Understanding Inequality in America and the World

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UT Forum

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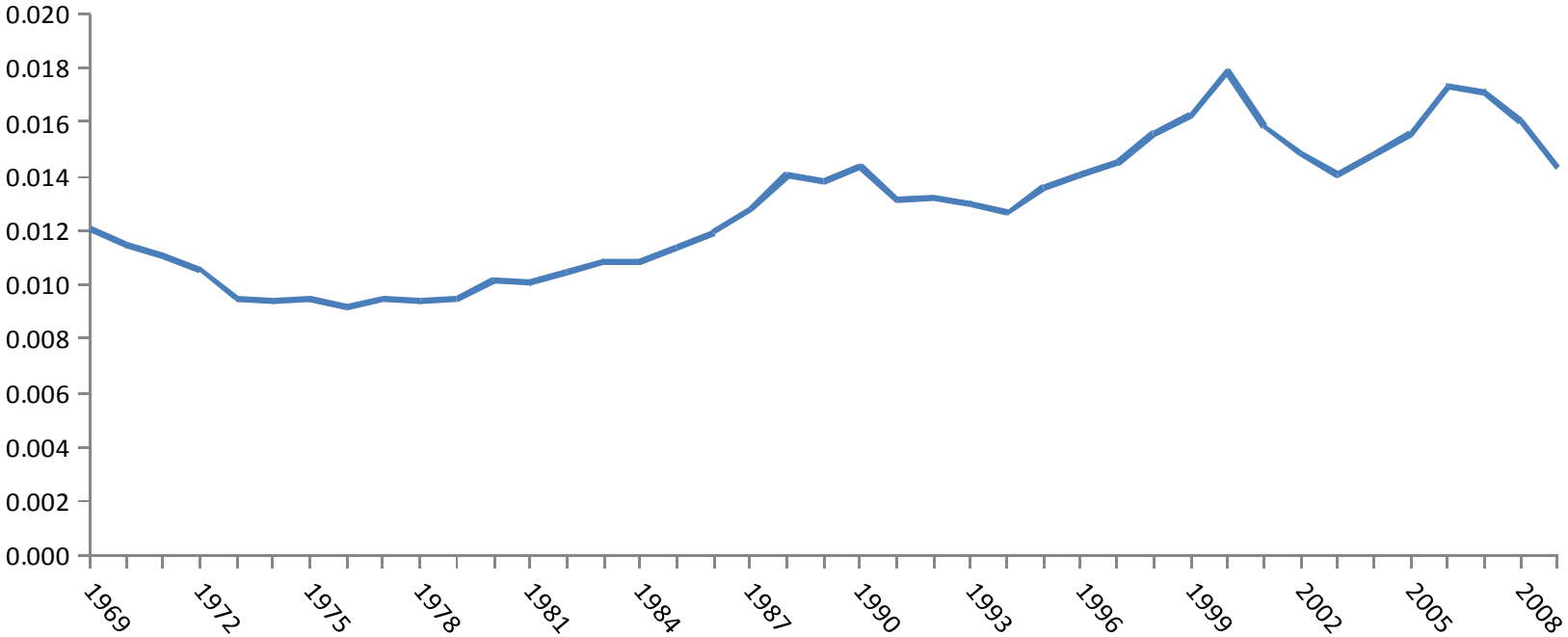
A Credo

“Kepler undertook to draw a curve through the places of Mars, and his greatest service to science was in impressing on men's minds that this was the thing to be done if they wished to improve astronomy; that they were not to content themselves with inquiring whether one system of epicycles was better than another, but that they were to sit down to the figures and find out what the curve, in truth was.”

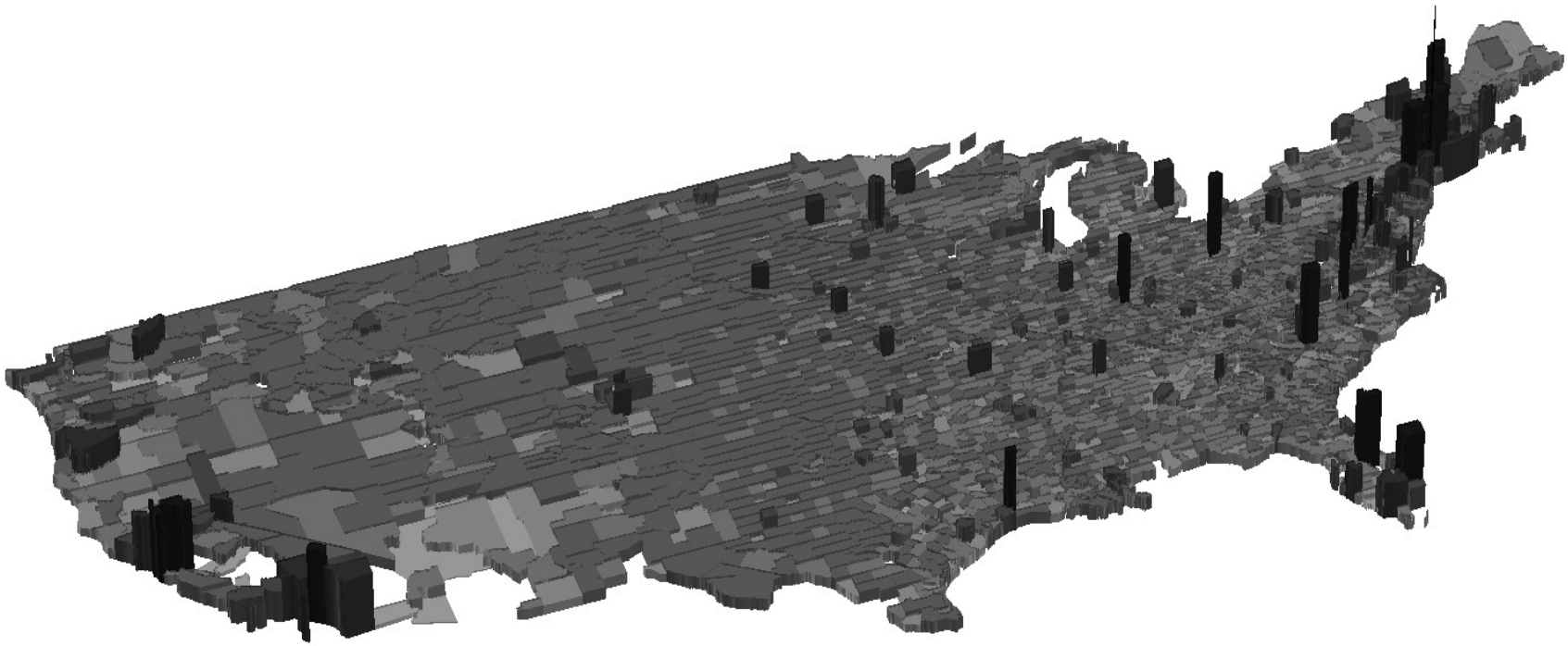
-- Charles Sanders Peirce (1877)

Income Inequality in the United States, 1969-2009 Measured Between Counties: An Update



Calculation by Amin Shams

Contribution of Each County to Income Inequality, Late 2000s



Contribution to inequality is presented as shading and as height above or below the zero plane.

Estimated Household Income Inequality

Levels and Changes in the World 1963-2008

By Decade Averages

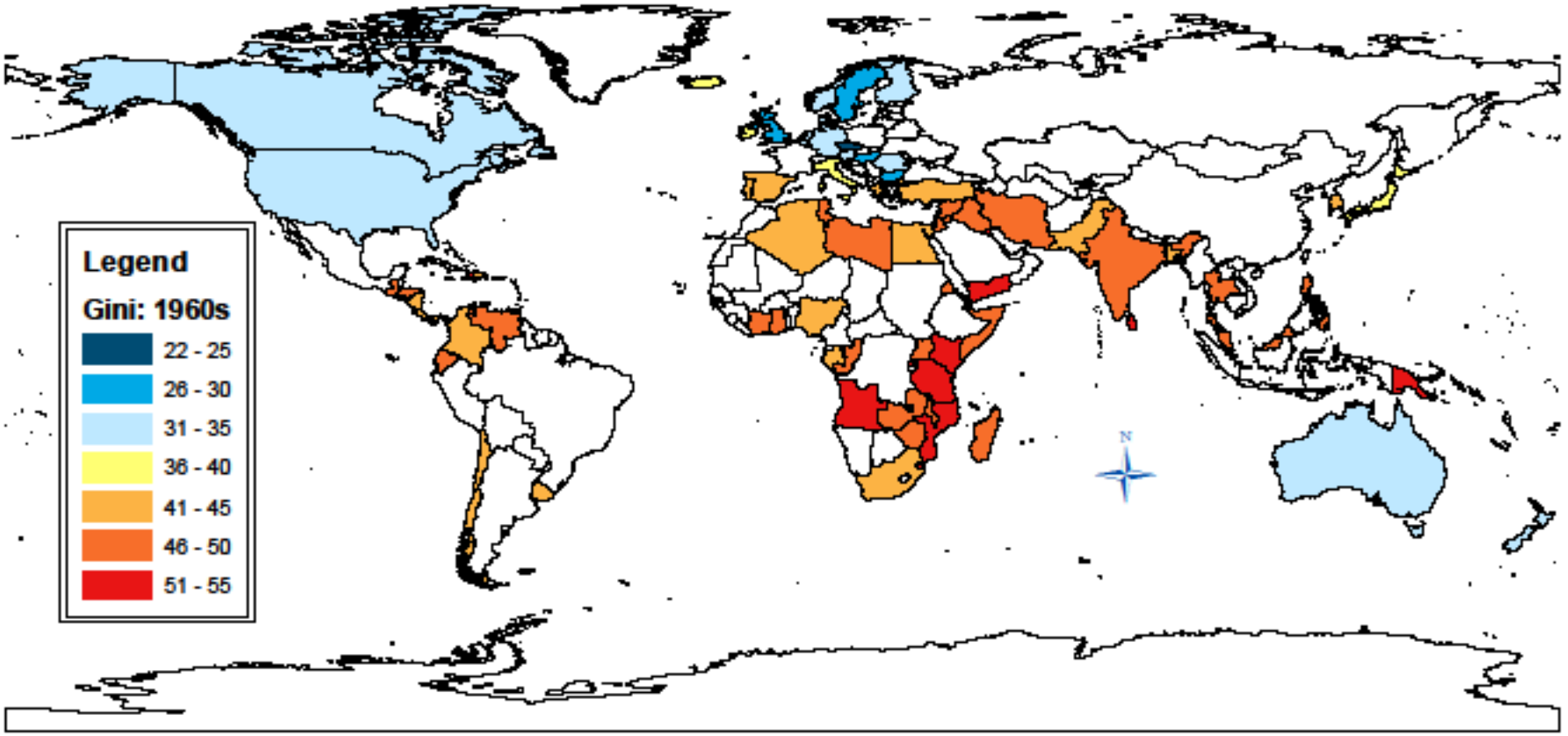
With 3872 observations for 149 countries, we believe EHII is the largest single-concept income inequality data set not using any interpolation across years or countries.

A Brief Summary

The EHII data set is a panel of *estimated* Gini coefficients for gross household income, derived from *measures* of cross-sector industrial pay inequality and other information, especially the share of manufacturing in total output. It is calibrated to standard Gini coefficients by a simple regression analysis.

