

**Table 7.2. Inequality of capital ownership across time and space**

Share of different groups in total capital	<b>Low inequality</b> (never observed; ideal society?)	<b>Medium inequality</b> (≈ Scandinavia, 1970s-1980s)	<b>Medium- high inequality</b> (≈ Europe 2010)	<b>High inequality</b> (≈ U.S. 2010)	<b>Very high inequality</b> (≈ Europe 1910)
<b>The top 10%</b> "Upper class"	<b>30%</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>60%</b>	<b>70%</b>	<b>90%</b>
<i>including: the top 1%</i> <i>("dominant class")</i>	10%	20%	25%	35%	50%
<i>including: the next 9%</i> ("well <i>to-do class")</i>	20%	30%	35%	35%	40%
<b>The middle 40%</b> "Middle class"	<b>45%</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>35%</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>5%</b>
<b>The bottom 50%</b> "Lower class"	<b>25%</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>5%</b>
Corresponding Gini coefficient (synthetic inequality index)	0.33	0.58	0.67	0.73	0.85

In societies with "medium" inequality of capital ownership (such as Scandinavian countries in the 1970s-1980s), the top 10% richest in wealth own about 50% of aggregate wealth, the bottom 50% poorest about 10%, and the middle 40% about 40%. The corresponding Gini coefficient is equal to 0.58. See technical appendix.