafter) and its European counterpart, the European System of Accounts 2010 (ESA2010. hereafter). The institutional sectors are reported in Table [3.1](#_bookmark13), where the column ‘Code’ reports the sector identifier used in the varcode while the column ‘Description’ reports a detailed, non-technical, description of each sector.

Table 3.1: Wealth Topography: Sector

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Code | Sector | Description |
| hs | Households | The household sector gathers together all individuals or group of |
|  | | individuals who live together, who pool their income and wealth, |
| and make joint economic decisions (e.g., consumption). The |
| household sector is one of the institutional sectors constituting |
| the national economy. |

1Other institutional sectors (non-financial corporations sector, financial corporations sector, general government sector, and the rest of the world) are not currently included in the database.

hn Households & NPISH

The households and NPISH sector (non-profit institutions serving households) gathers together households (all individuals or group of individuals who live together, who pool their income and wealth, and make joint economic decisions) and non-profit organizations that primarily provide services to households (such as charities, religious institutions, and social clubs). The household and NPISH sector is one of the institutional sectors constituting the national economy.

### Variable Type: consolidation

np

NPISH

The NPISH (non-profit institutions serving households) sector gathers together non-profit organizations that primarily provide services to households. This includes organizations such as charities, religious institutions, and social clubs. The NPISH sector is one of the institutional sectors constituting the national

economy.

The third element of the varcode identifies the Variable Type which, in the Wealth Topography, coincides with the consolidation status. The Wealth Topography reports outstanding levels of assets and liabilities and net wealth for the institutional sectors considered. In the SNA2008, outstanding levels or stocks for a given sector are obtained by aggregating the accounts of the units of the sector, and the aggregation process can differ according to the treatment of transactions within the sector. Within-sector transactions can be consolidated or non-consolidated accounts. Consolidation refers to the practice of eliminating any transaction between units or sub-sectors within the same sector. In this case, any remaining transaction is a transaction with other institutional sector of the economy. For example, in a consolidated financial account, a loan between two households within the households sector would be eliminated, and the remaining loans would reflect transactions with other sectors of the economy (e.g., the rest of the world, the government sector, the non-financial corporations sector, or the financial corporations sector). In contrast, in a non-consolidated account, such an elimination is not carried out and the aggregation across units within the same sector includes all types of transactions, regardless of the counterpart. In this case, a loan between two households within the Households sector would be counted both as an asset and a liability. In practice, most of statistical agencies publishes only non-consolidated accounts because the construction of consolidated account requires

knowing who is the sender and who is the recipient of all transactions.

Table [3.2](#_bookmark16) reports under the column ‘Code’ the consolidation status identifier used in the varcode of the Wealth Topography while the column ‘Description’ reports a detailed, non-technical description. If a source in the Wealth Topography does not provide any information about about the consolidation status, we classify them simply as ‘Aggregate’.

Table 3.2: Wealth Topography: Variable Type

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Code | Consolidation status | Description |
| agc | Aggregate (Consolidated) | Aggregate value for a given institutional sector for which |
|  |  | transactions that occur between units within the same sector are |
|  |  | eliminated. |
| agn | Aggregate | Aggregate value for a given institutional sector for which |
|  | (Non-consolidated) | transactions that occur between units within the same sector are |
|  |  | not eliminated. This may result in double-counting of assets and |
|  |  | liabilities |
| agg | Aggregate | Aggregate value for a given institutional sector. The value is |
|  |  | reported without knowing whether transactions that occur |
|  |  | between units within the same sector are eliminated or kept |
|  |  | during the aggregation. |

### Concept

The fourth element of the varcode identifies the Concept. In the Wealth Topography, a concept is a macro- category of the balance sheet, computed by aggregating different asset and liability classes. The construction of such concepts and the aggregation procedure are explained in Section [3.3](#_bookmark20). The concepts and the corre- sponding identifiers used in the varcode of the Wealth Topography, together with a detailed description, are reported in Table [3.2](#_bookmark16).

Table 3.3: Wealth Topography: Concept

Code Concept Description

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| netwea | Net Wealth | Net wealth is the sum of all tangible assets (real estate |
|  |  | properties and land, valuables, plants, machineries, equipment, |
|  |  | etc.) and intangible assets (stocks, bonds, balances of current, |
|  |  | saving, and investment accounts, private pension and life |
|  |  | insurance funds, etc.) minus the sum of all debts and liabilities |
|  |  | (mortgages, loans, and credit card debt). |
| nnhass | Financial Assets & Fixed | Sum of all financial assets (such as stocks, shares or equities in |
|  | Capital of Personal | corporations and quasi-corporations, corporate and government |
|  | Businesses | bonds, mutual funds, cash, current, savings and investment |
|  |  | accounts, time deposits or certificates of deposit (CDs), |
|  |  | accumulated balance in private pension funds, cash or reserve |
|  |  | value of life insurance funds, etc.) and the fixed capital stock of |
|  |  | small personal businesses of producer households (such as plants, |
|  |  | machinery, equipment, inventories, software, and goodwill). |
| fliabi | Debt | Debts, or liabilities, are financial obligations that generally result |
|  |  | from borrowing. For households, the most common form of debt |
|  |  | is the mortgage, a loan taken out by an individual or a household |
|  |  | to purchase a home or other real estate properties. Other forms |
|  |  | of debt include credit card debts, auto loans, and student loans. |
| facdbl | Cash, Deposits, Bonds & | Cash can be held in the form of banknotes, coins, or digital |
|  | Loans | currency. Bonds represent a loan made by households to a |
|  |  | corporation or government entity and provide a fixed return to |
|  |  | the investor in the form of interest payments. Deposits include |
|  |  | both current accounts (available on demand) and savings |
|  |  | accounts (generally interest-bearing instruments with limited |
|  |  | withdrawal). Loans are the money lent to individuals or |
|  |  | households for which they owe the principal and interests to the |
|  |  | creditors. |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| faeqfd | Stocks, Business Equities | Stocks (or shares) and business equities are securities |
|  | & Fund Shares | representing the ownership in a corporation or quasi-corporation |
|  |  | and entitling the holder to a portion of the company’s profits. |
|  |  | Fund shares represent the participation in mutual or investment |
|  |  | funds which are investment vehicles that pool together money |
|  |  | from multiple investors to purchase a portfolios of securities such |
|  |  | as stocks, bonds, or other assets. |
| falipe | Pensions & Life Insurance | Private pension assets refer to funds that are set aside by an |
|  |  | individual (or an employer) to provide income during retirement |
|  |  | (excluding public pension and social security schemes). Pension |
|  |  | assets can take the form of defined benefit plans (retirement |
|  |  | income benefits are fixed) or defined contribution plans |
|  |  | (retirement income benefits are dependent on contributions). |
|  |  | Life insurance assets refer to the cash value or reserve value of a |
|  |  | life insurance policy (where the policyholder pays premiums in |
|  |  | exchange for a death benefit that is paid out to their |
|  |  | beneficiaries upon their death). |
| nfabus | Fixed Capital of Personal | Fixed capital of small personal businesses represents the |
|  | Businesses | non-financial assets that are used by a small personal business to |
|  |  | produce goods or services and to support the ongoing operations |
|  |  | of the business. This category includes both tangible assets |
|  |  | (such as plants, machineries, equipment, inventories, valuables) |
|  |  | and intangible assets (such as software and goodwill). |
| nfadur | Durable Goods | Durable goods are goods used by households and individuals for |
|  |  | consumption that may be used repeatedly over time (such as |
|  |  | appliances, furniture, vehicles, boats, aircrafts, jewelries, |
|  |  | antiques, works of art, and collections). |

nfahou Housing & Land

Housing identifies the value of residential buildings or structures that are owned by households (may include single-family homes, apartments, condominiums, and other types of housing). Land assets include agricultural land, residential land, commercial land, and industrial land. The value land on which housings are constructed is instead typically included in the value of housing

assets.

### Section Specific: recording of financial position

The fifth element of the varcode is a Section Specific string which, in the Wealth Topography, corresponds to the financial position of each concepts. Financial assets may be recorded gross or net of all liabilities, at a given point in time. Similarly, debt securities can appear both as assets or as liabilities. To distinguish between the financial position of each concept, the Wealth Topography distinguishes between three types of financial position; gross assets (ga), net assets (na), and liabilities (lb). When this classification is not possible, the financial position is not applicable (\_). Table [3.4](#_bookmark19) provides a taxonomy of financial positions together with a non-technical description for each them.

Table 3.4: Wealth Topography: Section Specific

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Code | Financial position | Description |
| ga | Gross Assets | Gross assets are the total value of all assets before subtracting the value of debts and liabilities. |
| na | Net Assets | Net assets are the total value of all assets after subtracting the  value of debts and liabilities. |
| lb | Liabilities | Liabilities are financial obligations or debts that an individual,  company, or organization owes to another party. |
|  | Not Applicable | Not Applicable |

## Construction of the Wealth Topography

We now give a brief and stylized description of the process underlying the construction of the Wealth To- pography database. In its most stylized version, this process involves three steps (synthesized in the flow chart):

1. Identify and download raw data for each source.
2. Map every raw source into national accounting concepts using the Wealth Topography Conceptual Grid.
3. Create Wealth Topography macrocategory (‘concept‘) by aggregating the variables from each source (transformed following step 2) using the Wealth Topography Composition Rules.

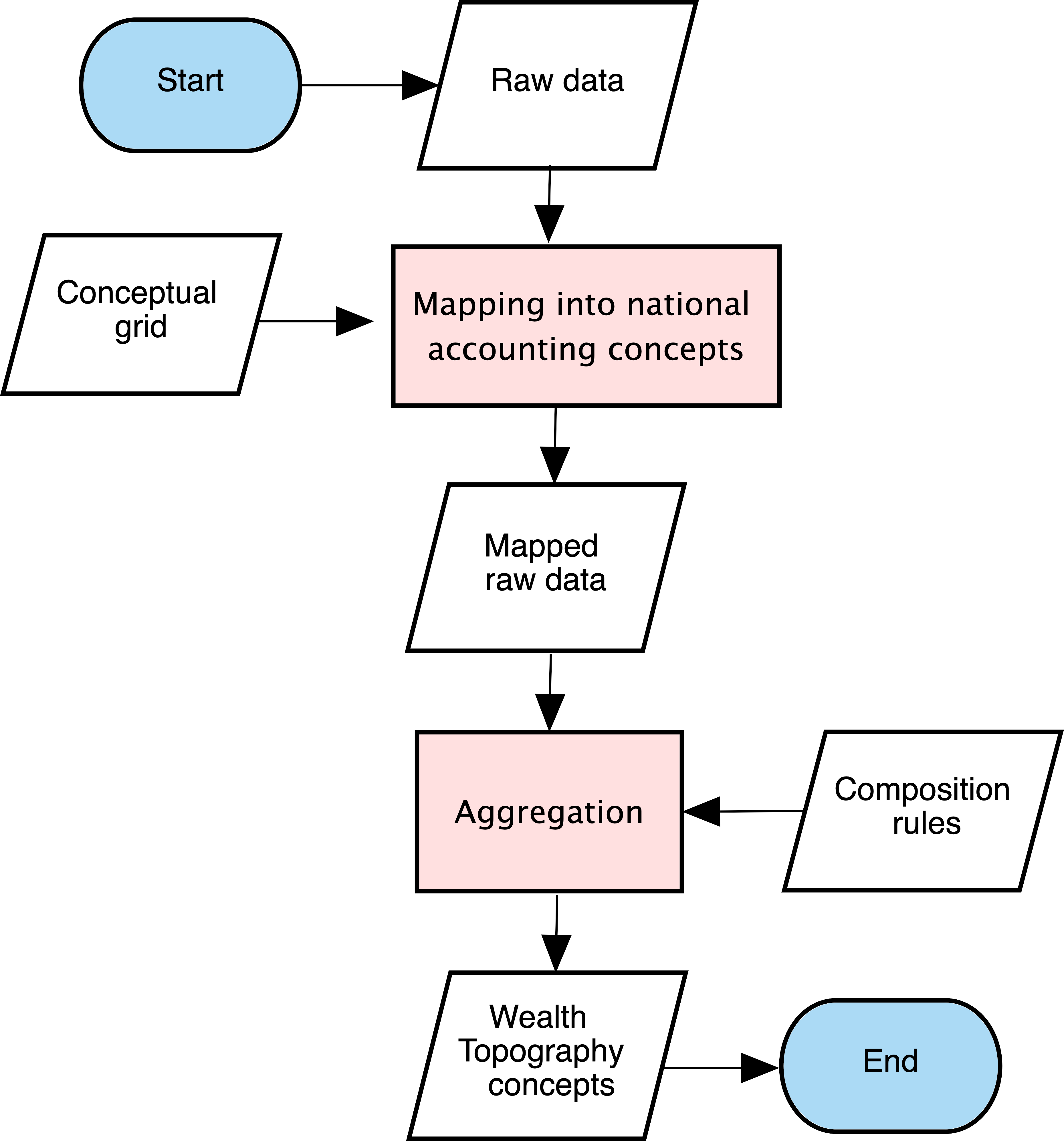


Figure 3.1: Flow chart of the Wealth Topography:

We now provide a detailed explanation of all steps put in place to construct the Wealth Topography.

### Identify and download raw data for each source

The starting point is the identification of raw data on balance sheets from various sources such as national accounts, household surveys, and a range of research projects and reports. Once the sources have been identified and the raw data downloaded, we proceed to their classification. Raw data sources included in the Wealth Topography can be classified in three macro groups:

* + - 1. Raw data sources published by central banks and national statistical institutes that use the SNA2008/ESA2010 framework to organize and disseminate the data. We refer to this raw data sources simply as cross-national oﬀicial statistics.
      2. Raw data sources published by central banks and national statistical institutes that use variants of the SNA2008/ESA2010 framework or other frameworks to organize and disseminate the data. We refer to these raw data sources as cross-national oﬀicial statistics that use variants of SNA2008/ESA2010 framework.
      3. Raw data sources contained in surveys and academic papers or published by central banks and research institutes that use frameworks different from the SNA2008/ESA2010 framework to organize and dis- seminate the data. We refer to these data sources as cross-national oﬀicial survey data or cross-national academic research that do not use the SNA2008/ESA2010 framework.

### Map raw data into national accounting concepts

Once raw data have been obtained and classified, we harmonize them using the Wealth Topography Concep- tual Grid, or simply *the* grid. The grid, inspired by National Accounts, is a table that assigns an alphanumeric identifier to each item or instrument of the balance sheet.[2](#_bookmark23) An extract of the grid, can be seen in Table [3.5](#_bookmark24). Under the column ‘Code’, we report the code that identifies each item of the balance sheet (e.g., AN111 stands for Dwellings). The code consists of two elements (letters and numbers), and by a special character for the case of financial assets and liabilities. The alphabetic part of the code identifies whether a specific bal- ance sheet component falls in the category of non-financial assets (AN), financial assets (A\_AF) or liabilities (L\_AF). Numbers, instead, identifies the class of assets and liabilities to which the instrument belongs.

Equipped with the grid, we can map each raw source into national accounting concepts with the aim of obtaining harmonized data on net wealth, assets, and liabilities that can be compared across countries and sources. According to the type of raw data source, we distinguish between two types of mapping:

* Automatic mapping (for cross-national oﬀicial statistics). For raw data sources published by central banks and national statistical institutes that use the SNA2008/ESA2010 framework to organize and disseminate the data, the mapping of raw data into national accounting concepts is straightforward.
* Conceptual or manual mapping (for cross-national oﬀicial statistics that use variants of SNA2008/ESA2010 framework). For raw data sources published by central banks and national statistical institutes that

2For the original table used in ESA2010 @ESA2010, see Section ’IV.3: Balance sheets: Closing balance sheet’ in ’Table 24.6

— Full sequence of accounts for households’ (ibid., pp. 603-611).

use variants of the SNA2008/ESA2010 framework or other frameworks to organize and disseminate the data, the mapping of raw data into national accounting concepts is not straightforward. Therefore, we manually map each series from the raw data source to elements of the grid. The mapping is conceptual and based on our reading of source-specific documentation. All source-specific manual mapping tables are reported in Appendix [B.4](#_bookmark72).

For cross-national oﬀicial survey data or cross-national academic research that do not use the SNA2008/ESA2010 framework, we build source-specific grids to help cross-walking from raw data to the national accounting concepts in Table [3.5](#_bookmark24). For completeness, we report the source-specific grids together source-specific documentation in Appendix [B.4](#_bookmark72).

Table 3.5: Wealth Topography: Conceptual Grid

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Code | Description | Financial position |
| AN | Produced and non-produced non-financial assets | ga |
| AN1 | Produced non-financial assets | ga |
| AN11 | Fixed assets by type of assets | ga |
| AN111 | Dwellings | ga |
| … | … | … |
| … | … | … |
| A\_AF | Financial assets | ga |
| A\_AF1 | Monetary gold and SDRs | ga |
| A\_AF11 | Monetary gold | ga |
| A\_AF12 | SDRs | ga |
| A\_AF2 | Currency and deposits | ga |
| A\_AF21 | Currency | ga |
| … | … | … |
| L\_AF | Liabilities | lb |
| … | … | … |
| L\_AF3 | Debt securities | lb |
| L\_AF31 | Short-term debt securities | lb |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| L\_AF32 | Long-term debt securities | lb |
| L\_AF4 | Loans | lb |
| L\_AF41 | Short-term loans | lb |
| L\_AF42 | Long-term loans | lb |
| … | … | … |
| XDHHCE | Consumer durables | ga |

### Create Wealth Topography concepts using our Composition Rules

For raw sources classified as cross-national oﬀicial statistics (independently of whether the SNA2008/ESA2010 framework), the mapping yields harmonized series on net wealth, assets, and liabilities. The next step is to aggregate these harmonized raw data into the macrocategories (concept) of the Wealth Topography. Aggregation is carried out through the general composition rules in Table [3.6](#_bookmark27).

It is worth nothing that, in practice, we use an extended set of composition rules relative to those displayed in Table [3.6](#_bookmark27). This happens because different data sources provide different levels of aggregation for the sub- components of the balance sheet. For example, the concept ‘Stocks, Business Equity & Fund Shares’ can be computed using (A\_AF5) as composition rule but also using (A\_AF51) + (A\_AF52) for raw data sources that do not report the aggregate ‘Equity and investment fund shares (A\_AF5)’ but the sub-components ‘Equity (A\_AF51)’ and ‘Investment fund shares/units (A\_AF52)’. We always provide a detailed account of which composition rule has been used to construct a data point in the Wealth Topography in the metadata section of the warehouse file or graphs available to users through the website of the GC Wealth Project. All source-specific composition rules used in the Wealth Topography are reported in the source-specific documentation in Appendix [B.4](#_bookmark72).