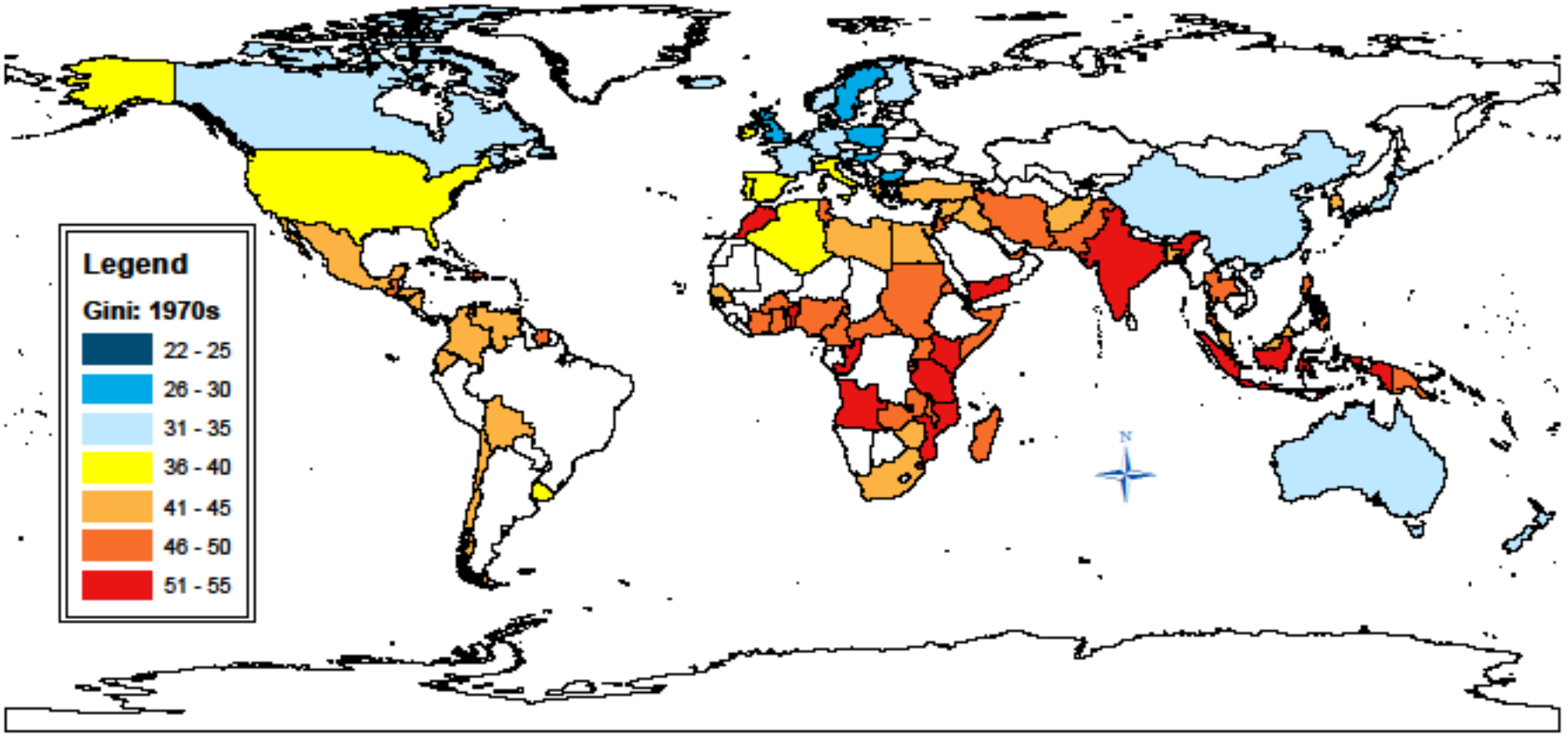
EHII Inequality Data: Gini

1960s

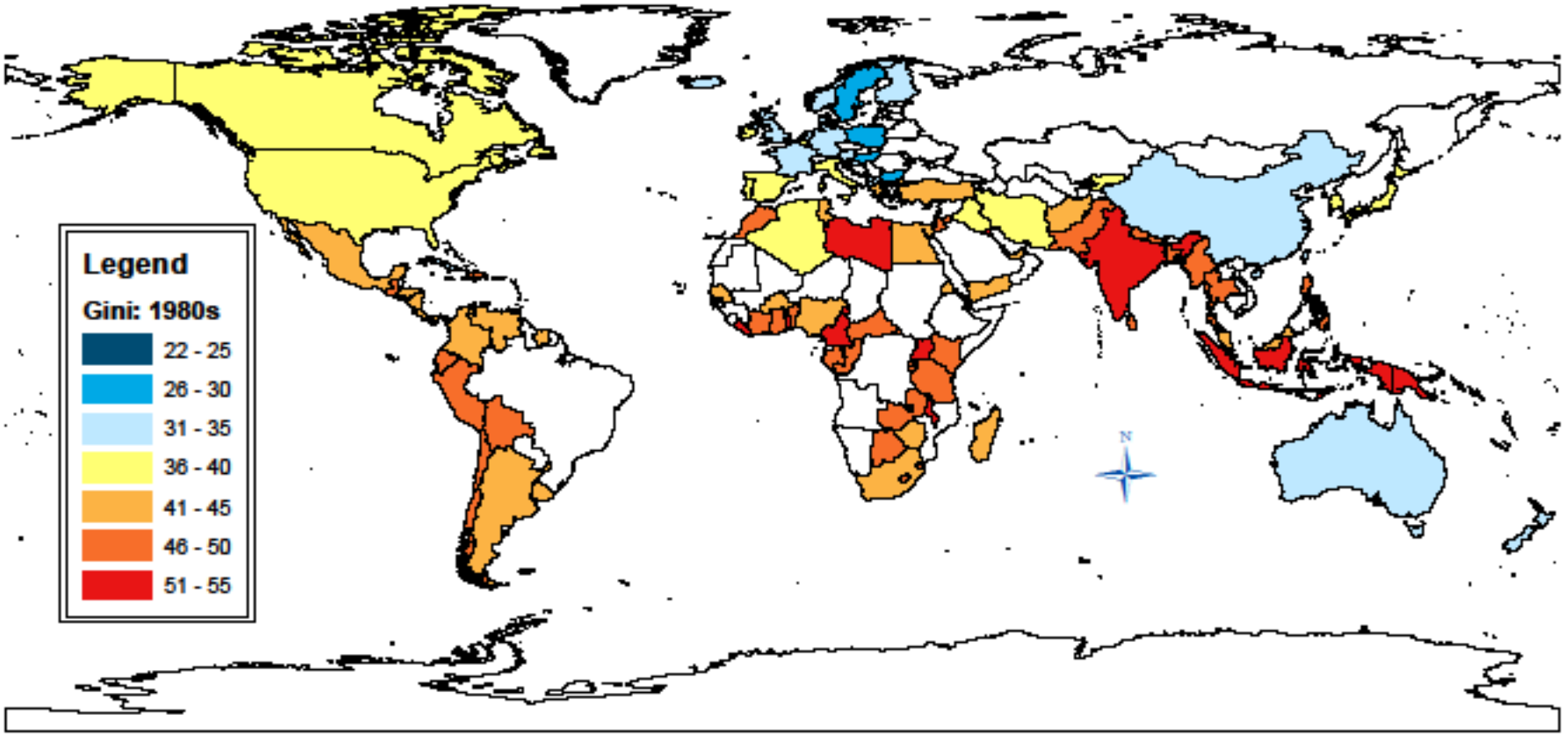


EHII Inequality Data: Gini

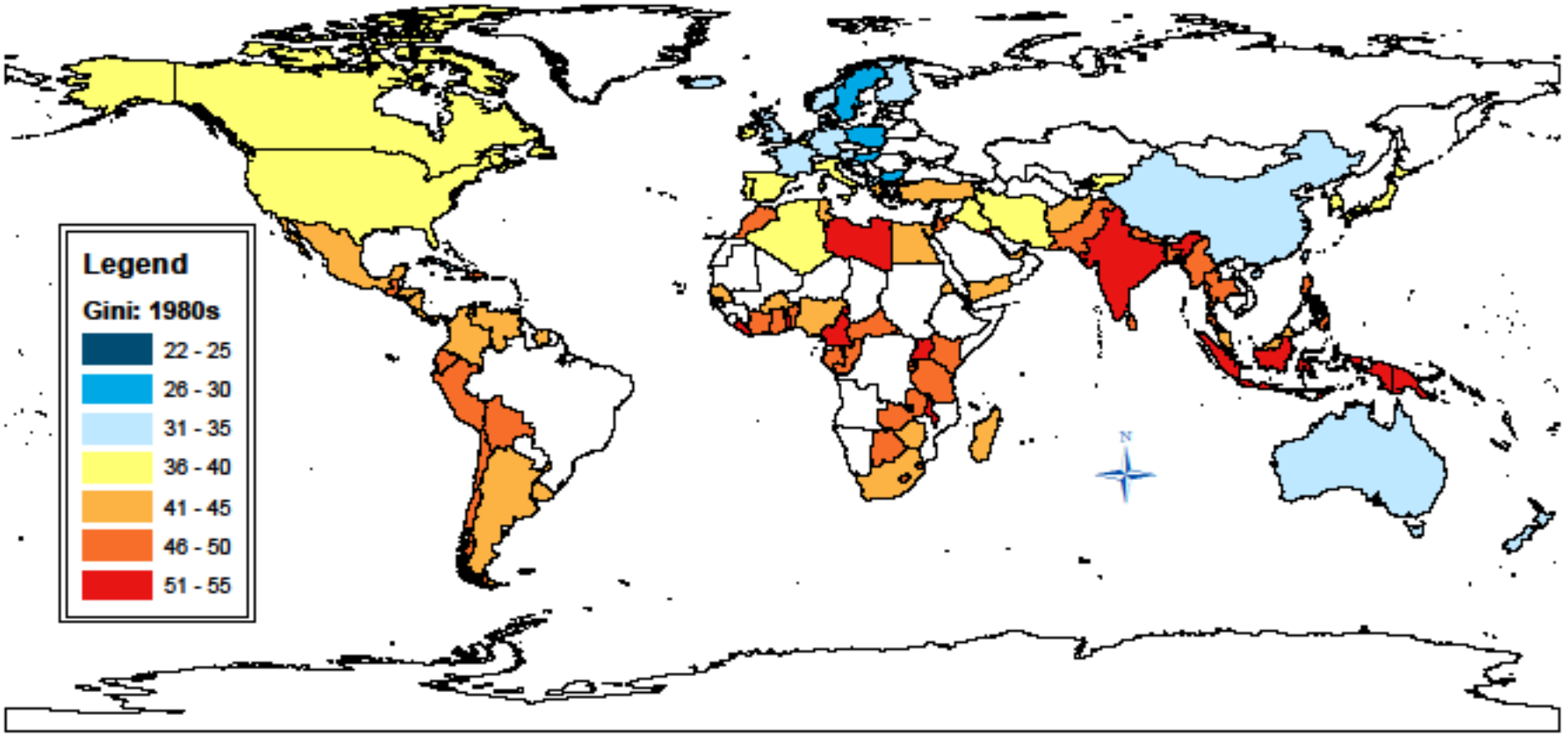
1970s



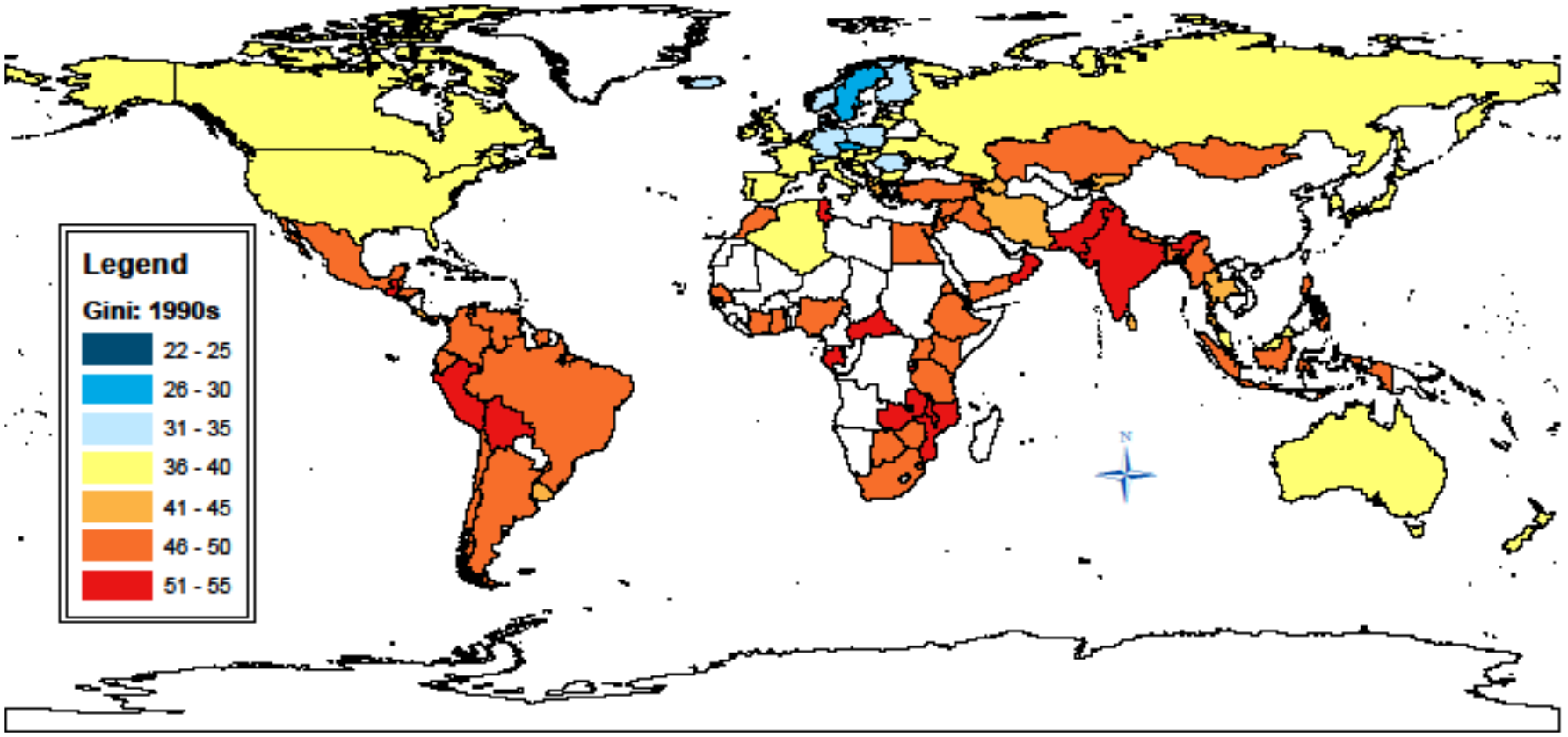
EHII Inequality Data: Gini
1980s



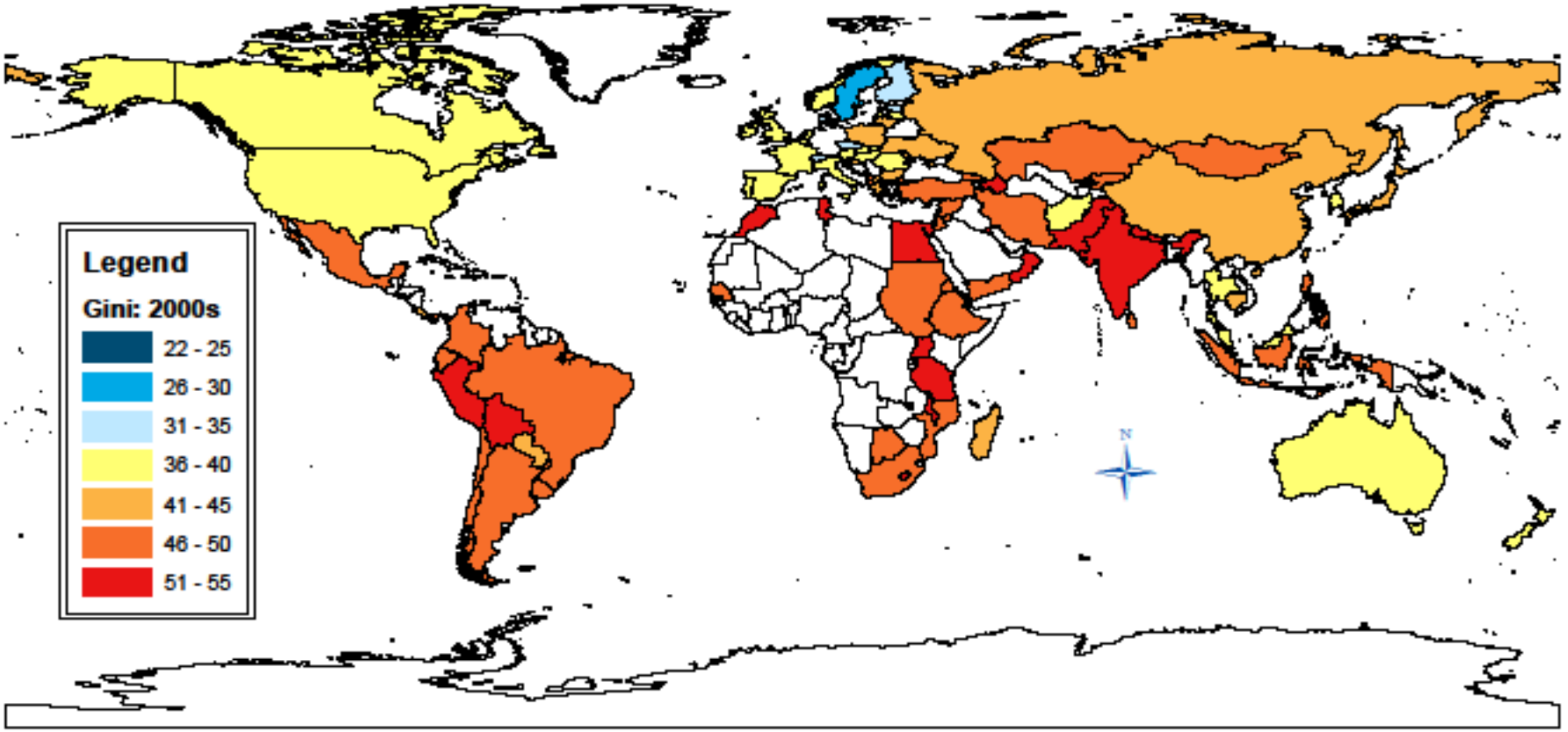
EHII Inequality Data: Gini
1980s



EHII Inequality Data: Gini
1990s

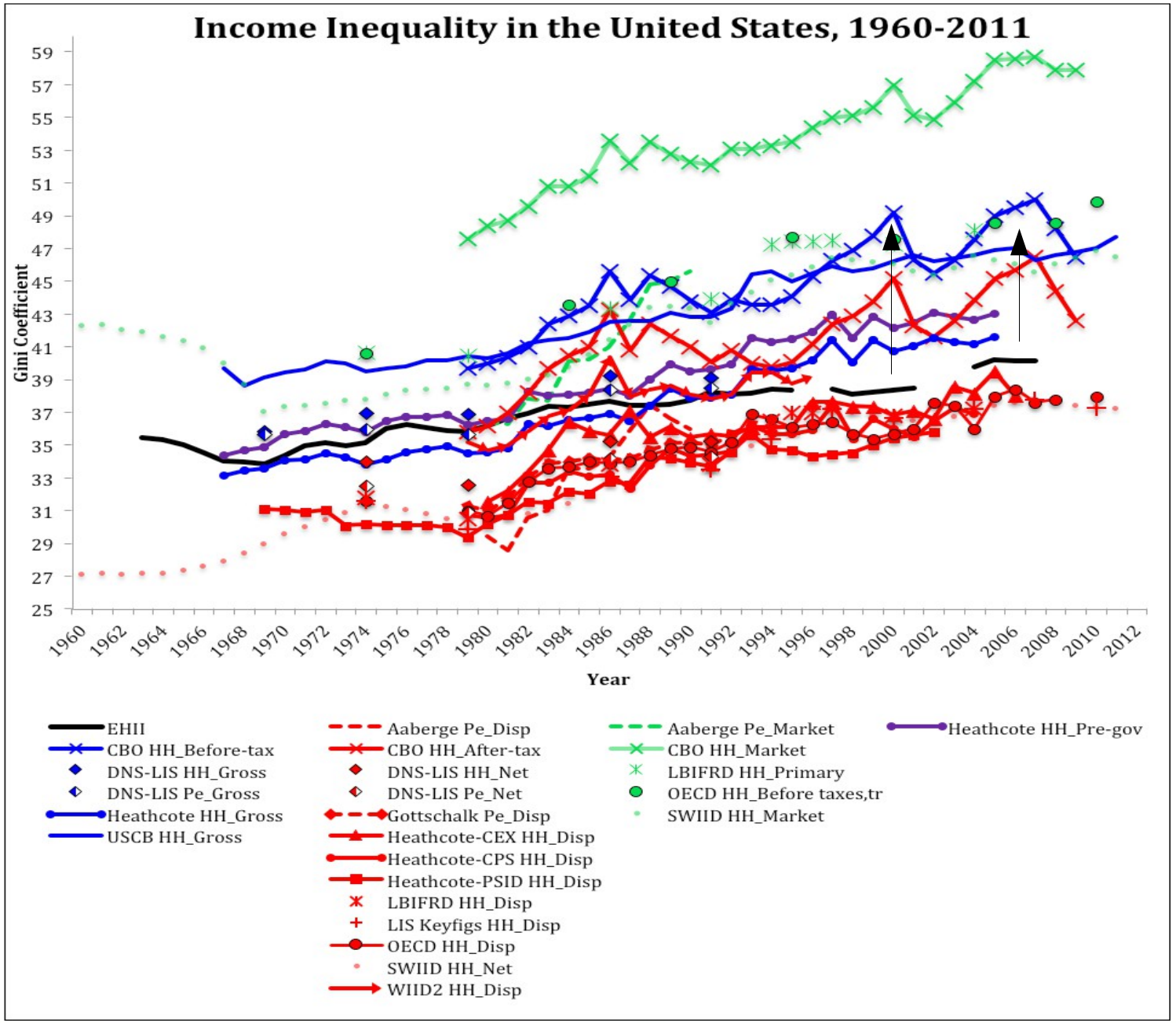


EHII Inequality Data: Gini
2000s



Why?

Because the data on inequality are a mess.


Income Inequality in the United States, 1960-2011
Gini Coefficient
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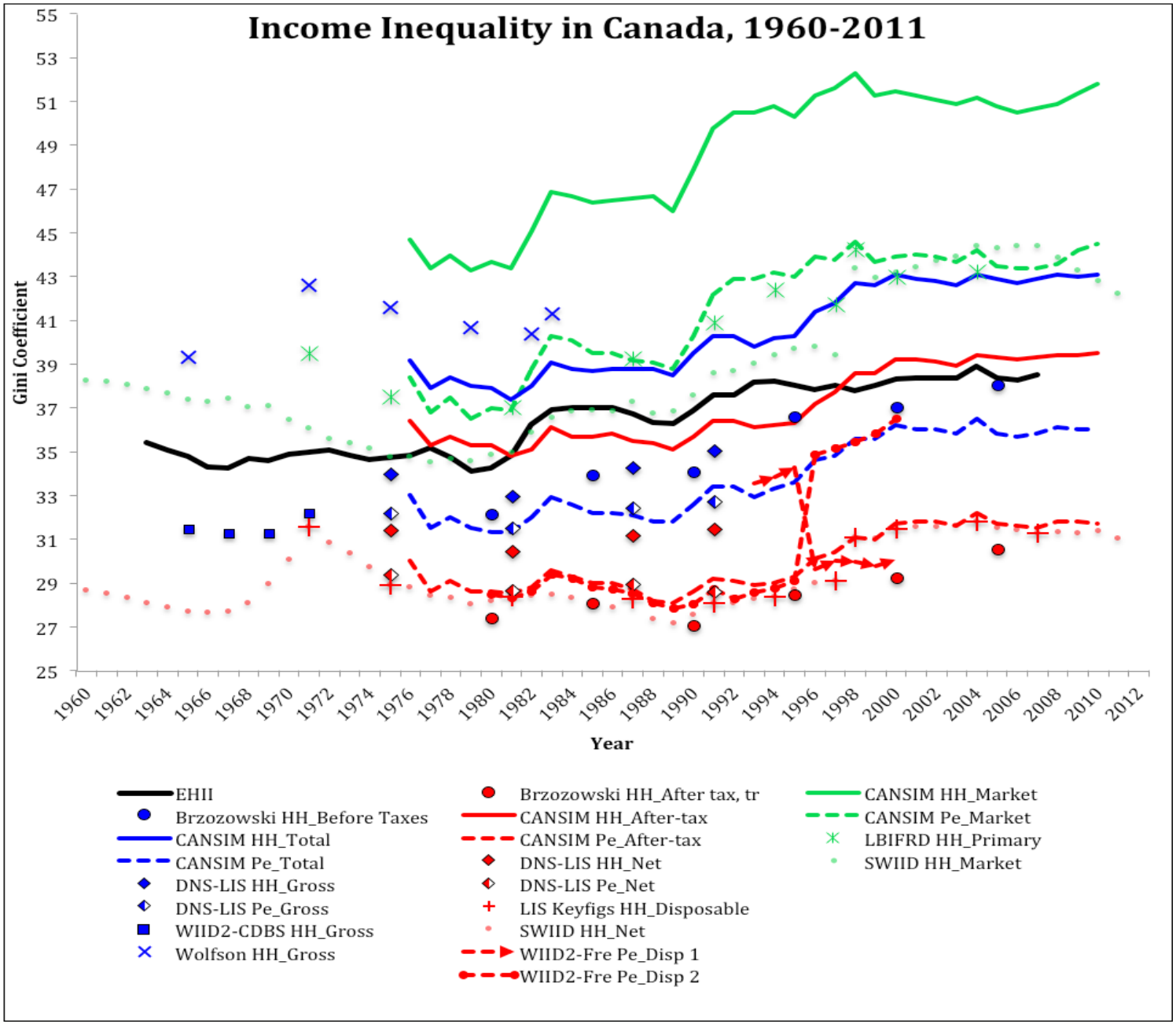
Year
EHII
CBO HH_Before-tax
DNS-LIS HH_Gross
DNS-LIS Pe_Gross
Heathcote HH_Gross
USCB HH_Gross
Aaberge Pe_Disp
CBO HH_After-tax
DNS-LIS HH_Net
DNS-LIS Pe_Net
Gottschalk Pe_Disp
Heathcote-CEX HH_Disp
Heathcote-CPS HH_Disp
Heathcote-PSID HH_Disp
LBIFRD HH_Disp
LIS Keyfigs HH_Disp
OECD HH_Disp
SWIID HH_Net
WIID2 HH_Disp
Aaberge Pe_Market
CBO HH_Market
LBIFRD HH_Primary
OECD HH_Before taxes,tr
SWIID HH_Market
Heathcote HH_Pre-gov

Wealthy Countries


Income Inequality in Canada, 1960-2011
Gini Coefficient
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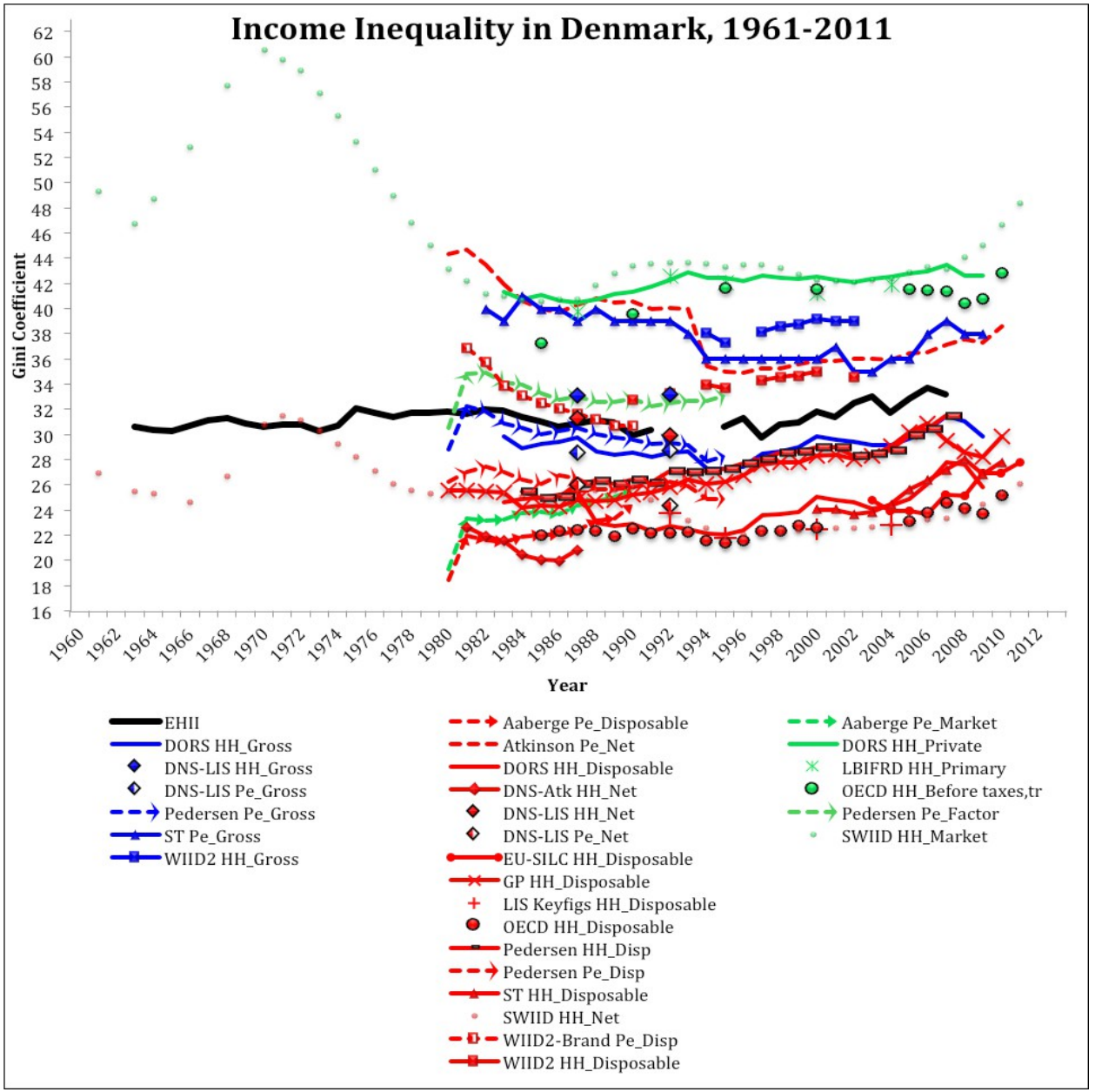
EHII
Brzozowski HH_Before Taxes
CANSIM HH_Total
CANSIM Pe_Total
DNS-LIS HH_Gross
DNS-LIS Pe_Gross
WIID2-CDBS HH_Gross
Wolfson HH_Gross
Brzozowski HH_After tax, tr
CANSIM HH_After-tax
CANSIM Pe_After-tax
DNS-LIS HH_Net
DNS-LIS Pe_Net
LIS Keyfigs HH_Disposable
SWIID HH_Net
WIID2-Fre Pe_Disp 1
WIID2-Fre Pe_Disp 2
CANSIM HH_Market
CANSIM Pe_Market
LBIFRD HH_Primary
SWIID HH_Market


Income Inequality in Denmark, 1961-2011
Gini Coefficient
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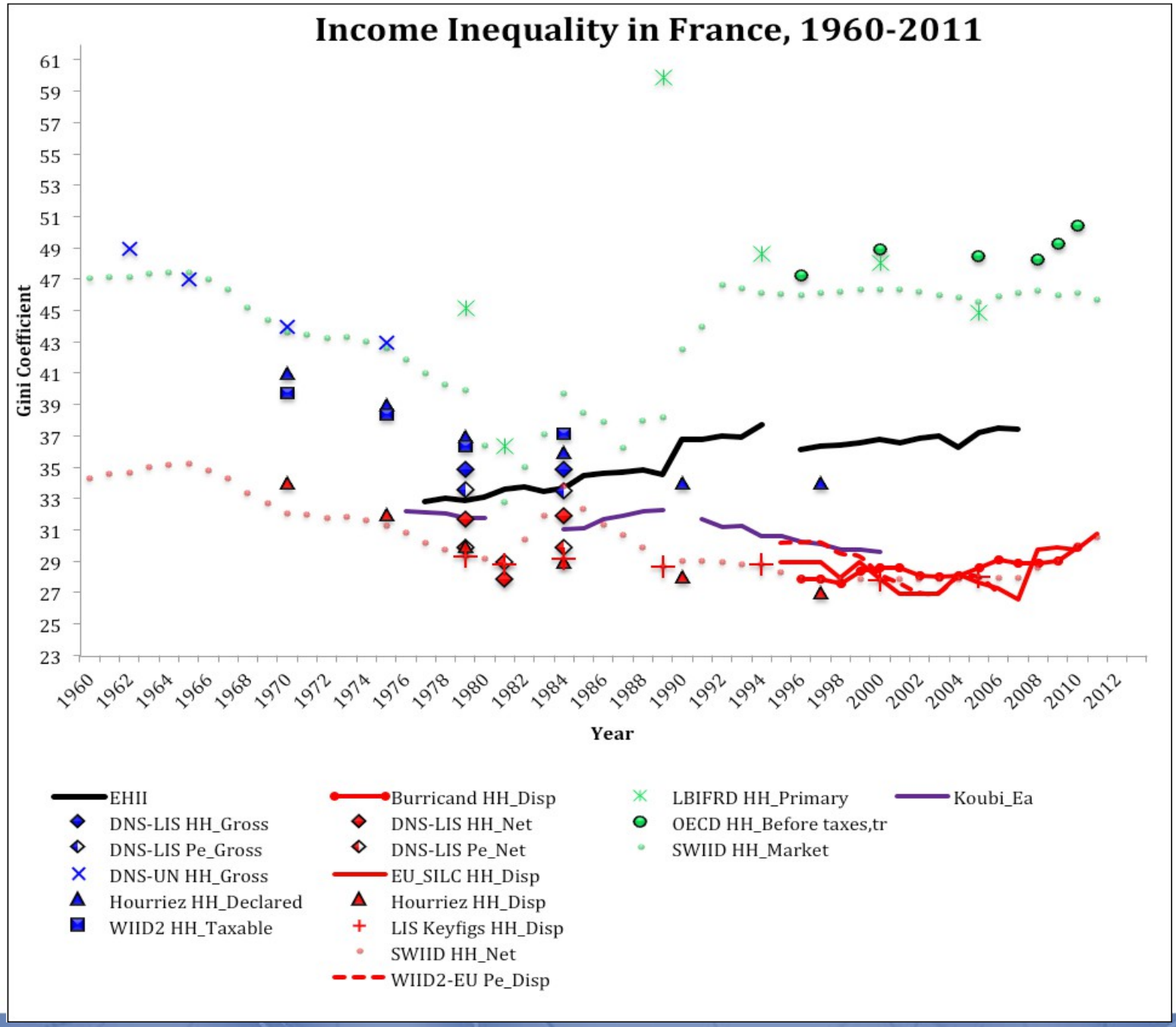
Year
EHII
DORS HH_Gross
DNS-LIS HH_Gross
DNS-LIS Pe_Gross
Pedersen Pe_Gross
ST Pe_Gross
WIID2 HH_Gross
Aaberge Pe_Disposable
Atkinson Pe_Net
DORS HH_Disposable
DNS-Atk HH_Net
DNS-LIS HH_Net
DNS-LIS Pe_Net
EU-SILC HH_Disposable
GP HH_Disposable
LIS Keyfigs HH_Disposable
OECD HH_Disposable
Pedersen HH_Disp
Pedersen Pe_Disp
ST HH_Disposable
SWIID HH_Net
WIID2-Brand Pe_Disp
WIID2 HH_Disposable
Aaberge Pe_Market
DORS HH_Private
LBIFRD HH_Primary
OECD HH_Before taxes,tr
Pedersen Pe_Factor
SWIID HH_Market


