

Japan Estimates of Top Income Shares: Update up to 2010

Facundo Alvaredo, Chiaki Moriguchi
and Emmanuel Saez

October 2012



Japan estimates of top income shares: update up to 2010

Authors: Facundo Alvaredo, Chiaki Moriguchi and Emmanuel Saez

Methodological Notes

1) We have extended the top income share series (excluding capital gains) to cover, annually, 2006-2010 (the previous series arrived up to 2005). We have also estimated the income share accruing to the top 10% and the top 0.05% for 1947-2010.

2) We have adjusted the previous estimates (excluding capital gains) for 2001-2005, due to downward revisions in National Accounts numbers. The nominal income control is now 1.4%-2.7% lower for these years.

3) Changes in estimates for 2005 are also due to the availability of more detailed income tax tabulations: between 1972 and 2005, the top open income interval starts at 50 million Yens, while between 2005 and 2010, information above 50 million Yens is given in eight intervals, the top open bracket starting at 10 billion Yens.

For a comparison of the previous and updated series (excluding capital gains) 2001-2010, see Table 1.

4) We have added the series referring to income *including reported capital gains* for 1947-2010 (top shares, average incomes, income thresholds).

5) The methodology follows exactly the same procedures described in detail in Moriguchi and Saez (2010).

6) Raw income tax data sources (links may change):

2006: Appendix to Table 2 at

<http://www.nta.go.jp/kohyo/tokei/kokuzeicho/shinkokuhyohon2006/hyouhon.htm>

2007: Table 2 lower panel (no Appendix from 2007 onwards) at

<http://www.nta.go.jp/kohyo/tokei/kokuzeicho/shinkokuhyohon2007/hyouhon.htm>

2008: Table 2 top panel at

<http://www.nta.go.jp/kohyo/tokei/kokuzeicho/shinkokuhyohon2008/hyouhon.htm>

2009: Table 2 top panel at

<http://www.nta.go.jp/kohyo/tokei/kokuzeicho/shinkokuhyohon2009/hyouhon.htm>

2010: Table 2 top panel at

<http://www.nta.go.jp/kohyo/tokei/kokuzeicho/shinkokuhyohon2010/hyouhon.htm>

Reference

Moriguchi, Chiaki and Saez, Emmanuel (2010). The Evolution of Income Concentration in Japan 1886-2005; in Atkinson, A. B. and Piketty, T. (editors) *Top Incomes: A Global Perspective*, Oxford University Press, chapter 3, pp. 76-170.

Table 1. Comparison between previous and revised series. Japan (19 October 2012)^(a)

year	Income control		Number of tax units		series excluding capital gains													
	Nominal billion previous	yens revised	(000) previous	(000) revised	Top 10% income share	Top 5% income share	Top 1% income share	Top 0.5% income share %	Top 0.1% income share	Top 0.05% income share	Top 0.01% income share	Top 10% income share	Top 5% income share	Top 1% income share	Top 0.5% income share %	Top 0.1% income share	Top 0.05% income share	Top 0.01% income share
2001	267,029	263,347	101,642	101,642		24.16	8.49	5.55	2.14			38.69	24.49	8.61	5.63	2.17	1.44	0.61
2002	257,286	251,801	102,175	102,175		24.60	8.65	5.64	2.16		0.60	39.65	25.03	8.73	5.66	2.11	1.37	0.56
2003	254,889	249,783	102,724	102,724		24.96	8.75	5.70	2.16		0.60	40.17	25.47	8.92	5.81	2.20	1.43	0.61
2004	254,043	247,126	103,281	103,281		25.29	9.04	5.92	2.32		0.69	40.77	25.99	9.29	6.08	2.38	1.59	0.71
2005	256,749	250,478	103,830	103,830		25.33	9.20	6.07	2.40		0.80	40.56	25.96	9.42	6.22	2.48	1.68	0.70
2006		251,729		103,910								40.81	26.29	9.62	6.38	2.60	1.78	0.76
2007		253,104		104,196								41.03	26.39	9.64	6.40	2.62	1.77	0.76
2008		250,388		104,360								40.94	26.37	9.71	6.45	2.63	1.77	0.73
2009		236,564		104,421								40.32	25.98	9.56	6.38	2.55	1.72	0.71
2010		237,053		105,126								40.50	25.98	9.51	6.32	2.52	1.70	0.68

Note:

(a) Differences in series in grey.