Finally, for raw data sources classified as cross-national oﬀicial survey data or cross-national academic research that do not use the SNA2008/ESA2010 framework, we consider ad-hoc source-specific composition rules. In this case, raw data sources are not harmonized by mapping them into national accounting concepts using the grid. Rather, based on our reading of source-specific documentations, the aggregation of this raw data type macrocategories that are coherent and comparable to those obtained from cross-national oﬀicial statistics. We provide a detailed treatment of these sources in Appendix [B.4](#_bookmark72).

## Additional information in the Wealth Topography

For any additional information about the Wealth Topography the reader can refer to Appendix [B](#_bookmark67) which includes a list of all sources covered by the Wealth Topography, an extensive treatment of the composition rules, and detailed source-specific documentations.

Table 3.6: Wealth Topography: General Composition Rule

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Code | Concept | Composition rule using codes | Composition rule |
|  |  |  |  |
| netwea | Net Wealth | (AN1) + (AN2) + (A\_AF) -  (L\_AF) | (Produced non-financial assets) + (Non-produced non-financial  assets) + (Financial assets) - (Liabilities) |
| nnhass | Financial Assets & Fixed Capital of Personal Businesses | (AN1) + (AN2) + (A\_AF) -  (AN111) - (AN112) - (AN21111) + (AN1123) | (Produced non-financial assets) + (Non-produced non-financial assets) + (Financial assets) - (Dwellings) - (Other buildings and structures) - (Land underlying dwellings) + (Land  improvements) |
| fliabi | Debt | (L\_AF3) + (L\_AF4) + (L\_AF5) + (L\_AF6) | (Debt securities, liab.) + (Loans, liab.) + (Equity and investment fund shares, liab.) + (Insurance, pension and  standardized guarantee schemes, liab.) |
| facdbl | Cash, Deposits, Bonds &  Loans | (A\_AF2) + (A\_AF3) +  (A\_AF4) | (Currency and deposits) + (Debt securities) + (Loans) |
| faeqfd | Stocks, Business Equities  & Fund Shares | (A\_AF5) | (Equity and investment fund shares) |
| falipe | Pensions & Life Insurance | (A\_AF6) | (Insurance, pension and standardized guarantee schemes) |
| nfabus | Fixed Capital of Personal Businesses | (AN1) + (AN2) - (AN111) - (AN112) - (AN21111) +  (AN1123) | (Produced non-financial assets) + (Non-produced non-financial assets) - (Dwellings) - (Other buildings and structures) - (Land  underlying dwellings) + (Land improvements) |
| nfadur | Durable Goods | (XDHHCE) | (Consumer durables) |

nfahou

Housing & Land

(AN111) + (AN112) - (AN1123) (Dwellings) + (Other buildings and structures) - (Land

+ (AN21111) improvements) + (Land underlying dwellings)

**Section 4**

# Wealth Inequality Trends

## Introduction to the Wealth Inequality Trends Section

The Wealth Inequality Trends section presents a large comprehensive compilation of cross-national time-series data on wealth inequality. This section contains wealth inequality indicators (such as top shares and Gini coeﬀicients) for many countries, as estimated in the existing literature and as derived from existing micro data sources. These data are accompanied by Methodological Tables that provide systematic assessments of the underlying concepts, methods, and sources for the estimation of wealth inequality trends.

This section provides access to, and detailed information about, wealth inequality across countries and over time. To date, there is no comprehensive database that offers “off the shelf’ ’ indicators on wealth inequality levels and trends for a variety of different sources. Estimates of wealth distributions are much less settled than those of income distributions, and there is substantial controversy about how wealth inequality has evolved in recent years. A core value-added of this section is that users have access to detailed information about the values provided and methodological information that will help them to navigate the inevitable complexity. Users can also exploit our classification of data types, source types, and unit of analysis to guide the choice of the most suitable indicator for their purpose.

## The structure of the Wealth Inequality Trends Section

In the wealth inequality trends database, each of estimate of wealth inequality (value) is uniquely identified by the combination of the reference country indexed by a two-digit identifier (GEO) and the country name

Table 4.1: Introducing the GC Wealth Inequality Trends Database - Snippet source GEO GEO\_long year varcode percentile value

HFCS\_ineq AT Austria 2010 t-hs-dsh-netwea-ho p99p100 22.94 HFCS\_ineq AT Austria 2010 t-hs-dsh-netwea-ho p50p90 36.14

HFCS\_ineq AT Austria 2010 t-hs-dsh-netwea-ho p80p100 76.63

HFCS\_ineq AT Austria 2010 t-hs-dsh-netwea-ho p90p95 13.48

HFCS\_ineq AT Austria 2010 t-hs-dsh-netwea-ho p95p100 47.62

HFCS\_ineq AT Austria 2010 t-hs-dsh-netwea-ho p90p99 38.16 HFCS\_ineq AT Austria 2010 t-hs-dsh-netwea-ho p90p100 61.10

HFCS\_ineq AT Austria 2010 t-hs-dsh-netwea-ho p95p99 24.68

(GEO\_long), the reference year (year), the data source (source), the varcode and a percentile.

Table [4.1](#_bookmark31) provides a small extract from the data the Wealth Inequality Trends database and it is important to note that only the combination of varcode and percentile uniquely identifies a value (an estimate of a specific wealth inequality measure obtained from a source and referring to a specific country and year). The varcode provides general information about the unit of analysis and the type of wealth inequality measure, while the percentile column specifies to which part of the distribution the estimate refers to. The focus of this documentation are the specific nature of the varcode and the variable percentile in the Wealth Inequality Trends section.

## The varcode in the Weath Inequality Trends Section

**varcode** In the Wealth Inequality Trends section, three of the five elements of varcode are fixed across the entire database. The constant elements are the first, indexing the dashboard, the second, indexing the sector, and the fourth, describing the wealth concept. Only the Variable Type and the Section-Specific parts of the varcode vary within a source and across sources.

⏟𝑡

− ℎ⏟

− 𝐶⏟𝐶

− 𝑛⏟𝑒𝑡𝑤𝑒𝑎 − 𝑍⏟𝑍

Section

Sector

Variable Type

Concept Section-Specific

### Section: Wealth Inequality Trends

*Section* The first element of the varcode identifies the *section*, which always equals to *t*, i.e. our code for the Wealth Inequality Trends database.

Table 4.2: Wealth Inequality Trends: Variable Type

Code Label Description

dsh Share of Total Net Wealth

The share of total net wealth refers to the percentage of the overall net wealth that individuals, household, or group owns. Net wealth is the value of assets (such as property, investments, and savings) minus any liabilities (such as debts or loans). For example, if the total net wealth of a country is €10,000 billion and a group’s net wealth is €2,000 billion, their share of total net wealth would be 20%.

gin Gini Coeﬀicient The Gini coeﬀicient is a statistic that summarizes the overall

distribution of income or wealth that is commonly published by statistical agencies. The coeﬀicient ranges from 0 (perfect equality) to 100 (maximum inequality). A Gini coeﬀicient of G per cent means that, if we take any 2 households from the population at random, the expected difference is 2G per cent of the mean. So that a rise in the Gini coeﬀicient from 30 to 40 per cent implies that the expected difference (in wealth for instance) has gone up from 60 to 80 per cent of the average wealth.

avg

Average Wealth

Average wealth refers to the total value of assets (such as property, savings, investments, and other financial assets) owned by a group of individuals or households divided by the total number of individuals or households in that group.

thr Threshold A threshold represents a minimum or maximum value that must be

met or exceeded, for instance, the minimum value of net wealth that is needed for an individual to belong to the group of the richest 1% of adults, or the maximum value of net wealth that is needed for an individual to belong to the group of the poorest 50% of adults.

### Sector: Houshold sector

*Sector* The second element of the varcode identifies the *sector*, which is set to *hs*, i.e. our code for the household sector.

### Variable Type: Category of wealth inequality measure

*Variable Type* The third element of the varcode identifies the broad type of inequality measure, which is either a Gini coeﬀicient, a distributional share, a threshold and thus a specific percentile, or an average. Note that average and thresholds are currently included in the database only in case they have been denoted in national currency, nominal terms, in the original source. Table [4.2](#_bookmark34) provides the permitted strings of the Variable Type within the varcode in the Inequality Trends database, together with a label and a description.

Table 4.3: Wealth Inequality Trends: Section-Specific

Code Label Description

ia Individuals -

Adults

es Individuals - Adults (equal split)

Estimates of wealth inequality refer to the distribution across individual holders (depending on the source, at least 15, 16, 18, or 20 years old). In rare cases, this label also refers to individuals assumed to be holding the equivalized wealth of the household. The equivalence scale used in most cases is the “modified OECD scale,”, which gives a weight of 1 to the first adult, of 0.5 to each additional adult, and of 0.3 to each child. This means that total wealth of a family of 2 adults and 2 children is divided by 2.1. In other rare cases, it refers to the distribution across all individuals, irrespective of their age.

Total wealth of the household is divided equally between the two adult partners. Adults are generally defined as individuals at least 18 or 20 years old. This category could also include cases in which total wealth of the household is divided equally among all members of the household.

tu

Tax Units

Data on wealth holding refer to a group of individuals who are subject to the same tax laws (tax unit). In most cases, a tax unit is composed of one or more people who file a tax return together, such as a married couple filing jointly or a family filing as dependents on a parent’s tax return.

ho Households Data on wealth holding refer to a household, defined as a group of

people who live together in the same dwelling unit. The members of a household may be related by blood, marriage, or adoption, or they may be unrelated individuals who have chosen to live together for other reasons.

### Concept: Net wealth

*Concept* The fourth element of the varcode, Concept, is always set to *netwea*, i.e. our code for net wealth. The precise definition of net wealth is however not identical across the sources covered by the Wealth Inequality Trends database. Hence, in the *Methodological Table* we provide, for each source, a detailed definition of net wealth, including an explanation of how different asset classes have been treated and valued.

### Section-Specific: Unit of analysis

*Section-Specific* In the Wealth Inequality Trends database, the section-specific part of the varcode refers to the unit of analysis of the wealth inequality indicator. A list of permitted strings for the *section-specific* part of the varcode is provided in Table [4.3](#_bookmark37).

## Wealth inequality among whom? Percentiles in the Wealth Inequality Trends Section

In addition to the varcode, values are indexed by the percentile variable. This variable specifies the reference part of the overall wealth distribution of a wealth inequality indicator. We provide a selection of permitted percentiles in Table [4.4](#_bookmark41), the full list can be found in the dictionary.xlsx. The structure of the variable percentile is such that the number following the first *p* gives the starting point of the reference part of the distribution, while the number following the second *p* gives the end point of the reference part of the distribution. For the share of wealth held by the richest 1%, for instance, the percentile variable corresponds to *p99p100*. Most of estimates of average net wealth and the Gini index covered by our database refer to the overall population and thus are indexed by percentile set to *p0p100*, but the database also covers some averages and Gini coeﬀicients referring to population sub-groups, such as the bottom 90%, and thus *p0p90*.

Table 4.4: Wealth Inequality Trends: Selected Percentiles

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Code | Label | Description |
| p0p10 | Poorest 10% | Group representing the bottom decile (10%) of the |
|  |  | wealth distribution, meaning that 90% of the |
|  |  | population would have higher wealth levels in |
|  |  | comparison. |
| p0p100 | Overall Population | Everyone in the reference population |
| p90p99 | Next 9% (90th-99th Percentiles) | Group with wealth level higher than the top decile |
|  |  | but not high enough to enter the group of the |
|  |  | richest 1 % in the population |
| p99.999p100 | Richest 0.001% | Group representing the richest 0.001% of the wealth |
|  |  | distribution |
| p99p100 | Richest 1% | Group representing the top percentile (1%) of the |
|  |  | wealth distribution, meaning that 99% of the |
|  |  | population would have lower wealth levels in |
|  |  | comparison. |

## Construction of the Wealth Inequality Trends Section

The procedure used to construct the Wealth Inequality Trends database is sketched below.

First, we obtain the raw data for each source, which can come in different formats. Second, we transform and harmonize the raw data to fit our standards (in terms of format and structure). In many cases we increase the list of available inequality indicators. In some we compute the full set of estimates based on exisiting micro data, such as cross-national survey data. Third, we run a set of tests and append the estimates to the database. In parallel to this process, we develop and write a detailed **Methodological Table**.

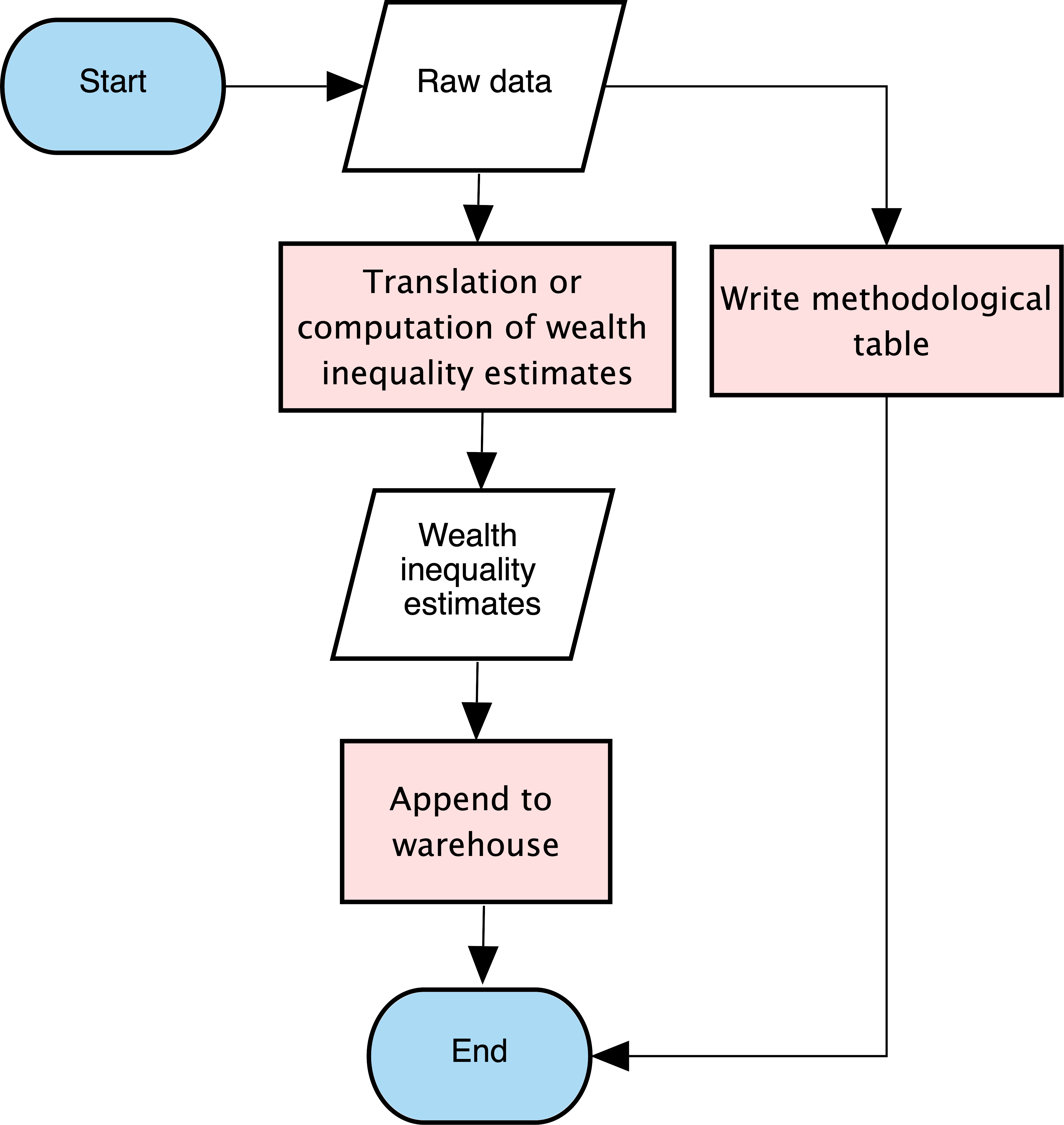


Figure 4.1: Wealth Inequality Trends Workflow

### Step 1: Obtain and and classify raw data

First, we obtain the raw data which may come in different shape or formats, including .pdf documents, .xlsx or .csv files. Then we classify each data source using our taxonomy of data estimation types (e.g. whether the specific wealth inequality series has been estimated using wealth survey or using administrative tax data). The full taxonomies of data and estimation types is shown in Table [4.5](#_bookmark44).

As the data type classification is source-specific, the exercise of assigning a type to each source turns out to be less precise for cross-national sources, as we do not differentiate across countries specificities within the same source. For instance, in the case of the Luxembourg Wealth Study Database [[92](#_bookmark211)] and the OECD Wealth Distribution Database [[101](#_bookmark220)], we classify the data type as *Wealth survey*. However, data for one country, Norway, does not come from a wealth survey but from various administrative sources. Similarly, we classify the World Inequality Database [[151](#_bookmark270)] as a *Mix of sources and methods* to reflect the variety of data sources

Table 4.5: Data Type

Label Description

Wealth survey The series has been estimated using only wealth survey data.

Wealth survey (with adjustments) The series has been estimated from wealth survey

data that has been adjusted, especially at the top. Adjustment methods comprise rich-list based adjustment als well as pure reweighting methods.

Rich list The series has been estimated using only rich list data points.

Wealth survey and national accounts The series has been estimate using wealth survey

data that has been brought into alignment with macroeconomic balance sheets.

Capital income tax data, wealth survey, and The series has been estimated via a capitalization

national accounts approach that uses data on income due to the

ownership of wealth (capital income), supported by survey data, and the series aligns with macroeconomic balance sheets.

Capital income tax data, other sources, and

national accounts

The series has been estimated via a capitalization approach that uses data on income due to the ownership of wealth (capital income), additional data other than household survey data, and the series aligns with macroeconomic balance sheets.

Inheritance/estate tax data, wealth survey, and

Inheritance/estate tax-based The series has been estiamted via a

mortality-multiplier approach using inheritance and/or estate tax data.

national accounts

The series has been estimated via a

mortality-multiplier approach using inheritance and/or estate tax data, supported by survey data, and the corresponding aggregates align with macroeconomic balance sheets.

Wealth tax/register data and estate tax data The series has been estimated from wealth tax data

Wealth tax/register-based The series has been estiamted from wealth tax data

or register data on wealth.

or register data on wealth used in conjunction with estate/inheritance tax data.

Mix of sources and methods Any combination of methods and sources not listed

Wealth tax/register data, other sources, and The seies has been estiamted from wealth tax data

national accounts or register data on wealth in conjucntion with

additional sources outher than estate/inheritance tax data, and it has been braught into alignment with macroeconomic balance sheets.

above along a single series or, in the case of cross-country sources, across countries.

and estimation methods underling this source (these details feature in the **Methodological Table** but are not captured in the source-specific classification of data estimation types).

### Step 2: Transformation and harmonization of raw data

All indicators on wealth inequality that we acquire, derive, or estimate from an original data source are classified such that a percentile and a varcode are associated to each value. Also, the format is standardized so that all inequality indicators are reported on the 0 - 100 scale.