Income Inequality in France, 1960-2011
Gini Coefficient
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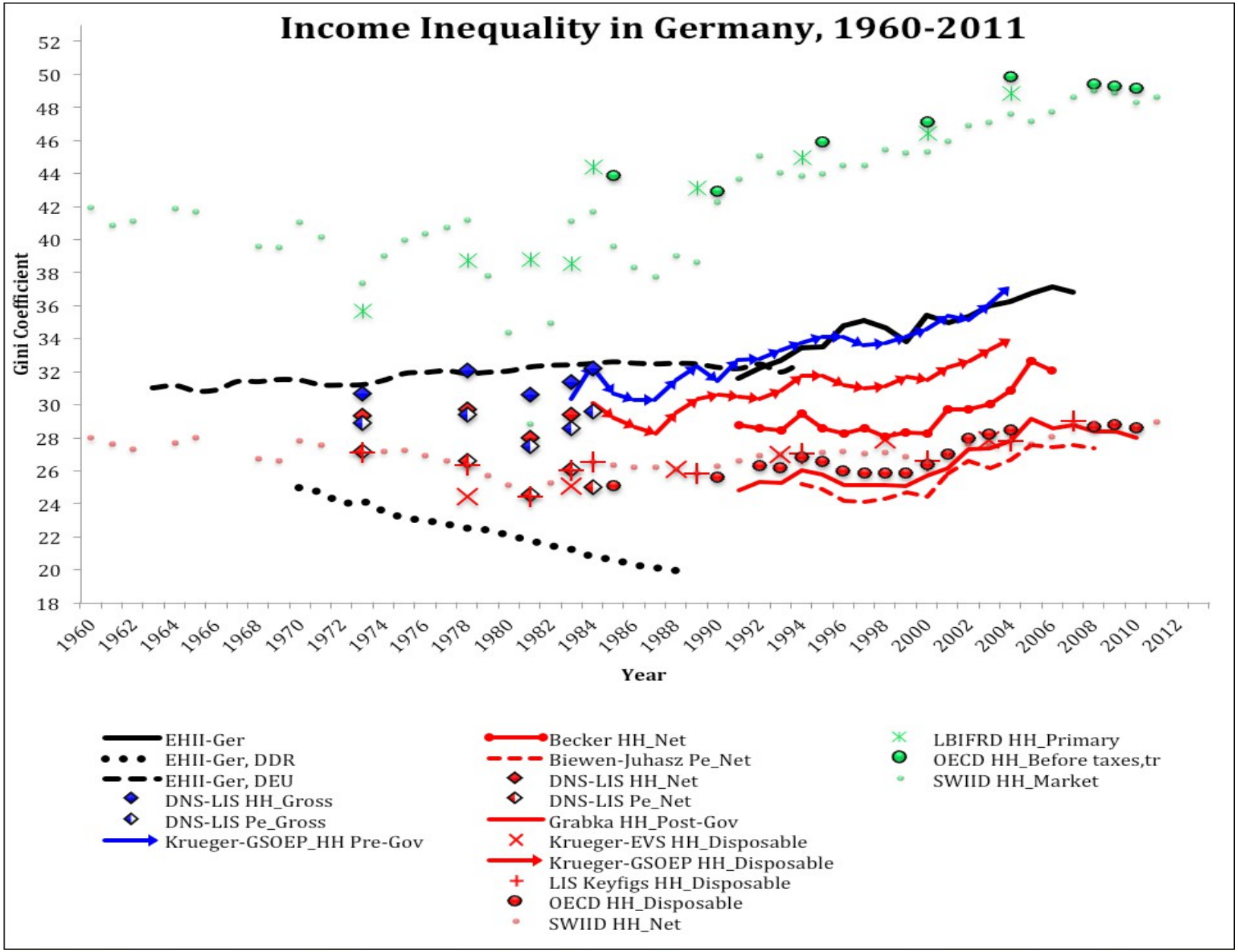
Year
EHII
DNS-LIS HH_Gross
DNS-LIS Pe_Gross
DNS-UN HH_Gross
Hourriez HH_Declared
WIID2 HH_Taxable
Burricand HH_Disp
DNS-LIS HH_Net
DNS-LIS Pe_Net
EU_SILC HH_Disp
Hourriez HH_Disp
LIS Keyfigs HH_Disp
SWIID HH_Net
WIID2-EU Pe_Disp
LBIFRD HH_Primary
OECD HH_Before taxes,tr
SWIID HH_Market
Koubi_Ea


Income Inequality in Germany, 1960-2011
Gini Coefficient
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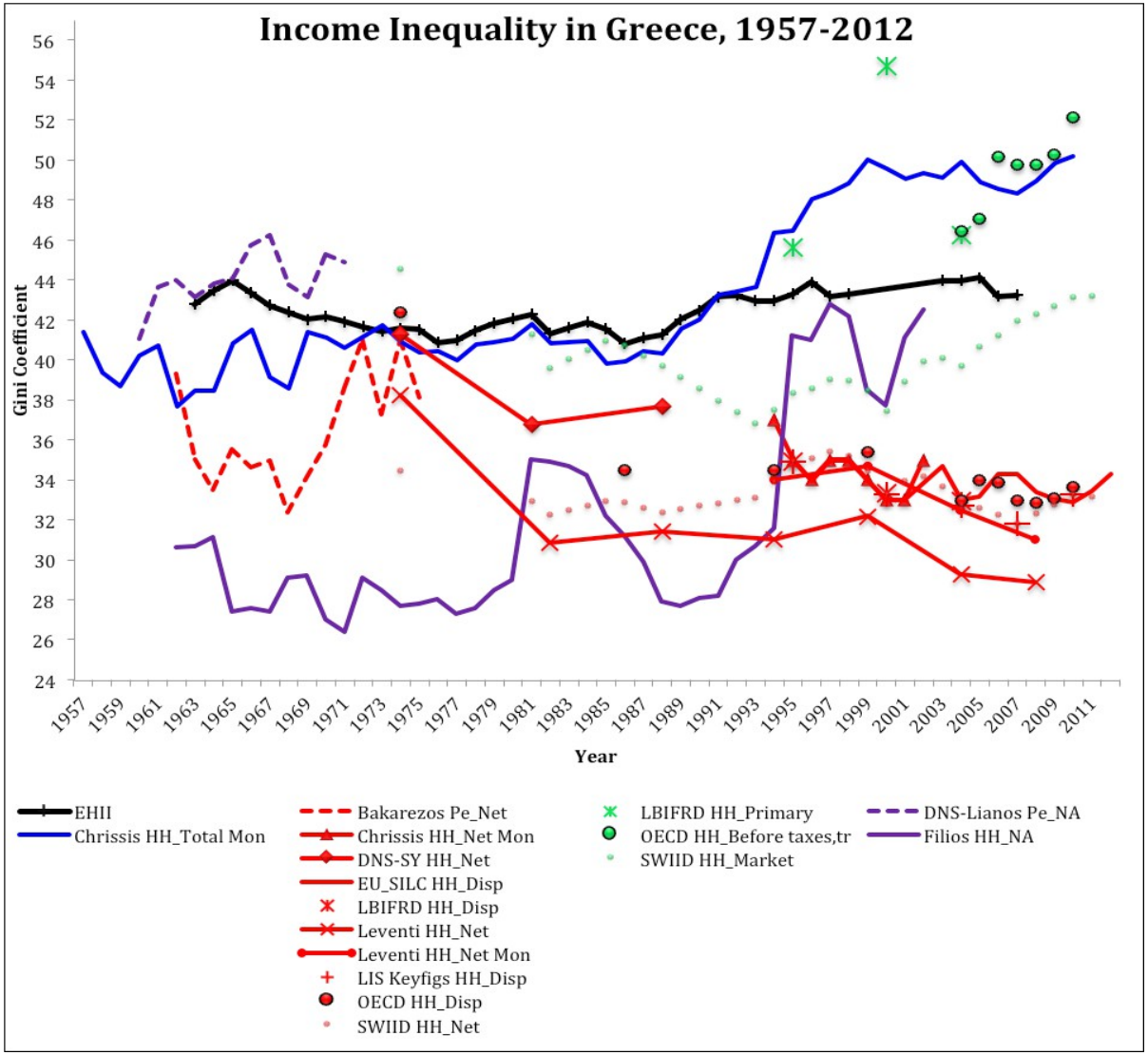
Year
EHII-Ger
EHII-Ger, DDR
EHII-Ger, DEU
DNS-LIS HH_Gross
DNS-LIS Pe_Gross
Krueger-GSOEP_HH Pre-Gov
Becker HH_Net
Biewen-Juhasz Pe_Net
DNS-LIS HH_Net
DNS-LIS Pe_Net
Grabka HH_Post-Gov
Krueger-EVS HH_Disposable
Krueger-GSOEP HH_Disposable
LIS Keyfigs HH_Disposable
OECD HH_Disposable
SWIID HH_Net
LBIFRD HH_Primary
OECD HH_Before taxes,tr
SWIID HH_Market


Income Inequality in Greece, 1957-2012
Gini Coefficient
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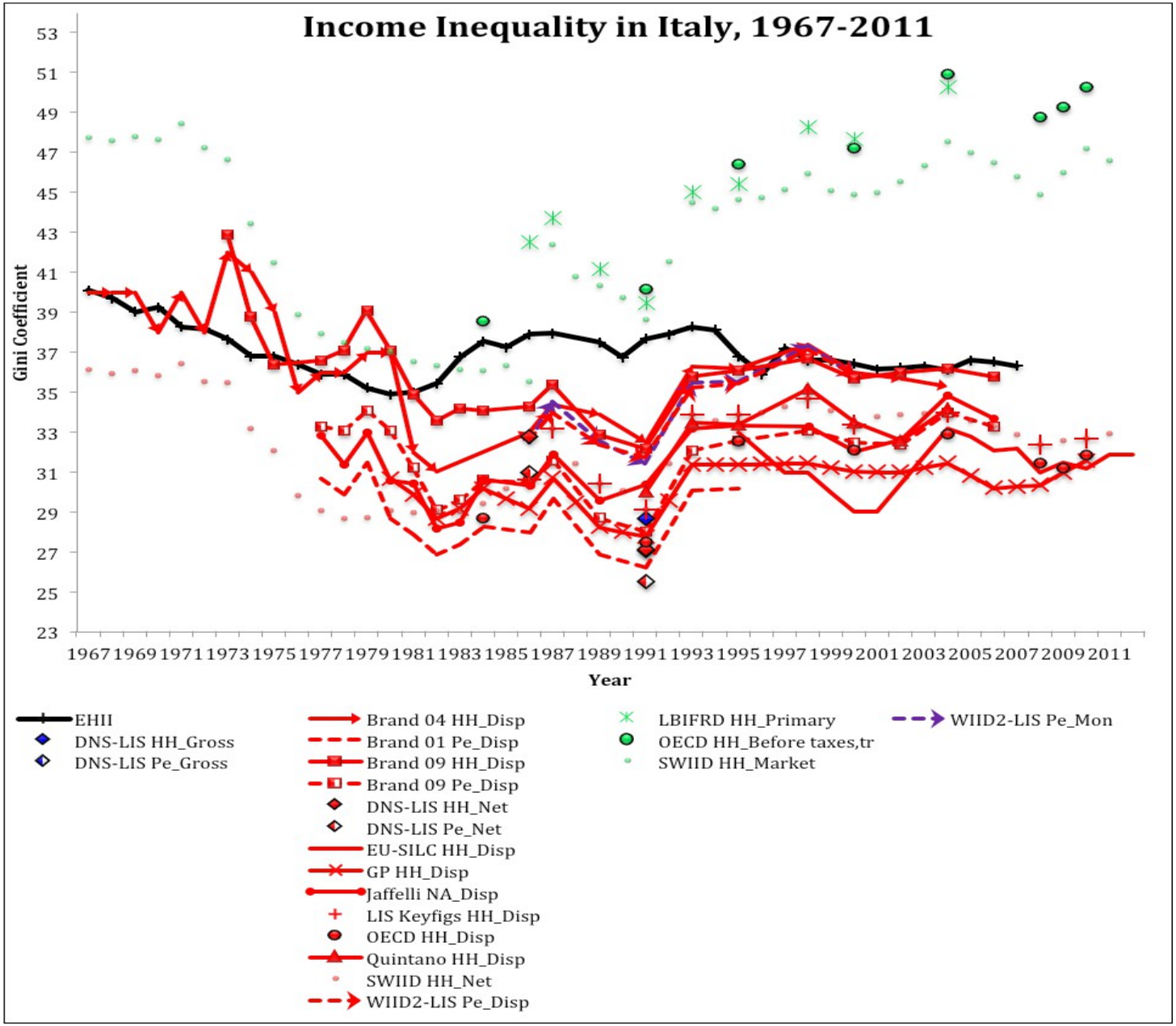
2009
2011
Year
EHII
Chrissis HH_Total Mon
Bakarezos Pe_Net
Chrissis HH_Net Mon
DNS-SY HH_Net
EU_SILC HH_Disp
LBIFRD HH_Disp
Leventi HH_Net
Leventi HH_Net Mon
LIS Keyfigs HH_Disp
OECD HH_Disp
SWIID HH_Net
LBIFRD HH_Primary
OECD HH_Before taxes,tr
SWIID HH_Market
DNS-Lianos Pe_NA
Filios HH_NA


Income Inequality in Italy, 1967-2011
Gini Coefficient
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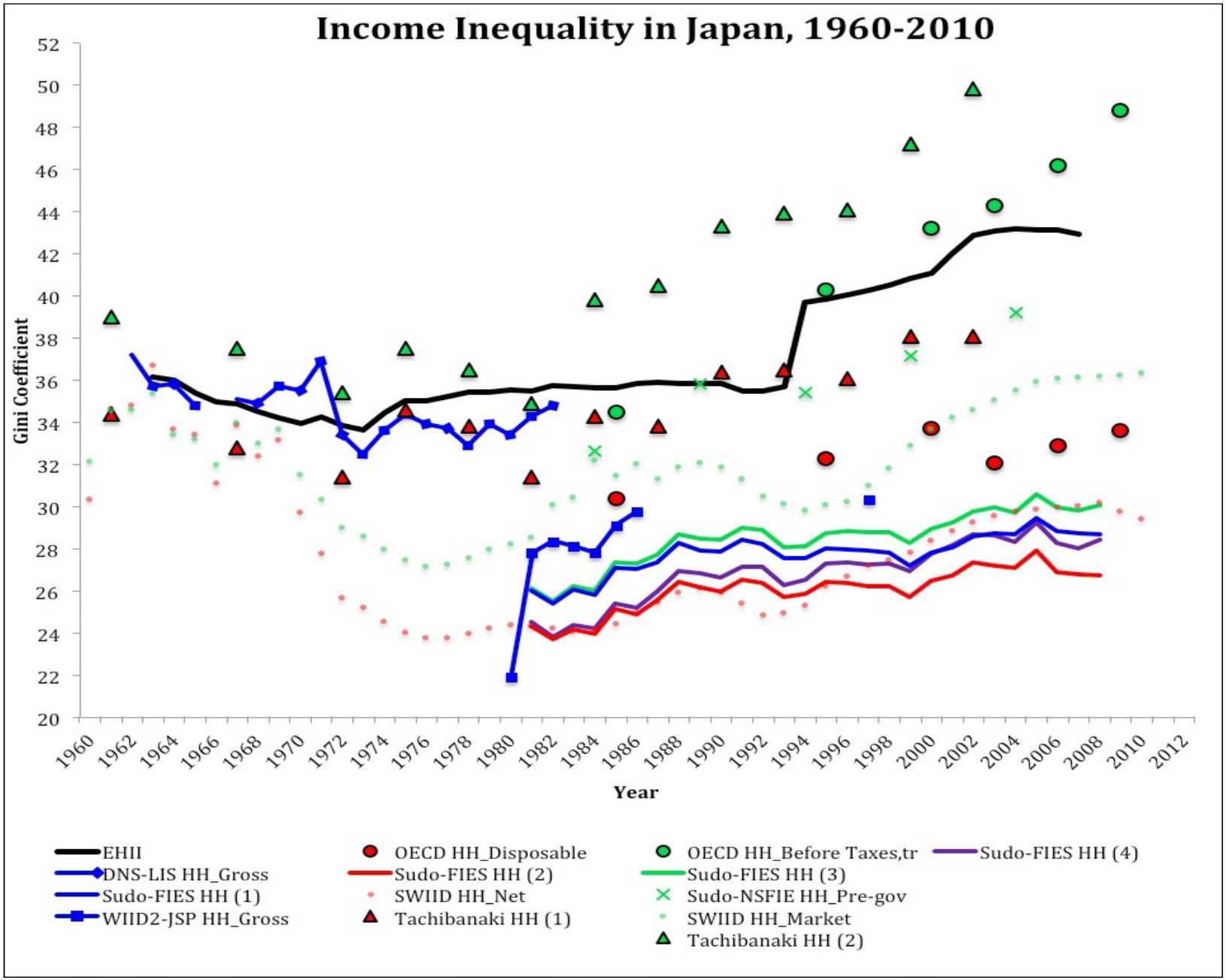
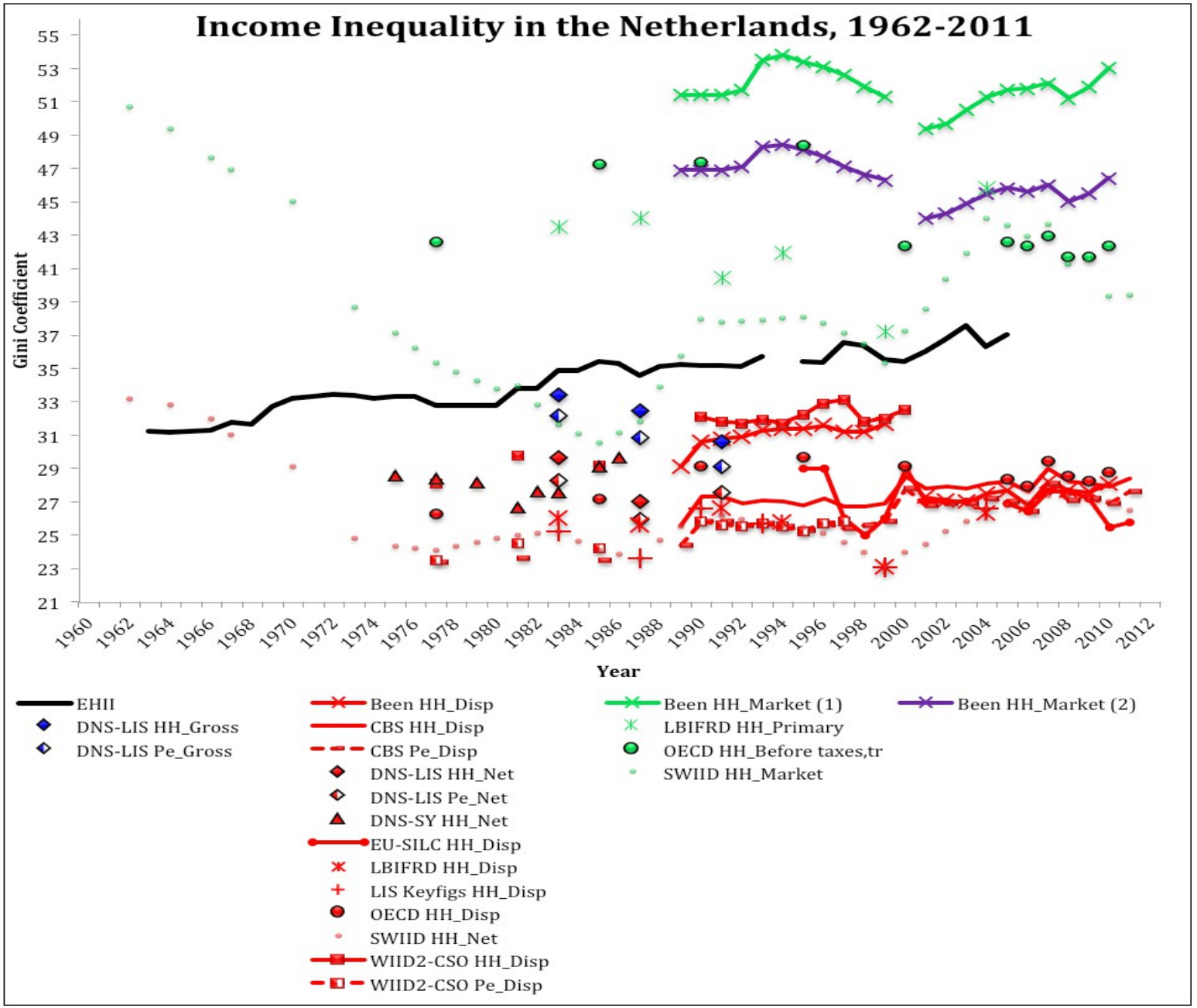
1967 1969 1971 1973 1975 1977 1979 1981 1983 1985 1987 1989 1991 1993 1995 1997 1999 2001 2003 2005 2007 2009 2011
Year
EHII
DNS-LIS HH_Gross
DNS-LIS Pe_Gross
Brand 04 HH_Disp
Brand 01 Pe_Disp
Brand 09 HH_Disp
Brand 09 Pe_Disp
DNS-LIS HH_Net
DNS-LIS Pe_Net
EU-SILC HH_Disp
GP HH_Disp
Jaffelli NA_Disp
LIS Keyfigs HH_Disp
OECD HH_Disp
Quintano HH_Disp
SWIID HH_Net
WIID2-LIS Pe_Disp
LBIFRD HH_Primary
OECD HH_Before taxes,tr
SWIID HH_Market
WIID2-LIS Pe_Mon


Income Inequality in Japan, 1960-2010
Gini Coefficient
Year
EHII
DNS-LIS HH_Gross
Sudo-FIES HH (1)
WIID2-JSP HH_Gross
OECD HH_Disposable
Sudo-FIES HH (2)
SWIID HH_Net
Tachibanaki HH (1)
OECD HH_Before Taxes,tr
Sudo-FIES HH (3)
Sudo-NSFIE HH_Pre-gov
SWIID HH_Market
Tachibanaki HH (2)
Sudo-FIES HH (4)


