

The Poverty Line

50% of median income, before housing costs

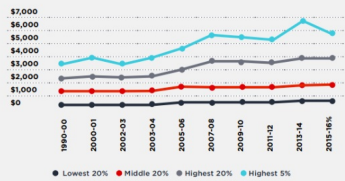
Single adult: \$433 a week

A couple with two children: \$909 a week

(Dr Cassandra Goldie and Professor Peter Saunders, 2018)

Statistic: Weekly Incomes

Figure 2: Trends in average weekly disposable income 2000 to 2016 (in 2016 dollars)



Gini Curve

Figure 1: Average weekly disposable income by household income group in 2015-16



More Equality: Danny Dorling

According to Danny Dorling - Professor at University of Oxford - Wrote 'The Equality Effect' in 2017

In his book: compares more equal and unequal societies

Increase in marginal utility

Develop in a more environmentally sustainable fashion

Countries growing to inequality (UK and the United States): increasing complaints - costs or scarcity of healthcare, housing, and many other basic necessities

Wage inequality contributes to gender inequality - "people who resent their continuing low pay often take out their anger on people they see as potentially inferior to them"

Increase in marginal utility

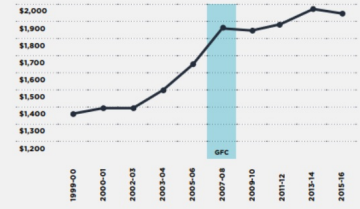
Produce less waste

Commit fewer crimes

Statistic: Average Weekly Income

Overall

Figure 10: Trends in real average household disposable income from 1999-00 to 2015-16 (in 2016 dollars)



More Economic Efficiency: Tejvan Pettinger

Economics teacher (A Level students) at Greenes College Book: Cracking Economics published 2017

Methods of reducing poverty often are unpopular because people are stigmatised as being poor

Create a disincentive to earn a higher wage

"poverty trap" - occurs where people on low incomes are discouraged from working extra hours or getting a higher paid job because any extra income they earn will be taken away in lost benefits and higher taxes

Some relatively poor may fall just outside the qualifying limit

Current Income Support System

Has not increased in 25 years

Some goods and services have increased in price due to limited resources (eg. housing)

Income Support System provides \$40 a day/\$15,000 a year

"Is not enough to survive on while working to get into employment" (ACOSS,2018)

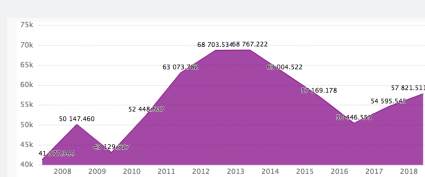
Poverty Trends

3.05 million people 13.2% of the population

More than one in eight 53%: social security main source of income

38%: Wages - main income Gini Coefficient: 33.20% - 4.40% increase from 2017

GDP per Capita



Methods to Reduce Poverty

Increase the rates of the lowest social security payments

New supplements for costs of disability and caring for children alone

Additional employment assistance for long-term unemployed people to help them become ready for work

An adequate minimum wage

Increased access to affordable housing

Expansion of investment in social housing

Expansion of the National Rental Affordability Scheme (NRAS)

Improved affordability of essential health and community services such as dental care and child care

Increase tax rate to supply social security payments

Instillment of more education programs

According to Australian Council of Social Service (ACOSS), 2018

Current Tax Rates

Tax Table	Tax on this Income (New Rates)
0 to \$18,200	Nil
\$18,201 to \$37,000	1pc for each \$1 over \$18,200
\$37,001 to \$87,000	\$1,070 plus 30pc for each \$1 over \$37,000
\$87,001 to \$180,000	\$16,812 plus 35pc for each \$1 over \$87,000
\$180,001 and over	\$54,228 plus 45pc for each \$1 over \$180,000



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