In most cases we directly acquire estimates of wealth inequality from raw data sources and publications. When possible we also complement the available set of indicators. To give an example, many sources provide an estimate of the wealth share held by the richest 1% (p99p100) as well as an estimate of the wealth share held by the richest 10% (p90p100). We then use the two indicators to add an estimate of the share of wealth held by the Next 9% (90th-99th Percentiles). When using original micro-data sources, such as cross-national wealth surveys, we provide our own estimates of a range of wealth inequality indicators.

It is also worth noting we take or estimate only one value for each wealth inequality indicator (as indexed by the combination of percentile and varcode) from each source. This is typically the benchmark estimate as defined in the underlying research paper or database. In future releases of the GC Wealth Project we aim to explore the within-source variation of wealth inequality estimates by incorporating the full range of estimates reflecting the use of different methodological assumptions.

Finally, the current version of the Wealth Inequality Trends database of the GC Wealth Project does not publish fully imputed estimates of wealth inequality. We define an estimate as fully imputed if no wealth distribution data was used in the estimation of wealth inequality indicators for a specific country. The information on the distribution of wealth is allowed to derive directly from micro level data and from database that publish wealth inequality measures estimated based on micro data. This definition of fully imputed implies that we still publish time-series even tough wealth distribution data has been used only in one or selected years. It has implications for a handful of sources, such as the Credit Suisse [[24](#_bookmark143)] data as well as the World Inequality Database [[151](#_bookmark270)] that we discuss in the Appendix (Section [C.3](#_bookmark108) to this documentation).

### Step 3: Testing and appending

After making sure the acquired, derived, and estimated wealth inequality indicators follow our formatting standards, we run a set of consistency checks and tests before we append it to the Wealth Inequality Trends database.

## Methodological Tables

The **Methodological Tables** summarizes for each source, among other things: the type of data used, where the work sources its data, the unit of analysis, the methods of estimation, how different assets are valued, how specific types of assets are treated, any adjustments made to the data, important underlying assumptions, and more. We provide a brief description of the content of the **Methodological Tables** in Table [4.6](#_bookmark49).

### Content of Methodological Tables

Table 4.6: Methodological Tables - Content Description

Field name Field description

Legend The name of the source.

Period covered and data points The range from the first to last year included in the series published in the warehouse; the precise years and/or quarters for which data points are available; the total number of years and/or quarters containing data points.

Inequality indicators The precise inequality measures covered in the series. See the description of the varcode (vartype) for more information on these measures.

Data sources used in the research A list of all data sources used in the estimation of wealth inequality and the year(s) they provide data for. Note that not all of these data sources are necessarily relevant to the specific series we publish in the database. Full citation information for these sources is not typically included in the references section, and should instead be located from the source

itself.

Data type A categorization of the data type(s) used in the series published in the warehouse.

Unit of analysis The unit of analysis of the series published in the warehouse. See the description of the varcode (dashboard-specific) for details.

Definition of wealth The precise definition of wealth underlying the wealth inequality estimates provided by the

source.

Method of estimation A brief summary of the estimation method of the series published in the warehouse.

Method of estimation (detailed) A more detailed explanation (when applicable) of the estimation method of the series

published in the warehouse.

Valuation of assets How specific assets and liabilities have been valuated.

Treatment of private pensions Whether any private pensions are included in the wealth definition, and if applicable, how

they have been valuated.

Treatment of public pensions Whether any public pensions are included in the wealth definition, and if applicable, how they have been valuated.

Treatment of life insurance Whether any life insurance benefits are included in the wealth definition, and if applicable,

how they have been valuated.

Treatment of household and personal goods (e.g., vehicles, boats, aircraft, jewelry, antiques, works of art,

collections)

Whether any valuables and consumer goods are included in the definition of wealth, and if applicable, how they have been valuated.

Treatment of foreign wealth holdings Whether any assets held abroad are included in the wealth definition, and if applicable,

how they have been valuated.

Treatment of debt Which types of liabilities are included in the wealth definition, and if applicable, how they have been valuated.

Adjustments to data An explanation of any significant adjustments made to the raw data.

Distributional estimates aligned with national account aggregates

Total population estimate and source The manner and source of the reference population estimate underlying the series.

Whether the wealth estimate has been brought into alignment with the reference country’s national accounts wealth aggregates.

Total wealth estimate and source The manner and source of the aggregate wealth estimate underlying the series.

References A bibliography for the sources cited parenthetically in the table’s analysis (i.e., not necessarily those listed in the data sources used in the research section). Any important references that are called out by title in the analysis (such as appendices, data files, or a working paper version of the source) are listed first, with their reference information and any downloadable files being available at their hyperlinked entry in the Data Sources

Library.

## Additional information on the Wealth Inequality Trends Sec- tion

For additional information about the Wealth Inequality Trends section we refer the to the Appendix of this Documentation where we provide a list of all sources included in the Wealth Inequality Trends database, country-specific information on the coverage of the Wealth Inequality Trends database, and additional infor- mation on the precise treatment of selected sources.

**Section 5**

# Estate, Inheritances, and Gift Taxes (EIG)

## Introduction to the Estate, Inheritances, and Gift Taxes Sec- tion

The Estate, Inheritance, and Gift Tax section of the GC Wealth Project provides a comprehensive data collection on wealth transfer taxes across countries and over time. The EIG section compiles tax policy information as well as tax revenue data. What is more, the section contains information about these taxes for up to over 160 countries, in some instances dating back as far as the 18th century. The EIG section codifies and harmonizes information on features common among these taxes, such as top tax rates among closest relatives, full tax schedules, or integration of gift taxes. Furthermore, the section provides revenue statistics for EIG taxes from cumulative sources from 1960 onward. Information is obtained from academic, government, and corporate research, government legislation and legislative information as well as cross- national research and oﬀicial statistics. This chapter introduces the reader to the data structure of the EIG section, as well as the general interpretation and construction of each concept.

## The varcode in the Estate, Inheritance, and Gift Taxes Section

As described in the general warehouse structure section, the varcode uniquely identifies each value in the EIG section by means of five elements. The first element of the varcode is a 1-digit code that identifies the Section of the GC Wealth Project, which for the case of the Estate, Inheritance, and Gift Taxes takes the value x. Hence, varcode takes the following form:

𝑥⏟

− ℎ⏟

− 𝐶⏟𝐶

− 𝐷⏟⏟𝐷⏟𝐷𝐷⏟𝐷⏟𝐷 − 𝑍⏟𝑍

Section

Sector

Variable Type

Concept

Section Specific

### Sector: tax application

The sector component is a two-digit code where the first digit refers to the tax under assessment (“t” for EIG tax, “e” for estate tax, “i” for inheritance tax, and “g” for gift tax). The second digit refers to the group of the population i.e., the kinship, to which the tax applies (e.g., children, spouse, non-relatives). In the case of the tax schedule information is not available or the specific tax does not vary by kinship, the second digit of the sector code is “everybody” (e).

For tax revenues, the first digit of sector code is always “t” as we only report the sum of estate, inheritance, and gift revenues, while the second is a neutral-general code referring to revenues collected at the country level (general government).

The table below provides the list of all possible two-digits sector.

Table here for sector

### Variable Type

The next three letters of the varcode represent the Variable Type, which will vary in this section. Specifi- cally, five types of variables are used within the EIG section. These are described in Table [5.1](#_bookmark56).

Table 5.1: EIG: Variable Type

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **code** | **label** | **description** |
| rat | Rate | In general, a rate can be expressed as a percentage. For instance, the marginal inheritance tax rate is the amount of tax that is paid on an additional dollar of inheritance received. It represents the rate at which a person's tax liability increases as their inheritance increases. The concept can also be applied to the saving rate which refers to the percentage of disposable income that is saved or not spent on consumption. |
| rto | Ratio | A ratio describes the relationship between two quantities and is expressed as the quotient of one quantity divided by another. For example, if a country's total private net wealth is €10,000 billion and its total national income is €2,000 billion, the ratio of private wealth to national income is 5 to 1, as total private wealth is five times the amount of national income. |
| thr | Threshold | A threshold represents a minimum or maximum value that must be met or exceeded, for instance, the minimum value of net wealth that is needed for an individual to belong to the group of the richest 1% of adults, or the maximum value of net wealth that is needed for an individual to belong to the group of the poorest 50% of adults. |
| cat | Categorical Variable | A categorical variable represents data that can be divided into groups or categories. |
| tot | Total | Represents the total value of a variable. For instance, total population, or total revenue raised from the inheritance tax. |
| per | Period | Numeric values that refer to a period (year, month, quarter). |

### Concept: variables

The next six letters, indicating Concept encode the specific variables for this section, and details for each can be found in Table [5.2](#_bookmark58).

Table 5.2: Estate, Inheritance, and Gift Tax Variable Definitions

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **code** | **label** | **description** |
| revenu | Total Revenue from Tax | Total revenue from the specified tax in local currency units. |
| prorev | Total Revenue from Tax as % of Total Tax Revenue | Total revenue from the specified tax as a percentage of total tax revenue. |
| revgdp | Total Revenue from Tax as % of Gross Domestic Product | Total revenue from the specified tax as a percentage of GDP. |
| adjlbo | Lower Bound for Exemption-adjusted Tax Bracket | The value of tax base over which the tax rate applies in local currency units, adjusted to include the exemption amount in the tax schedule as a zero rate bracket, if needed. |
| adjubo | Upper Bound for Exemption-adjusted Tax Bracket | The highest tax base value for which the tax rate applies in local currency units, adjusted to include the exemption amount in the tax schedule as a zero rate bracket, if needed. It takes value -997 (“and over”) for the highest bracket if the interval is open. |
| adjmrt | Marginal Rate for Exemption-adjusted Tax Bracket | The rate of taxation on tax base values between the bracket lower bound and the bracket upper bound, adjusted to include the exemption amount in the tax schedule as a zero rate bracket, if needed. It is reported as zero in case the tax is not levied and for the exemption bracket. |
| curren | Currency | ISO4217 numeric code of the in local currency units in which the monetary values are reported. |
| status | Tax Indicator | Whether or not the country levies the specified tax for the given year. It is encoded as a 0/1 indicator variable. |
| typtax | Type of Tax | The structure of the tax schedule, if applicable. The variable is encoded as follows: 1 lump-sum (fixed), 2 flat (proportional with a single rate applies to all tax base), 3 progressive (proportional with tax rates increasing with the tax base), 4 progressive by brackets (proportional with tax rates increasing with the tax base, with different portions of the tax base - brackets - taxed at different rates), -998 not applicable because the tax is not levied. The type of tax is based on the number of positive tax rates included in the tax schedule. |
| firsty | First Year for Tax | The first year the specified tax is introduced in the country. It may predate the year of legal birth of the country, such as in the case of unified kingdoms or of former colonies. |
| exempt | Exemption Threshold | The exemption threshold in local currency units applicable to the group, assuming no additional exemptions, credits or relief. It is reported as zero in case of no exemption, as -997 in case of full exemption (no tax is due), as -998 if it is not applicable because the tax is not levied. |
| toprat | Top Marginal Rate | The highest statutory rate for the specified tax. It is encoded and zero in case the tax is not levied or there is full exemption. |
| toplbo | Top Marginal Rate Applicable From | The minimum amount in local currency units including and above which the top rate for the specified tax applies to the group. It is encoded and zero in case the tax is not levied or there is full exemption. |

### Section Specific: bracket numbers

Finally, the last two letters in the varcode denote the section-specific variables, which for the EIG section refer to the tax bracket number when needed. Full tax schedule information will vary by tax bracket. For instance, in the event of a flat rate of 10% on individual shares of an inheritance valued at 100,000 currency units, the first bracket (01) will cover inheritances worth between 0 and 100,000 currency units and a corresponding tax rate of 0%, while the second bracket (02) will cover all inheritances valued over 100,000 with a corresponding tax rate of 10% (see section [5.3.2](#_bookmark64)). Information not contained within a tax schedule does not vary by bracket and is contained in the row with bracket number 00. An example of tax bracket numbers— and the tax schedule more generally— is laid out in Table [5.4](#_bookmark62).

## Data Structure and Interpretation

Downloaded data is provided in long format. All information in the data is sorted by a country’s two-letter ISO code (GEO), or its full name (GEO\_long) and year. Information unrelated to the tax schedule is listed with bracket “00” in the varcode, while the schedule variables, which vary within a country-year, have positive bracket values. The final number of observations per country-year varies depending on the number of tax brackets in that country-year (and hence the number of varcodes).

An example illustrated in Table [5.3](#_bookmark61) is UK’s tax schedule in 2019. Users can access the tax revenue of GEO “UK” by selecting the value of the varcode corresponding to that concept (*x-tr-tot-revenu-00*). Similarly, to display the value of the upper bound of the first inheritance tax schedule bracket for the UK, the user can select the varcode corresponding to that concept (*x-ie-thr-adjubo-01*). All varcode conventions follow the logic detailed in section 5.1.

If transformed into wide format, any observation is uniquely identified by country, year, and tax bracket to accommodate full tax schedules. That is, variables containing tax schedule information vary within each country-year. Hence, information will look considerably different from the example detailed in Table [5.3](#_bookmark61) above.

To illustrate a wide structure, consider the UK tax schedule in 2019. There is a flat tax of of 40 percent on estates over GBP 325,000. The revenue for UK under the estate tax in 2019 was GBP 5.165 billion. A simplified subset of the variables (non-identifying variable names changed for ease of explanation) is shown in Table [5.4](#_bookmark62). As this example illustrates, selecting GEO “UK” and year “2019” will not be suﬀicient to uniquely identify one observation per country. For instance, any user interested in total revenue information would

Table 5.3: Simplified Illustration of EIG Data in Long Format

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| GEO varcode | value | value\_str | longname |
| UK x-hs-agg-totrev-00 | 5165000000 |  | Aggregate Total Revenue, of the Households sector (Non-Bracket Specific) |

UK x-hs-thr-ad1lbo-01 0 Threshold Lower Bound for Exemption Adjusted Tax Bracket, of the Households sector (Bracket n 01)

UK x-hs-thr-ad1ubo-01 325000

Threshold Upper Bound for Exemption Adjusted Tax Bracket, of the Households sector (Bracket n 01)

UK x-hs-agg-ad1tlb-01 0 Aggregate Tax Paid on Lower Bound for Exemption Adjusted Tax Bracket, of the Households sector (Bracket n 01)

UK x-hs-rat-ad1smr-01 0 Rate Tax Rate for Exemption Adjusted Tax Bracket, of the Households sector (Bracket n 01)

UK x-hs-thr-ad1lbo-02 325000 Threshold Lower Bound for Exemption Adjusted

Tax Bracket, of the Households sector (Bracket n 02)

UK x-hs-thr-ad1ubo-02

\_and\_over Threshold Upper Bound for Exemption Adjusted Tax Bracket, of the Households sector (Bracket n 02)

UK x-hs-agg-ad1tlb-02 0 Aggregate Tax Paid on Lower Bound for Exemption Adjusted Tax Bracket, of the Households sector (Bracket n 02)

UK x-hs-rat-ad1smr-02 40

Rate Tax Rate for Exemption Adjusted Tax Bracket, of the Households sector (Bracket n 02)

Table 5.4: Simplified Illustration of a Tax Schedule

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| GEO | year | Currency | Value Over… | But Not Over… | Tax Rate | Total Revenue | bracket |
| UK | 2019 | GBP |  |  |  | 5,165,000,000 | 0 |
| UK | 2019 | GBP | 0 | 325000 | 0 |  | 1 |
| UK | 2019 | GBP | 325000 | \_and\_over | 40 |  | 2 |

need to additionally select bracket “0”. Importantly, variables that are not related to the tax schedule will not be filled for country-year observations other than in the zero bracket.

### Non-Schedule Tax Parameters

#### Binary Indicators for Tax Status

A set of binary variables is used to indicate whether a country or region has any wealth transfer taxes (*eigsta*), as well as the specific types of taxes that are levied (*esttax*, *inhtax*, *giftax*), when applicable. Taxes that are not deemed as estate or inheritance-specific taxes may be indicated as either “𝑌 ” (yes) or “𝑁” (no) for the binary variables, but have their schedules, rates or exemption information filled. There may therefore be inconsistencies between these variables; for instance, Colombia does not tax inheritances or estates specifically, but includes them as capital gains— data for Colombia indicates that an inheritance tax and a gift tax are present, however, the revenue information shows no government revenues for these taxes. Countries for which no data is available other than the tax revenue from the OECD are marked as having an estate, inheritance or gift tax if the revenue information is non-zero and not decreasing as a pattern, which would indicate a possible repeal. When possible, the data further include a variable indicating the first year for which any wealth transfer tax has been levied in a country or region (*eigfir*) [[63](#_bookmark182)].

#### Gift-Specific Tax Parameters

Gift unification (*gifuni*) implies that the rate schedule and (lifetime) exemption are the same for gift taxes and inheritance or estate taxes. Integration of gift taxes (*gifint*) means that all gifts made within a certain number of years of the decedent’s death are included in calculating the estate or inheritance. By contrast, unification implies that all gifts made in the course of decedent’s lifetime are included in calculating the estate or inheritance.

#### Tax Reductions and Relationship-Based Parameters

Estate and inheritance tax exemptions can vary in complexity and detail, and countries differ in how they offer reductions to the final tax bill (exemptions, deductions, rebates, credits, *etc.*). The data in this section encodes these as “exemptions”, for instance, by calculating how much of an estate or inheritance would be exempt under a credit.

Inheritance taxes frequently vary in generosity of exemptions or rates by the closeness of relationship between decedents and recipients, which are divided into “classes.” If this is the case, *itaxre* will be “Y.” The data pick up the exemptions (*chiexe*) and rates for direct descendants without any additional mitigating factors (for instance, higher exemptions or lower rates for minors). Because classes of inheritors are not generally applicable for estate taxes, information in country-years with estate taxes tends to apply to everybody, and the exemptions and rates apply to the aggregate of all property bequeathed by a decedent. The exception to this is if a country with estate taxes has an estate tax, but individual share-based exemptions vary beyond those for spouses and minor children. In this case, the indicator *ieexem* will contain the value “𝑌 ,” and the corresponding exemptions indicate the exemption applicable to the proportion of the estate that corresponds to direct descendant’s share, even though the tax is paid on the overall estate.

A value of “\_and\_over” for *chiexe* means that inheritances (or the respective portions of estates) are fully exempt for direct descendants. When tax rates cannot be determined without determining additional in- formation about the recipient or decedent, assumptions are made in order to select the lowest applicable rates for direct descendants. In Spain, for instance, the tax rates vary by relationship and increase with the pre-existing wealth owned by the recipient. The data is entered under the assumption that the recipient possesses no pre-existing wealth. For such cases, however, more information will be made available in the metadata.

### Tax Schedules

#### General Structure and Interpretation

Progressive tax schedules are split up by the value of the estate or inheritance into brackets, each with identical variable values for non-schedule variables. Bracket number, the dashboard-specific variable encoded in the last two letters of the varcode, specifies the order of the brackets that constitute a full tax schedule.

