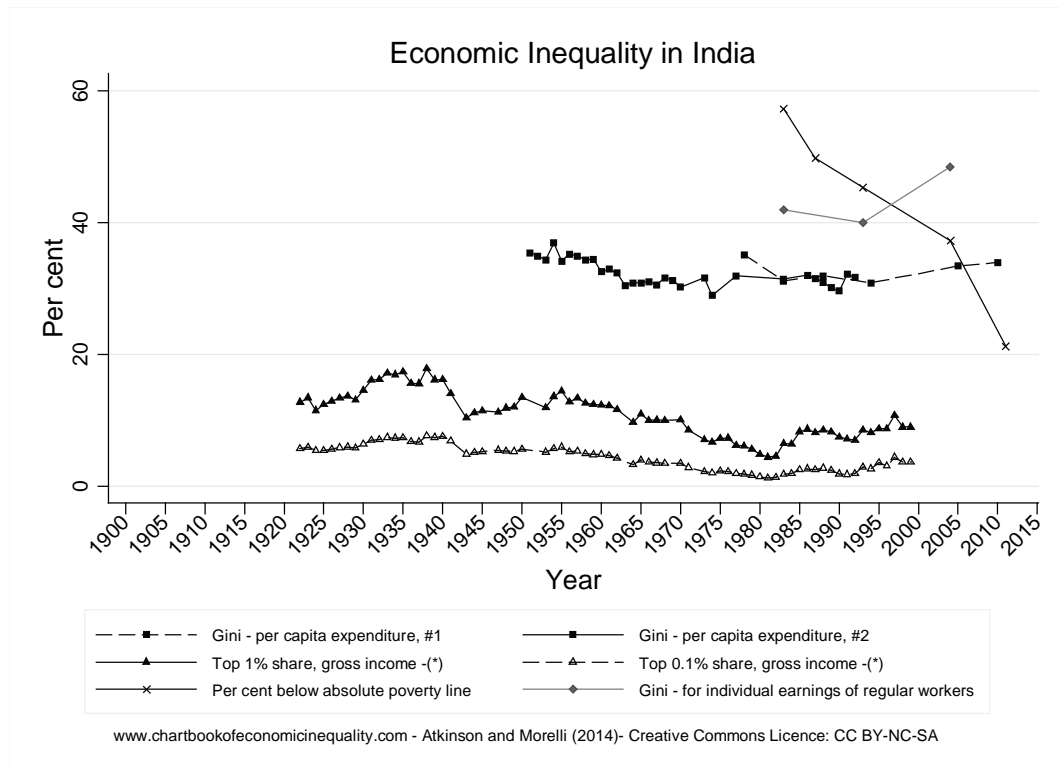


INDIA



<i>Has the dispersion of earnings been increasing in recent decades?</i>	Yes, the Gini coefficient for individual earnings increased by 8 percentage points from 1993 to 2004.
<i>Has overall inequality increased in recent years?</i>	Yes, the Gini coefficient (from expenditure data) increased by 3 percentage points from 1994 to 2010.
<i>Have there been periods when overall inequality fell for a sustained period?</i>	Yes, some decline in overall inequality after Independence.
<i>Has poverty been falling or rising in recent decades?</i>	Falling at least since 1983. Note, however that we only observe measures of <i>absolute</i> poverty.
<i>Has there been a U-pattern for top income shares over time?</i>	Yes, top income shares fell from 1940 to 1980 and then rose; share of top 1 per cent doubled.
<i>Has the distribution of wealth followed the same pattern as income?</i>	No evidence
<i>Additional noteworthy features</i>	

Sources for the historical data series:

Overall inequality: Gini coefficient for *per capita expenditure*, series 1, from the World Bank [website, World Development Indicators](#); ; Gini coefficient for *per capita expenditure*, series 2 from World Income Inequality Database WIID2c, available on the [UNU-WIDER website](#).

Top income shares: Share of top 1 per cent and top 0.1 per cent in total gross income from [WTID](#), based on work of Banerjee and Piketty (2010).

Poverty: Percentage below *Planning Commission poverty line* (absolute) from [Government of India, Planning Commission](#) 2013, linked back at 1993 to [Majumdar](#) (2010, Table 4.2), percentage below *Planning Commission poverty line* (absolute).

Earnings: *Gini coefficient* of wages of regular workers from [Majumdar](#) (2010, Table 4.4).

Wealth: no suitable data were found.

References:

Asian Development Bank, 2007, *Key Indicators 2007*, Asian Development Bank, Manila.

Banerjee, A and Piketty, T, 2010, "Top Indian incomes, 1922-2000" in A B Atkinson and T Piketty, editors, *Top incomes: A global perspective*, Oxford University Press, Oxford.

Government of India, Planning Commission, 2013, *Poverty Estimates for 2011-2012*, Government of India, Press information Bureau.

Majumdar, D, 2010, "Decreasing poverty and increasing inequality in India" in *Tackling inequalities in Brazil, China, India and South Africa*, OECD, Paris.

