

International comparisons of income mobility

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Fifth Winter School on Inequality and Social Welfare Theory
“Inequality in a dynamic perspective”
January 11–14 2010, Alba di Canazei, Italy

Outline

This lecture will evolve around two case studies of international comparisons of income mobility. The first is a comparison of mobility between the USA and Western Germany in the 1990s. We will review some well-known findings and re-analyze a dataset to identify finer details. The second is a comparison of the magnitude and distribution of income growth in up to 26 EU countries in recent years. We will look at the newly available EU SILC data and discuss a set of new findings.

The objective of the lecture is not so much to present comprehensive empirical evidence on income mobility across industrialized countries, but primarily to review indices and tools that have been used in such analyses and illustrate how alternative choices will lead to contrasted conclusions.

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Other relevant material on international mobility comparisons

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