The structure of the tax schedule data is the same as the statutory schedules provided by many governments for estate taxes and other progressive taxes. The basic structure of all tax schedules in the data consists of tax brackets arranged in ascending order, which indicate the range of amounts to which a tax rate applies, as well as the tax liability on amounts below that bracket. Each bracket corresponds to a single row, and all brackets that form a schedule have the same logistical variable values; all non-schedule tax variables are constant for a schedule, and therefore identical for all brackets (or rows).

The schedules are typically cumulative in structure, such that the rate in a the bracket that corresponds to an aggregate inherited (or estate) value only applies to the proportion of the inheritance that is greater than

the highest amount in the previous bracket. That is, if the inherited amount misses a lower tax bracket by one currency unit, the higher tax rate only applies to one currency unit. The amount thus calculated is then added to the amount of inheritance proportional to all previous brackets and their respective rates, though this amount is frequently included in the statutory schedule under a label such as “tax on lower bound”.

#### Schedule Transformation for Adjusted Schedules

We adjust the schedules to make them more comparable across countries, as detailed below.

Estate, inheritance, and gift taxes typically only apply above a certain threshold. We modify all schedules that do not already include a bracket with a zero tax rate that corresponds to the exempted amount (that is, a zero tax rate on amounts ranging from zero to the exemption threshold), to include such a bracket. This can be complicated because tax schedules are not standardized with respect to exemptions. Some exemptions might be included in a tax schedule and do not require any additional calculation. Others are calculated as deductions or credits, which means that a tax is calculated on the entirety of the estate and the tax that would be owed on the exemption amount is subsequently subtracted from the total tax liability. For instance, consider the U.S. federal estate tax: The statutory schedule contains a progressive schedule, but because the exemption deduction is so high (nearly 13 million USD as of 2023), every bracket but the last is effectively within the deduction range. Therefore (assuming no other deductions or credits apply), all amounts below (and many above) the last bracket would yield a final tax bill of zero. The result is a flat tax rate that applies to relatively large estates of several million dollars.

In order to transform tax schedules to adjusted and effective, we assume that taxes will be paid on a monetary transfer to one adult child upon the death of a decedent, assuming no additional circumstantial deductions, reliefs or credits apply unless otherwise specified. In the case of a country like Spain, it is additionally assumed that the recipient owns no prior wealth.

**Appendix A**

# Supplementary Variables

Table A.1: Variables from wid.world

Variable Short Name Simple descrpition (original)

inyixx National income price index

Price index that reflects the evolution of the price level for all new, domestically produced, final goods and services in the economy.

mgdpro Gross domestic product Gross domestic product is the total value of goods and services

produced by the national economy.The national economy - in the national accounts sense - includes all domestic sectors, i.e. all entities that are resident of a given country (in the sense of their economic activity), whether they belong to the private sector, the corporate sector, the governement sector.

mnninc National income National income aims to measure the total income available to the

residents of a given country. It is equal to the gross domestic product (the total value of goods and services produced on the territory of a given country during a given year), minus fixed capital used in production processes (e.g. replacement of obsolete machines or maintenance of roads) plus the net foreign income earned by residents in the rest of the world.// National income has many limitations.

However it is the only income concept that has an internationally agreed definition (established by the United Nations System of National Accounts, see SNA 2008). So we use it as our reference concept (with tax havens correction). To be improved.The national economy - in the national accounts sense - includes all domestic sectors, i.e. all entities that are resident of a given country (in the sense of their economic activity), whether they belong to the private sector, the corporate sector, the governement sector.

mpweal Net private wealth Net private wealth is the total value of non-financial and financial

assets (housing, land, deposits, bonds, equities of corporations, etc.) held by private owners (households and foundations), minus their debts. The private sector - in the national accounts sense - includes the personal sector (households) and the non-profit sector (foundations, religious organizations, etc.). In certain countries, availables sources do not allow to decompose the wealth owned by each of these two

sub-sectors, and we only provide total net private wealth.

ntaxma Number of tax units - Number of married couples and single adults as tax units.

married couples & single adults

xlceup PPP conversion factor, LCU per EUR

xlceux

Market exchange rate, LCU per EUR

Oﬀicial exchange rate of the local currency to EUR.

PPP conversion factor of current local currency to current PPP EUR.

xlcusp PPP conversion factor, LCU per USD

xlcusx

Market exchange rate, LCU per USD

Oﬀicial exchange rate of the local currency to USD.

PPP conversion factor of current local currency to current PPP USD.

xlcyup PPP conversion factor, LCU per CNY

PPP conversion factor of current local currency to current PPP CNY.

npopem Employed population Number of employed individuals.

npopul Population Number of individuals in a group.

xlcyux Market exchange rate, LCU per CNY

Oﬀicial exchange rate of the local currency to CNY.

**Appendix B**

# Appendix to the Wealth Topography Section

## Introduction

The Appendix of the Wealth Topography section of the GC Wealth Project provides additional information on the concepts included in the Wealth Topography and detailed source-specific documentation. In particular, this appendix provides:

* the full list of sources included in the Wealth Topography (Section [B.2](#_bookmark69)),
* the full conceptual grid used in the GC Wealth Project (Section [B.3](#_bookmark70)),
* source-specific detailed information on raw data source, all source-specific composition tables reporting all composition rules used to obtain the wealth concepts, and additional tables on conceptual and manual mapping (Section [B.4](#_bookmark72)).

## Sources Included in the Wealth Topography Section

All data sources included in the current version of the Wealth Topography are reported in Table**??**. In addition to the source name and bibliographic reference, the table reports the source type and the consultation date (Download date). All source included Wealth Topography can be distinguished according to types of national accounts:

* Balance Sheets contain holdings of non-financial assets (e.g., real estate assets or machinery), financial assets (e.g., deposits or equities), and liabilities (e.g., home mortgages) at a point in time.
* Financial Accounts contain holdings of financial assets (e.g., deposits or equities), and liabilities (e.g., home mortgages) at a point in time.

In other words, in the Wealth Topography, Financial Accounts are financial balance sheets in which only holdings of financial assets and liabilities are reported. In both cases, we report stocks or outstanding levels, that is holdings of assets and liabilities at the end of each accounting period (year). Outstanding levels reflect changes in transactions, nominal holding gains/losses, and other changes occurred throughout the year.

Table B.1: Sources in the Wealth Topography

Source Source Type Download Date

Bank of Italy - Financial Accounts [[11](#_bookmark130)] Cross-national oﬀicial statistics November 1, 2022 Bank of Italy & Istat - Balance Sheet [[12](#_bookmark131)] Cross-national oﬀicial statistics September 29, 2022 European Central Bank Non-EU - Financial Accounts [[52](#_bookmark171)] Cross-national oﬀicial statistics June 26, 2022 European Central Bank EU - Financial Accounts [[53](#_bookmark172)] Cross-national oﬀicial statistics September 5, 2022 Eurostat - Financial Accounts [[54](#_bookmark173)] Cross-national oﬀicial statistics October 6, 2022

Federal Reserve Board B.101 - Balance Sheet [[16](#_bookmark135)] Cross-national oﬀicial statistics October 28, 2022 Federal Reserve Board B.101.H - Balance Sheet [[16](#_bookmark135)] Cross-national oﬀicial statistics October 31, 2022 Federal Reserve Board B.101.N - Balance Sheet [[16](#_bookmark135)] Cross-national oﬀicial statistics November 1, 2022 Federal Reserve Board S.3.a (IMA) - Balance Sheet [[16](#_bookmark135)] Cross-national oﬀicial statistics October 12, 2022

Household Finance and Consumption Survey - Balance Sheet [[68](#_bookmark187)]

Cross-national oﬀicial survey data September 27, 2022

Luxembourg Wealth Study Database - Balance Sheet [[92](#_bookmark211)] Cross-national academic research March 30, 2023 OECD - Financial Accounts [[99](#_bookmark218)] Cross-national oﬀicial statistics October 10, 2022 World Inequality Database - Balance Sheet [[151](#_bookmark270)] Cross-national academic research March 20, 2023

## Full Conceptual Grid

Once raw data have been obtained and classified, we harmonize them using the Wealth Topography Concep- tual Grid, a table that assigns an alphanumeric identifier to each item or instrument of the balance sheet. The full grid is reported in Table [B.2](#_bookmark71). Under the column Code, we report the code that identifies each item of the balance sheet (e.g., AN111 stands for Dwellings). The code consists of two elements (letters and numbers), and by a special character, only for the case of financial assets and liabilities. The alphabetic part of the code identifies whether a specific balance sheet component falls in the category of non-financial assets (AN), financial assets (A\_AF) or liabilities (L\_AF). Numbers, instead, identifies the class of assets and liabilities to which the instrument belongs.

Table B.2: Full GC Wealth Topogragy Conceptual Grid

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| na\_code | Description | Financial position |
| AN | Produced and non-produced non-financial assets | ga |
| AN1 | Produced non-financial assets | ga |
| AN11 | Fixed assets by type of assets | ga |
| AN111 | Dwellings | ga |
| AN112 | Other buildings and structures | ga |
| AN1121 | Buildings other than dwellings | ga |
| AN1122 | Other structures | ga |
| AN1123 | Land improvements | ga |
| AN113 | Machinery and equipment | ga |
| AN1131 | Transport equipment | ga |
| AN1132 | ICT equipment | ga |
| AN1133 | Other machinery and equipment | ga |
| AN114 | Weapons systems | ga |
| AN115 | Cultivated biological resources | ga |
| AN1151 | Animal resources yielding repeat products | ga |
| AN1152 | Tree, crop and plant resources yielding repeat products | ga |
| AN117 | Intellectual property products | ga |
| AN1171 | Research and development | ga |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| AN1172 | Mineral exploration and evaluation | ga |
| AN1173 | Computer software and databases | ga |
| AN11731 | Computer software | ga |
| AN11732 | Databases | ga |
| AN1174 | Entertainment, literary or artistic originals | ga |
| AN1179 | Other intellectual property products | ga |
| AN12 | Inventories by type of inventory | ga |
| AN121 | Materials and supplies | ga |
| AN122 | Work-in-progress | ga |
| AN1221 | Work-in-progress on cultivated biological assets | ga |
| AN1222 | Other work-in-progress | ga |
| AN123 | Finished goods | ga |
| AN124 | Military inventories | ga |
| AN125 | Goods for resale | ga |
| AN13 | Valuables | ga |
| AN131 | Precious metals and stones | ga |
| AN132 | Antiques and other art objects | ga |
| AN133 | Other valuables | ga |
| AN2 | Non-produced non-financial assets | ga |
| AN21 | Natural resources | ga |
| AN211 | Land | ga |
| AN21111 | Land underlying dwellings | ga |
| AN212 | Mineral and energy reserves | ga |
| AN213 | Non-cultivated biological resources | ga |
| AN214 | Water resources | ga |
| AN215 | Other natural resources | ga |
| AN2151 | Radio spectra | ga |
| AN2159 | Other | ga |
| AN22 | Contracts, leases and licences | ga |
| AN221 | Marketable operating leases | ga |
| AN222 | Permissions to use natural resources | ga |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| AN223 | Permissions to undertake specific activities | ga |
| AN224 | Entitlement to future goods and services on an exclusive basis | ga |
| AN23 | Purchases less sales of goodwill and marketing assets | ga |
| A\_AF | Financial assets | ga |
| A\_AF1 | Monetary gold and SDRs | ga |
| A\_AF11 | Monetary gold | ga |
| A\_AF12 | SDRs | ga |
| A\_AF2 | Currency and deposits | ga |
| A\_AF21 | Currency | ga |
| A\_AF22 | Transferable deposits | ga |
| A\_AF221 | Inter-bank positions | ga |
| A\_AF229 | Other transferable deposits | ga |
| A\_AF29 | Other deposits | ga |
| A\_AF3 | Debt securities | ga |
| A\_AF31 | Short-term debt securities | ga |
| A\_AF32 | Long-term debt securities | ga |
| A\_AF4 | Loans | ga |
| A\_AF41 | Short-term loans | ga |
| A\_AF42 | Long-term loans | ga |
| A\_AF5 | Equity and investment fund shares | ga |
| A\_AF51 | Equity | ga |
| A\_AF511 | Listed shares | ga |
| A\_AF512 | Unlisted shares | ga |
| A\_AF519 | Other equity | ga |
| A\_AF52 | Investment fund shares/units | ga |
| A\_AF521 | Money market fund shares/units | ga |
| A\_AF522 | Non-MMF investment fund shares/units | ga |
| A\_AF6 | Insurance, pension and standardized guarantee schemes | ga |
| A\_AF61 | Non-life insurance technical provisions | ga |
| A\_AF62 | Life insurance and annuity entitlements | ga |
| A\_AF63 | Pension entitlements | ga |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| A\_AF64 | Claims of pension funds on pension managers | ga |
| A\_AF65 | Entitlements to non-pension benefits | ga |
| A\_AF66 | Provisions for calls under standardized guarantees | ga |
| A\_AF7 | Financial derivatives and employee stock options | ga |
| A\_AF71 | Financial derivatives | ga |
| A\_AF711 | Options | ga |
| A\_AF712 | Forwards | ga |
| A\_AF72 | Employee stock options | ga |
| A\_AF8 | Other accounts receivable/payable | ga |
| A\_AF81 | Trade credits and advances | ga |
| A\_AF89 | Other accounts receivable/payable | ga |
| L\_AF | Liabilities | lb |
| L\_AF1 | Monetary gold and SDRs | lb |
| L\_AF11 | Monetary gold | lb |
| L\_AF12 | SDRs | lb |
| L\_AF2 | Currency and deposits | lb |
| L\_AF21 | Currency | lb |
| L\_AF22 | Transferable deposits | lb |
| L\_AF221 | Inter-bank positions | lb |
| L\_AF229 | Other transferable deposits | lb |
| L\_AF29 | Other deposits | lb |
| L\_AF3 | Debt securities | lb |
| L\_AF31 | Short-term debt securities | lb |
| L\_AF32 | Long-term debt securities | lb |
| L\_AF4 | Loans | lb |
| L\_AF41 | Short-term loans | lb |
| L\_AF42 | Long-term loans | lb |
| L\_AF5 | Equity and investment fund shares | lb |
| L\_AF51 | Equity | lb |
| L\_AF511 | Listed shares | lb |
| L\_AF512 | Unlisted shares | lb |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| L\_AF519 | Other equity | lb |
| L\_AF52 | Investment fund shares/units | lb |
| L\_AF521 | Money market fund shares/units | lb |
| L\_AF522 | Non-MMF investment fund shares/units | lb |
| L\_AF6 | Insurance, pension and standardized guarantee schemes | lb |
| L\_AF61 | Non-life insurance technical provisions | lb |
| L\_AF62 | Life insurance and annuity entitlements | lb |
| L\_AF63 | Pension entitlements | lb |
| L\_AF64 | Claims of pension funds on pension managers | lb |
| L\_AF65 | Entitlements to non-pension benefits | lb |
| L\_AF66 | Provisions for calls under standardized guarantees | lb |
| L\_AF7 | Financial derivatives and employee stock options | lb |
| L\_AF71 | Financial derivatives | lb |
| L\_AF711 | Options | lb |
| L\_AF712 | Forwards | lb |
| L\_AF72 | Employee stock options | lb |
| L\_AF8 | Other accounts receivable/payable | lb |
| L\_AF81 | Trade credits and advances | lb |
| L\_AF89 | Other accounts receivable/payable | lb |
| XDHHCE | Consumer durables | ga |

## Source-Specific Documentation

This section provides source-specific detailed information on raw data source, all source-specific composition rules used to obtain the macrocategories of the Wealth Topography (concept), and additional tables on mapping. We recall that raw data sources included in the Wealth Topography can be classified in three macro groups:

1. Raw data sources published by central banks and national statistical institutes that use the SNA2008/ESA2010 framework to organize and disseminate the data. We refer to this raw data sources simply as cross-national oﬀicial statistics.
2. Raw data sources published by central banks and national statistical institutes that use variants of the SNA2008/ESA2010 framework or other frameworks to organize and disseminate the data. We refer to these raw data sources as cross-national oﬀicial statistics that use variants of SNA2008/ESA2010 framework.
3. Raw data sources contained in surveys and academic papers or published by central banks and research institutes that use frameworks different from the SNA2008/ESA2010 framework to organize and dis- seminate the data. We refer to these data sources as cross-national oﬀicial survey data or cross-national academic research that do not use the SNA2008/ESA2010 framework.

When formulating the composition rules, we construct rules that can be applied to all years during which all sub-components of each concepts can be observed. This formulation of composition rules allows us to preserve time consistency in the construction of concepts.

### Bank of Italy - Financial Accounts (BoI\_FA)

The Bank of Italy provides financial balance sheets of the Households and NPISH sector as parts of its quarterly financial accounts publication, so-called *Conti Finanziari* Bank of Italy [[11](#_bookmark130)]. While raw data are published at quarterly frequency, we use the end-year observation. Relative to the mapping procedure, this raw data source is classified as cross-national oﬀicial statistics, that is mapping is automatic since the Bank of Italy organizes and disseminates raw data according to the SNA2008/ESA2010 guidelines. Table [B.3](#_bookmark86) provides an overview of the general and source-specific composition rules used to compute the concepts. In the table, the column ‘Frequency’ reports the number of source-sector-concept triples for which the corresponding composition rule is used.

### Bank of Italy & ISTAT - Balance Sheet (BoI\_NA)

The source Bank of Italy & ISTAT - Balance Sheet (BoI\_NA) is based on the joint Bank of Italy and ISTAT estimates of wealth published as The wealth of Italy’s institutional sector Bank of Italy and Istat [[12](#_bookmark131)]. This publication provides annual estimates of net wealth, assets, and liabilities of households and other institutional sectors, together with a cross-country comparison on the evolution of balance sheets. Relative to the mapping procedure, this raw data source is classified as cross-national oﬀicial statistics, that is mapping is automatic since the Bank of Italy organizes and disseminates raw data according to the SNA2008/ESA2010 guidelines. Table [B.4](#_bookmark87) provides an overview of the general and source-specific composition rules used to compute the

concepts. In the table, the column ‘Frequency’ reports the number of source-sector-concept triples for which the corresponding composition rule is used. For this source, we obtain ‘Net Wealth’ (netwea) as the sum of ‘Financial Assets & Fixed Capital of Personal Businesses’ (nnhass) and ‘Housing & Land’ (nfahou), net of ‘Debt’ (fliabi).

### European Central Bank Non-EU - Financial Accounts (ECB\_IDCSA)

The European Central Bank provides estimates of financial balance sheet for non-EU countries on its Statis- tical Data Warehouse. These data are included in the source European Central Bank Non-EU (ECB\_IDCSA), which corresponds to the IDCS - Sector accounts in the International Data Cooperation Task Force Context European Central Bank [[52](#_bookmark171)]. The underlying database collects financial accounts (both flows and levels) for each institutional sector as publishes by Eurostat, OECD, and the United Nations. Data are originally published at both quarterly and annual frequency. This raw data source is classified as cross-national oﬀicial statistics for which mapping is automatic since the European Central Bank organizes and disseminates raw data according to the SNA2008/ESA2010 guidelines. Table [B.5](#_bookmark88) provides an overview of the general and source-specific composition rules used to compute the concepts. In the table, the column ‘Frequency’ reports the number of source-sector-concept triples for which the corresponding composition rule is used.