Income Inequality in the Netherlands, 1962-2011
Gini Coefficient
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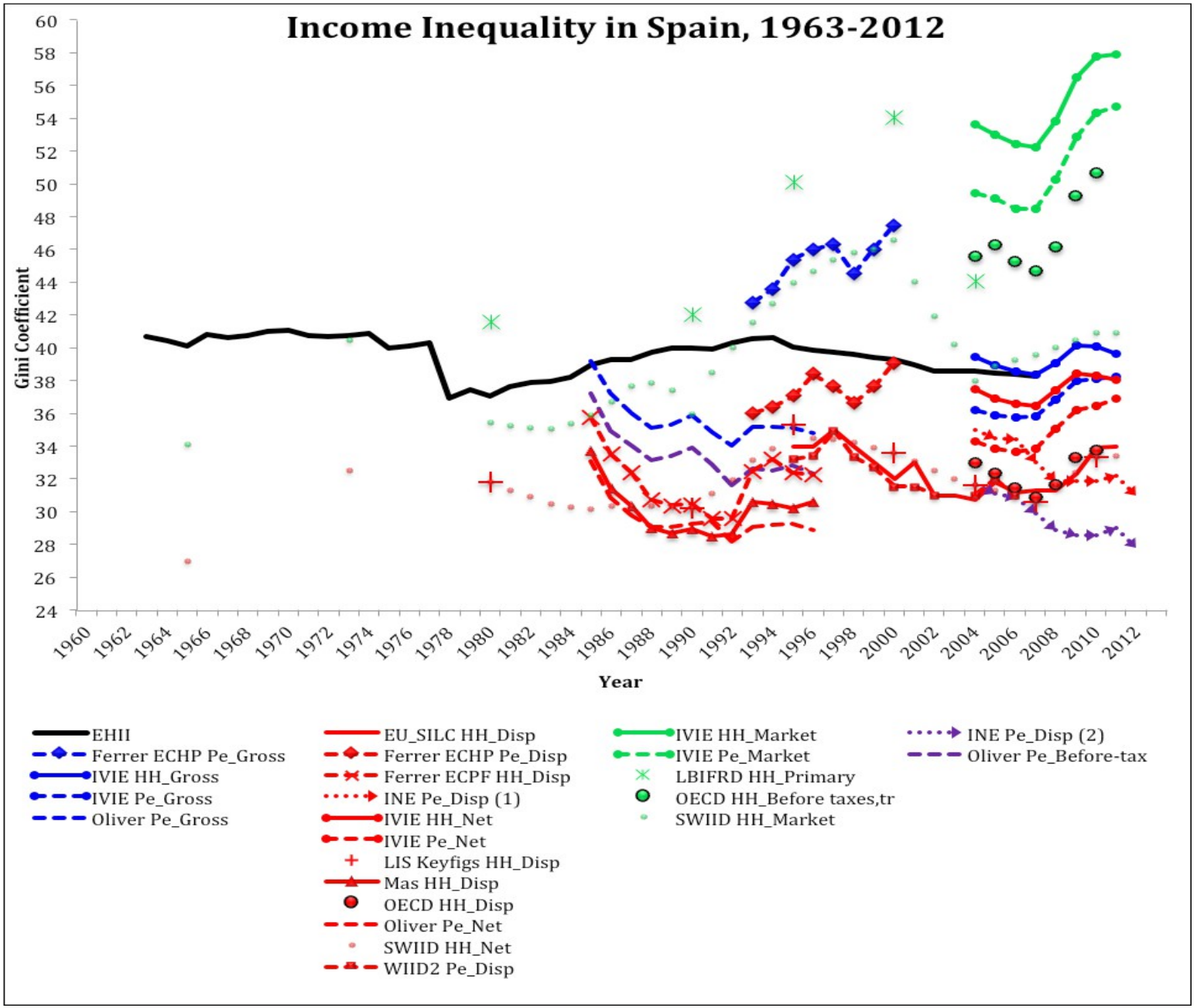
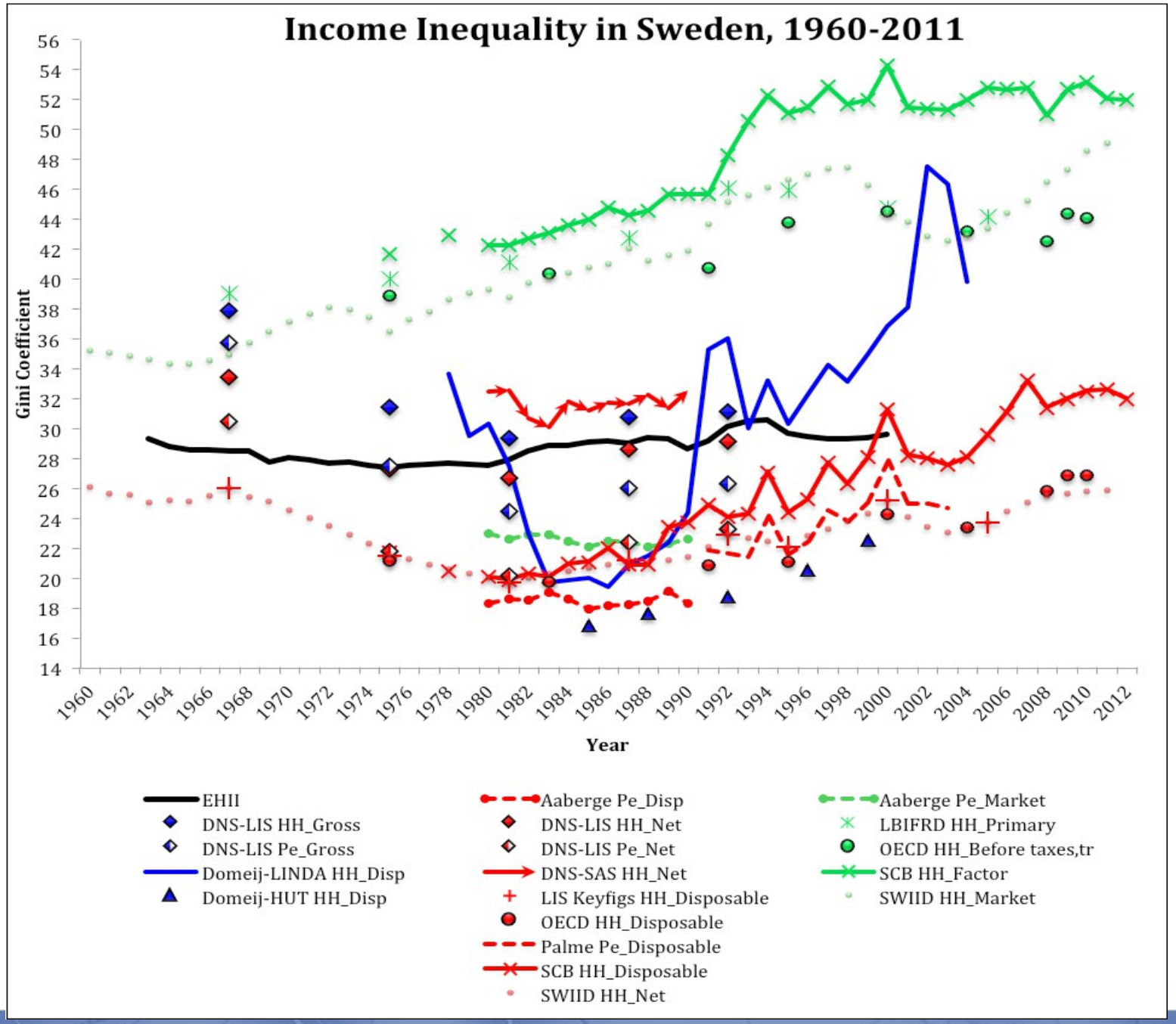
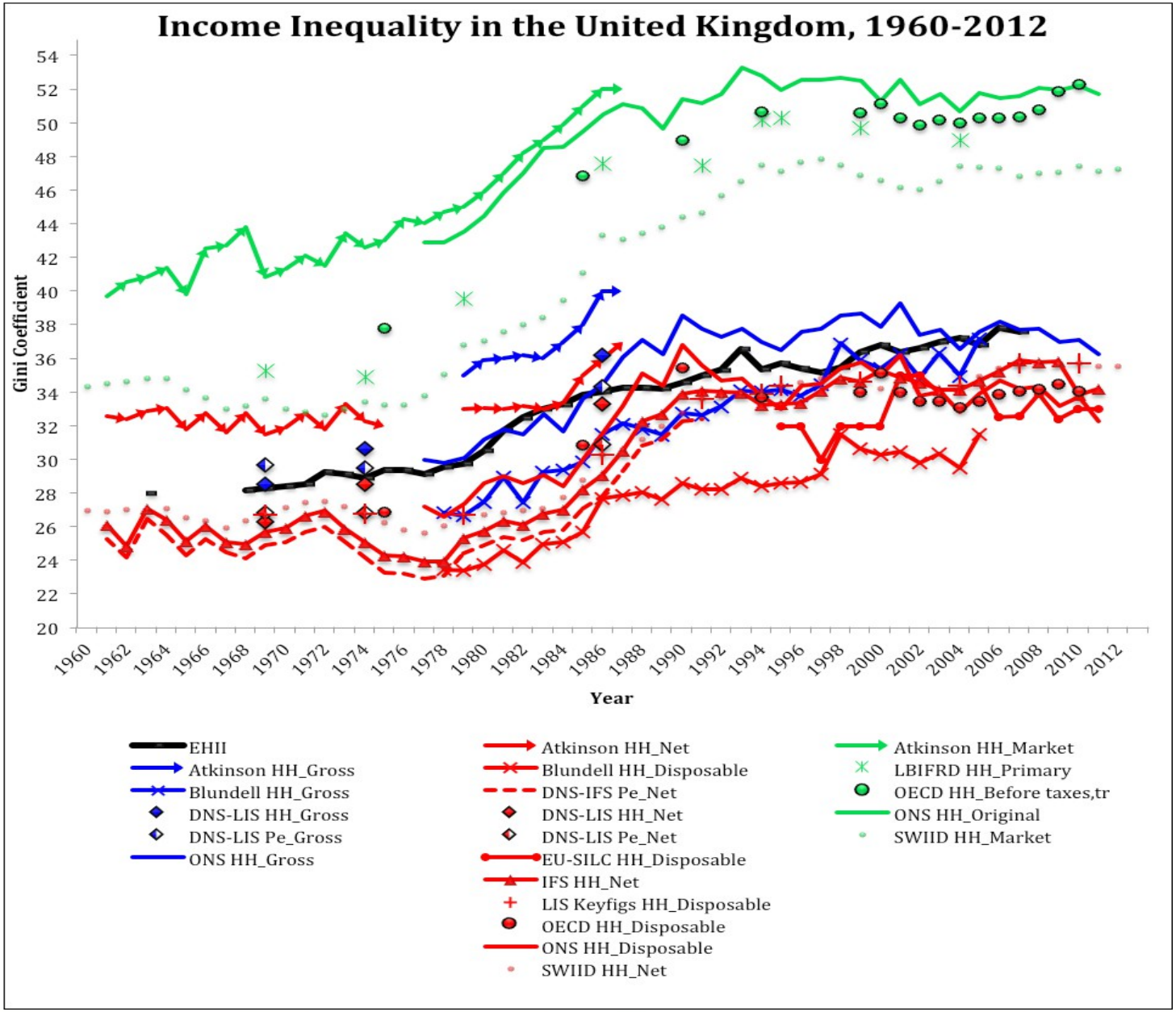
2012
Year
EHII
DNS-LIS HH_Gross
DNS-LIS Pe_Gross
Been HH_Disp
CBS HH_Disp
CBS Pe_Disp
DNS-LIS HH_Net
DNS-LIS Pe_Net
DNS-SY HH_Net
EU-SILC HH_Disp
LBIFRD HH_Disp
LIS Keyfigs HH_Disp
OECD HH_Disp
SWIID HH_Net
WIID2-CSO HH_Disp
WIID2-CSO Pe_Disp
Been HH_Market (1)
LBIFRD HH_Primary
OECD HH_Before taxes,tr
SWIID HH_Market
Been HH_Market (2)


Income Inequality in Spain, 1963-2012
Gini Coefficient
Year
EHII
Ferrer ECHP Pe_Gross
IVIE HH_Gross
IVIE Pe_Gross
Oliver Pe_Gross
EU_SILC HH_Disp
Ferrer ECHP Pe_Disp
Ferrer ECPF HH_Disp
INE Pe_Disp (1)
IVIE HH_Net
IVIE Pe_Net
LIS Keyfigs HH_Disp
Mas HH_Disp
OECD HH_Disp
Oliver Pe_Net
SWIID HH_Net
WIID2 Pe_Disp
IVIE HH_Market
IVIE Pe_Market
LBIFRD HH_Primary
OECD HH_Before taxes,tr
SWIID HH_Market
INE Pe_Disp (2)
Oliver Pe_Before-tax


Income Inequality in Sweden, 1960-2011
Gini Coefficient
Year
EHII
DNS-LIS HH_Gross
DNS-LIS Pe_Gross
Domeij-LINDA HH_Disp
Domeij-HUT HH_Disp
Aaberge Pe_Disp
DNS-LIS HH_Net
DNS-LIS Pe_Net
DNS-SAS HH_Net
LIS Keyfigs HH_Disposable
OECD HH_Disposable
Palme Pe_Disposable
SCB HH_Disposable
SWIID HH_Net
Aaberge Pe_Market
LBIFRD HH_Primary
OECD HH_Before taxes,tr
SCB HH_Factor
SWIID HH_Market


Income Inequality in the United Kingdom, 1960-2012
Gini Coefficient
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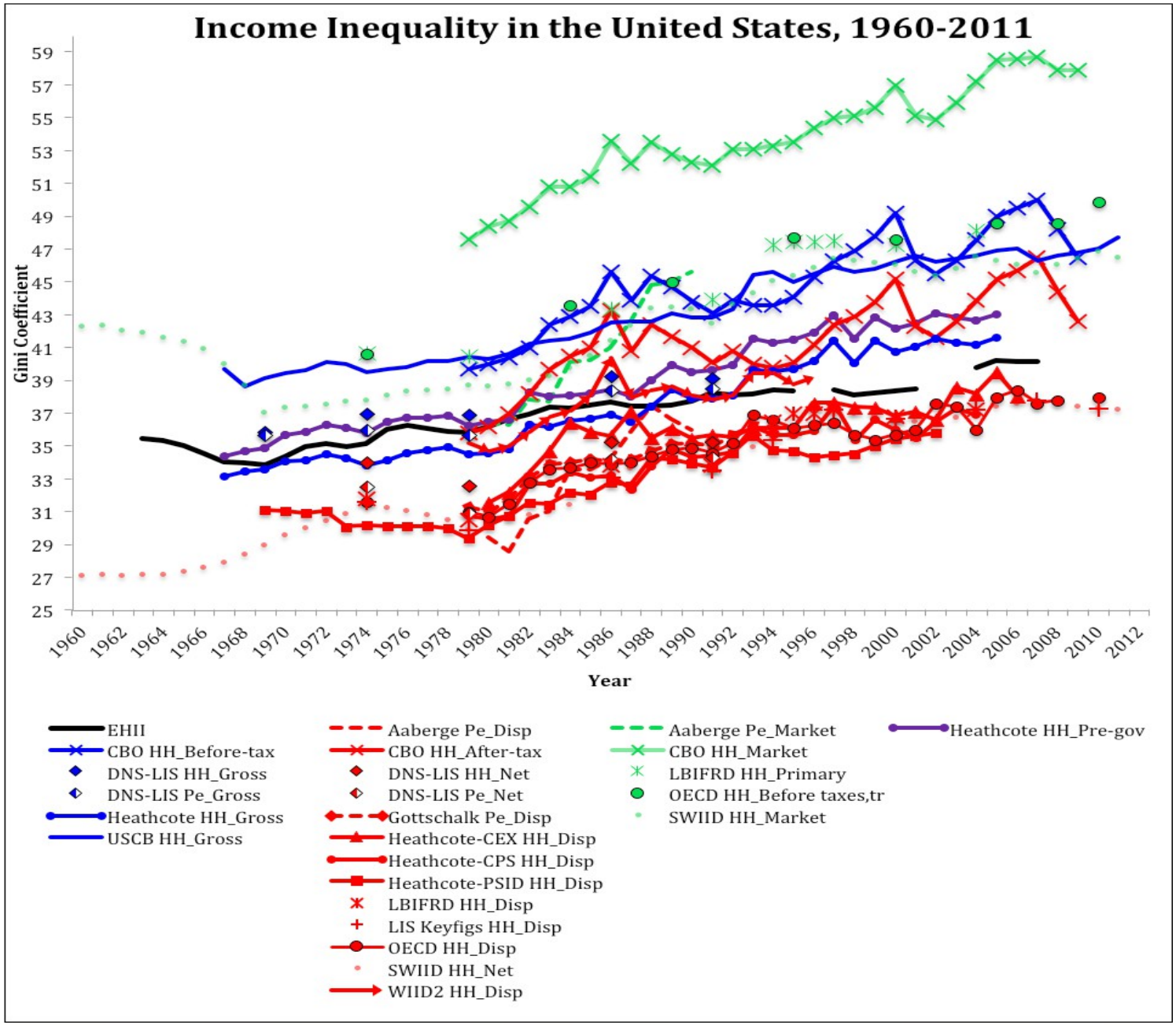
Year
EHII
Atkinson HH_Gross
Blundell HH_Gross
DNS-LIS HH_Gross
DNS-LIS Pe_Gross
ONS HH_Gross
Atkinson HH_Net
Blundell HH_Disposable
DNS-IFS Pe_Net
DNS-LIS HH_Net
DNS-LIS Pe_Net
EU-SILC HH_Disposable
IFS HH_Net
LIS Keyfigs HH_Disposable
OECD HH_Disposable
ONS HH_Disposable
SWIID HH_Net
Atkinson HH_Market
LBIFRD HH_Primary
OECD HH_Before taxes,tr
ONS HH_Original
SWIID HH_Market


Income Inequality in the United States, 1960-2011
Gini Coefficient
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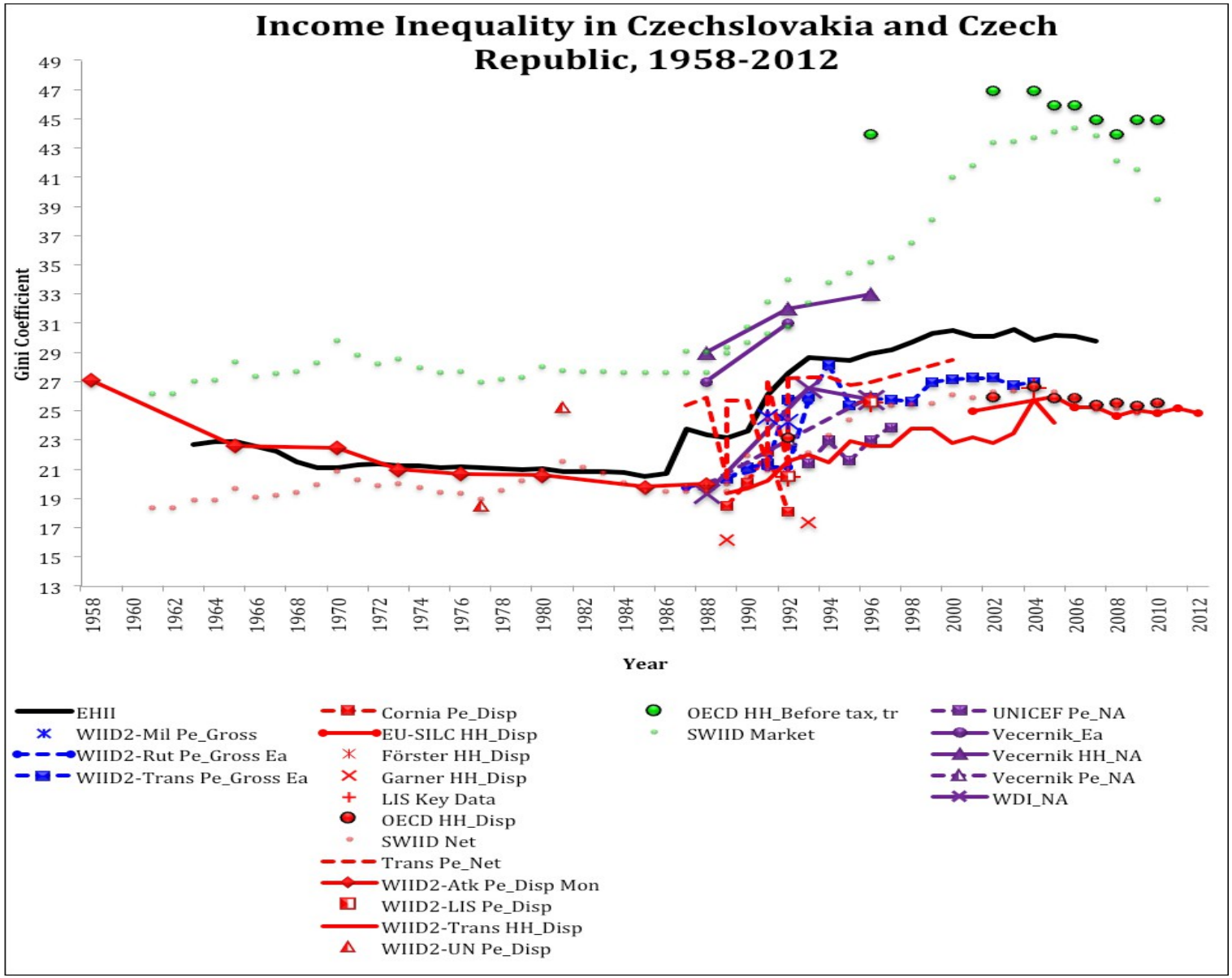
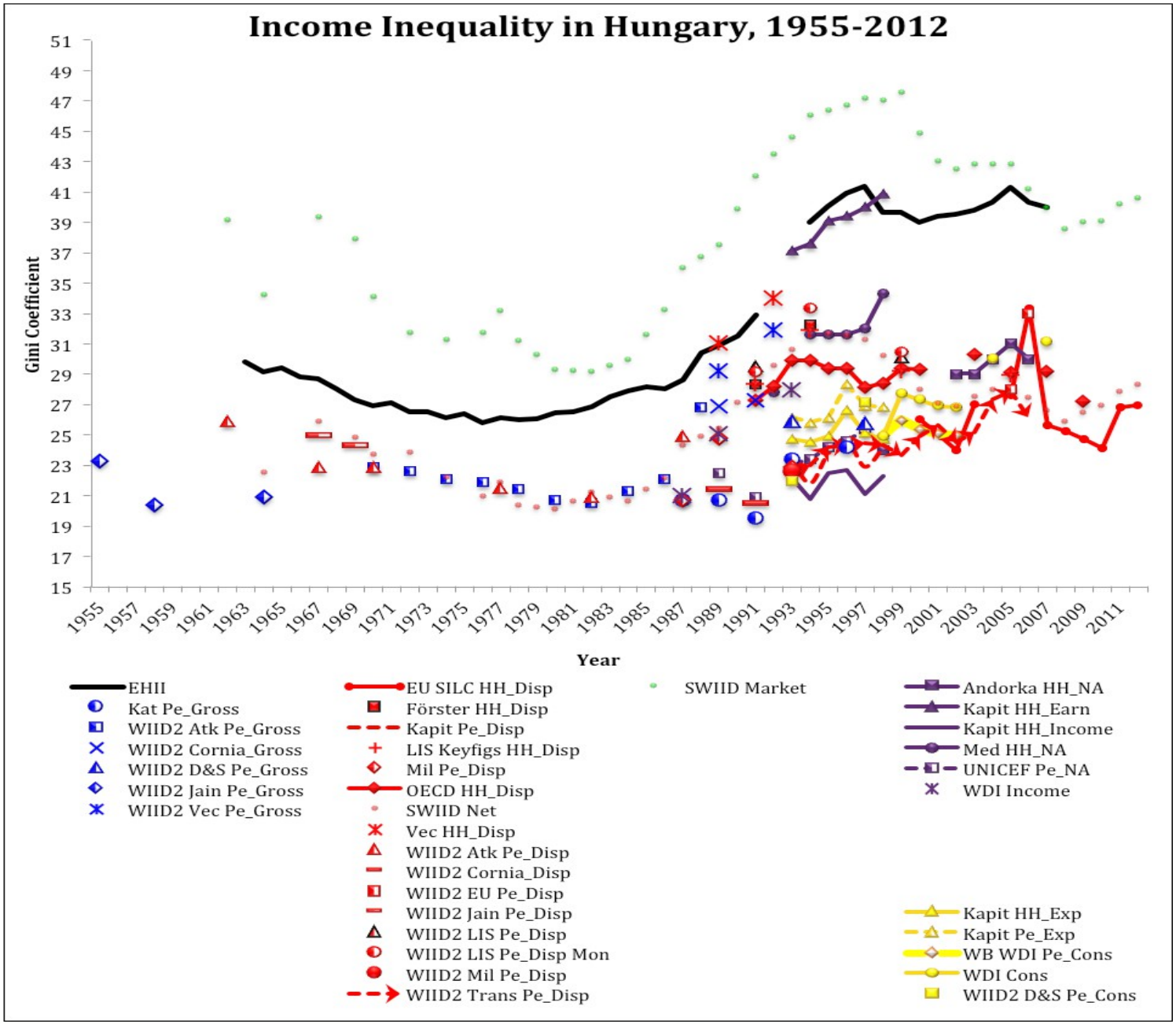
EHII
CBO HH_Before-tax
DNS-LIS HH_Gross
DNS-LIS Pe_Gross
Heathcote HH_Gross
USCB HH_Gross
Aaberge Pe_Disp
CBO HH_After-tax
DNS-LIS HH_Net
DNS-LIS Pe_Net
Gottschalk Pe_Disp
Heathcote-CEX HH_Disp
Heathcote-CPS HH_Disp
Heathcote-PSID HH_Disp
LBIFRD HH_Disp
LIS Keyfigs HH_Disp
OECD HH_Disp
SWIID HH_Net
WIID2 HH_Disp
Aaberge Pe_Market
CBO HH_Market
LBIFRD HH_Primary
OECD HH_Before taxes,tr
SWIID HH_Market
Heathcote HH_Pre-gov

