**Highlights**

* Tax data and survey data are compared to state-of-the-art in inequality research.
* A ranking with magnitude of alleged tax data advantages and shortcomings is provided.
* An importance-ranking of tax data issues is provided
* our micro tax data from Bern is exclusive and highly detailed
* we compare micro tax data, aggregated tax statistic and survey data which is new
* an income inequality trend for Switzerland is estimated (1945 to 2011) which is the longest in the literature (das ist noch zu lang… fände die prahlerei aber nett)
* Tax data and survey data are compared based on the state of the art in inequality research.
* A ranking with magnitude of alleged tax data advantages and shortcomings is provided.
* Exclusive micro data, aggregated tax statistic and survey data is used .
* The tax data based income inequality trend for Switzerland is estimated (1945 to 2011)