### European Central Bank EU - Financial Accounts (ECB\_QSA)

The source European Central Bank EU (ECB\_QSA) corresponds to the Quarterly Sector Accounts published by the European Central Bank on the Statistical Data Warehouse European Central Bank [[53](#_bookmark172)]. The Quarterly Sector Accounts provide quarterly estimates of outstanding levels of financial assets and liabilities for the EE countries, together with a detailed breakdown of institutional sectors and financial instruments. The original frequency of data is quarterly but we retain the end-year observation. Relative to the mapping procedure, this raw data source is classified as cross-national oﬀicial statistics for which mapping is automatic since the European Central Bank organizes and disseminates raw data according to the SNA2008/ESA2010 guidelines. Table [B.6](#_bookmark89) provides an overview of the general and source-specific composition rules used to compute the concepts. In the table, the column ‘Frequency’ reports the number of source-sector-concept triples for which the corresponding composition rule is used.

### Eurostat - Financial Accounts (Est)

The data source Eurostat - Financial Accounts (Est) corresponds to the Financial Flows and Stocks publica- tion of Eurostat, the statistical oﬀice of the European Union Eurostat [[54](#_bookmark173)]. This data source reports financial assets held and the liabilities outstanding at the end of each year, for each institutional sector of the economy, according to the SNA2008/ESA2010 framework. Therefore, this is a cross-national oﬀicial statistics source type for which mapping of raw data to national accounting concepts is automatic. Table [B.7](#_bookmark90) provides an overview of the source-specific composition rules used to compute the concepts. In the table, the column ‘Frequency’ reports the number of source-sector-concept triples for which the correspondent composition rule is used.

### Federal Reserve Board B.101 - Balance Sheet (FED\_B101)

The source Federal Reserve Board B.101 - Balance Sheet (FED\_B101) corresponds to the table B.101: Balance Sheet of Households and Nonprofit Organizations published by the Federal Reserve Board in the Z.1 Financial Accounts of the United States Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System [[16](#_bookmark135)]. The table covers the entire balance sheet of the households and nonprofit organizations sector. Relative to the mapping procedure, this raw data source is classified as cross-national oﬀicial statistics that use variants of SNA2008/ESA2010 framework. Hence, we manually map each item from the raw data source into an item of the grid (see Table [B.9](#_bookmark92) for the manual mapping). Table [B.8](#_bookmark91) provides an overview of the general and source-specific composition rules used to compute the concepts. In the table, the column ‘Frequency’ reports the number of source-sector- concept triples for which the corresponding composition rule is used. For this source, we obtain ‘Net Wealth’ (netwea) as the sum of ‘Financial Assets & Fixed Capital of Personal Businesses’ (nnhass) and ‘Housing & Land’ (nfahou), net of ‘Debt’ (fliabi).

### Federal Reserve Board B.101.H - Balance Sheet (FED\_B101h)

The source Federal Reserve Board B.101.H - Balance Sheet (FED\_B101h) corresponds to the table B.101.h: Balance Sheet of Households published by the Federal Reserve Board as supplementary table in the Z.1 Financial Accounts of the United States Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System [[16](#_bookmark135)]. The table covers the entire balance sheet of the households and is obtained as a residual - that is by subtracting assets and liabilities of the nonprofit sector from the combined balance sheet of households and nonprofit organizations sector (table B.101). Relative to the mapping procedure, this raw data source is classified as cross-national oﬀicial statistics that use variants of SNA2008/ESA2010 framework. Hence, we manually

map each item from the raw data source into an item of the grid (see Table [B.11](#_bookmark94) for the manual mapping). Table [B.10](#_bookmark93) provides an overview of the general and source-specific composition rules used to compute the concepts. In the table, the column ‘Frequency’ reports the number of source-sector-concept triples for which the corresponding composition rule is used. For this source, we obtain ‘Net Wealth’ (netwea) as the sum of ‘Financial Assets & Fixed Capital of Personal Businesses’ (nnhass) and ‘Housing & Land’ (nfahou), net of ‘Debt’ (fliabi).

### Federal Reserve Board B.101.N - Balance Sheet (FED\_B101n)

The source Federal Reserve Board B.101.N - Balance Sheet (FED\_B101n) corresponds to the table B.101.n: Balance Sheet of Nonprofit Organizations published by the Federal Reserve Board as supplementary table in the Z.1 Financial Accounts of the United States Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System [[16](#_bookmark135)]. The table covers the entire balance sheet of the nonprofit organizations sectors. Relative to the mapping procedure, this raw data source is classified as cross-national oﬀicial statistics that use variants of SNA2008/ESA2010 framework. Hence, we manually map each item from the raw data source into an item of the grid (see Table [B.13](#_bookmark96) for the manual mapping). Table [B.12](#_bookmark95) provides an overview of the general and source-specific composition rules used to compute the concepts. In the table, the column ‘Frequency’ reports the number of source-sector-concept triples for which the corresponding composition rule is used. For this source, we obtain ‘Net Wealth’ (netwea) as the sum of ‘Financial Assets & Fixed Capital of Personal Businesses’ (nnhass) and ‘Housing & Land’ (nfahou), net of ‘Debt’ (fliabi).

### Federal Reserve Board S.3.a (IMA) - Balance Sheet (FED\_S3a\_IMA)

The source Federal Reserve Board S.3.a (IMA) - Balance Sheet (FED\_S3a\_IMA) corresponds to the table

S.3.a: Households and Nonprofit Institutions Serving Households published by the Federal Reserve Board in the Integrated Macroeconomic Accounts section of the Z.1 Financial Accounts of the United States Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System [[16](#_bookmark135)]. The table covers the entire balance sheet of the households and nonprofit organizations sector but the underlying data source is different from that used to obtain table

B.101. In fact, the Integrated Macroeconomic Accounts combine production, income and saving, and capital formation from the National Income and Product Accounts (NIPA) and financial transactions and asset revaluations from the Financial Accounts with changes in net wealth from the balance sheet (table B.101). Relative to the mapping procedure, this raw data source is classified as cross-national oﬀicial statistics that use variants of SNA2008/ESA2010 framework. Hence, we manually map each item from the raw data source

into an item of the grid (see Table [B.14](#_bookmark97) for the manual mapping). Table [B.14](#_bookmark97) provides an overview of the general and source-specific composition rules used to compute the concepts. In the table, the column ‘Frequency’ reports the number of source-sector-concept triples for which the corresponding composition rule is used. For this source, we obtain ‘Net Wealth’ (netwea) as the sum of ‘Financial Assets & Fixed Capital of Personal Businesses’ (nnhass) and ‘Housing & Land’ (nfahou), net of ‘Debt’ (fliabi).

### OECD - Financial Accounts (OECD\_FA)

The source OECD - Financial Accounts (OECD\_FA) corresponds to the OECD’s table Households’ Financial Assets and Liabilities (QASA\_7HH table) which provides a detailed breakdown of households’ loans, in- vestment funds shares, life insurance and annuity entitlements, and pension entitlements OECD [[99](#_bookmark218)]. This raw data source assembles various sources from central banks and national statistical institutes. This raw data source is classified as cross-national oﬀicial statistics because the OECD organizes and disseminate data according to the SNA2008/ESA2010 framework. Therefore, mapping of raw data into national accounts con- cepts is automatic. Table [B.16](#_bookmark98) provides an overview of the general and source-specific composition rules used to compute the concepts. In the table, the column ‘Frequency’ reports the number of source-sector-concept triples for which the corresponding composition rule is used.

### Luxembourg Wealth Study Database - Balance Sheet (LWS\_topo)

The source Luxembourg Wealth Study Database - Balance Sheet (LWS\_topo) is the Luxembourg Wealth Study Database which provides cross-national harmonized micro-data (household- and individual-level data) on assets, liabilities, and net wealth LIS [[92](#_bookmark211)]. Aggregate concepts are obtained multiplying household-level micro-data by the population weight and they are the average across five implicates (Rubin’s Rule). The organization of assets and liabilities in the Luxembourg Wealth Study Database is not directly comparable to the GC Wealth Project conceptual grid. Therefore, this raw data source is classified as cross-national academic research that do not use the SNA2008/ESA2010 framework for which we introduce a source-specific conceptual grid (see Table [B.18](#_bookmark100)) and composition table (see Table [B.17](#_bookmark99)). In the composition table, the column ‘Frequency’ reports the number of source-sector-concept triples for which the corresponding composition rule is used. For this specific source, Net Wealth (netwea) is obtained ex-post, that is by combining the available concepts of the Wealth Topography. More specifically, Net Wealth is computed as ‘Financial Assets & Fixed Capital of Personal Businesses’ (nnhass) plus ‘Housing & Land’ (nfahou) minus ‘Debt’ (fliabi). For this source, we obtain ‘Net Wealth’ (netwea) as the sum of ‘Financial Assets & Fixed Capital of Personal

Businesses’ (nnhass) and ‘Housing & Land’ (nfahou), net of ‘Debt’ (fliabi) if all components of ‘Net Wealth’ are available.

### Household Finance and Consumption Survey - Balance Sheet (HFCS\_topo)

The source Household Finance and Consumption Survey - Balance Sheet (HFCS\_topo) corresponds to the Household Finance and Consumption Survey (HFCS), a collection of harmonized micro-data on households’ balance sheets and consumption Household Finance and Consumption Network [[68](#_bookmark187)]. The HFCS is housed at the European Central Bank but the survey is conducted nationally, mostly by central banks. To obtain aggregate concepts from household-level data, we used household-level weights. Moreover, aggregate data reported in the Wealth Topography are an average across all five implicates (Rubin’s Rule). The organization of assets and liabilities in the Household Finance and Consumption Survey is not directly comparable to the GC Wealth Project conceptual grid. Therefore, this raw data source is classified as cross-national oﬀicial survey data that do not use the SNA2008/ESA2010 framework source for which we introduce a source-specific conceptual grid (see Table [B.20](#_bookmark102)) and composition table (see Table [B.19](#_bookmark101)). In the composition table, the column ‘Frequency’ reports the number of source-sector-concept triples for which the corresponding composition rule is used.

### World Inequality Database - Balance Sheet (WID\_topo)

The source World Inequality Database - Balance Sheet (WID\_topo) corresponds to the World Inequality Database (WID), the largest repository of data on income and wealth distribution across the world World Inequality Database [[151](#_bookmark270)]. The concepts included in the Wealth Topography are the WID aggregate wealth variables, converted in nominal values using the country-specific price deflator provided by WID. Among the WID estimates, we have included in the Wealth Topography only countries with wealth data available for all asset groups or for at least two asset group. Our warehouse thus exclude those estimates of wealth aggregates that are heavily imputed with data available only for one asset group or for few asset sub- components. The organization of assets and liabilities in the World Inequality Database - Balance Sheet is not directly comparable to the GC Wealth Project conceptual grid. Therefore, this raw data source is classified as cross-national academic research that do not use the SNA2008/ESA2010 framework for which we introduce a source-specific conceptual grid (see Table [B.22](#_bookmark103)) and composition table (see Table [B.22](#_bookmark103)). In the composition table, the column ‘Frequency’ reports the number of source-sector-concept triples for which the corresponding composition rule is used. For this source, ‘Net Wealth’ (netwea) may be different from the

sum of ‘Financial Assets & Fixed Capital of Personal Businesses’ (nnhass) and ‘Housing & Land’ (nfahou), net of ‘Debt’ (fliabi) because of discrepancies present in the raw data source.

Table B.3: Composition rules: Bank of Italy - Financial Accounts

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Sector | Code | Concept | Composition rule using codes | Frequency |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Households  & NPISH | nnhass | Financial Assets & Fixed  Capital of Personal Businesses | (A\_AF) | 1 |
| Households  & NPISH | fliabi | Debt | (L\_AF41) + (L\_AF42) + (L\_AF6) | 1 |
| Households  & NPISH | facdbl | Cash, Deposits, Bonds & Loans | (A\_AF2BI2) + (A\_AF29) + (A\_AF31) +  (A\_AF32) + (A\_AF41) | 1 |
| Households  & NPISH | faeqfd | Stocks, Business Equities &  Fund Shares | (A\_AF51) + (A\_AF52) | 1 |
| Households  & NPISH | falipe | Pensions & Life Insurance | (A\_AF6) | 1 |

Table B.4: Composition rules: Bank of Italy and ISTAT - Balance Sheet

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Sector | Code | Concept | Composition rule using codes | Frequency |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Households  & NPISH | netwea | Net Wealth | (Financial Assets & Fixed Capital of Personal  Businesses) + (Housing & Land) - (Debt) | 1 |
| Households  & NPISH | nnhass | Financial Assets & Fixed  Capital of Personal Businesses | (AN1123) + (AN113) + (AN115) + (AN117) +  (AN12) + (AN211) + (A\_AF) | 1 |
| Households  & NPISH | fliabi | Debt | (L\_AF3) + (L\_AF4) + (L\_AF51) + (L\_AF52) +  (L\_AF6) + (L\_AF8) | 1 |
| Households  & NPISH | facdbl | Cash, Deposits, Bonds & Loans | (A\_AF2) + (A\_AF3) + (A\_AF4) | 1 |
| Households  & NPISH | faeqfd | Stocks, Business Equities &  Fund Shares | (A\_AF51) + (A\_AF52) | 1 |
| Households & NPISH | falipe | Pensions & Life Insurance | (A\_AF6) | 1 |
| Households  & NPISH | nfabus | Fixed Capital of Personal  Businesses | (AN1123) + (AN113) + (AN115) + (AN117) +  (AN12) + (AN211) | 1 |
| Households  & NPISH | nfadur | Durable Goods | (XDHHCE) | 1 |
| Households  & NPISH | nfahou | Housing & Land | (AN111) + (AN1121) + (AN1122) - (AN1123) | 1 |

Table B.5: Composition rules: European Central Bank Non-EU - Financial Accounts

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Sector | Code | Concept | Composition rule using codes | Frequency |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Households  & NPISH | nnhass | Financial Assets & Fixed  Capital of Personal Businesses | (A\_AF) | 18 |
| Households  & NPISH | fliabi | Debt | (L\_AF3) + (L\_AF4) | 1 |
| Households  & NPISH | fliabi | Debt | (L\_AF3) + (L\_AF4) + (L\_AF5) | 3 |
| Households  & NPISH | fliabi | Debt | (L\_AF3) + (L\_AF4) + (L\_AF5) + (L\_AF6) | 11 |
| Households  & NPISH | fliabi | Debt | (L\_AF4) + (L\_AF5) | 1 |
| Households & NPISH | fliabi | Debt | (L\_AF4) | 2 |
| Households  & NPISH | facdbl | Cash, Deposits, Bonds & Loans | (A\_AF2) + (A\_AF3) + (A\_AF4) | 18 |
| Households  & NPISH | faeqfd | Stocks, Business Equities &  Fund Shares | (A\_AF5) | 18 |
| Households  & NPISH | falipe | Pensions & Life Insurance | (A\_AF6) | 18 |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Households | nnhass | Financial Assets & Fixed Capital of Personal Businesses | (A\_AF) | 12 |
| Households | fliabi | Debt | (L\_AF4) + (L\_AF5) | 1 |
| Households | fliabi | Debt | (L\_AF4) | 2 |
| Households | fliabi | Debt | (L\_AF3) + (L\_AF4) | 2 |
| Households | fliabi | Debt | (L\_AF3) + (L\_AF4) + (L\_AF5) + (L\_AF6) | 7 |
| Households | facdbl | Cash, Deposits, Bonds & Loans | (A\_AF2) + (A\_AF3) + (A\_AF4) | 12 |
| Households | faeqfd | Stocks, Business Equities & Fund Shares | (A\_AF5) | 12 |
| Households | falipe | Pensions & Life Insurance | (A\_AF6) | 12 |
| NPISH | nnhass | Financial Assets & Fixed  Capital of Personal Businesses | (A\_AF) | 12 |
| NPISH | fliabi | Debt | (L\_AF3) + (L\_AF4) + (L\_AF5) + (L\_AF6) | 7 |
| NPISH | fliabi | Debt | (L\_AF3) + (L\_AF4) | 1 |
| NPISH | fliabi | Debt | (L\_AF3) + (L\_AF4) + (L\_AF5) | 2 |
| NPISH | fliabi | Debt | (L\_AF4) | 1 |
| NPISH | fliabi | Debt | (L\_AF4) + (L\_AF5) | 1 |
| NPISH | facdbl | Cash, Deposits, Bonds & Loans | (A\_AF2) + (A\_AF3) + (A\_AF4) | 12 |
| NPISH | faeqfd | Stocks, Business Equities &  Fund Shares | (A\_AF5) | 12 |
| NPISH | falipe | Pensions & Life Insurance | (A\_AF6) | 10 |

Table B.6: Composition rules: European Central Bank EU - Fi- nancial Accounts

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Sector | Code | Concept | Composition rule using codes | Frequency |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Households  & NPISH | nnhass | Financial Assets & Fixed  Capital of Personal Businesses | (A\_AF) | 28 |
| Households  & NPISH | fliabi | Debt | (L\_AF3) + (L\_AF4) + (L\_AF5) + (L\_AF6) | 28 |
| Households | facdbl | Cash, Deposits, Bonds & Loans | (A\_AF2) + (A\_AF3) + (A\_AF4) | 28 |
| & NPISH  Households | faeqfd | Stocks, Business Equities & | (A\_AF5) | 28 |
| & NPISH  Households | falipe | Fund Shares  Pensions & Life Insurance | (A\_AF6) | 28 |
| & NPISH |  |  |  |  |
| Households | nnhass | Financial Assets & Fixed Capital of Personal Businesses | (A\_AF) | 28 |
| Households | fliabi | Debt | (L\_AF4) | 28 |
| Households | facdbl | Cash, Deposits, Bonds & Loans | (A\_AF2) + (A\_AF3) + (A\_AF4) | 27 |
| Households | facdbl | Cash, Deposits, Bonds & Loans | (A\_AF2) + (A\_AF3) | 1 |
| Households | faeqfd | Stocks, Business Equities & Fund Shares | (A\_AF5) | 28 |
| Households | falipe | Pensions & Life Insurance | (A\_AF6) | 28 |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| NPISH | nnhass | Financial Assets & Fixed  Capital of Personal Businesses | (A\_AF) | 28 |
| NPISH | fliabi | Debt | (L\_AF4) | 1 |
| NPISH | fliabi | Debt | (L\_AF3) + (L\_AF4) + (L\_AF5) | 27 |
| NPISH | facdbl | Cash, Deposits, Bonds & Loans | (A\_AF2) + (A\_AF3) + (A\_AF4) | 27 |
| NPISH | facdbl | Cash, Deposits, Bonds & Loans | (A\_AF2) + (A\_AF3) | 1 |
| NPISH | faeqfd | Stocks, Business Equities & | (A\_AF5) | 28 |
| NPISH | falipe | Fund Shares  Pensions & Life Insurance | (A\_AF6) | 28 |

