

# Data and methodologies Session

Tuesday 17° March

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Spring school in Political Economy  
of production and labour



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# In this presentation

- Comparative data on inequality and poverty
- Micro-data (Household surveys)
- Wages
- Focus on retrospective data and background information



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# UNDP: Poverty and Inequality

- Tool linked to 17 SGD goals
- Data Explorer <https://data.undp.org/poverty-and-inequality>
  - With data from different sources: FAO, EC, ILO, IMF, WB, WHO, UN bodies...
  - Own data (e.g., inequality-adjusted HDI) + ILO, WID, etc.



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# WID: World Inequality Database

- The most extensive available database on the historical evolution of the world distribution of income and wealth, both within and between countries <https://wid.world/>
- Great methodology section <https://wid.world/methodology/>
  - Also reports, working papers, notes, briefs, etc. <https://wid.world/methodology/#library-key-reports>
- Data <https://wid.world/data/>
- Stata package to get WID data 'ssc install wid'
- the long-run objective is the production of annual Distributional National Accounts describing the entire distribution of income and wealth, from bottom to top, using concepts consistent with macroeconomic national accounts – will be implemented gradually.
- WID includes series for the distribution of income (pre-tax and post-tax), wealth, labor income by gender for all countries in the world—series are imperfect and provisional (some w/ imputations).



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# GC Wealth Project: Stone Center on Socio-Economic Inequality

- <https://wealthproject.gc.cuny.edu/>
- Wealth topography
  - Wealth composition: assets and debt
  - Financial and business assets
  - Wealth Inequality Trends
  - Estate, Inheritance and Gift Taxes
- Several indicators, longitudinal, multi-country, multi-source
  - Country view
  - Source comparison
  - Country comparison



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# Our world in data: a meta-source to rule them all?

- Our World in Data's mission is to publish the “research and data to make progress against the world's largest problems”.
- <https://ourworldindata.org/about>
- Browse by topic -> population and demographic change; poverty and economic development; living conditions, community, and well-being; innovation and technological change; food and agriculture; energy and environment...



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# Household survey data

- Eurostat: EU-SILC, LFS, HBS
- ECB: HFCS
- Luxembourg Income Study: LIS/LWS
- Bank of Italy: SHIW
- Panel studies: PSID, SOEP, CNEF