“Transition Economies”


Income Inequality in Czechslovakia and Czech Republic, 1958-2012
Gini Coefficient
Year
EHII
WIID2-Mil Pe_Gross
WIID2-Rut Pe_Gross Ea
WIID2-Trans Pe_Gross Ea
Cornia Pe_Disp
EU-SILC HH_Disp
Förster HH_Disp
Garner HH_Disp
LIS Key Data
OECD HH_Disp
SWIID Net
Trans Pe_Net
WIID2-Atk Pe_Disp Mon
WIID2-LIS Pe_Disp
WIID2-Trans HH_Disp
WIID2-UN Pe_Disp
OECD HH_Before tax, tr
SWIID Market
UNICEF Pe_NA
Vecernik_Ea
Vecernik HH_NA
Vecernik Pe_NA
WDI_NA


Income Inequality in Hungary, 1955-2012
Gini Coefficient
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1979
1981
1983
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1993
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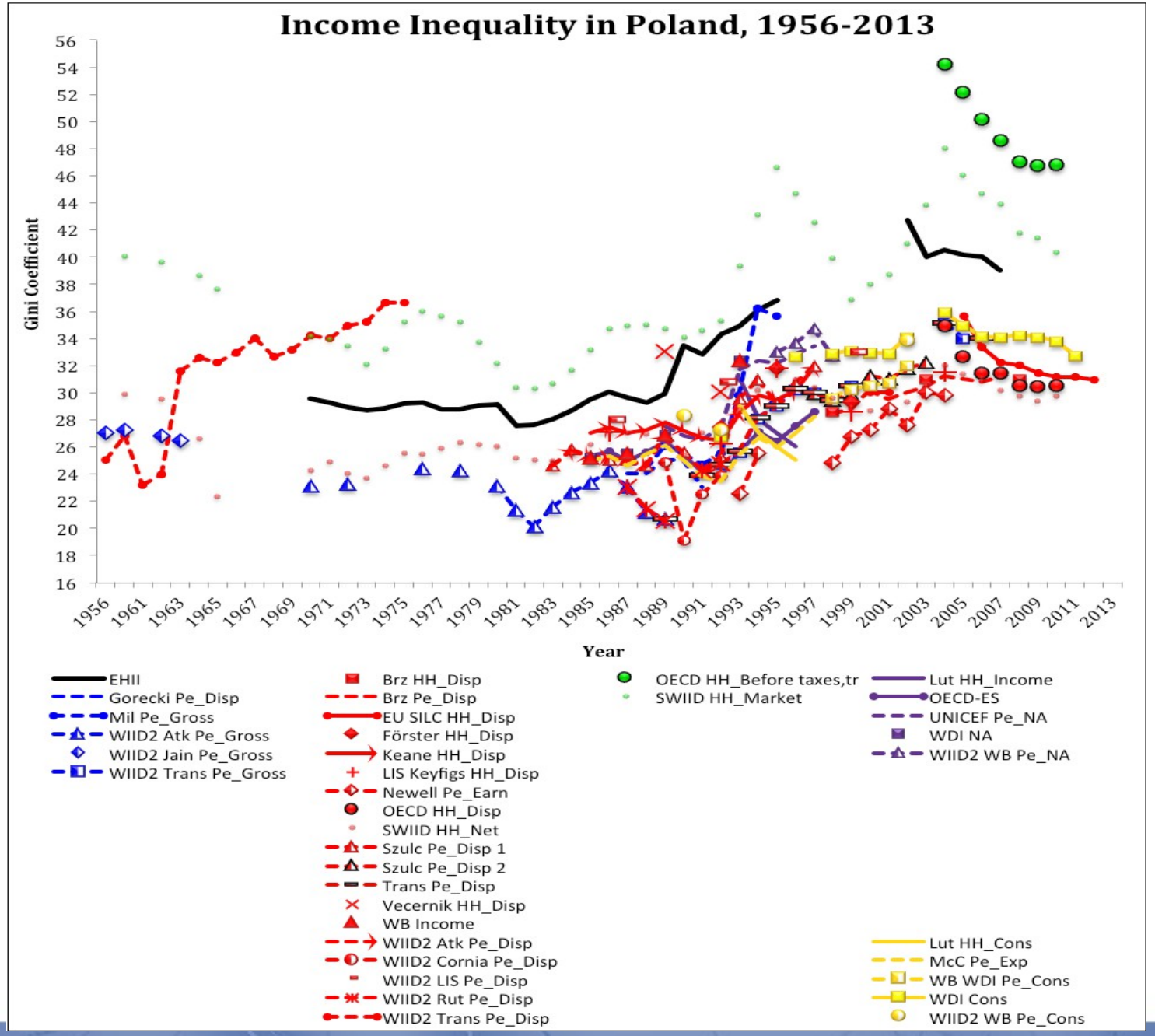
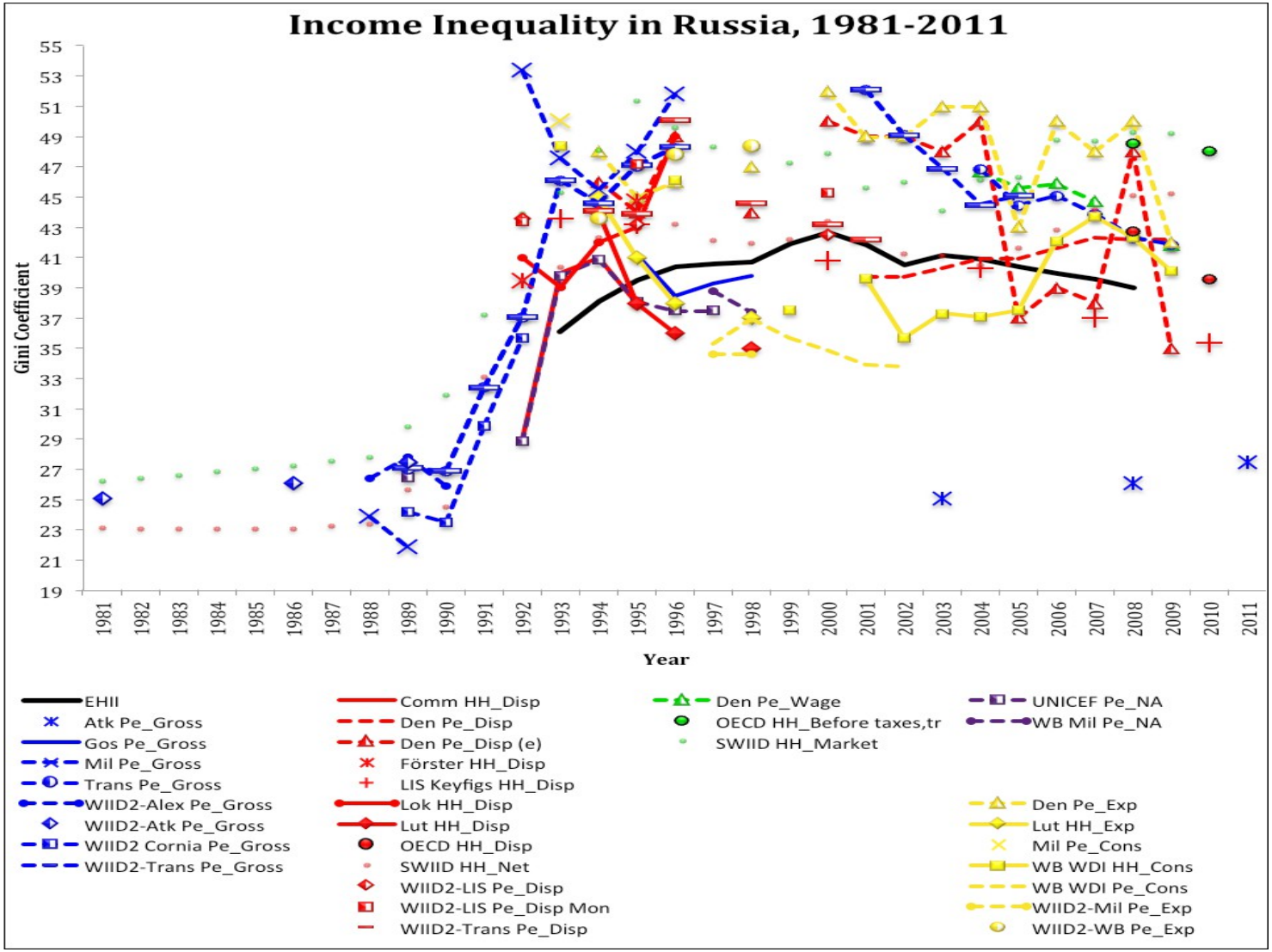
1997
1999
2001
2003
2005
2007
2009
2011
Year
EHII
Kat Pe_Gross
WIID2 Atk Pe_Gross
WIID2 Cornia_Gross
WIID2 D&S Pe_Gross
WIID2 Jain Pe_Gross
WIID2 Vec Pe_Gross
EU SILC HH_Disp
Förster HH_Disp
Kapit Pe_Disp
LIS Keyfigs HH_Disp
Mil Pe_Disp
OECD HH_Disp
SWIID Net
Vec HH_Disp
WIID2 Atk Pe_Disp
WIID2 Cornia_Disp
WIID2 EU Pe_Disp
WIID2 Jain Pe_Disp
WIID2 LIS Pe_Disp
WIID2 LIS Pe_Disp Mon
WIID2 Mil Pe_Disp
WIID2 Trans Pe_Disp
SWIID Market
Andorka HH_NA
Kapit HH_Earn
Kapit HH_Income
Med HH_NA
UNICEF Pe_NA
WDI Income
Kapit HH_Exp
Kapit Pe_Exp
WB WDI Pe_Cons
WDI Cons
WIID2 D&S Pe_Cons


Income Inequality in Poland, 1956-2013
Gini Coefficient
Year
EHII
Gorecki Pe_Disp
Mil Pe_Gross
WIID2 Atk Pe_Gross
WIID2 Jain Pe_Gross
WIID2 Trans Pe_Gross
Brz HH_Disp
Brz Pe_Disp
EU SILC HH_Disp
Förster HH_Disp
Keane HH_Disp
LIS Keyfigs HH_Disp
Newell Pe_Earn
OECD HH_Disp
SWIID HH_Net
Szulc Pe_Disp 1
Szulc Pe_Disp 2
Trans Pe_Disp
Vecernik HH_Disp
WB Income
WIID2 Atk Pe_Disp
WIID2 Cornia Pe_Disp
WIID2 LIS Pe_Disp
WIID2 Rut Pe_Disp
WIID2 Trans Pe_Disp
OECD HH_Before taxes,tr
SWIID HH_Market
Lut HH_Income
OECD-ES
UNICEF Pe_NA
WDI NA
WIID2 WB Pe_NA
Lut HH_Cons
McC Pe_Exp
WB WDI Pe_Cons
WDI Cons
WIID2 WB Pe_Cons


Income Inequality in Russia, 1981-2011
Gini Coefficient
55
53
51
49
47
45
43
41
39
37
35
33
31
29
27
25
23
21
19
1981
1982
1983
1984
1985
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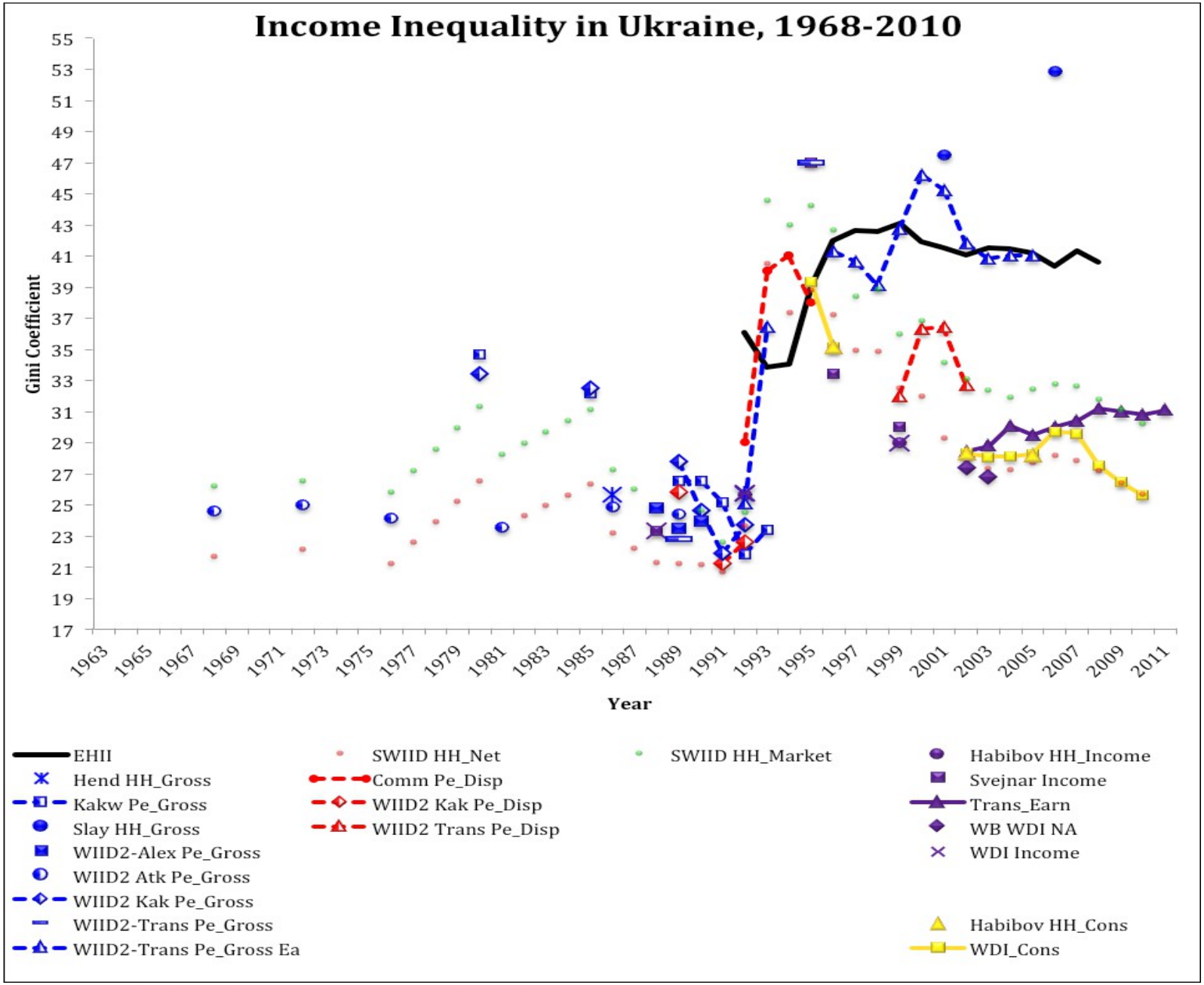
1989
1990
1991
1992
1993
1994
1995
1996
1997
1998
1999
2000
2001
2002
2003
2004
2005
2006
2007
2008
2009
2010
2011
Year
EHII
Atk Pe_Gross
Gos Pe_Gross
Mil Pe_Gross
Trans Pe_Gross
WIID2-Alex Pe_Gross
WIID2-Atk Pe_Gross
WIID2 Cornia Pe_Gross
WIID2-Trans Pe_Gross
Comm HH_Disp
Den Pe_Disp
Den Pe_Disp (e)
Förster HH_Disp
LIS Keyfigs HH_Disp
Lok HH_Disp
Lut HH_Disp
OECD HH_Disp
SWIID HH_Net
WIID2-LIS Pe_Disp
WIID2-LIS Pe_Disp Mon
WIID2-Trans Pe_Disp
Den Pe_Wage
OECD HH_Before taxes,tr
SWIID HH_Market
UNICEF Pe_NA
WB Mil Pe_NA
Den Pe_Exp
Lut HH_Exp
Mil Pe_Cons
WB WDI HH_Cons
WB WDI Pe_Cons
WIID2-Mil Pe_Exp
WIID2-WB Pe_Exp


Income Inequality in Ukraine, 1968-2010
Gini Coefficient
55
53
51
49
47
45
43
41
39
37
35
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29
27
25
23
21
19
17
1963
1965
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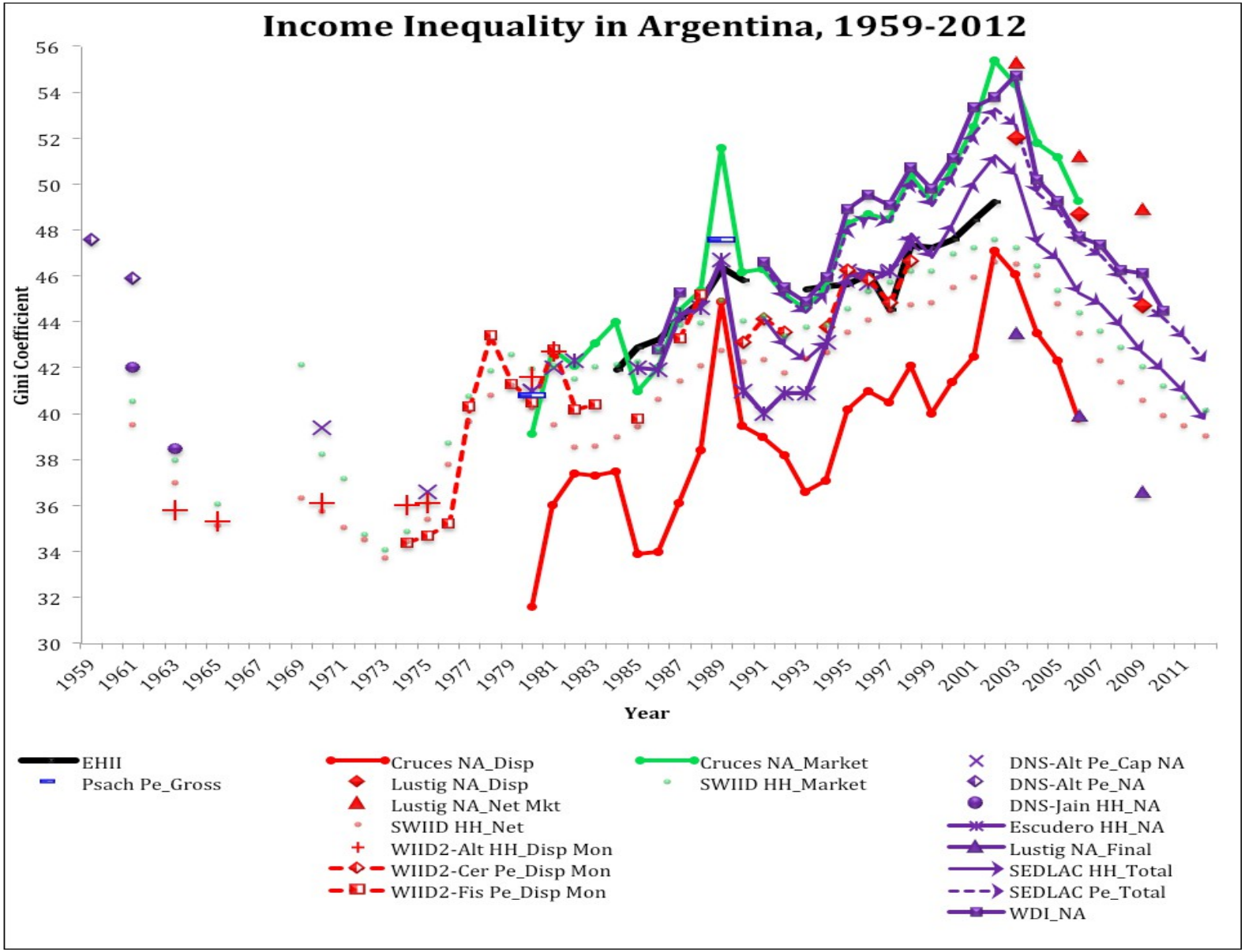
2001
2003
2005
2007
2009
2011
Year
EHII
Hend HH_Gross
Kakw Pe_Gross
Slay HH_Gross
WIID2-Alex Pe_Gross
WIID2 Atk Pe_Gross
WIID2 Kak Pe_Gross
WIID2-Trans Pe_Gross
WIID2-Trans Pe_Gross Ea
SWIID HH_Net
Comm Pe_Disp
WIID2 Kak Pe_Disp
WIID2 Trans Pe_Disp
SWIID HH_Market
Habibov HH_Income
Svejnar Income
Trans_Earn
WB WDI NA
WDI Income
Habibov HH_Cons
WDI_Cons

