

ANU-ABS 2016 Census Data Symposium

Income distribution, and neighbourhood inequality

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Why study income and inequality and why the Census?

- Why study income?
 - Predictor of access to economic resources and subjective wellbeing (at national and individual level)
- Why study income inequality?
 - Inequality may be a determinant of other outcomes within a society
 - Income inequality is also an important determinant of the poverty reducing impacts of economic growth.
 - Diminishing marginal utility of income with regards to happiness and other measures of subjective wellbeing.
 - Many members of society care about the way resources are spread
- Why the Census?
 - Consistent (but imperfect) measure going back decades
 - Allows us to look at variation and change at local level



How is income changing according to the 2016 Census?

33 What is the *total* of all income the person usually receives?

- Mark **one** box only.
- Do not deduct:** tax, superannuation contributions, amounts salary sacrificed, or any other automatic deductions.
- Include:**
 - Wages and salaries**
 - Regular overtime
 - Commissions and bonuses
 - Government pensions, benefits and allowances**
 - Age pension
 - Family tax benefit
 - Parenting payment
 - Disability support pension
 - Newstart allowance
 - Youth and student allowances
 - Carer allowance
 - Any other government pension/allowance
 - Profit or loss from**
 - Unincorporated business/farm (e.g. sole traders, partnerships)
 - Rental properties
 - Other income**
 - Income from superannuation
 - Private pensions
 - Child support
 - Interest
 - Dividends from shares
 - Workers' compensation
 - Any other income
- Information from this question provides an indication of living standards in different areas.

i Go to census.abs.gov.au for more information.

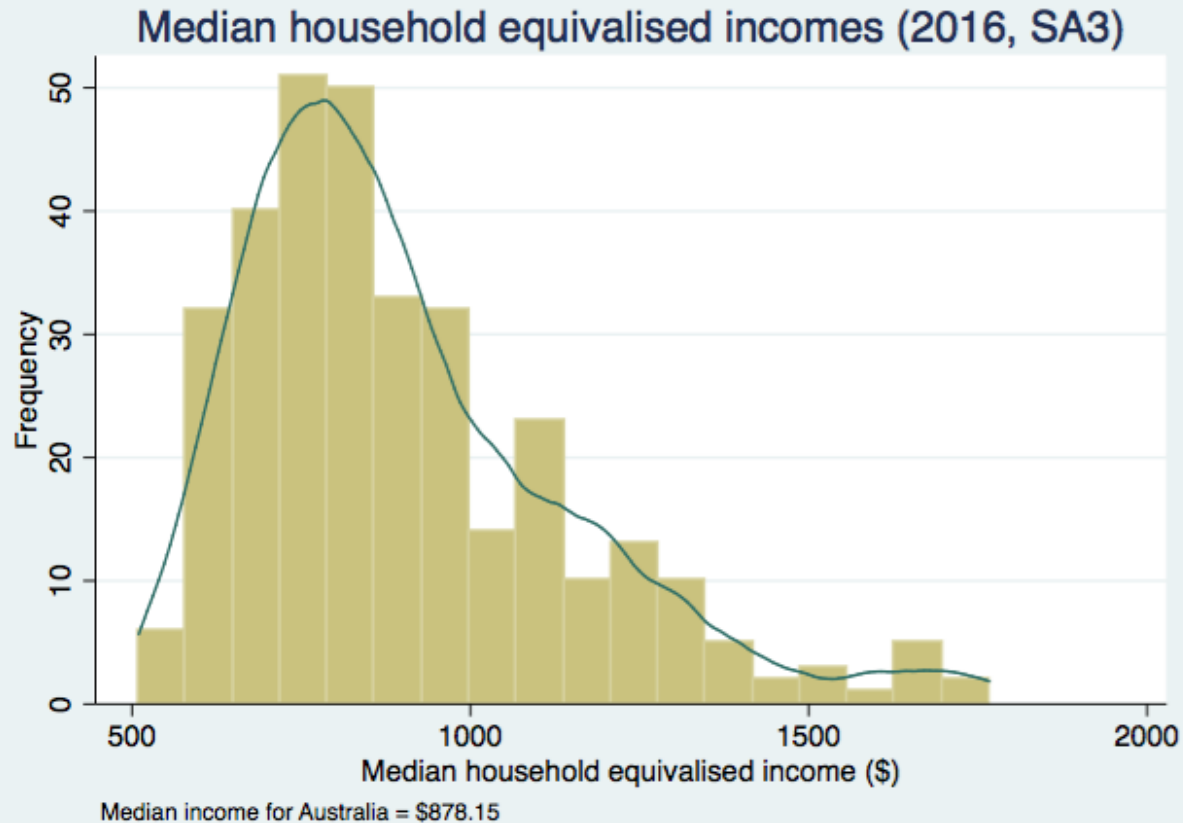
<input type="checkbox"/> \$3,000 or more per week \$156,000 or more per year	<input type="checkbox"/> \$3,000 or more per week \$156,000 or more per year
<input type="checkbox"/> \$2,000 - \$2,999 per week \$104,000 - \$155,999 per year	<input type="checkbox"/> \$2,000 - \$2,999 per week \$104,000 - \$155,999 per year
<input type="checkbox"/> \$1,750 - \$1,999 per week \$91,000 - \$103,999 per year	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1,750 - \$1,999 per week \$91,000 - \$103,999 per year
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<input type="checkbox"/> \$150 - \$299 per week \$7,800 - \$15,599 per year	<input type="checkbox"/> \$150 - \$299 per week \$7,800 - \$15,599 per year
<input type="checkbox"/> \$1 - \$149 per week \$1 - \$7,799 per year	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1 - \$149 per week \$1 - \$7,799 per year
<input type="checkbox"/> Nil income	<input type="checkbox"/> Nil income
<input type="checkbox"/> Negative income	<input type="checkbox"/> Negative income

	2001	2006	2011	2016
Personal (\$)	\$549	\$588	\$633	\$662
Household (\$)	\$1,148	\$1,298	\$1,348	\$1,432

Change in the income distribution

	2011	2016	%change
10th percentile	\$334	\$348	4.3
20th percentile	\$416	\$457	9.7
50th percentile (median)	\$835	\$878	5.2
80th percentile	\$1,505	\$1,580	5.0
90th percentile	\$2,000	\$2,035	1.8
90/10 Ratio	6.0	5.8	-2.4
80/20 Ratio	3.6	3.5	-4.3

Incomes across Australia



Year	Richest to poorest	Richest to middle	Middle to poorest	80 th to 20 th
2011	3.272	2.184	1.497	1.549
2016	3.465	2.091	1.657	1.555