

POVERTY³

3.32 million (13.4%, or 1 in 8) people in Australia are living below the poverty line, including **761,000** (or 1 in 6) children.

Households living below the poverty line average incomes \$304 per week *below* said poverty line (the 'poverty gap'), after deducting housing costs.

More people face escalating financial stress and hardship in their daily lives, trying to pay for housing, energy bills, medical needs, and to put food on the table each day.

HUNGER⁴

3.4 million households ran low (in quality or quantity) or out of food last year. Over 1 million Australians experience food insecurity **every month**.

HOMELESSNESS⁵

122,000+ people in Australia on any given night experience homelessness.

1 in 7 people experiencing homelessness are **children** under 12.

Close to 1 in 4 are children and young people aged between 12 and 24.

20% of the people experiencing homelessness are Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander, who comprise under 4% of the total Australian population.

INSECURE WORK

Millions of workers are affected by the disturbing spread of insecure working arrangements with inferior rights, entitlements and low wage growth.⁶

Underemployed workers are locked out of permanent, well-paid jobs with rights and entitlements such as sick leave, annual leave, and parental leave.

Unemployed workers are entirely locked out of the labour market and, if even eligible, must rely on shockingly inadequate social (in)security income support payments that drive people into poverty.

WEALTH

Australia's 47 billionaires' wealth doubled to \$255 billion, at a rate of \$2,376 per second (more than \$205M *per day*) during the first two years of the pandemic.⁷

Australia has gained *more* new billionaires since the pandemic began, and they hold more wealth than the poorest 30% (or 7.7 million) of Australians.⁸

EU Tax Observatory estimated that, in 2020, **Australia lost \$7 billion in revenue** due to multinational corporate profit shifting.⁹

1,253 large corporations (31%) **paid zero tax** in 2022–23. Reasons vary, but include making accounting losses or claiming tax offsets.¹⁰

102 Australian millionaires earned over \$1 million dollars but **paid no tax**.¹¹

Astonishingly, wealth inequality has increased in Australia with the yawning wealth gap between Australia's richest few and the poorest many at its **highest rate in 74 years**. The distribution of economic growth in Australia has generated **inequality on steroids**.¹²

Oxfam's 2024 'Inequality Inc.' report demonstrates the link between extreme wealth and corporate power, and the 'four ways that corporate power fuels inequality: by rewarding the wealthy, not workers; by dodging taxes; by privatising public services; and by driving climate breakdown'.¹³

FAIN says it is time to fight to expose and end inequality, and for national policy reforms to address inequality.

Inequality:
the unequal distribution within society of income, wealth and goods¹

FAIN's **End Inequality National Recommendations Statement** initiative offers recommendations for essential policy reform.²
Read the statement at **fainetwork.com**

Long-term policy change, if acted upon by the federal government, would build an Australia where **no one is left behind**, and all individuals and communities can thrive.

The federal government can choose to play a leading role in urgently needed long-term policy reforms to end inequality, that stops both the callous disregard of those in need and policy choices that favour the wealthy.

We are all in this together,
and we need to start conversations in our local communities about inequality.

EXPOSE AND END INEQUALITY IN AUSTRALIA

FIGHT AGAINST INEQUALITY NETWORK INC.

Local Community Conversation and Engagement

- > Read the facts on the other page, you can use these as conversation starter points.
- > Learn from family, friends, neighbours, and your communities about their needs and concerns, begin a discussion about FAIN's End Inequality National Recommendations Statement, which provides essential long-term policy reform solutions for ending inequality in Australia.
- > Phone, write to or meet with your local federal representatives and candidates standing for (re)election in the 2025 Australia Federal Election, ask them to take inequality policy commitments to the federal election.
- > Call on your local federal representatives and candidates standing for (re)election at the Australia Federal Election 2025 to commit to:
 - > Prioritise **policy reforms** to end inequality.
 - > **Appoint a minister** with a portfolio to end inequality.
 - > Develop, implement, monitor and evaluate a comprehensive National End Inequality Strategy as a matter of **urgency** in the 48th Federal Government.
 - > **Reduce inequality by 30% in Australia by 2040 and to move rapidly to end it.**
- > Ask them to make commitments and a public statement about the need for policies that directly address inequality.