“Developing Countries”


Income Inequality in Argentina, 1959-2012
Gini Coefficient
56
54
52
50
48
46
44
42
40
38
36
34
32
30
1959
1961
1963
1965
1967
1969
1971
1973
1975
1977
1979
1981
1983
1985
1987
1989
1991
1993
1995
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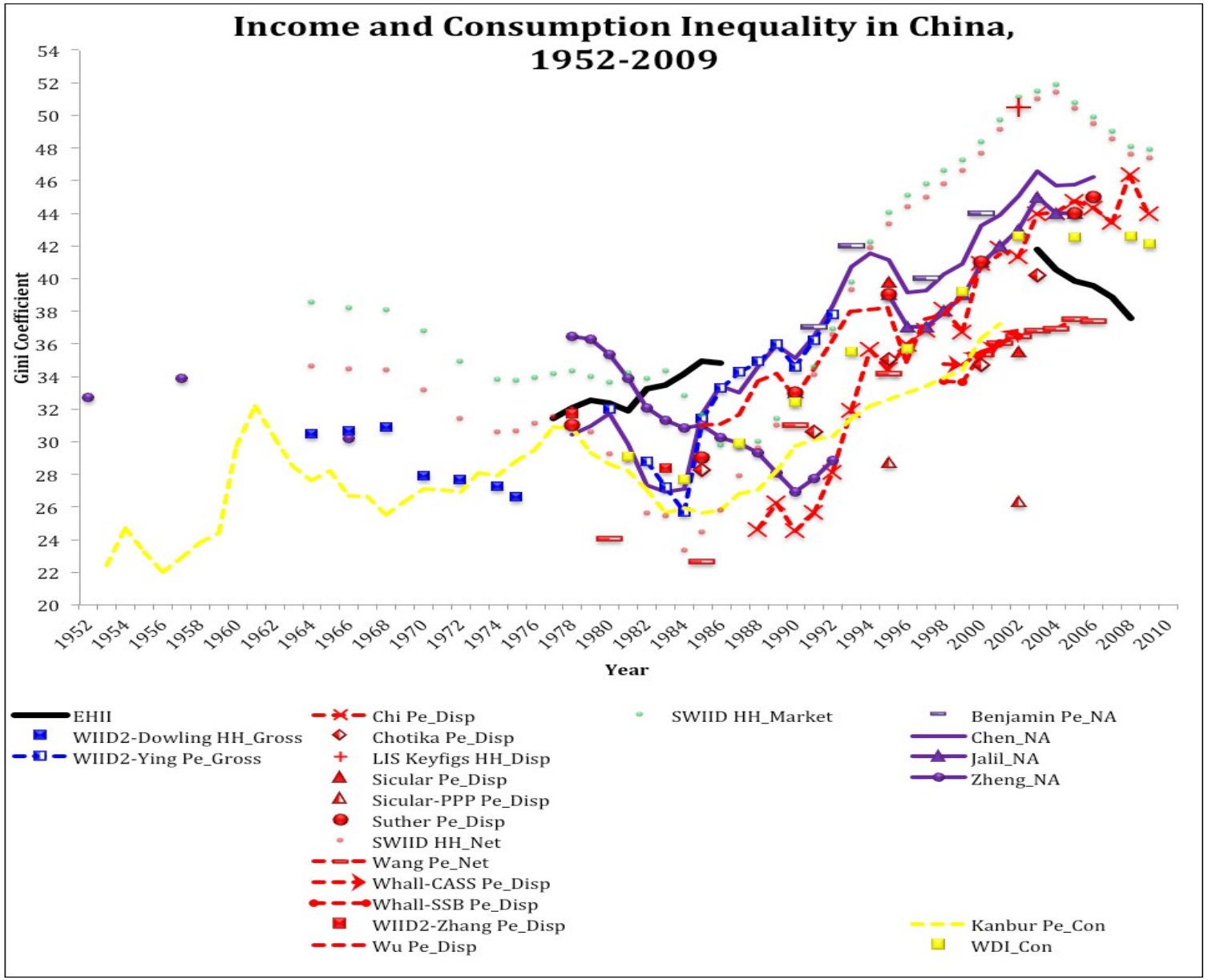
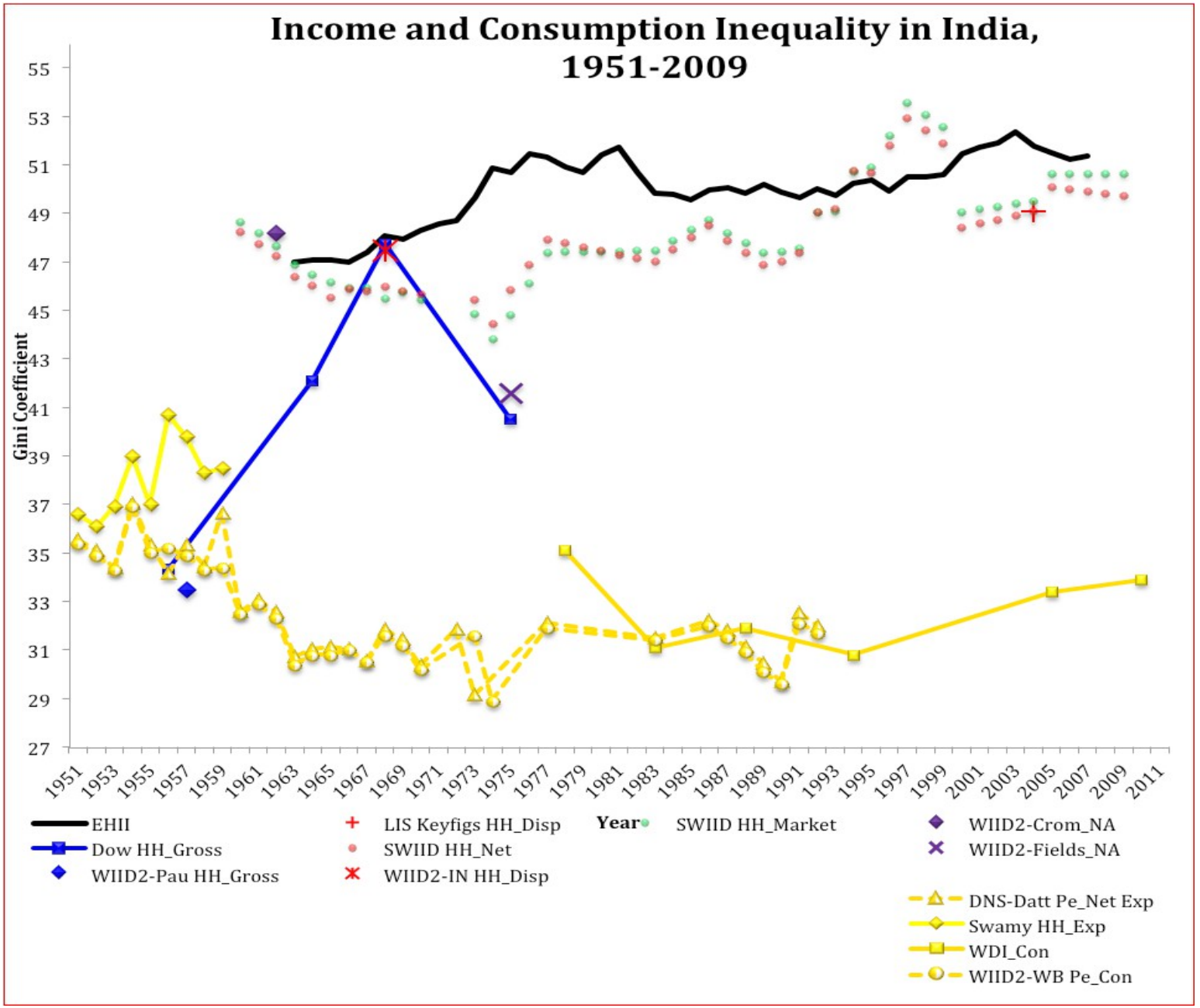
1999
2001
2003
2005
2007
2009
2011
Year
EHII
Psach Pe_Gross
Cruces NA_Disp
Lustig NA_Disp
Lustig NA_Net Mkt
SWIID HH_Net
WIID2-Alt HH_Disp Mon
WIID2-Cer Pe_Disp Mon
WIID2-Fis Pe_Disp Mon
Cruces NA_Market
SWIID HH_Market
DNS-Alt Pe_Cap NA
DNS-Alt Pe_NA
DNS-Jain HH_NA
Escudero HH_NA
Lustig NA_Final
SEDLAC HH_Total
SEDLAC Pe_Total
WDI_NA


Income and Consumption Inequality in China, 1952-2009
Gini Coefficient
Year
EHII
WIID2-Dowling HH_Gross
WIID2-Ying Pe_Gross
Chi Pe_Disp
Chotika Pe_Disp
LIS Keyfigs HH_Disp
Sicular Pe_Disp
Sicular-PPP Pe_Disp
Suther Pe_Disp
SWIID HH_Net
Wang Pe_Net
Whall-CASS Pe_Disp
Whall-SSB Pe_Disp
WIID2-Zhang Pe_Disp
Wu Pe_Disp
SWIID HH_Market
Benjamin Pe_NA
Chen_NA
Jalil_NA
Zheng_NA
Kanbur Pe_Con
WDI_Con


Income and Consumption Inequality in India, 1951-2009
Gini Coefficient
55
53
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49
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41
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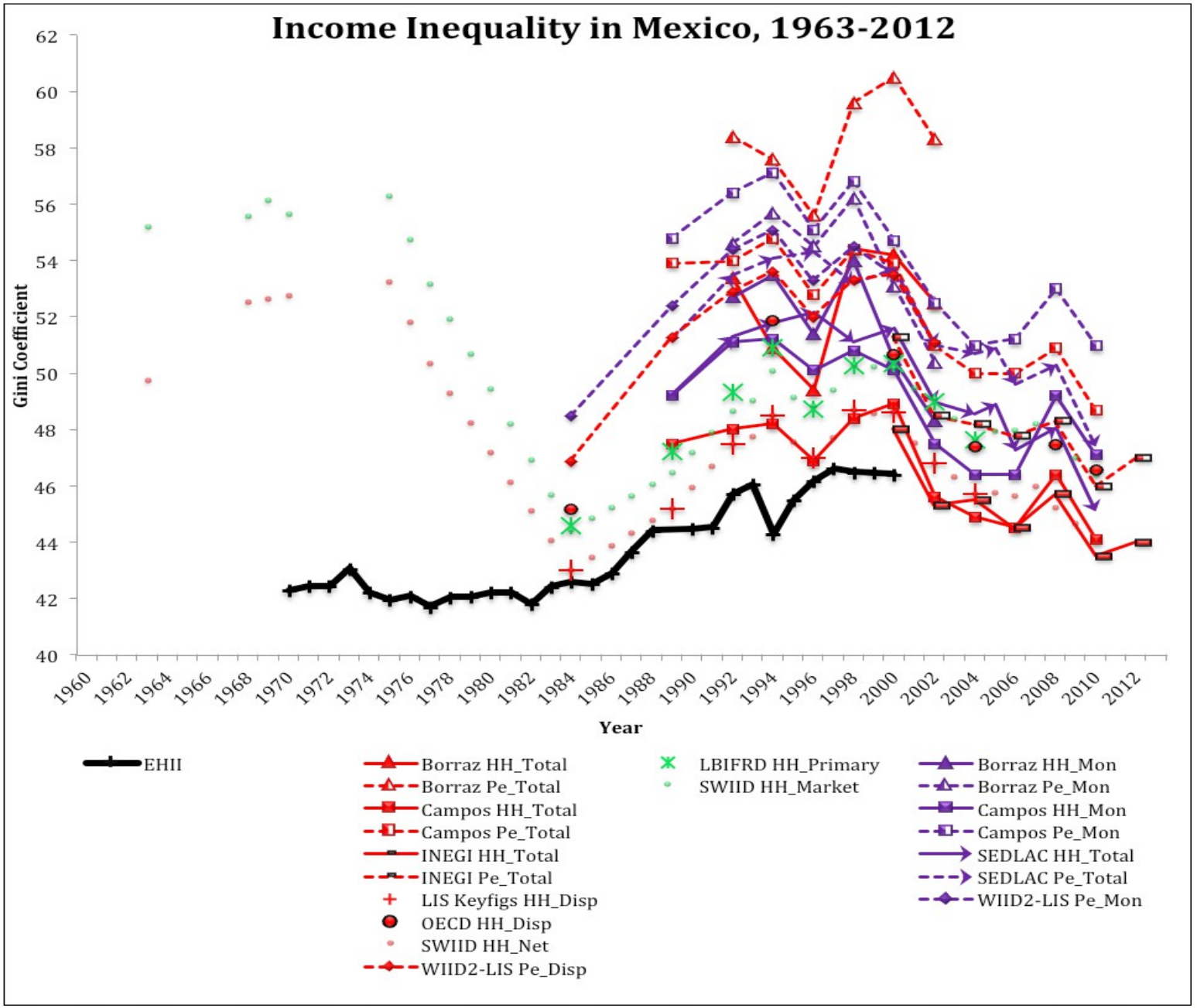
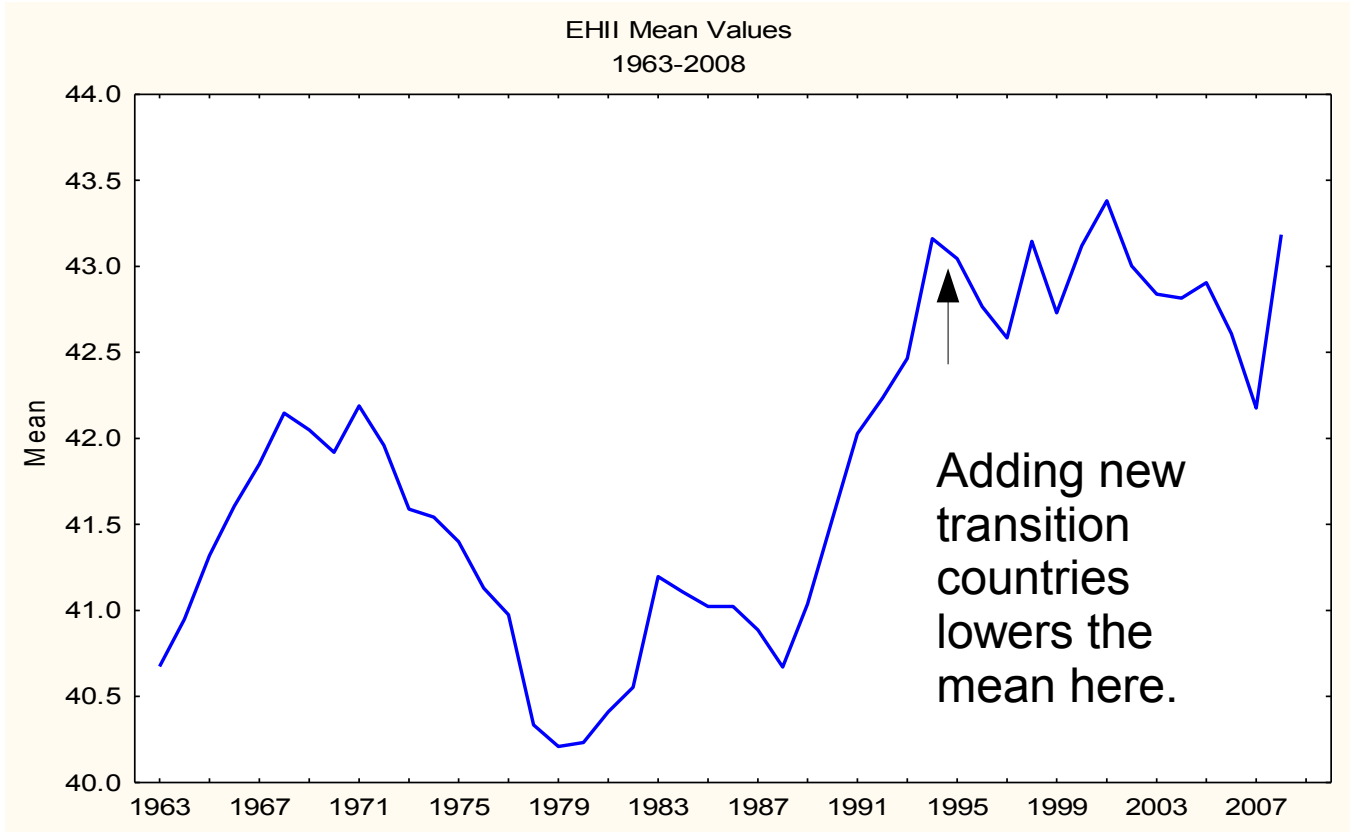
2005
2007
2009
2011
Year
EHII
Dow HH_Gross
WIID2-Pau HH_Gross
LIS Keyfigs HH_Disp
SWIID HH_Net
WIID2-IN HH_Disp
SWIID HH_Market
WIID2-Crom_NA
WIID2-Fields_NA
DNS-Datt Pe_Net Exp
Swamy HH_Exp
WDI_Con
WIID2-WB Pe_Con

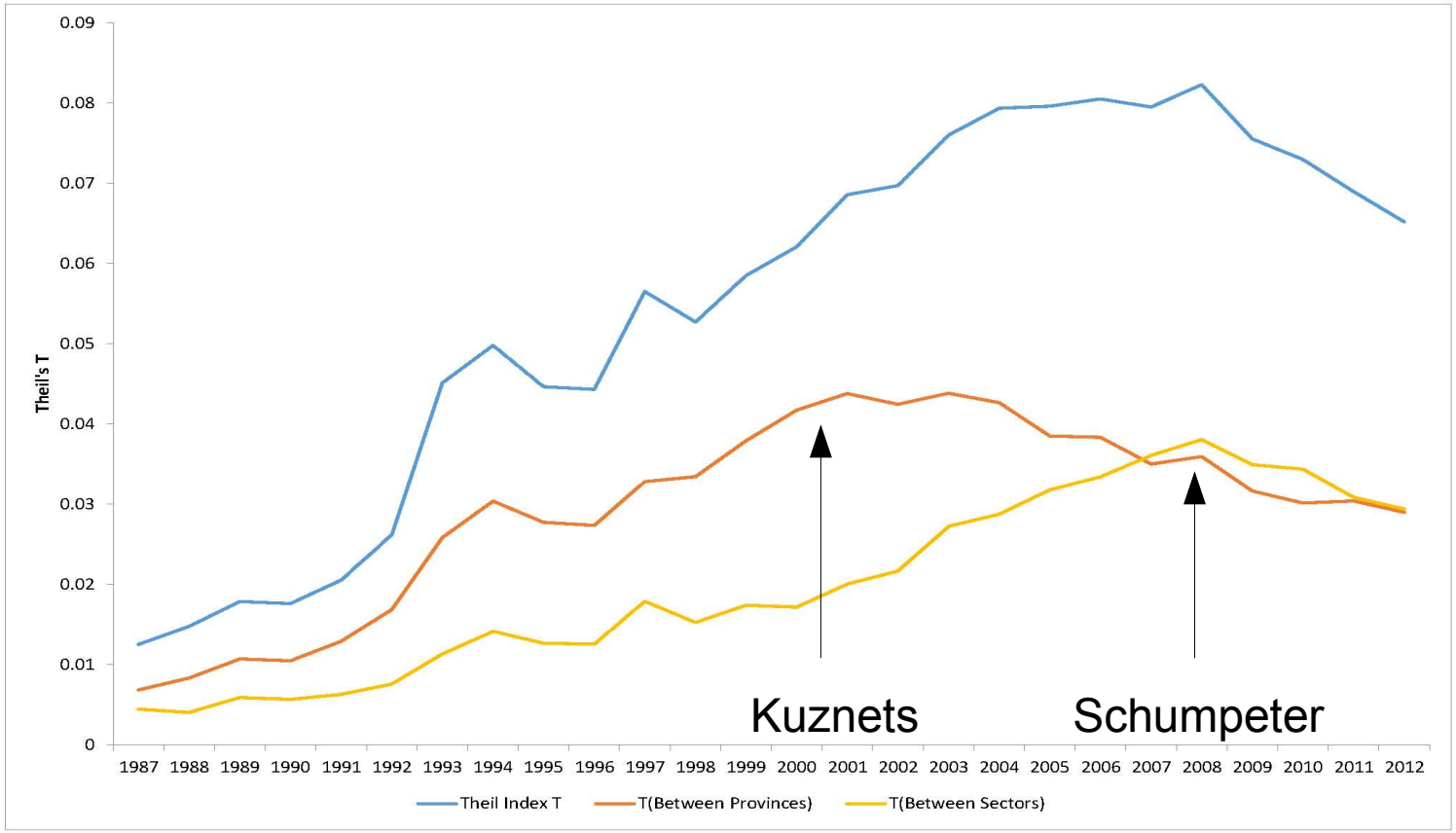

Income Inequality in Mexico, 1963-2012
Gini Coefficient
62
60
58
56
54
52
50
48
46
44
42
40
1960
1962
1964
1966
1968
1970
1972
1974
1976
1978
1980
1982
1984
1986
1988
1990
1992
1994
1996
1998
2000
2002
2004
2006
2008
2010
2012
Year
EHII
Borraz HH_Total
Borraz Pe_Total
Campos HH_Total
Campos Pe_Total
INEGI HH_Total
INEGI Pe_Total
LIS Keyfigs HH_Disp
OECD HH_Disp
SWIID HH_Net
WIID2-LIS Pe_Disp
LBIFRD HH_Primary
SWIID HH_Market
Borraz HH_Mon
Borraz Pe_Mon
Campos HH_Mon
Campos Pe_Mon
SEDLAC HH_Total
SEDLAC Pe_Total
WIID2-LIS Pe_Mon