Table B.7: Composition rules: Eurostat - Financial Accounts

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Sector | Code | Concept | Composition rule using codes | Frequency |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Households | nnhass | Financial Assets & Fixed | (A\_AF) | 37 |
| & NPISH |  | Capital of Personal Businesses |  |  |
| Households | fliabi | Debt | (L\_AF4) + (L\_AF6) | 1 |
| & NPISH |  |  |  |  |
| Households | fliabi | Debt | (L\_AF3) + (L\_AF4) + (L\_AF5) + (L\_AF6) | 3 |
| & NPISH |  |  |  |  |
| Households | fliabi | Debt | (L\_AF4) + (L\_AF5) | 9 |
| & NPISH |  |  |  |  |
| Households | fliabi | Debt | (L\_AF3) + (L\_AF4) + (L\_AF6) | 1 |
| & NPISH |  |  |  |  |
| Households | fliabi | Debt | (L\_AF4) | 19 |
| & NPISH |  |  |  |  |
| Households | fliabi | Debt | (L\_AF3) + (L\_AF4) | 4 |
| & NPISH |  |  |  |  |
| Households | facdbl | Cash, Deposits, Bonds & Loans | (A\_AF2) + (A\_AF3) | 3 |
| & NPISH |  |  |  |  |
| Households | facdbl | Cash, Deposits, Bonds & Loans | (A\_AF2) + (A\_AF3) + (A\_AF4) | 34 |
| & NPISH |  |  |  |  |
| Households | faeqfd | Stocks, Business Equities & | (A\_AF5) | 37 |
| & NPISH |  | Fund Shares |  |  |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Households  & NPISH | falipe | Pensions & Life Insurance | (A\_AF6) | 37 |
| Households | nnhass | Financial Assets & Fixed  Capital of Personal Businesses | (A\_AF) | 36 |
| Households | fliabi | Debt | (L\_AF4) | 30 |
| Households | fliabi | Debt | (L\_AF3) + (L\_AF4) + (L\_AF6) | 2 |
| Households | fliabi | Debt | (L\_AF4) + (L\_AF6) | 2 |
| Households | fliabi | Debt | (L\_AF3) + (L\_AF4) | 2 |
| Households | facdbl | Cash, Deposits, Bonds & Loans | (A\_AF2) + (A\_AF3) + (A\_AF4) | 32 |
| Households | facdbl | Cash, Deposits, Bonds & Loans | (A\_AF2) + (A\_AF3) | 4 |
| Households | faeqfd | Stocks, Business Equities &  Fund Shares | (A\_AF5) | 36 |
| Households | falipe | Pensions & Life Insurance | (A\_AF6) | 36 |
| NPISH | nnhass | Financial Assets & Fixed  Capital of Personal Businesses | (A\_AF) | 36 |
| NPISH | fliabi | Debt | (L\_AF3) + (L\_AF4) + (L\_AF6) | 1 |
| NPISH | fliabi | Debt | (L\_AF3) + (L\_AF4) + (L\_AF5) | 2 |
| NPISH | fliabi | Debt | (L\_AF4) | 21 |
| NPISH | fliabi | Debt | (L\_AF4) + (L\_AF5) | 9 |
| NPISH | fliabi | Debt | (L\_AF3) + (L\_AF4) + (L\_AF5) + (L\_AF6) | 1 |
| NPISH | fliabi | Debt | (L\_AF3) + (L\_AF4) | 2 |
| NPISH | facdbl | Cash, Deposits, Bonds & Loans | (A\_AF2) | 2 |
| NPISH | facdbl | Cash, Deposits, Bonds & Loans | (A\_AF2) + (A\_AF3) + (A\_AF4) | 21 |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| NPISH | facdbl | Cash, Deposits, Bonds & Loans | (A\_AF2) + (A\_AF3) | 13 |
| NPISH | faeqfd | Stocks, Business Equities &  Fund Shares | (A\_AF5) | 36 |
| NPISH | falipe | Pensions & Life Insurance | (A\_AF6) | 13 |

Table B.8: Composition rules: Federal Reserve Board B.101 - Bal- ance Sheet

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Sector | Code | Concept | Composition rule using codes | Frequency |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Households  & NPISH | netwea | Net Wealth | (Financial Assets & Fixed Capital of Personal  Businesses) + (Housing & Land) - (Debt) | 1 |
| Households  & NPISH | nnhass | Financial Assets & Fixed  Capital of Personal Businesses | (AN) - (AN111) - (XDHHCE) + (A\_AF) | 1 |
| Households  & NPISH | fliabi | Debt | (L\_AF3) + (L\_AF4) | 1 |
| Households  & NPISH | facdbl | Cash, Deposits, Bonds & Loans | (A\_AF21) + (A\_AF22) + (A\_AF29) + (A\_AF3)  + (A\_AF4) | 1 |
| Households  & NPISH | faeqfd | Stocks, Business Equities &  Fund Shares | (A\_AF511) + (A\_AF519) + (A\_AF521) +  (A\_AF522) | 1 |
| Households & NPISH | falipe | Pensions & Life Insurance | (A\_AF62) + (A\_AF63) | 1 |
| Households  & NPISH | nfabus | Fixed Capital of Personal  Businesses | (AN) - (AN111) - (XDHHCE) | 1 |
| Households  & NPISH | nfadur | Durable Goods | (XDHHCE) | 1 |
| Households  & NPISH | nfahou | Housing & Land | (AN111) | 1 |

Table B.9: Matching: Federal Reserve Board B.101 - Balance Sheet

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Original label | Original identifier | Code |
| Nonfinancial Assets | LM152010005.A | AN |
| Real Estate At Market Value | LM155035005.A | AN111 |
| Equipment, Current Cost Basis | LM165015205.A | AN113 |
| Nonresidential Intellectual Property Products, Current Cost  Basis | LM165013765.A | AN117 |
| Total Financial Assets | FL154090005.A | A\_AF |
| Checkable Deposits And Currency | FL153020005.A | A\_AF21 |
| Total Time And Savings Deposits | FL153030005.A | A\_AF22 |
| Private Foreign Deposits | LM153091003.A | A\_AF29 |
| Debt Securities | LM154022005.A | A\_AF3 |
| Loans | FL154023005.A | A\_AF4 |
| Corporate Equities | LM153064105.A | A\_AF511 |
| Proprietors’ Equity In Noncorporate Business | LM152090205.A | A\_AF519 |
| Money Market Fund Shares | FL153034005.A | A\_AF521 |
| Mutual Fund Shares | LM153064205.A | A\_AF522 |
| Life Insurance Reserves | FL153040005.A | A\_AF62 |
| Pension Entitlements | FL153050005.A | A\_AF63 |
| Total Liabilities | FL154190005.A | L\_AF |
| Municipal Securities | FL163162003.A | L\_AF3 |
| Loans | FL154123005.A | L\_AF4 |
| Deferred And Unpaid Life Insurance Premiums | FL543077073.A | L\_AF62 |
| Consumer Durable Goods, Current Cost Basis | LM155111005.A | XDHHCE |

Table B.10: Composition rules: Federal Reserve Board B.101.H - Balance Sheet

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Sector | Code | Concept | Composition rule using codes | Frequency |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Households | netwea | Net Wealth | (Financial Assets & Fixed Capital of Personal  Businesses) + (Housing & Land) - (Debt) | 1 |
| Households | nnhass | Financial Assets & Fixed  Capital of Personal Businesses | (AN) - (AN111) - (XDHHCE) + (A\_AF) | 1 |
| Households | fliabi | Debt | (L\_AF4) | 1 |
| Households | facdbl | Cash, Deposits, Bonds & Loans | (A\_AF21) + (A\_AF22) + (A\_AF3) + (A\_AF4) | 1 |
| Households | faeqfd | Stocks, Business Equities &  Fund Shares | (A\_AF51) + (A\_AF519) + (A\_AF521) | 1 |
| Households | falipe | Pensions & Life Insurance | (A\_AF62) + (A\_AF63) | 1 |
| Households | nfabus | Fixed Capital of Personal  Businesses | (AN) - (AN111) - (XDHHCE) | 1 |
| Households | nfadur | Durable Goods | (XDHHCE) | 1 |
| Households | nfahou | Housing & Land | (AN111) | 1 |

Table B.11: Matching: Federal Reserve Board B.101.H - Balance Sheet

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Original label | Original identifier | Code |
| Nonfinancial Assets | LM192010005.A | AN |
| Owner-Occupied Real Estate Including Vacant Land And Mobile  Homes At Market Value | LM155035015.A | AN111 |
| Total Financial Assets | FL194090005.A | A\_AF |
| Checkable Deposits And Currency | FL193020005.A | A\_AF21 |
| Other Deposits Including Time And Savings Deposits | FL193030205.A | A\_AF22 |
| Debt Securities | LM194022005.A | A\_AF3 |
| Loans | FL194023005.A | A\_AF4 |
| Corporate Equities And Mutual Fund Shares | LM193064005.A | A\_AF51 |
| Proprietors’ Equity In Noncorporate Business | LM152090205.A | A\_AF519 |
| Money Market Fund Shares | FL193034005.A | A\_AF521 |
| Life Insurance Reserves | FL153040005.A | A\_AF62 |
| Pension Entitlements | FL153050005.A | A\_AF63 |
| Total Liabilities | FL194190005.A | L\_AF |
| Loans | FL194123005.A | L\_AF4 |
| Deferred And Unpaid Life Insurance Premiums | FL543077073.A | L\_AF62 |
| Consumer Durable Goods, Current Cost Basis | LM155111005.A | XDHHCE |

Table B.12: Composition rules: Federal Reserve Board B.101.N - Balance Sheet

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Sector | Code | Concept | Composition rule using codes | Frequency |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| NPISH | netwea | Net Wealth | (AN) + (A\_AF) - (L\_AF) | 1 |
| NPISH | nnhass | Financial Assets & Fixed  Capital of Personal Businesses | (AN) - (AN111) + (A\_AF) | 1 |
| NPISH | fliabi | Debt | (L\_AF3) + (L\_AF4) | 1 |
| NPISH | facdbl | Cash, Deposits, Bonds & Loans | (A\_AF21) + (A\_AF22) + (A\_AF3) + (A\_AF4) | 1 |
| NPISH | faeqfd | Stocks, Business Equities &  Fund Shares | (A\_AF5) | 1 |
| NPISH | nfabus | Fixed Capital of Personal Businesses | (AN) - (AN111) | 1 |
| NPISH | nfahou | Housing & Land | (AN111) | 1 |

Table B.13: Matching: Federal Reserve Board B.101.N - Balance Sheet

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Original label | Original identifier | Code |
| Nonfinancial Assets | FL162010005.A | AN |
| Real Estate At Market Value | FL165035005.A | AN111 |
| Equipment, Current Cost Basis | FL165015205.A | AN113 |
| Nonresidential Intellectual Property Products, Current Cost  Basis | FL165013765.A | AN117 |
| Total Financial Assets | FL164090005.A | A\_AF |
| Cash And Non-Interest-Bearing Deposits | FL163020005.A | A\_AF21 |
| Other Deposits And Short-Term Investments | FL163030205.A | A\_AF22 |
| Debt Securities | LM164022005.A | A\_AF3 |
| Loans | FL164023005.A | A\_AF4 |
| Corporate Equities And Mutual Fund Shares | LM163064005.A | A\_AF5 |
| Money Market Fund Shares | FL163034003.A | A\_AF521 |
| Total Liabilities | FL164190005.A | L\_AF |
| Municipal Securities | FL163162003.A | L\_AF3 |
| Loans | FL164123005.A | L\_AF4 |

Table B.14: Composition rules: Federal Reserve Board S.3.a (IMA)

- Balance Sheet

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Sector | Code | Concept | Composition rule using codes | Frequency |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Households  & NPISH | netwea | Net Wealth | (Financial Assets & Fixed Capital of Personal  Businesses) + (Housing & Land) - (Debt) | 1 |
| Households  & NPISH | nnhass | Financial Assets & Fixed  Capital of Personal Businesses | (AN) - (AN111) - (XDHHCE) + (A\_AF) | 1 |
| Households  & NPISH | fliabi | Debt | (L\_AF3) + (L\_AF4) + (L\_AF6) | 1 |
| Households  & NPISH | facdbl | Cash, Deposits, Bonds & Loans | (A\_AF2) + (A\_AF3) + (A\_AF4) | 1 |
| Households  & NPISH | faeqfd | Stocks, Business Equities &  Fund Shares | (A\_AF5) | 1 |
| Households & NPISH | falipe | Pensions & Life Insurance | (A\_AF6) | 1 |
| Households  & NPISH | nfabus | Fixed Capital of Personal  Businesses | (AN) - (AN111) - (XDHHCE) | 1 |
| Households  & NPISH | nfadur | Durable Goods | (XDHHCE) | 1 |
| Households  & NPISH | nfahou | Housing & Land | (AN111) | 1 |

Table B.15: Matching: Federal Reserve Board S.3.a (IMA) - Bal- ance Sheet

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Original label | Original identifier | Code |
| Nonfinancial Assets | LM152010005.A | AN |
| Real Estate At Market Value | LM155035005.A | AN111 |
| Equipment, Current Cost Basis | LM165015205.A | AN113 |
| Nonresidential Intellectual Property Products, Current Cost  Basis | LM165013765.A | AN117 |
| Total Financial Assets | FL154090005.A | A\_AF |
| Total Currency And Deposits | FL154000005.A | A\_AF2 |
| Debt Securities | LM154022005.A | A\_AF3 |
| Loans | FL154023005.A | A\_AF4 |
| Loans, Excluding Mortgages | FL154041005.A | A\_AF41 |
| Total Mortgages | FL153065005.A | A\_AF42 |
| Equity And Investment Fund Shares | FL153081005.A | A\_AF5 |
| Corporate Equities | LM153064105.A | A\_AF51 |
| Proprietors’ Equity In Noncorporate Business | LM152090205.A | A\_AF519 |
| Money Market Fund Shares | FL153034005.A | A\_AF521 |
| Mutual Fund Shares | LM153064205.A | A\_AF522 |
| Insurance, Pension And Standardized Guarantee Schemes | FL153052005.A | A\_AF6 |
| Life Insurance Reserves | FL153040005.A | A\_AF62 |
| Pension Entitlements | FL153050005.A | A\_AF63 |
| Other Accounts Receivable | FL163096005.A | A\_AF8 |
| Net Worth | FL152090005.A | B90 |
| Total Liabilities | FL154190005.A | L\_AF |
| Municipal Securities | FL163162003.A | L\_AF3 |
| Loans | FL154123005.A | L\_AF4 |
| Short-Term Loans | FL154141005.A | L\_AF41 |
| Total Mortgages | FL153165005.A | L\_AF42 |
| Deferred And Unpaid Life Insurance Premiums | FL543077073.A | L\_AF6 |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Trade Payables | FL163170005.A | L\_AF8 |
| Consumer Durable Goods, Current Cost Basis | LM155111005.A | XDHHCE |

Table B.16: Composition rules: OECD - Financial Accounts

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Sector | Code | Concept | Composition rule using codes | Frequency |
| Households & NPISH | fliabi | Debt | (L\_AF4) | 31 |
| Households  & NPISH | faeqfd | Stocks, Business Equities  & Fund Shares | (A\_AF52) | 31 |
| Households  & NPISH | falipe | Pensions & Life Insurance | (A\_AF62) + (A\_AF63) | 26 |
| Households | fliabi | Debt | (L\_AF4) | 27 |
| Households | faeqfd | Stocks, Business Equities  & Fund Shares | (A\_AF52) | 27 |
| Households | falipe | Pensions & Life Insurance | (A\_AF62) + (A\_AF63) | 26 |

Table B.17: Composition rules: Luxembourg Wealth Study Database - Balance Sheet

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Sector | Code | Concept | Composition rule using codes | Frequency |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Households | netwea | Net Wealth | (Financial Assets & Fixed Capital of Personal  Businesses) + (Housing & Land) - (Debt) | 16 |
| Households | nnhass | Financial Assets & Fixed  Capital of Personal Businesses | (haf) + (has) + (hannb) | 4 |
| Households | nnhass | Financial Assets & Fixed  Capital of Personal Businesses | (haf) | 15 |
| Households | fliabi | Debt | (hl) | 19 |
| Households | facdbl | Cash, Deposits, Bonds & Loans | (hafc) + (hafib) | 16 |
| Households | faeqfd | Stocks, Business Equities & Fund Shares | (hafis) | 1 |
| Households | faeqfd | Stocks, Business Equities &  Fund Shares | (hafis) + (hafii) + (hannb) | 15 |
| Households | falipe | Pensions & Life Insurance | (has) | 4 |
| Households | falipe | Pensions & Life Insurance | (hasi) | 11 |
| Households | nfabus | Fixed Capital of Personal Businesses | (hannb) | 17 |
| Households | nfadur | Durable Goods | (hanncv) | 17 |
| Households | nfahou | Housing & Land | (hanr) | 19 |

Table B.18: Matching: Luxembourg Wealth Study Database - Bal- ance Sheet

Original label Original identifier

Total Assets

ha

Financial Assets (Excluding Pensions) haf

Deposit Accounts And Cash hafc

Bonds And Other Debt Securities hafib

Investment Funds And Alternative Investments hafii

Stocks And Other Equity hafis

Non-Financial Assets han

Business Equity hannb

Vehicles hanncv

Real Estate hanr

Pension Assets And Other Long-Term Savings has

Life Insurance And Voluntary Individual Pensions hasi

Total Liabilities hl

Table B.19: Composition rules: Household Finance and Consump- tion Survey - Balance Sheet

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Sector | Code | Concept | Composition rule using codes | Frequency |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Households | netwea | Net Wealth | (DN3001) | 22 |
| Households | nnhass | Financial Assets & Fixed  Capital of Personal Businesses | (DA1131) + (DA1140) + (DA2100) | 22 |
| Households | fliabi | Debt | (DL1100) + (DL1200) | 22 |
| Households | facdbl | Cash, Deposits, Bonds & Loans | (HD1110) + (HD1210) + (DA2103) + (DA2107) | 22 |
| Households | faeqfd | Stocks, Business Equities &  Fund Shares | (DA2102) + (DA2104) + (DA2105) + (DA2106) | 22 |
| Households | falipe | Pensions & Life Insurance | (DA2109) | 22 |
| Households | nfabus | Fixed Capital of Personal  Businesses | (DA1131) + (DA1140) | 22 |
| Households | nfadur | Durable Goods | (DA1130) | 22 |
| Households | nfahou | Housing & Land | (DA1110) + (DA1120) | 22 |

