Rising Inequality in OECD Countries: How Does the Middle Class Fare?

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When the top 1 percent's income share rises, as it has in a number of affluent countries since the late 1970s, do the absolute incomes of middle-class households grow more slowly, more rapidly or do they decline? We use data from the Luxembourg Income Study, The World Top Income Database, and the OECD income distribution database to answer this question.

Keywords: inequality, income, middle class.