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Social outcomes. The measures of child poverty and inequality refer to patterns after government taxes and transfers are taken into account. Data are from the LIS website, as downloaded on 21 June 2005. In the LIS database, the poverty line is set at 50 per cent of median adjusted disposable income for all persons. Appendix 2.3 reports the child poverty rate, defined as the percentage of all children in poverty, for specific periods (e.g. the early 1980s). The figures for 'change' in Tables 2.1-2.3 are the change in the rate of child poverty between the earliest and latest data available for each country. In this calculation, a change from a child poverty rate of 6 per cent in the earliest period to 8 per cent in the latest period is a change of 2. Data on inequality are for disposable income for all households, the LIS aggregate income variable labelled DPI. Figures for specific periods in Appendix 2.3 (e.g. early 1980s) are gini coefficients, a measure of inequality in which the higher the number, the greater the level of inequality. Figures for 'change' in Tables 2.1-2.3 are the percentage change in the gini coefficient for the earliest and latest periods available for each country (i.e. the change between the earliest and the latest gini coefficients expressed as a per cent of the earliest gini coefficient).

Demographic data

Data on the size of immigrant minorities are based on United Nations estimates of 'foreign-born migrant stock'. Data on the size of national minorities and indigenous minorities are from Minority Rights Group 1997.

Other variables

The regressions in Tables 2.5 and 2.6 also include the following: (1) left parties in government, drawn from Duane Swank's *Comparative Parties* Dataset and updated to 2001 using recent electoral results; (2) female labour force participation, drawn from OECD *Labour Statistics*, and (3) population over 64 years, drawn from OECD *Health Data*.

The sample of countries

Countries included in the analysis are Western democracies, and had democratic political institutions throughout the period under study (1980 to 2000). The primary limitation on inclusion in the sample was availability of data. Data on redistribution were available for only twelve countries. However, other countries were included in the analysis of the evolution of the welfare state if data on both social spending and social outcomes measures were available. See Appendix 2.3 for details.

Appendix 2.3. Welfare state indicators: Social spending, redistribution, and social outcomes, 1980-2000 or near year

Country	Public social expenditures		Redistribution				Reduction in poverty				Reduction in inequality				Child poverty rate				Inequality gini coefficient			
	% GDP		Reduction in poverty (%)		Reduction in inequality (%)		Reduction in poverty (%)		Reduction in inequality (%)		Child poverty rate (%)		Inequality gini coefficient		Child poverty rate (%)		Inequality gini coefficient					
	1980	2000	Early 80s	Late 80s	Early 90s	2000	Early 80s	Late 80s	Early 90s	2000	Early 80s	Late 80s	Early 90s	2000	Early 80s	Late 80s	Early 90s	2000				
Australia	11.3	18.6	61.7	62.2	62.3		29.0	29.0	31.2		13.8	15.0	15.8		.281	.304	.311					
Austria	22.5	26.0				82.8					4.8	9.7	7.8		.227	.227	.224	.260				
Belgium	24.1	26.7				61.3					4.0	3.8	4.6	6.7	.227	.232	.224	.277				
Canada	14.3	17.3	51.1	59.0	63.2		23.2	26.9	30.6	26.9	14.8	14.8	15.3	14.9	.284	.283	.281	.302				
Denmark	29.1	28.9				85.8					4.7	5.0			.254	.254	.236					
Finland	18.5	24.5									2.8	2.3	2.8		.288	.287	.288					
France	21.1	28.3	77.1	75.0	80.9		36.5	39.5	40.6	42.6	6.9	8.3	7.9	2.8	.244	.257	.272	.264				
Germany	23.0	27.2	82.2	80.3	77.7		37.1	39.0	41.0	42.6	2.8	4.1	9.5	9.0	.244	.257	.272	.264				
Ireland	17.0	13.6									13.8	14.6	17.2		.328	.328	.333	.323				
Italy	18.4	24.1									11.4	14.0	16.6		.260	.256	.266	.248				
Netherlands	26.9	21.8	89.7	87.5	83.0		44.7	46.1	40.6	43.6	2.7	5.2	8.1	9.8	.223	.233	.231	.251				
Norway	17.9	23.0				79.9		33.8	38.2	38.2	4.8	4.3	5.2	3.4	.223	.233	.231	.251				
Spain	15.9	19.9									12.7	12.2	16.1		.318	.303	.353	.340				
Sweden	28.8	28.6	85.7	80.3	83.9		52.1	49.1	50.3	43.6	4.8	3.5	3.0	4.2	.197	.218	.229	.252				
UK	17.9	21.7									25.0	18.5	15.3		.303	.303	.336	.345				
USA	13.3	14.2									25.0	25.6	21.9		.335	.338	.368					

Notes: See Appendix 2.2 for data sources and details of calculations.