Global Mean Values

EHII Gini Coefficients



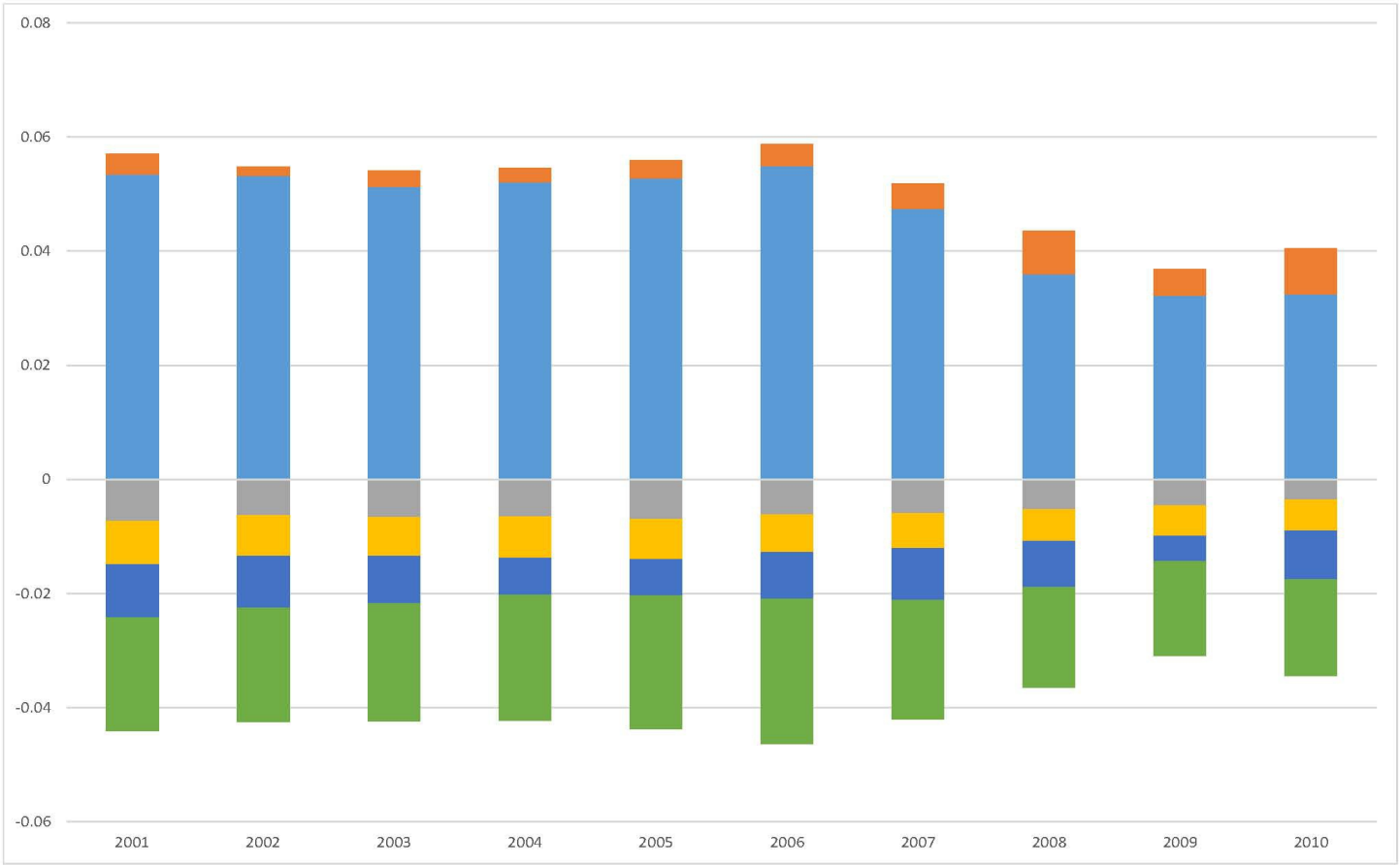
Decomposing Inequality in China



Data from the State Statistical Yearbook
Calculations by UTIP

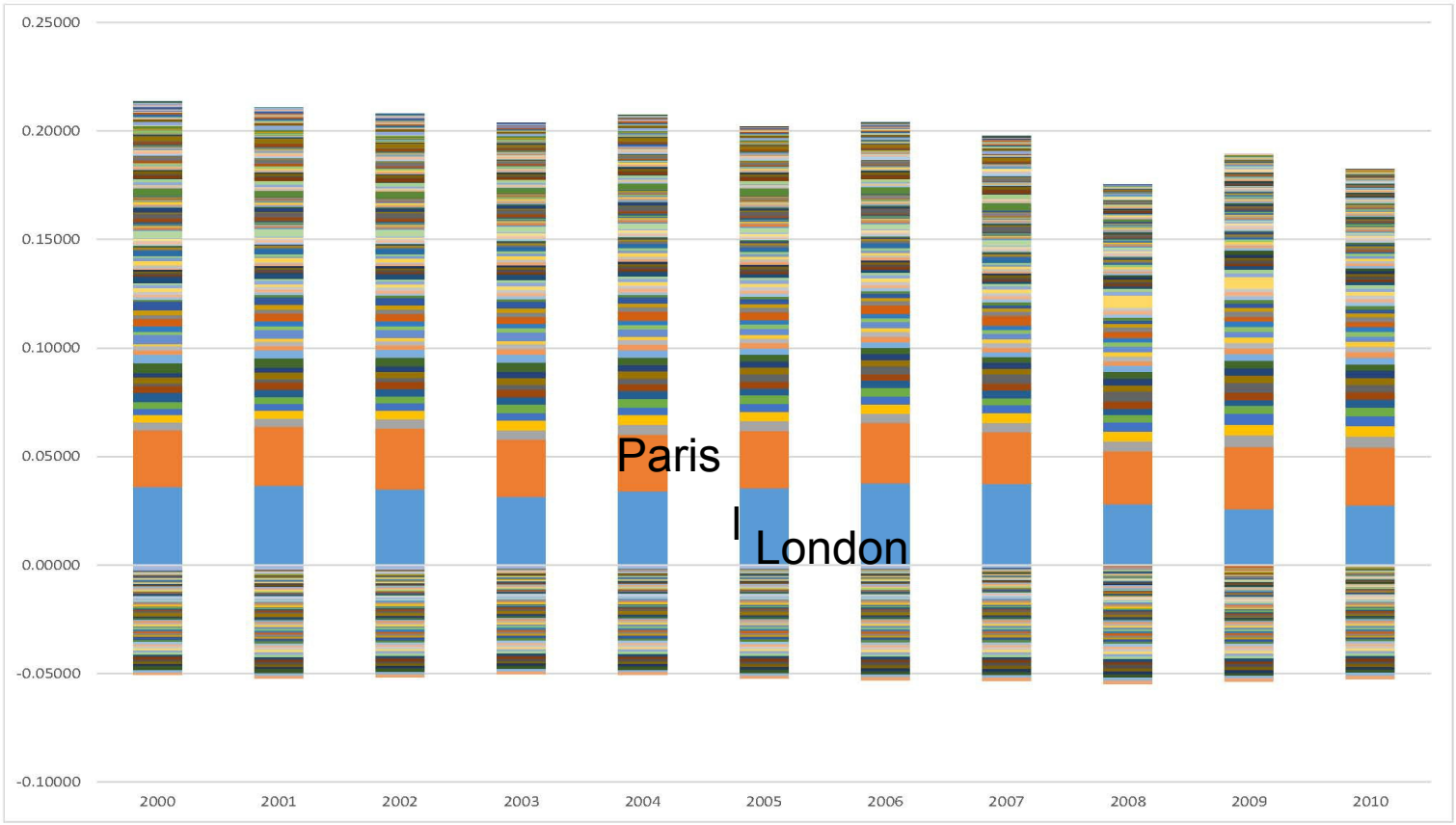
Decomposing Europe by Sector

Blue is for Finance



Decomposing Europe by Region

or, Compared to Everything Else, London and Paris are *Really Rich*



New Evidence from Data on Industrial Pay

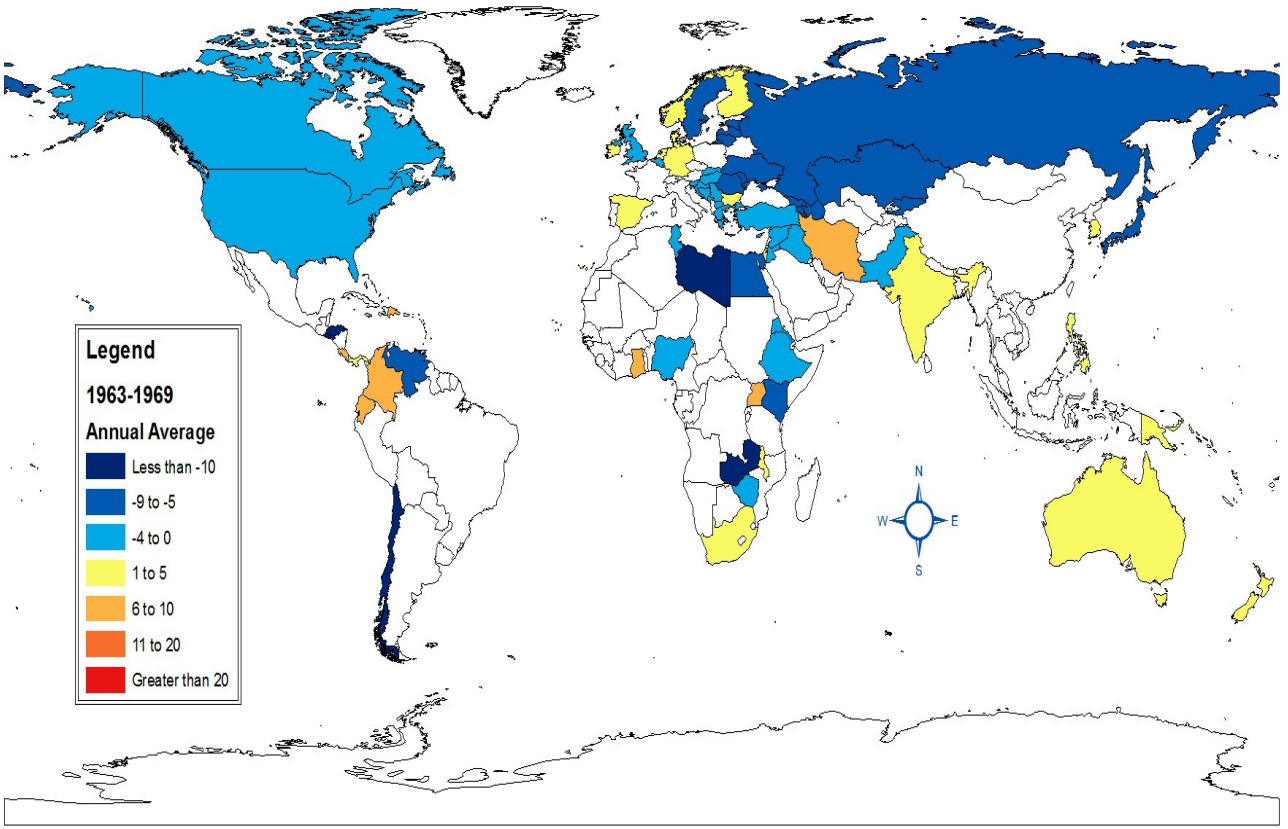
1963-2008

Maps show *changes* in UTIP-UNIDO over six year intervals

Calculated as the Between-Groups Component
of Theil's T Statistic
Across Industrial Categories
from UNIDO
Industrial Statistics

UTIP-UNIDO Theil Coefficients: Annual Rates of Change

1963-1969



1) For the countries of the former USSR, (Azerbaijan, Armenia, Estonia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgystan, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, and Ukraine) data for the USSR was substituted for the years before the breakup.

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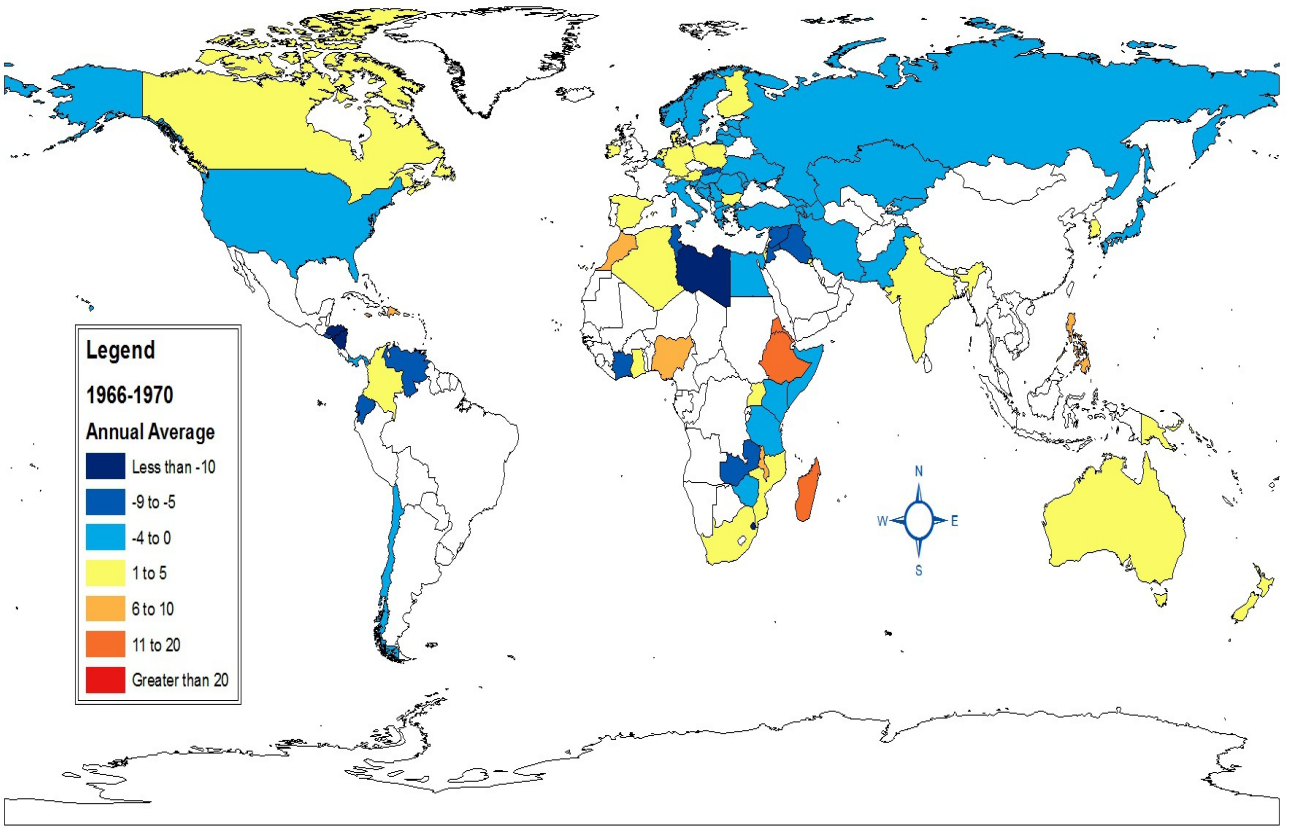
3) For Slovakia, data before 1990 is filled in from Czechoslovakia, since Slovakia only became a country in 1993.

Map by: Aleksandra Malinowska
Data: Amin Shams, Beatrice Halbach, Jaehee Choi, Aleksandra Malinowska

UTIP-UNIDO Theil Coefficients: Annual Rates of Change

1966-1970



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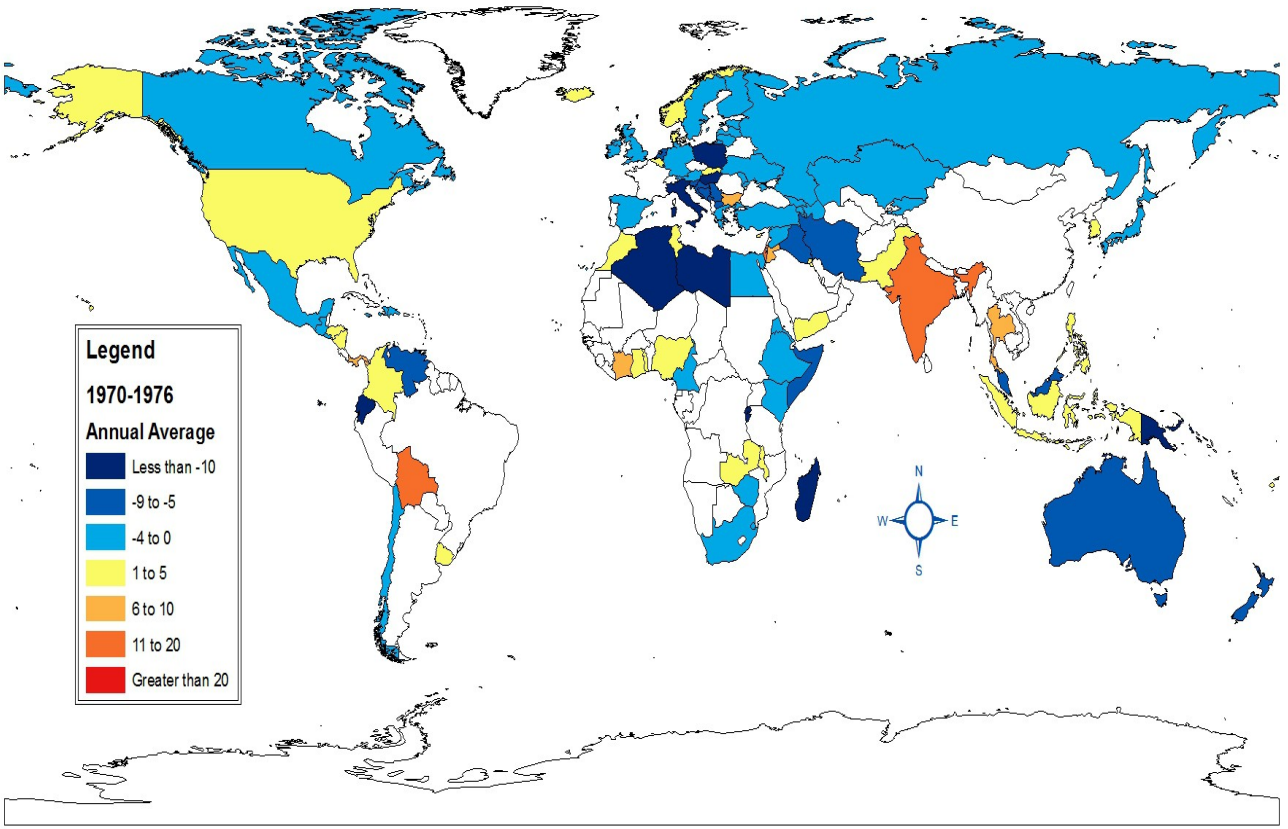
Data: Amin Shams, Beatrice Halbach, Jaehee Choi, Aleksandra Malinowska

UTIP-UNIDO Theil Coefficients: Annual Rates of Change

1970-1976



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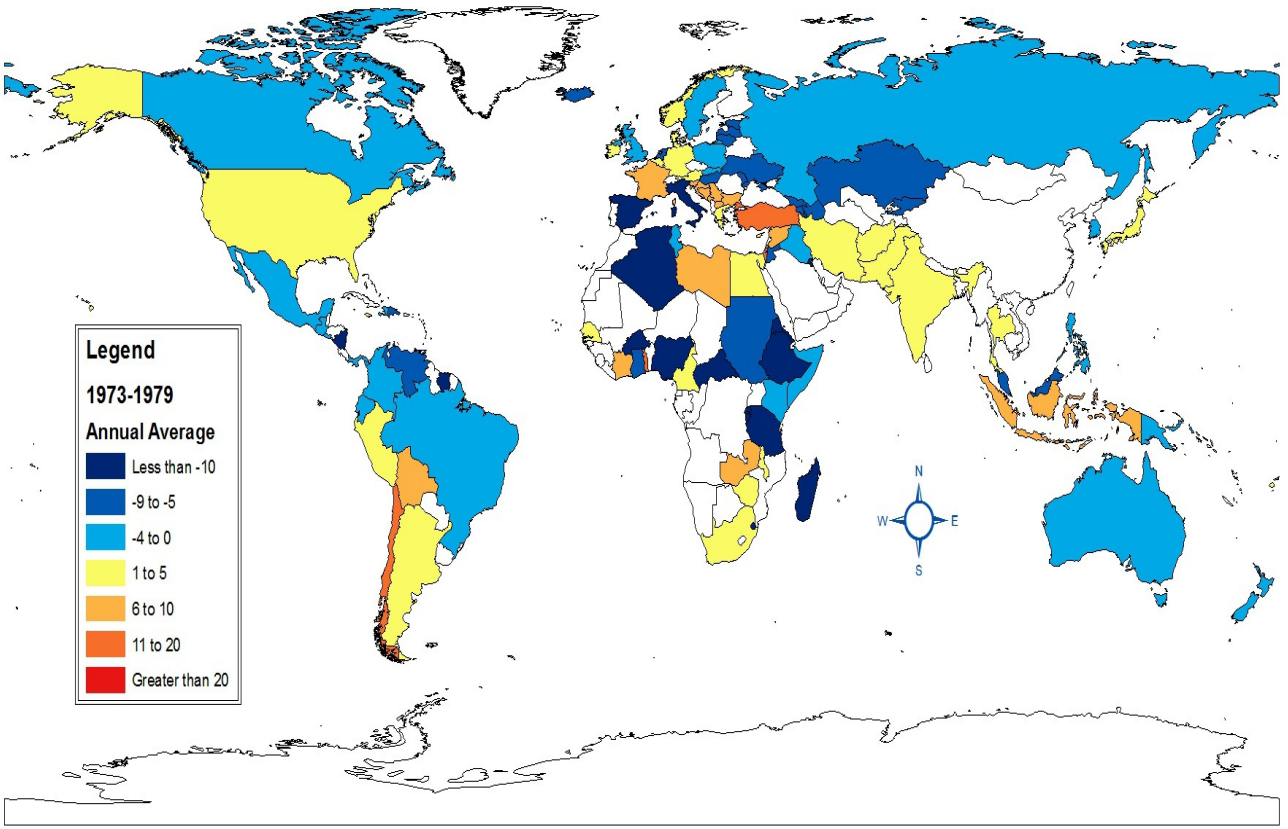
Map by: Aleksandra Malinowska
Data: Amin Shams, Beatrice Halbach, Jaehee Choi, Aleksandra Malinowska

UTIP-UNIDO Theil Coefficients: Annual Rates of Change

1973-1979



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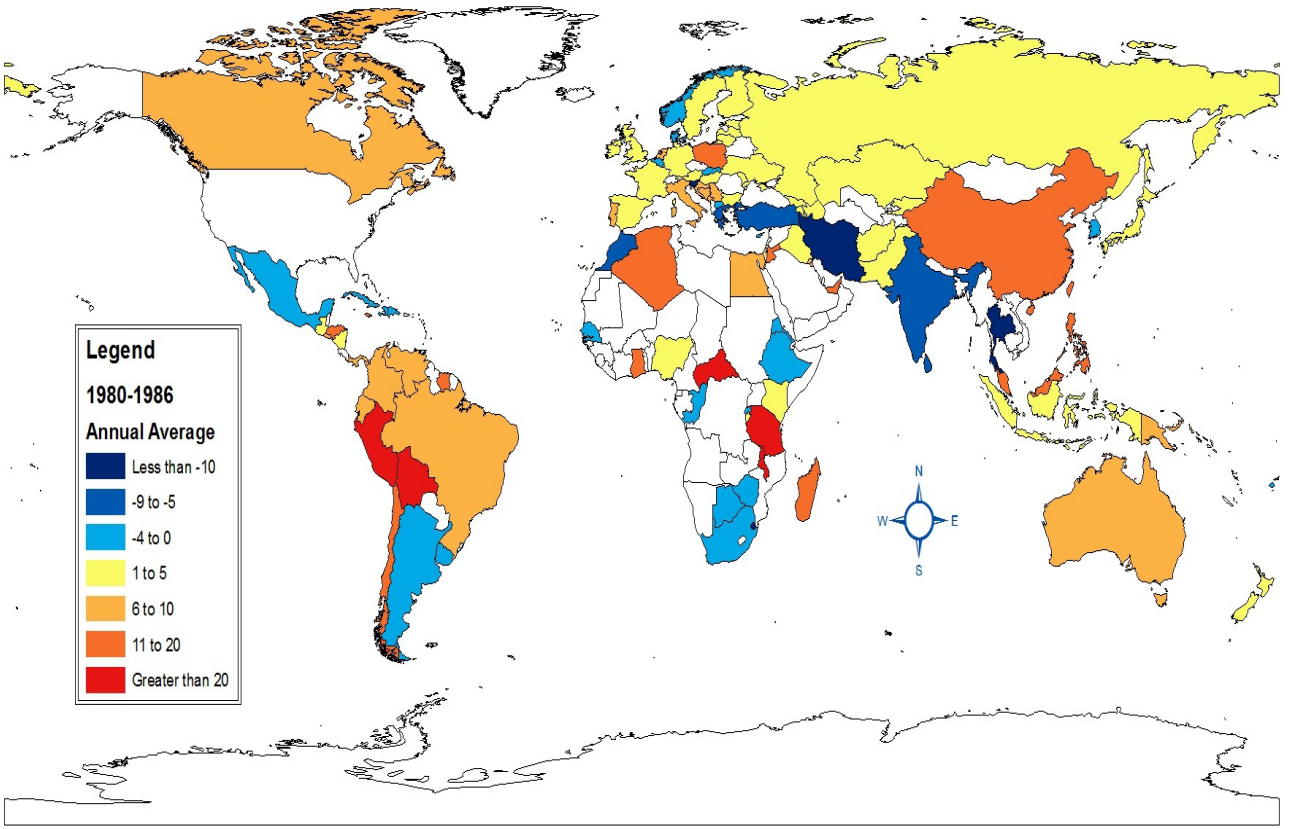
Map by: Aleksandra Malinowska
Data: Amin Shams, Beatrice Halbach, Jaehee Choi, Aleksandra Malinowska