Table B.20: Matching: Household Finance and Consumption Sur- vey - Balance Sheet

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Original label | Original identifier |
| Household’s main residence | DA1110 |
| Other real estate property | DA1120 |
| Vehicles | DA1130 |
| Valuables | DA1131 |
| Self-employment business | DA1140 |
| Total Financial Assets | DA2100 |
| Mutual funds | DA2102 |
| Bonds | DA2103 |
| Non self-employment private business | DA2104 |
| Publicly traded shares | DA2105 |
| Managed accounts | DA2106 |
| Money owed to households | DA2107 |
| Voluntary pension insurance and whole life  insurance | DA2109 |
| Outstanding balance of mortgage debt | DL1100 |
| Outstanding balance of non-mortgage debt | DL1200 |
| Net wealth | DN3001 |
| Sight accounts | HD1110 |
| Savings accounts | HD1210 |

Table B.21: Composition rules: World Inequality Database - Bal- ance Sheet

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Sector | Code | Concept | Composition rule using codes | Frequency |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Households & NPISH | netwea | Net Wealth | (pweal) | 71 |
| Households & NPISH | nnhass | Financial Assets & Fixed  Capital of Personal Businesses | (pwbus) + (pwfin) | 18 |
| Households & NPISH | fliabi | Debt | (pwdeb) | 23 |
| Households & NPISH | facdbl | Cash, Deposits, Bonds & Loans | (pwbol) + (pwcud) | 16 |
| Households & NPISH | faeqfd | Stocks, Business Equities &  Fund Shares | (pwequ) | 21 |
| Households & NPISH | faeqfd | Stocks, Business Equities & Fund Shares | (pweqi) | 1 |
| Households & NPISH | falipe | Pensions & Life Insurance | (pwpen) | 22 |
| Households & NPISH | nfabus | Fixed Capital of Personal  Businesses | (pwbus) | 18 |
| Households & NPISH | nfahou | Housing & Land | (pwhou) | 20 |
| Households | netwea | Net Wealth | (hweal) | 71 |
| Households | nnhass | Financial Assets & Fixed  Capital of Personal Businesses | (hwbus) + (hwfin) | 13 |
| Households | fliabi | Debt | (hwdeb) | 15 |
| Households | facdbl | Cash, Deposits, Bonds & Loans | (hwbol) + (hwcud) | 9 |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Households | faeqfd | Stocks, Business Equities &  Fund Shares | (hweqi) | 4 |
| Households | faeqfd | Stocks, Business Equities &  Fund Shares | (hwequ) | 12 |
| Households | falipe | Pensions & Life Insurance | (hwpen) | 16 |
| Households | nfabus | Fixed Capital of Personal  Businesses | (hwbus) | 13 |
| Households | nfahou | Housing & Land | (hwhou) | 14 |
| NPISH | netwea | Net Wealth | (iweal) | 12 |
| NPISH | nnhass | Financial Assets & Fixed Capital of Personal Businesses | (iwbus) + (iwfin) | 11 |
| NPISH | fliabi | Debt | (iwdeb) | 13 |
| NPISH | facdbl | Cash, Deposits, Bonds & Loans | (iwbol) + (iwcud) | 9 |
| NPISH | faeqfd | Stocks, Business Equities &  Fund Shares | (iweqi) | 5 |
| NPISH | faeqfd | Stocks, Business Equities &  Fund Shares | (iwequ) | 8 |
| NPISH | falipe | Pensions & Life Insurance | (iwpen) | 9 |
| NPISH | nfabus | Fixed Capital of Personal Businesses | (iwbus) | 11 |
| NPISH | nfahou | Housing & Land | (iwhou) | 10 |

Table B.22: Matching: World Inequality Database - Balance Sheet

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Sector | Original label | Original identifier |
| Households & NPISH | Private agricultural land | pwagr |
| Households & NPISH | Private bonds & loans | pwbol |
| Households & NPISH | Private business assets | pwbus |
| Households & NPISH | Private currency & deposits | pwcud |
| Households & NPISH | Private debt | pwdeb |
| Households & NPISH | Private dwellings | pwdwe |
| Households & NPISH | Net private wealth | pweal |
| Households & NPISH | Private equities | pweqi |
| Households & NPISH | Private equity, fund shares & offshore wealth | pwequ |
| Households & NPISH | Private financial assets excluding currency & deposits | pwfie |
| Households & NPISH | Private financial assets | pwfin |
| Households & NPISH | Private housing assets | pwhou |
| Households & NPISH | Private land underlying dwellings | pwlan |
| Households & NPISH | Private natural capital | pwnat |
| Households & NPISH | Private non-financial assets | pwnfa |
| Households & NPISH | Other domestic private capital | pwodk |
| Households & NPISH | Private offshore wealth | pwoff |
| Households & NPISH | Private pension funds & life insurance | pwpen |
| Households | Personal agricultural land | hwagr |
| Households | Personal bonds & loans | hwbol |
| Households | Personal business and other non-financial assets | hwbus |
| Households | Personal currency & deposits | hwcud |
| Households | Personal debt | hwdeb |
| Households | Personal dwellings | hwdwe |
| Households | Net personal wealth | hweal |
| Households | Personal equities | hweqi |
| Households | Personal equity, fund shares & offshore wealth | hwequ |
| Households | Personal financial assets excluding currency & deposits | hwfie |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Households | Personal financial assets | hwfin |
| Households | Personal housing assets | hwhou |
| Households | Personal land underlying dwellings | hwlan |
| Households | Personal natural capital | hwnat |
| Households | Personal non-financial assets | hwnfa |
| Households | Personal other domestic capital | hwodk |
| Households | Personal offshore wealth | hwoff |
| Households | Personal pension funds & life insurance | hwpen |
| NPISH | Non-profit agricultural land | iwagr |
| NPISH | Non-profit bonds & loans | iwbol |
| NPISH | Non-profit business and other non-financial assets | iwbus |
| NPISH | Non-profit currency & deposits | iwcud |
| NPISH | Non-profit debt | iwdeb |
| NPISH | Non-profit dwellings | iwdwe |
| NPISH | Net non-profit wealth | iweal |
| NPISH | Non-profit equities | iweqi |
| NPISH | Non-profit equity, fund shares & offshore wealth | iwequ |
| NPISH | Non-profit financial assets excluding cash | iwfie |
| NPISH | Non-profit financial assets | iwfin |
| NPISH | Non-profit housing assets | iwhou |
| NPISH | Non-profit land underlying dwellings | iwlan |
| NPISH | Non-profit natural capital | iwnat |
| NPISH | Non-profit non-financial assets | iwnfa |
| NPISH | Non-profit other domestic capital | iwodk |
| NPISH | Non-profit pension funds & life insurance | iwpen |

**Appendix C**

# Appendix to the Wealth Inequality Trends Section

## Introduction

The Appendix to the Wealth Inequality Trends section of the GC Wealth Project provides additional infor- mation on

* the full list of sources covered by the GC Wealth Project Wealth Inequality Trends database in Section [C.2](#_bookmark106)
* source-specific documentation and information on the precise estimation method for own estimates (Household Finance and Consumption Survey and Luxembourg Wealth Study Database), and an ex- planation of the inclusion and exclusion of data points in the case of sources that (also) provide fully imputed wealth inequality estimates (Credit Suisse and the World Inequality Database) in Section [C.3](#_bookmark108)

## Sources Included in the Wealth Inequality Trends Section

All data sources included in the current version of the Wealth Inequality section are reported in Table[C.1](#_bookmark107). The table reports the code associated to each source (Source), including the proper citation, the source type (Source Type), and the final consultation date (Date). In the case of databases [[101](#_bookmark220), [151](#_bookmark270)] this is the date on which we have downloaded the data. In the case of microdata [[68](#_bookmark187), [92](#_bookmark211)] this column specifies the publication

vintages as well as the date on which we have computed the estimates. As for Credit Suisse [[24](#_bookmark143)] several reports with wealth inequality estimates referring to the same calender year are available, the date column specifies the precise publication years of the reports included in the Wealth Inequality Trends database, for details we refer to the Methodological Table.

Table C.1: Sources in the Wealth Inequality Trends Section

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Source | Source Type | Date |
| Acciari et al. (2022) [[1](#_bookmark120)] | Academic research | - |
| Advani et al. (2021) [[2](#_bookmark121)] | Academic research | - |
| Albers et al. (2022) [[3](#_bookmark122)] | Academic research | - |
| Alvaredo & Saez (2010) [[6](#_bookmark125)] | Academic research | - |
| Alvaredo et al. (2018) [[5](#_bookmark124)] | Academic research | - |
| Anand & Kumar (2022) [[7](#_bookmark126)] | Academic research | - |
| Assouad (2021) [[8](#_bookmark127)] | Academic research | - |
| Australian Bureau of Statistics (2022) [[9](#_bookmark128)] | Oﬀicial survey data | - |
| Batty et al. (2019) [[13](#_bookmark132)] | Government research | - |
| Batty et al. (2020) [[14](#_bookmark133)] | Government research | - |
| Bharti (2018) [[15](#_bookmark134)] | Academic research | - |
| Brandolini et al. (2004) [[17](#_bookmark136)] | Government research | - |
| Bricker et al. (2021) [[18](#_bookmark137)] | Academic research | - |
| Cannari & D’Alessio (2018) [[19](#_bookmark138)] | Academic research | - |
| Catherine et al. (2021) [[21](#_bookmark140)] | Academic research | - |
| Chatterjee et al. (2022) [[22](#_bookmark141)] | Academic research | - |
| Credit Suisse Global Wealth Report [[24](#_bookmark143)] | Cross-national corporate research | Global Wealth Databooks 2014, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019 |
| Davies & Di Matteo (2021) [[26](#_bookmark145)] | Academic research | - |
| Dell et al. (2007) [[28](#_bookmark147)] | Academic research | - |
| Easton (1983) [[31](#_bookmark150)] | Corporate research | - |
| Frick et al. (2010) [[61](#_bookmark180)] | Academic research | - |
| Garbinti et al. (2021) [[62](#_bookmark181)] | Academic research | - |
| Household Finance and Consumption Survey (own estimates) [[68](#_bookmark187)] | Cross-national oﬀicial survey data | Waves I - III, as of December 14, 2022 |
| Iacono & Palagi (2021) [[70](#_bookmark189)] | Academic research | - |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Jakobsen et al. (2020) [[82](#_bookmark201)] | Academic research | - |
| Katic & Leigh (2016) [[84](#_bookmark203)] | Academic research | - |
| Kim (2018) [[86](#_bookmark205)] | Academic research | - |
| Kitao & Yamada (2019) [[87](#_bookmark206)] | Academic research | - |
| Kopczuk & Saez (2004) [[89](#_bookmark208)] | Academic research | - |
| Kuhn et al. (2020) [[90](#_bookmark209)] | Academic research | - |
| Lundberg & Waldenström (2018) [[93](#_bookmark212)] | Academic research | - |
| Luxembourg Wealth Study Database (own estimates) [[92](#_bookmark211)] | Cross-national academic research | Waves IV - XI, as of March 29, 2023 |
| Martínez-Toledano (2022) [[96](#_bookmark215)] | Academic research | - |
| Novokmet et al. (2018) [[98](#_bookmark217)] | Academic research | - |
| OECD Wealth Distribution Database [[101](#_bookmark220)] | Cross-national oﬀicial statistics | September 9, 2022 |
| Piketty et al. (2006) [[109](#_bookmark228)] | Academic research | - |
| Piketty et al. (2019) [[110](#_bookmark229)] | Academic research | - |
| Roine & Waldenström (2009) [[117](#_bookmark236)] | Academic research | - |
| Roine & Waldenström (2015) [[116](#_bookmark235)] | Cross-national academic research | - |
| Saez & Zucman (2016) [[121](#_bookmark240)] | Academic research | - |
| Saez & Zucman (2019) [[118](#_bookmark237)] | Academic research | - |
| Saez & Zucman (2020a) [[119](#_bookmark238)] | Academic research | - |
| Saez & Zucman (2020b) [[120](#_bookmark239)] | Academic research | - |
| Salverda (2019) [[122](#_bookmark241)] | Academic research | - |
| Smith et al. (2020) [[126](#_bookmark245)] | Academic research | - |
| Smith et al. (2022) [[127](#_bookmark246)] | Academic research | - |
| Statistics Finland (2021) [[130](#_bookmark249)] | Oﬀicial survey data | - |
| Statistics Norway (2022) [[131](#_bookmark250)] | Oﬀicial statistics | - |
| Statistics New Zealand (2022) [[132](#_bookmark251)] | Oﬀicial survey data | - |
| van Bavel & Frankema (2017) [[145](#_bookmark264)] | Academic research | - |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| von Fintel & Orthofer (2020) [[146](#_bookmark265)] | Academic research | - |
| Wolff (2017) [[149](#_bookmark268)] | Academic research | - |
| Wolff (2021) [[150](#_bookmark269)] | Academic research | - |
| World Inequality Database [[151](#_bookmark270)] | Cross-national academic research | November 22, 2022 |
| Zucman (2019) [[152](#_bookmark271)] | Academic research | - |

## Source-specific documentation

In case of the Wealth Inequality Trends database of the GC Wealth Project, the **Methodological Tables** provide a detailed documentation of each source, thus the primary source-specific documentation is provided in these tables. In this appendix, we summarize the most important aspects for two types of sources: *i)* sources for which we estimated measures of wealth inequality based on mircodata [[68](#_bookmark187), [92](#_bookmark211)], and *ii)* sources where we could not cover the full range of estimates available in the raw data of source, especially because data points provided by the source are fully imputed [[24](#_bookmark143), [151](#_bookmark270)].

### Household Finance and Consumption Survey (HFCS\_ineq)

We have estimated wealth inequality using waves one to three data of the Household Finance and Con- sumption Survey [[68](#_bookmark187)]. As the HFCS is a mutliply imputed data set, we obtained all estimates by applying Rubin’s Rule, that is, they are the mean of the estimates across the five implicates. Second, we have used the household level weights provided in the dataset for the estimations. Third, our estimates are based on the variable dn3001, which is net wealth at the household-level. This definition does not encompass private or occupational pension wealth, while private pension wealth is included even if it is not (directly) marketable (at the same value). Fourth, the HFCS is an ex-ante harmonized survey, it is coordinated by the European Central Bank but conducted by the national central banks of the Eurosystem, and all countries survey, in principle, the same concept of net wealth. There are, however, important difference in the precise survey methodologies across countries and the resulting quality of the data, especially in terms of the coverage of the upper tail and the valuation of assets. Thus, while the survey is conceptually harmonized, the country- specific survey designs differ substantially. Some countries use (external) administrative data of different types to attach values to single components of net wealth, especially Finland, Estonia, Ireland, Latvia and Lithuania. While sampling in most countries includes some type of oversampling of the upper tail, others do not even attempt to counterbalance the higher non-response rate at the top (Austria, Italy, Netherlands, Malta, and Slovenia). For the countries with over-sampling strategies, the precise procedure varies and is based on either individual, household, or region-specific estimates of wealth or wealth correlates. In summary, the effective oversampling rates of the top 5 percent ranges from -15% (Austria) to 413% (Spain) in the last wave of the survey according to Household Finance and Consumption Network [[68](#_bookmark187)]. Finally, we work with an identical definition of net wealth across countries that excludes all private and occupational pension wealth. This cross-country harmonized definition might hide important aspects in country comparisons in light of (statutory) differences on the (relative) importance of the first, second, and third tier of pensions systems.

The HFCS reports wealth only at the household level, and at the moment our database only covers estimates of wealth inequality referring to the distribution among households.

### Luxembourg Wealth Study (LWS\_ineq)

The Luxembourg Wealth Study [[92](#_bookmark211)] provides cross-country harmonized micro-data on household wealth and we employ waves Waves IV - XI of the data. Except for one country, Norway, the underlying original data has been obtained via surveys and is published by the Luxembourg Wealth Study via five implicates. We have obtained each as included in the Wealth Inequality Trends database thus as the average estimate across the five implicates. For Norway, a single data set is available as, by contrast to all other countries, the original data is sample of administrative data. Furthermore, we have used household-level weights in the computation of the wealth inequality measures.

Our preferred wealth definition is net wealth including private pension and life insurance plans (total real assets inclusive of consumer goods such as vehicles and other valuables, plus total financial assets, inclusive of long-term savings via life insurances and voluntary individual pensions plans, minus total liabilities; variable anw). We were able to implement this concept for the following countries: Austria, Canada, Chile, Germany, Spain, Estonia, Finland, Greece, Italy after 2000, Luxembourg, Norway, Sweden, South Africa, Slovakia, Slovenia, the United Kingdom, and the United States. For other countries, certain types of assets and liabilities are not available via the Luxembourg Wealth Study. For instance, valuables are not available for Finland and we thus had to exclude them from the net wealth definition for Finland, while valuables are part of net wealth definition in all other countries. Given the absence of data, the net wealth concept for the following countries does not include private pension plans: Australia, Italy up to 2000, Japan, Sweden, and South Africa (variable dnw). We have accessed the Luxembourg Wealth Study to estimate the wealth inequality measures on March 29, 2023.

### Word Inequality Database (WID\_ineq)

The World Inequality Database [[151](#_bookmark270)] provides estimates of wealth inequality for most countries of the world. Among these estimates, we have selected those that are consistent with our principle of not being fully imputed wealth inequality data in nature. Our database thus includes estimates that are based on either survey or administrative data on the distribution of wealth for at least one single year. In the case of World Inequality Database [[151](#_bookmark270)], this still implies a very generous coverage as for many European countries with time-series data published on World Inequality Database [[151](#_bookmark270)] the number years for which micro data on the

wealth distribution has been used is much smaller then the number of years for which the estimates derive from (backwards) extrapolation.

Furthermore, wealth inequality estimates are available for multiple units of analysis, including equal-split adults (or households). As the set of estimates referring to equal-split adults is the most complete among the sources that qualify for our database, we have chosen these estimates while not reporting statistics referring to other units of analysis.

Table [C.2](#_bookmark112) lists the countries covered by the GC Wealth Project Wealth Inequality Trends database and, for each country (Country), the primary origin of the estimates as published by WID (Original Source) and the data type according to our classification (Data Type) which suggests substantial methodological heterogeneity underlying World Inequality Database [[151](#_bookmark270)] estimates. We have downloaded the data on November 22, 2022.

Table C.2: The selection of WID series available in the GC Wealth Project: notes on the primary source of data and their nature

Country Original Source Data Type

Austria HFCS Wealth survey and national accounts

Belgium HFCS Wealth survey and national accounts

China Piketty et al. (2019). Wealth survey (with adjustments)

Cyprus HFCS Wealth survey and national accounts

Croatia HFCS Wealth survey and national accounts

Denmark Jakobsen et al. (2020); Survey-based estimates for Finland of Blanchet & Martínez-Toledano (2022) are adjusted to align with Jakobsen et al. (2020)

Wealth tax/register data, other sources, and national accounts

Estonia HFCS Wealth survey and national accounts

Finland Blanchet & Martínez-Toledano (2022) Wealth survey and national accounts

France Garbinti et al. (2021) Capital income tax data, wealth survey, and national accounts

Germany Albers et al. (2022) Wealth tax/register data, other sources, and national accounts

Greece HFCS Wealth survey and national accounts

Hungary HFCS Wealth survey and national accounts

India Bharti (2018) Wealth survey (with adjustments)

Ireland HFCS Wealth survey and national accounts

Italy Acciari et al. (2022) Inheritance/estate tax data, wealth survey and national accounts

Korea Kim (2018) Inheritance/estate tax-based.