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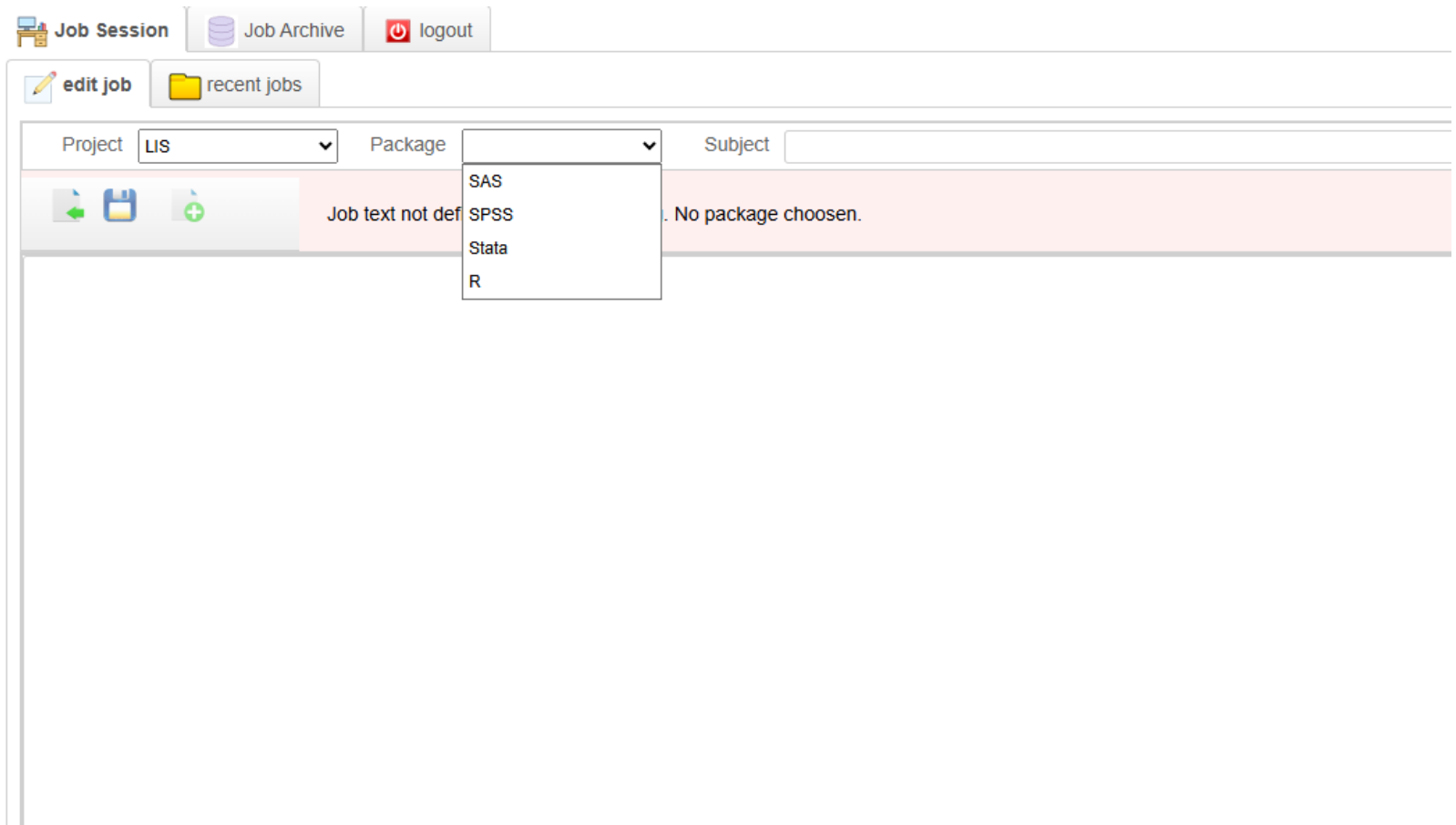
# LIS/LWS: Luxembourg Income/Wealth Study

- <https://www.lisdatacenter.org/our-data/lis-database/>
- <https://dart.lisdatacenter.org/>
  - LIS: the largest available harmonised income micro-database with 881 datasets from 53 countries
  - LWS: the first cross-national wealth database in existence with 103 datasets from 20 countries
  - ERF-LIS Database: harmonized income/consumption micro-database combining LIS and Economic Research Forum (ERF) data, including 28 datasets from 7 countries
  - Play, customize and viz (trends, scatter plots, distributions, maps) but you can't download the raw data



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# Using LIS data with Lissy



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# EU-SILC (EU Statistics on Income and Living Conditions)

- <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/microdata/european-union-statistics-on-income-and-living-conditions>
- EU-SILC provides two types of data:
  - cross-sectional data over a given time or a certain period with variables on income, poverty, social exclusion, and other living conditions
  - longitudinal data on individual-level changes over time, observed periodically over a 4-year period.
- Information on social exclusion and housing conditions is collected mainly at the household level. Labour, education, and health information is obtained from individuals aged 16 and over. Income variables at the detailed component level are also mainly collected from individuals.
- Data availability -> Eurostat  
[https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/main/data/database?node\\_code=livcon](https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/main/data/database?node_code=livcon)



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# Data on wages in Italy (INPS)

- INPS- VisitINPS, accessible with a research project: universe of private employees careers
- LOSAI: 24 birth dates of employees = 7% Random sample of universe of private employees
- CICO (*Comunicazioni Obbligatorie*): collects information on a sample of contracts activated and terminated between 2009 and the second quarter of 2020 for public- and private-sector workers, farming and domestic workers. For each contract, we have information on the exact start date and, if the contract ends, on the end date and the reason for its ending.



