

# GII Survey Report

Selection: United Kingdom; only surveys with inequality measures.

## 1) United Kingdom, 1889 - 1890 (U.S. Commissioner Of Labor)

Survey ID: 1050

### 1,024 households

**Notes:** This survey was designed to investigate the comparative cost of production and the cost of living in selected industries in several European countries and the United States. The industries that the inquiry covered were bituminous coal, coke, pig iron, bar iron, steel, iron ore, cotton, woollens and glass, although no budgets were collected in Great Britain from those employed in the iron ore industry.

In total, 1024 budgets were collected and the fixed format tables provide comprehensive details of family age structure, composition, expenditure and income. In addition, for certain groceries, details of the quantities consumed by the family are also included.

This survey should be regarded as both the most extensive and the most detailed survey available for this period. Many of the observations in the different expenditure categories, when converted from dollars, are seen to be multiples of 12 or 52, suggesting that the budgets were kept for a week or a calendar month. The income range of the families included in the budget study is from the very poorly paid to the better-off sections of the working class although most of the families fall into the income range of 25/- to 50/- (300-600p) per week, with relatively few families whose total expenditure is less than 25/- per week.

This survey is probably the nearest contemporary survey available comparable to a modern household expenditure inquiry.

Ref ID: 278

**Sixth Annual Report Of The Commissioner Of Labor, 1890. Cost Of Production: Iron, Steel, Coal, Etc. (Washington D.C.: United States Government Printing Office, 1891)**

Table: [GII table 1]	Non Group Data	Non Group Data	Relevant	
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#### Inequality Measures

	<i>gini (income)</i>	<i>gini (expenditure)</i>	<i>p50-10</i>	<i>p90-50</i>	<i>p90-10</i>
BL:	0.23346446454525		1.61330091953278	1.76559615135193	2.84843778610229
Naive:	0.233588933944702		1.53228163719177	1.85263454914093	2.83875775337219
LN:	0.233997419476509		1.09119892120361	1.08357679843903	1.18239796161652

Table: GII Group Data	GDI_UK_USCL_1890.xlsx	Group Data	Entered	
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*Selection: United Kingdom; only surveys with inequality measures.*

Ref ID: 228

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**Seventh Annual Report Of The Commissioner Of Labor, 1891. Cost Of Production: The Textiles And Glass (Washington D.C.: United States Government Printing Office, 1892)**

Ref ID: 1269

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**Michael R. Haines, *Codebook: Cost of Living of Industrial Workers in the United States and Europe, 1888-1890*, ICPSR 7711**

Ref ID: 1270

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**Frederick W. Moore, 'Review: Sixth Annual Report of the Commissioner of Labor 1890', *The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*, No. 2 (May 1892), pp. 135-146.**

*Selection: United Kingdom; only surveys with inequality measures.*

## 2) United Kingdom, 1903 - 1904 (Board of Trade)

Survey ID: 1054

**1,944 households**

Sample Duration: 1 Week(s)

**Notes:** The largest British enquiry of the pre-First World War period was undertaken by the Board of Trade in 1904. Details of income, rent and items of food expenditure were collected from workmen and their families for one week during August-September 1904. Questionnaires were sent to workmen's organisations, co-operative societies and selected individuals, producing a total of 1944 British returns (136 from London in 1903 and another 1808 in August and September of 1904 from all parts of Great Britain).

The results of this survey are given under the heading of 'Consumption and Cost of Food in Workmen's Families in Urban Districts in the United Kingdom'. Although the income range and geographical coverage of this survey was quite extensive, as the title suggests, it was not designed to solicit information on any other category of expenditure but food.

Moreover, the original returns to the questionnaire were not published and seem to be no longer available. Since total expenditure for these budgets is impossible to calculate, mean expenditure on various food items has had to be calculated as a percentage of total family income. In addition, total family size is unclear, for although the average number of children in families is given, the number of adults is not.

However, the summary tables that are presented in the report are organised by income group and regional location, with mean family expenditure is given in each case. This is clearly a particularly useful survey, and although its coverage is limited to details of food expenditure and consumption, it should not be under-rated since the evidence from this report was used by the Board of Trade to ascertain weights for its own cost of living index.

See the University of Sussex British Living Standards Project for more information.

Ref ID: 1387

### Dataset: British Living Standards Project, 1904 Board of Trade Survey

Table: BLS dataset	Non Group Data	Non Group Data	Relevant	
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#### *Inequality Measures*

	<i>gini (income)</i>	<i>gini (expenditure)</i>	<i>p50-10</i>	<i>p90-50</i>	<i>p90-10</i>
BL:	0.20711125433445		1.49660181999207	1.58841049671173	2.37721800804138
Naive:	0.207013428211212		1.54545450210571	1.61764705181122	2.5
LN:	0.228466063737869		1.08470094203949	1.07808685302734	1.16940176486969

Table: GII Group Data	GDI_UK-1904.xlsx	Group Data	Entered	
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*Selection: United Kingdom; only surveys with inequality measures.*

Ref ID: 1386

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**I. Gazeley and A. Newell, Codebook: British Living Standards Project - 1904 Board of Trade Survey**

Ref ID: 1045

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**Board of Trade, *Consumption and Cost of Food in Workment's Families in Urban Districts in the United Kingdom. II. Changes in the cost of living of the working classes in large towns, Cd. 2337, ser.* (London: H.M.S.O., 1904)**

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**Report Stats:**

*Selection: United Kingdom; only surveys with inequality measures.*

**Surveys:** 2  
Reference instances: 7  
**Total Households:** 2,968