UTIP-UNIDO Theil Coefficients: Annual Rates of Change

1980-1986



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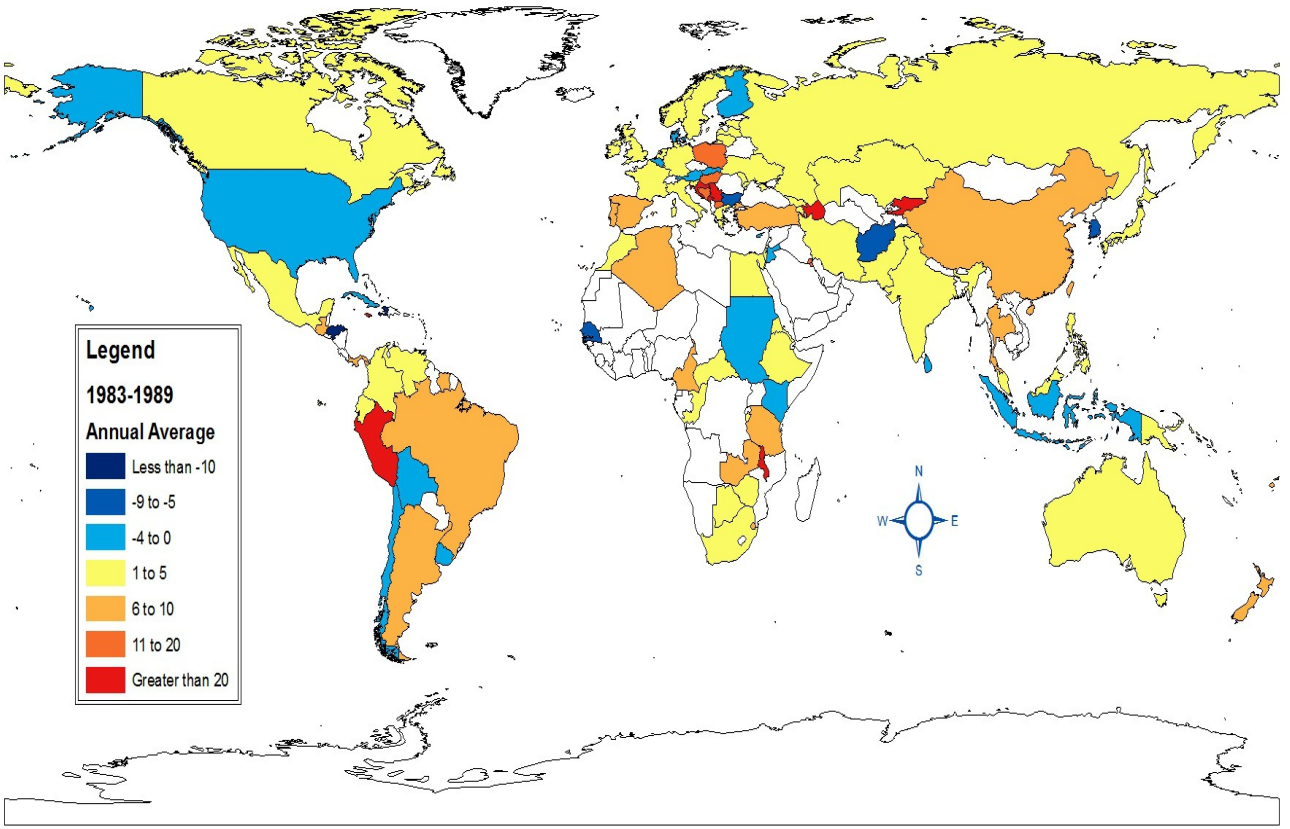
Map by: Aleksandra Malinowska
Data: Amin Shams, Beatrice Halbach, Jaehee Choi, Aleksandra Malinowska

UTIP-UNIDO Theil Coefficients:
Annual Rates of Change

1983-1989



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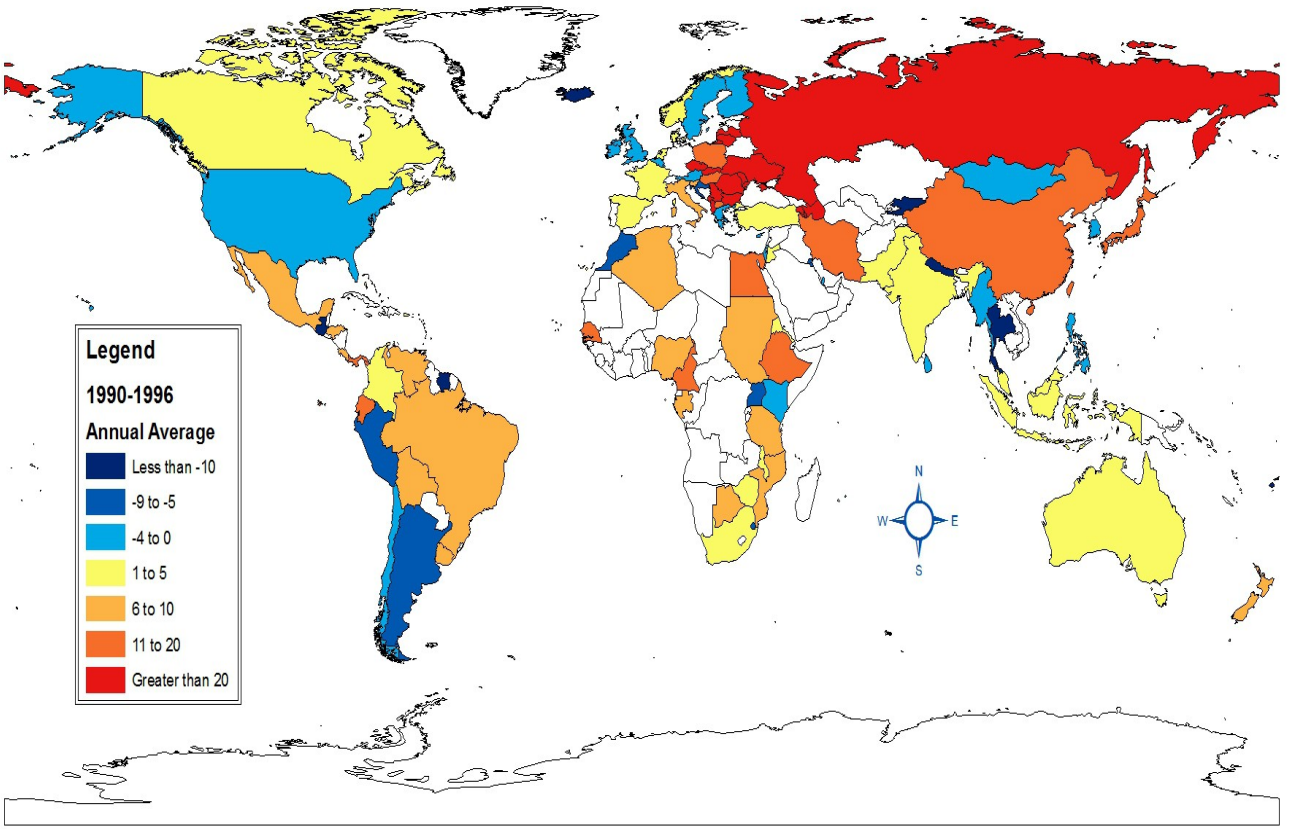
Data: Amin Shams, Beatrice Halbach, Jaehee Choi, Aleksandra Malinowska

UTIP-UNIDO Theil Coefficients:
Annual Rates of Change

1990-1996



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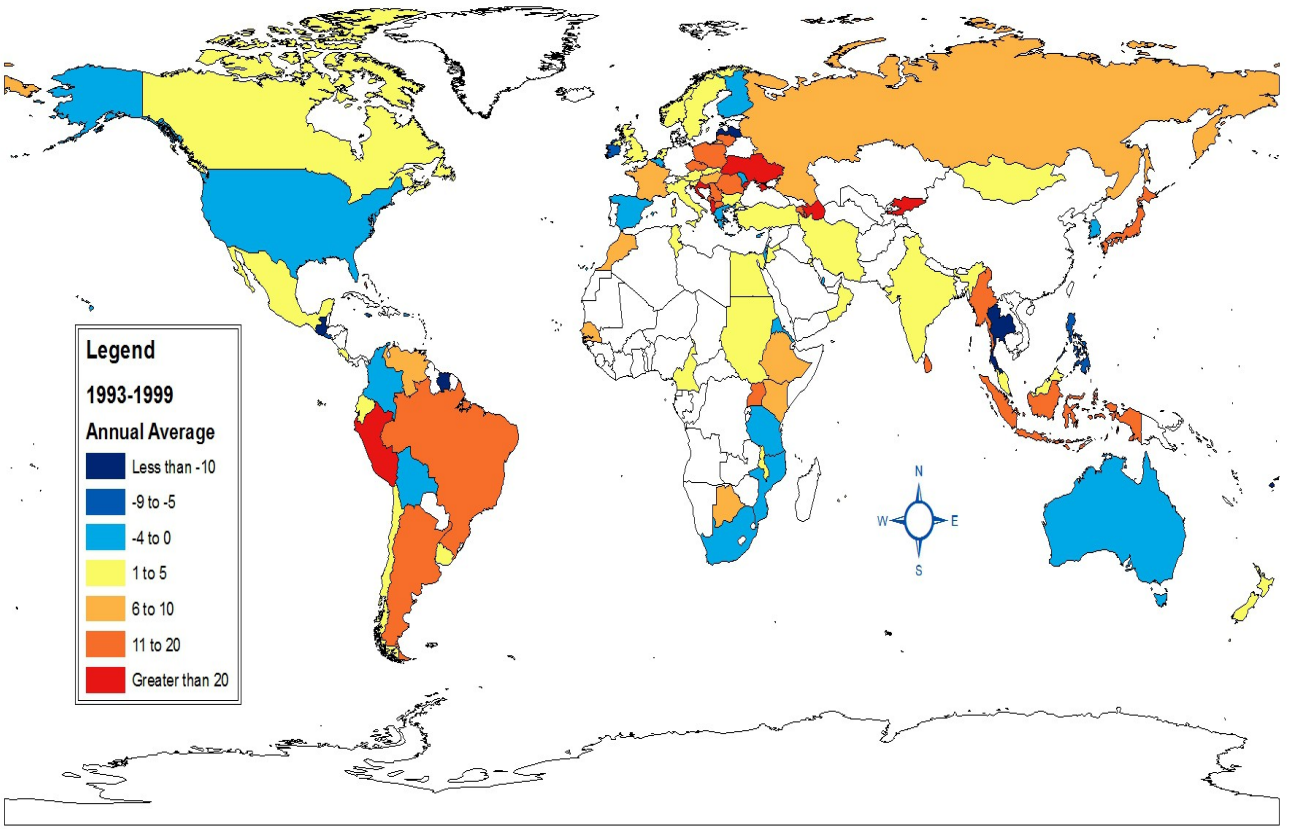
Map by: Aleksandra Malinowska
Data: Amin Shams, Beatrice Halbach, Jaehee Choi, Aleksandra Malinowska

UTIP-UNIDO Theil Coefficients: Annual Rates of Change

1993-1999



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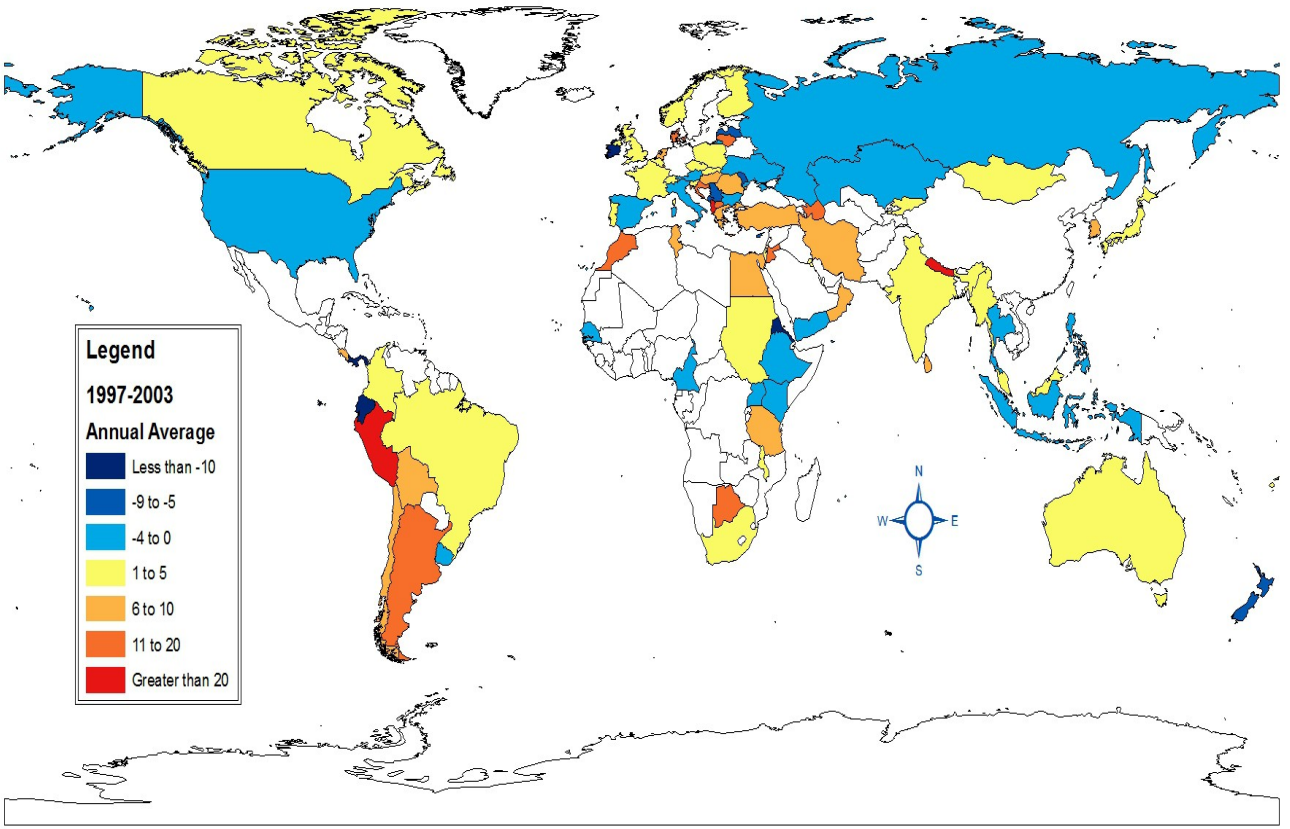
Map by: Aleksandra Malinowska
Data: Amin Shams, Beatrice Halbach, Jaehee Choi, Aleksandra Malinowska

UTIP-UNIDO Theil Coefficients:
Annual Rates of Change

1997-2003



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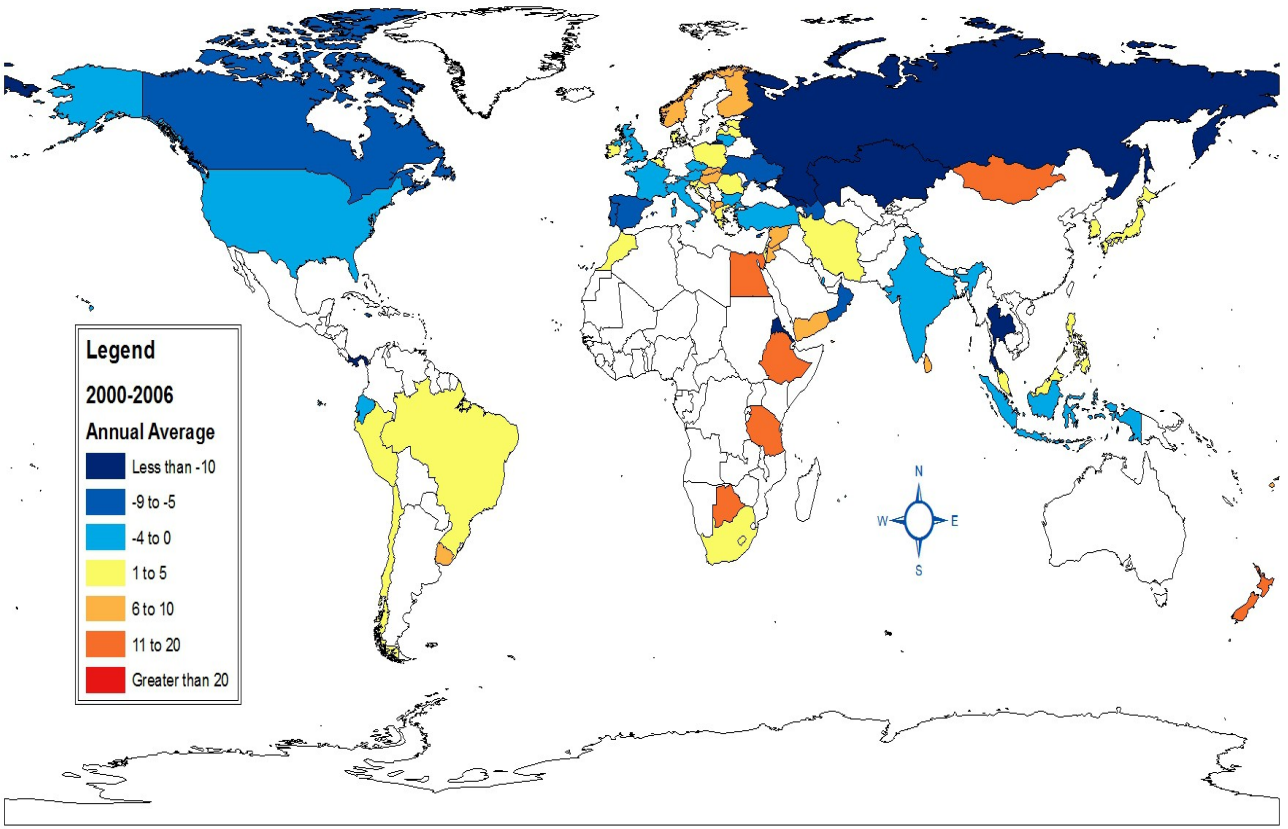
Map by: Aleksandra Malinowska
Data: Amin Shams, Beatrice Halbach, Jaehee Choi, Aleksandra Malinowska

UTIP-UNIDO Theil Coefficients: Annual Rates of Change

2000-2006



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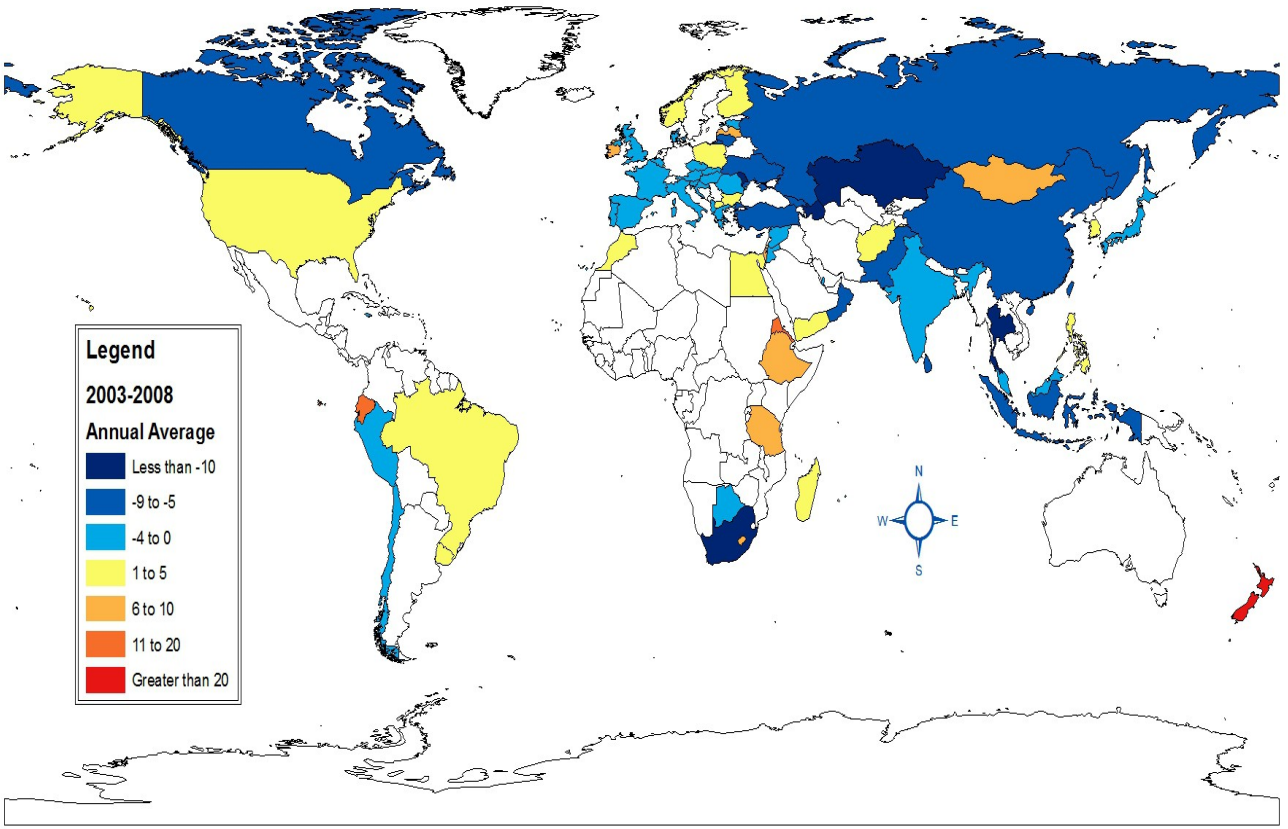
Map by: Aleksandra Malinowska
Data: Amin Shams, Beatrice Halbach, Jaehee Choi, Aleksandra Malinowska

UTIP-UNIDO Theil Coefficients: Annual Rates of Change

2003-2008



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Map by: Aleksandra Malinowska
Data: Amin Shams, Beatrice Halbach, Jaehee Choi, Aleksandra Malinowska

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