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# Low-paid workers in Italy

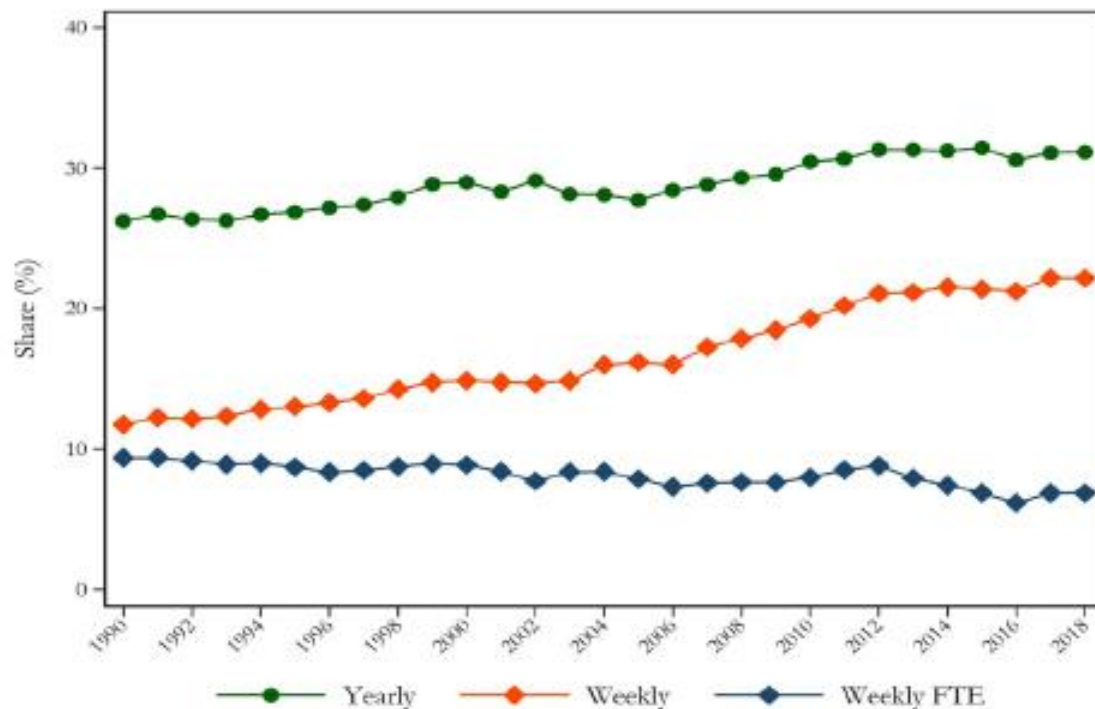


Fig. 4. Share of employees in the private sector earning less than 60 % of the median wage

Source: elaborations on INPS-LOSAI data.

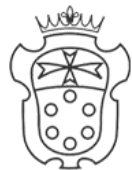


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Source: Bavaro and Raitano (2024)

# EU-SILC: retrospective data

- Retrospective module: included in 2005, 2011, 2019 and 2023. Specially-designed set of questions about family background/childhood circumstances
- Only limited information on parents' occupation was collected in 2023 and on the family's exposure to economic deprivation in 2005 and 2011
- Retrospective questions are asked of respondents between 25 and 59 years old referring to the conditions of their father or mother or more generically their household when they were around 14 years old



