Ginis based on educational attainment for 138 countries, 1960-1999

Introduction

This dataset and its description of the construction is obtained from:

Péter Földvári and Bas van Leeuwen, ' Educational inequality, income inequality, and growth,' in progress.

It is based on the attainment data from Barro and lee (2001). The number of countries and the average educational Ginis is presented in below table.

Educational Gini-coefficients 1960-1999

	Educational Gini					
	Full sample		*OECD countries*		*Non-OECD countries*	
	Average Gini	No. observations	Average Gini	No. observations	Average Gini	No. observations
1960	50.5	99	23.2	28	61.3	71
1965	49.6	99	23.5	28	59.9	71
1970	48.1	101	23.3	28	57.6	73
1975	47.9	106	23.8	28	56.6	78
1980	45.3	106	23.0	28	53.3	78
1985	43.0	107	22.5	28	50.3	79
1990	41.3	109	21.6	28	48.1	81
1995	39.1	105	21.5	28	45.6	77
1999	38.0	105	21.8	28	43.9	77

Construction of the dataset

The educational Ginis were constructed from the Barro and Lee (2001) database. We used the formula as suggested by Thomas, Wang, and Fan (2000), Checchi (2004) and Castelló and Doménech (2000, 4). They started with

$$G^h = \frac{1}{2\overline{H}} \sum_{i=0}^{3} \sum_{j=0}^{3} \left| \hat{x}_i - \hat{x}_j \right| n_i n_j \quad (1.)$$

Where $\overline{H}$ is average years of schooling in the population aged 15 years and over, *i* and *j* are different levels of education, n_i and n_j are the shares of population with a given level of education, and $\hat{x}_i$ and $\hat{x}_j$ are the cumulative average years of schooling at each

educational level. Again following Castelló and Doménech (2000), we can rewrite this equation as

$$G^h = n_0 \frac{n_1 x_2 (n_2 + n_3) + n_3 x_3 (n_1 + n_2)}{n_1 x_1 + n_2 (x_1 + x_2) + n_3 (x_1 + x_2 + x_3)} \quad (2.)$$

Where $x_0 = 0$, x_1 is "average years of primary schooling in the total population" divided by the percentage of the population with at least primary education; x_2 is "average years of secondary schooling in the total population" divided by the percentage of the population with at least secondary education; x_3 is "average years of higher schooling in the total population" divided by the percentage of the population with at least higher; n_0 is the percentage population with no education; n_1 the percentage in the population with primary education; n_2 the percentage in the population with secondary education; n_3 the percentage in the population with higher education, and $\overline{H}$ is the average years of schooling in the population aged 15 years and over.

References

Barro, R. J. and J. W. Lee (2001): `International Data on Educational Attainment Updates and Implications.' *Oxford Economic Papers*, no. 3, pp. 541-63.

Castello, A. and Domenech, R. (2002) 'Human capital inequality and economic growth: some new evidence', *Economic Journal*, Vol. 112, 187-200

Checchi Daniele, Does educational achievement help to explain income inequality? Chapter 4 in A.Cornia (ed), *Inequality, Growth and Poverty in an Era of Liberalization and Globalization*. Oxford University Press 2004.

Thomas, V., Y. Wang, and X. Fan (2000): `Measuring Education Inequality: Gini Coefficients of Education.' Mimeo. The World Bank, http://econ.worldbank.org/files/1341_wps2525.pdf.