Latvia HFCS Wealth survey and national accounts

Lithuania HFCS Wealth survey and national accounts

Luxembourg HFCS Wealth survey and national accounts

Malta HFCS Wealth survey and national accounts

Netherlands Toussaint et al. (2022) Wealth tax/register data, other sources, and national accounts

Norway Iacono & Palagi (2021) Wealth tax/register data, other sources, and national accounts

Poland HFCS Wealth survey and national accounts

Portugal HFCS Wealth survey and national accounts

Russia Novokmet et al. (2018) Wealth tax/register data, other sources, and national accounts

Slovakia HFCS Wealth survey and national accounts

Slovenia HFCS Wealth survey and national accounts

South Africa Chatterjee et al. (2022) Wealth tax/register data, other sources, and national accounts

Spain Martínez-Toledano (2022) Capital income tax data, other sources and national accounts Switzerland Foellmi & Martínez (2017), as estimated by Blanchet & Martínez-Toledano (2022) Wealth tax/register data, other sources, and national

accounts

United Kingdom Alvaredo et al. (2018); Wealth and Assets Survey 2006 - 2018 as utilized in Blanchet & Martínez-Toledano (2022)

Inheritance/estate tax data, wealth survey and national accounts

United States Saez & Zucman (2016, 2020b) Capital income tax data, wealth survey, and national accounts

### Credit Suisse Global Wealth Report (CS\_ineq)

Credit Suisse [[24](#_bookmark143)] aims at providing estimates of wealth inequality around the global and by country. Gener- ally,the approach of Credit Suisse [[24](#_bookmark143)] is based on combining estimates of per capita aggregate wealth from macroeconomic balance sheets (household sector balance sheets, HBS; and financial balance sheets, FBS) with estimates of the interpersonal distribution of wealth. As, for most countries, no wealth distribution data is available, Credit Suisse [[24](#_bookmark143)] in practice relies on distributional estimates of income inequality in- stead of wealth inequality for most countries. The approach of Credit Suisse [[24](#_bookmark143)] in summary rests on a large variety of data sources to estimate per capita wealth and wealth distribution, including survey data on wealth, administrative data on wealth, rich list observations and survey data on income or estimates of income inequality. Following our principle of not covering fully imputed wealth inequality estimates, we can only keep a sub-set of the countries for which Credit Suisse publishes data. The countries by our database are listed in Table [C.3](#_bookmark114). Importantly, we also, as in the case of WID\_ineq, classify an estimates of not fully imputed even though the distributional information has not been directly obtained from microdata (such as the HFCS micro data) but indirectly via available databases or research papers.

In general, we have obtained data points referring to years prior to 2000 from the 2016 Databook and the 2017 Databook, data points referring to the period 2000 – 2014 derive from the 2014 Databook, while we sourced data points referring to more recent years primarily from the 2019 Databook. For Italy and Canada we do not publish data points prior to 2000 and after 2014 because of breaks in the series and methodological inconsistencies.

Table [C.3](#_bookmark114) shows for each country (Country)covered by the GC Wealth Project Wealth Inequality Trends Database the data source for the estimate of per capita wealth in the Original Source: Aggregate column (HBS and or FBS), the data source for the estimate of wealth inequality which can be a published research paper or report, a database, oﬀicial statistics, or microdata in the Original Source: Distribution, the the reference years of the source providing distributional data in the column Reference Years: Distribution Data, and the reference years for which Credit Suisse [[24](#_bookmark143)] has used micro-level wealth data rather wealth inequality estimates published by another source in the column Reference Years: Microdata.

Table C.3: The selection of Credit Suisse series available in the GC Wealth Project: notes on the primary source of data and their nature

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Country | Original Source: Aggregate | Original Source: Distribution | Reference Years: Distribution Data | Reference Years: Microdata |
| Austria  Belgium | FBS  FBS | Eurosystems Household Finance and Consumption Survey microdata and as published by OECD Statistics Eurosystems Household Finance and | 2010 (HFCS microdata); 2014 (OECD Statistics)  2010 (HFCS microdata); 2014 (OECD Statistics) | 2010  2010 |
| Canada | HBS and FBS | Consumption Survey microdata and as published by OECD Statistics  Survey of Financial Security of Statistics | 1999, 2005, 2012, 2016, 2019 | 1999, 2005, 2012, 2016, 2019 |
| Chile | FBS | Canada  Encuesta Financiera de Hogares of the | 2007, 2011, 2014 | 2007, 2011 |
| France | HBS and FBS | Central Bank of Chile (microdata) and as published by Sanroman and Santos (2017)  Eurosystems Household Finance and | 2010 (HFCS microdata); 2014 (OECD Statistics) | 2009 |
|  |  | Consumption Survey microdata and as  published by OECD Statistics |  |  |
| Finland  Germany | HBS and FBS  HBS and FBS | Household Wealth Survey (HWS) by Statistics Finland, Eurosystem Household Finance and Consumption Survey microdata and as published by OECD Statistics  Socio-Economic Panel (SOEP) as published | 1999 (HWS); 2010 (HFCS microdata); 2013 (OECD  Statistics)  2007, 2007, 2012 (SOEP); 2010 (HFCS microdata) | 2010  2010 |
|  |  | by Grabka and Westermeir (2014),  Eurosystem Household Finance and Consumption Survey microdata |  |  |

Greece HBS and FBS Eurosystems Household Finance and

Consumption Survey microdata and as published by OECD Statistics

2010 (HFCS microdata); 2014 (OECD Statistics) 2009

Indonesia Indonesia

Family Life Survey

Indonesia Family Life Survey 1997, 2014 1997, 2014

Italy HBS and FBS Survey of Household Income and Wealth

(SHIW) as published by Mazzaferro, SHIW microdata and Eurosystem Household Finance and Consumption Survey as published by OECD Statistics

1991, 1993, 1995, 1998, 2000, 2002 (SHIW); 2008, 2010

(SHIW microdata); 2014 (OECD Statistics)

2008

Luxembourg FBS Eurosystem Household Finance and Consumption Survey microdata

Malta FBS Eurosystem Household Finance and Consumption Survey microdata

Netherlands HBS and FBS Eurosystems Household Finance and

Consumption Survey microdata and as published by OECD Statistics

Portugal FBS Eurosystems Household Finance and Consumption Survey microdata and as published by OECD Statistics

Slovakia FBS Eurosystem Household Finance and Consumption Survey microdata and as published by OECD Statistiks

2010 2010

2010 2010

2010 (HFCS microdata); 2014 (OECD Statistics) 2009

2010 (HFCS microdata); 2013 (OECD Statistics) 2010

2010 (HFCS microdata); 2014 (OECD Statistics) 2010

Spain HBS and FBS Survey of Household Finances microdata 2008, 2011, 2014 2008, 2011, 2014

United Kingdom

HBS and FBS British Household Panel Survey as published by Sierminska et al (2006), Wealth and Asset Survey of the UK Oﬀice for National Statistics (microdata)

2000, 2008 (BHPS); 2014 (WAS) 2014

United States HBS and FBS Survey of Consumer Finances microdata and

Distributional Financial Accounts of the Federal Reserve Board (2021)

India FBS All-India Debt and Investment Survey (NSS

59th round and 70 thround); see National Sample Survey Organization (2005) and Subramanian and Jazaraj (2008).

2001, 2007, 2010, 2013, 2016, 2019 (SCF); 2000-2020 (DFA) 2001, 2007, 2010, 2013, 2016,

2019

2002, 2012 2002, 2012

**Appendix D**

# Appendix to the Estate, Inheritances, and Gift Taxes (EIG) Section

## Introduction

The Appendix of the Estate, Inheritances, and Gift Taxes (EIG) section of the GC Wealth Project provides additional information on the data creation and data validation processes and a detailed documentation of sources. In particular, this appendix provides:

* + - an explanation of data creation processes,
    - the full list of sources included in the Estate, Inheritances, and Gift Tax section.

## Data Creation Processes

Information on Estate, Inheritance, and Gift taxes is collected from three broadly different source categories:

1) Legal tax documents from public entities, 2) information on tax codes and schedules from third-party sources, and 3) tax revenue data typically from the OECD [[102](#_bookmark221)]. Depending on the source category, the information can be directly inserted into the Estate, Inheritance, and Gift Taxes database (as is the case with tax revenue information) or be subject to interpretation and harmonization procedures (as is the case with detailed information on tax schedules and rates).

We only retrieve tax schedule information where interpretation of tax rates and schedules is unambiguous For instance, information from documents that provide a full tax schedule—from personal exemptions to specific tax rates for each bracket as well as lower and upper bounds of every bracket—can be easily added to the database. Sometimes, however, sources only provide a broad range of the tax schedule (e.g., 10-30% inheritance tax). In such cases we make use of the information that is evident (e.g., lowest inheritance tax rate being 10%, top inheritance tax rate being 30%) but refrain from filling tax schedule variables because the information is insuﬀicient to determine exemptions, brackets, or tax due.

To ensure comparability of Estate, Inheritance, and Gift tax schedules and rates across countries and over time, the information is stratified by transfer category (e.g., gift or inheritance) and donor relationship (i.e., only direct children). Estate, Inheritance, and Gift tax information that does not fit into the harmonized set of variables is documented in country-year-specific notes that will be made available soon.

Information on EIG taxes is validated along two dimensions: 1) external consistency of collected data using additional sources (wherever possible), and 2) internal consistency of harmonized information. The former crucially depends on the availability of external sources, either from legal tax documents or third-party tax information. The latter is validated within the EIG data based on a set of conditions. For instance, some countries report a positive value of EIG tax revenue despite not levying any EIG tax. In these cases, country-years are checked individually, as revenue is sometimes collected from estates and bequests dating back several years.

## Sources Included in the Estate, Inheritance, and Gift Taxes Section

All data sources included in the current version of the Estate, Inheritance, and Gift Tax section are reported in Table [D.1](#_bookmark119).

Table D.1: Sources in the Estate, Inheritance, and Gift Tax Section

Source Source Type

Australian Tax Oﬀice: Deceased Estates [[10](#_bookmark129)] Government legislative info

CCH International Master Tax Guide (2009) [[25](#_bookmark144)] Cross-national corporate research

Capital Acquisitions Tax Act, 1976 (Ireland) [[20](#_bookmark139)] Government legislation

Capital Acquisitions Tax Historical Rates (Ireland) [[104](#_bookmark223)] Government legislative info

Capital Acquisitions Tax Info (Ireland) [[80](#_bookmark199)] Government legislative info

Capital Acquisitions Tax Rates (Ireland) [[103](#_bookmark222)] Government legislative info

Capital Acquisitions Tax manuals (Ireland) [[135](#_bookmark254)] Corporate research

Changes in the Revenue Act of 1940 [[112](#_bookmark231)] Corporate research

Comparison of the Revenue Acts of 1932 and 1934 [[69](#_bookmark188)] Government documents

Coordination of State and Federal Inheritance, Estate, and Gift Taxes (1961) [[143](#_bookmark262)] Government research

Copenhagen Economics (2010) [[23](#_bookmark142)] Cross-national government research

Davies & Di Matteo (2021) [[26](#_bookmark145)] Academic research

Deficit Reduction Act of 1984 (United States) [[27](#_bookmark146)] Government legislation

Deloitte (2018) [[29](#_bookmark148)] Corporate research

Drometer et al.(2018) [[30](#_bookmark149)] Cross-national academic research

Easton (1983) [[31](#_bookmark150)] Corporate research

Economic Recovery Tax Act of 1981 [[138](#_bookmark257)] Government legislation

Ernst & Young 2006 Personal Tax Guide [[36](#_bookmark155)] Cross-national corporate research

Ernst & Young 2007 Personal Tax Guide [[37](#_bookmark156)] Cross-national corporate research

Ernst & Young 2008 Personal Tax Guide [[32](#_bookmark151)] Cross-national corporate research

Ernst & Young 2009 Personal Tax Guide [[33](#_bookmark152)] Cross-national corporate research

Ernst & Young 2010 Personal Tax Guide [[34](#_bookmark153)] Cross-national corporate research

Ernst & Young 2011 Personal Tax Guide [[35](#_bookmark154)] Cross-national corporate research

Ernst & Young 2012–13 Personal Tax Guide [[48](#_bookmark167)] Cross-national corporate research

Ernst & Young 2013–14 Personal Tax Guide [[49](#_bookmark168)] Cross-national corporate research

Ernst & Young 2014 Estate & Inheritance Tax Guide [[38](#_bookmark157)] Cross-national corporate research

Ernst & Young 2014–15 Personal Tax Guide [[50](#_bookmark169)] Cross-national corporate research

Ernst & Young 2015–16 Personal Tax Guide [[51](#_bookmark170)] Cross-national corporate research

Ernst & Young 2016 Estate & Inheritance Tax Guide [[39](#_bookmark158)] Cross-national corporate research

Ernst & Young 2016–17 Personal Tax Guide [[42](#_bookmark161)] Cross-national corporate research

Ernst & Young 2017 Estate & Inheritance Tax Guide [[40](#_bookmark159)] Cross-national corporate research

Ernst & Young 2017–18 Personal Tax Guide [[43](#_bookmark162)] Cross-national corporate research

Ernst & Young 2018 Estate & Inheritance Tax Guide [[41](#_bookmark160)] Cross-national corporate research

Ernst & Young 2018–19 Personal Tax Guide [[44](#_bookmark163)] Cross-national corporate research

Ernst & Young 2019–20 Personal Tax Guide [[45](#_bookmark164)] Cross-national corporate research

Ernst & Young 2020–21 Personal Tax Guide [[46](#_bookmark165)] Cross-national corporate research

Ernst & Young 2021–22 Personal Tax Guide [[47](#_bookmark166)] Cross-national corporate research

Estate Tax Exemption Level [[133](#_bookmark252)] Corporate research

Finance Act, 1971, Second Schedule (Ireland) [[55](#_bookmark174)] Government legislation

Finance Act, 1975, Sec. 47 (Ireland) [[56](#_bookmark175)] Government legislation

Finance Act, 1984, Sec. 111 (Ireland) [[57](#_bookmark176)] Government legislation

Finance Act, 1990, Sec. 128 (Ireland) [[58](#_bookmark177)] Government legislation

Finance Act, 1991, Sec. 115 (Ireland) [[59](#_bookmark178)] Government legislation

Frank (2021) [[60](#_bookmark179)] Corporate research

French Inheritance Law Brochure [[4](#_bookmark123)] Corporate research

French Public Finances Directorate General (2015) [[115](#_bookmark234)] Government research

Frequently Asked Questions on Gift Taxes [[71](#_bookmark190)] Government legislative info

Gift, Estate, and Generation-Skipping Transfer Tax Calculations [[129](#_bookmark248)] Corporate research

Guerrero (2021) [[66](#_bookmark185)] Corporate research

HM Revenue and Customs (2016) [[67](#_bookmark186)] Government legislative info

Historical Look at Estate and Gift Tax Rates [[94](#_bookmark213)] Corporate research

Inheritance Tax and Inheritance Law in Chile [[64](#_bookmark183)] Corporate research

Inheritance Tax and Inheritance Law in Sri Lanka [[65](#_bookmark184)] Corporate research

Jacobson et al. (2007) [[81](#_bookmark200)] Government research

Jappelli et al. (2011) [[83](#_bookmark202)] Cross-national academic research

Kessler & Pestieau (1991) [[85](#_bookmark204)] Cross-national academic research

Kley (2012) [[88](#_bookmark207)] Academic research

Law and regulations relating to the estate tax (1917) [[144](#_bookmark263)] Government legislation

Lin et al. (2018) [[91](#_bookmark210)] Academic research

Luzkow (2018) [[95](#_bookmark214)] Academic research

OECD (2021) [[100](#_bookmark219)] Cross-national government research

OECD Revenue Statistics Database [[102](#_bookmark221)] Cross-national oﬀicial statistics

Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1987 (United States) [[106](#_bookmark225)] Government legislation

Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993 (United States) [[107](#_bookmark226)] Government legislation

Piketty (2020) [[108](#_bookmark227)] Cross-national academic research

Plagge et al. (2010) [[111](#_bookmark230)] Cross-national academic research

Profeta et al. (2014) [[114](#_bookmark233)] Cross-national academic research

Schinke (2012) [[123](#_bookmark242)] Academic research

Schoenblum (2008) [[124](#_bookmark243)] Cross-national corporate research

Shaughnessy (1996) [[125](#_bookmark244)] Cross-national academic research

Spanish Inheritance and Gift Tax [[128](#_bookmark247)] Government legislation

Sri Lanka, Individual - Other taxes [[113](#_bookmark232)] Corporate research

Tax Introduction Database [[63](#_bookmark182)] Cross-national academic research

Tax Manual of the Federal Revenue Act of 1942 [[137](#_bookmark256)] Corporate research

Tax Reform Act of 1976 (United States) [[134](#_bookmark253)] Government legislation

The Revenue Act of 1916 [[142](#_bookmark261)] Government legislation

The Revenue Act of 1918 [[97](#_bookmark216)] Government legislation

The Revenue Act of 1921 [[139](#_bookmark258)] Government legislation

The Revenue Act of 1924 [[140](#_bookmark259)] Government legislation

The Revenue Act of 1926 [[105](#_bookmark224)] Government legislation

The Revenue Act of 1932 [[141](#_bookmark260)] Government legislation

The Revenue Act of 1935 (Chase Bank) [[136](#_bookmark255)] Corporate research

U.S. IRS Form 706 Instructions (2008) [[72](#_bookmark191)] Government documents

U.S. IRS Form 706 Instructions (2009) [[73](#_bookmark192)] Government documents

U.S. IRS Form 706 Instructions (2010) [[74](#_bookmark193)] Government documents

U.S. IRS Form 706 Instructions (2016) [[75](#_bookmark194)] Government documents

U.S. IRS Form 706 Instructions (2017) [[76](#_bookmark195)] Government documents

U.S. IRS Form 706 Instructions (2018) [[77](#_bookmark196)] Government documents

U.S. IRS Form 706 Instructions (2019) [[78](#_bookmark197)] Government documents

U.S. IRS Form 706 Instructions (2021) [[79](#_bookmark198)] Government documents

Walczak (2017) [[147](#_bookmark266)] Corporate research

White (1928) [[148](#_bookmark267)] Academic research

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[252 = S1M&ACCOUNTING \_ ENTRY . 252 = A&ACCOUNTING \_ ENTRY . 252 = L&STO . 252 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[252 = F2M&INSTR \_ ASSET . 252 = F2MF&INSTR \_ ASSET . 252 = F3&INSTR \_ ASSET . 252 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