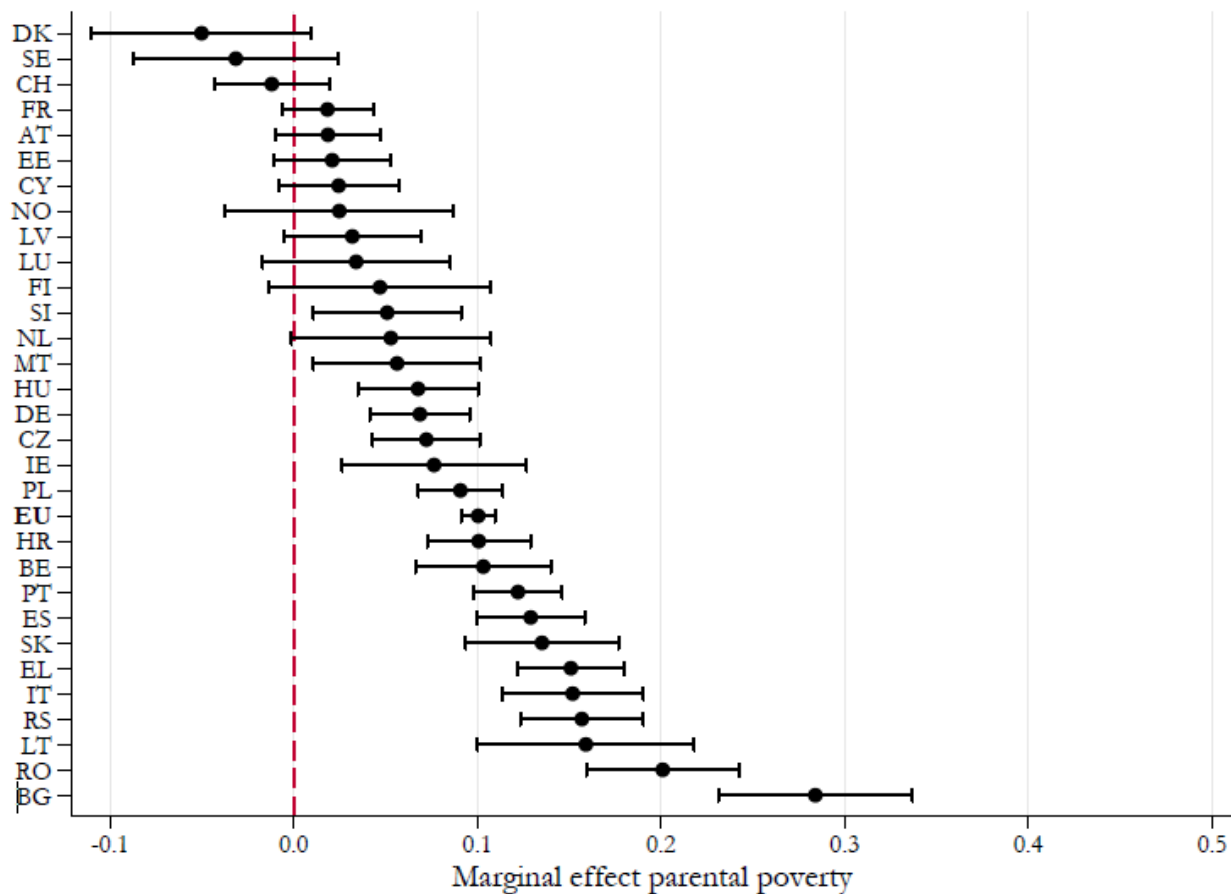
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- Financial hardship: Financial situation of the parental household (Verybad/Bad/Moderately bad/Moderately good/Good/Very good).
- Deprivation in basic needs (three items): Basic school needs (books and equipment for school) met; Having daily meal with meat, chicken, fish(or vegetarian equivalent); One week of annual holiday away from home
- Education: Highest level of education attained distinguishing 3 levels: low (less than primary, primary or lower secondary), medium (upper secondary and post-secondary non-tertiary), high (short-cycle tertiary, bachelor's or equivalent, master's or equivalent, doctoral or equivalent)
- Employment and occupation information of both parents: can be combined to obtain 9-categories ESEC (European Socio-economic Classification; Rose and Harrison (2014))



