

TITLE: Latin American earnings inequality in the long run

AUTHORS: Leticia Arroyo Abad (Middlebury College)
Pablo Astorga Junquera (Universitat de Barcelona)

Abstract: This paper traces between-group earnings inequality for six Latin American countries over two centuries based on wage and income series compiled from a large array of primary and secondary sources. We find that inequality varied substantially by country and by period, questioning the notion that colonial legacies largely dominated the evolution of inequality. There is a broader inequality trajectory over the long run in the form of an “m” pattern with peaks around 1880 and the 1990s and a trough around 1920/1930s. Export-led growth does not necessarily imply a rise in inequality, while the import-substitution industrialisation efforts did not translate into a more egalitarian distribution of income. More notably, Latin America’s experience does not exhibit the great inequality levelling as seen in the North Atlantic economies from the 1930s to the 1970s.

REFERENCE: Cliometrica (2016) [[LINK](#)]



UNIVERSITAT DE
BARCELONA



Universidad
Carlos III de Madrid



UNIVERSITAT
DE VALÈNCIA
Universidad
de Alcalá



Universidad
Zaragoza

upna

Universidad
Pública de Navarra
Nafarroako
Unibertsitate Publikoa



CEU | Universidad
San Pablo