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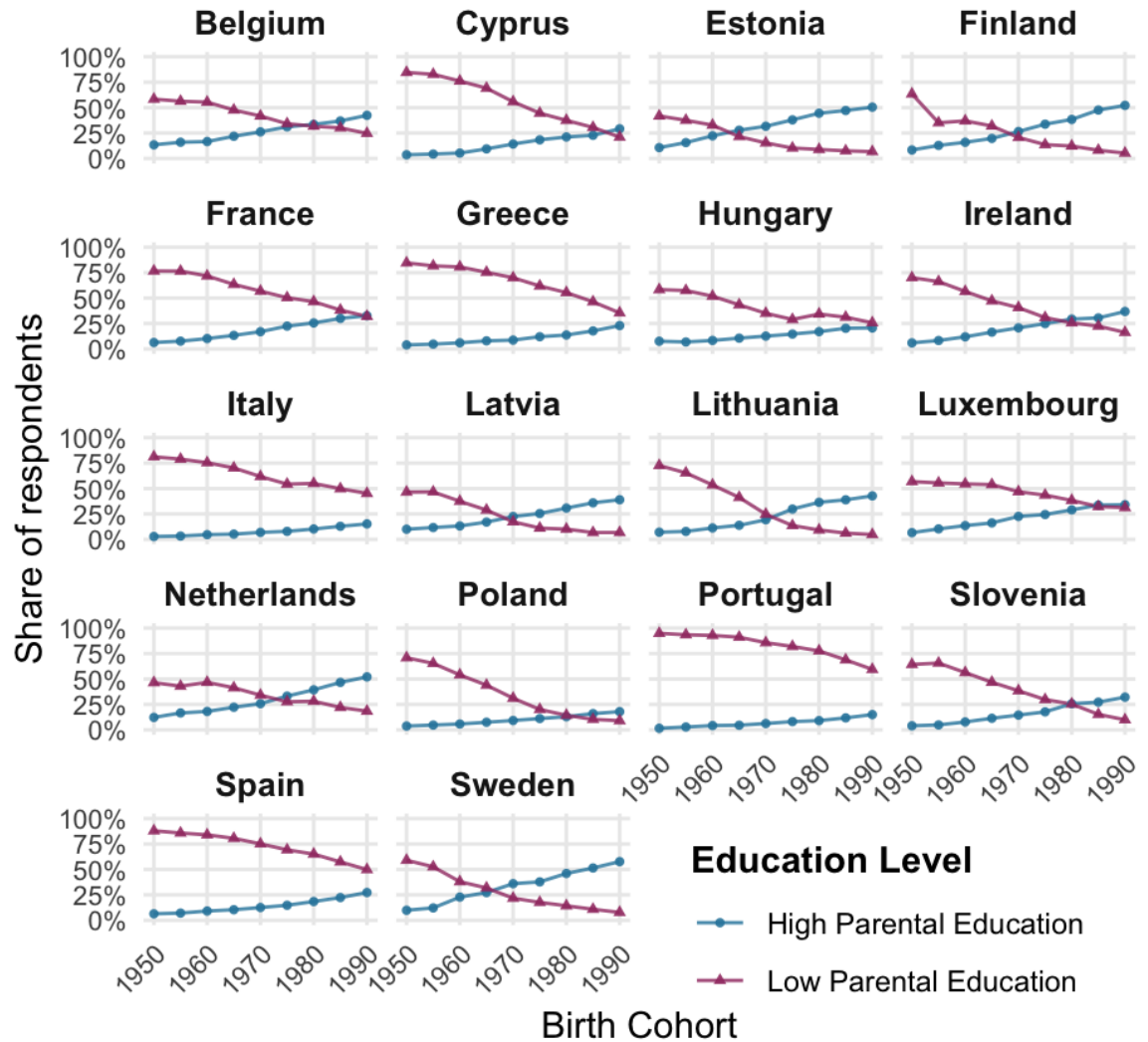
# Intergenerational poverty persistence in Europe



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Source: Bavaro, Carranza and Nolan (2024)

# Educational background



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Source: Bavaro, Carranza and Nolan (2025)