Why have the incomes of corporate executives dramatically outstripped those of other workers? Do people's income and wealth reflect differences in their contributions to the Australian economy? Do big economic inequalities damage productivity and social cohesion? Why isn’t Australia a more egalitarian society?

*Who Gets What?* explores questions like these. It looks at recent trends in income and wealth in Australia and examines the economic evidence in a way that makes fascinating reading for both general and specialist audiences.

The book looks at who is rich and who in Australia still lives in poverty – and why. It explores the causes of economic inequality and the possibility of making our society more equal. Ultimately, the authors offer their own solution to these problems, with policies which could redistribute income and wealth more equitably.

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# CONTENTS

*List of figures*  
*List of tables*  
*Acknowledgements*  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Inequality</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Incomes</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Wealth</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 The rich</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 The poor</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Divided spaces</td>
<td>104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 A gender agenda</td>
<td>126</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Driving the disparities</td>
<td>148</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Getting happier?</td>
<td>169</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Fallout</td>
<td>184</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 What is to be done?</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Prospects</td>
<td>223</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Appendix A*  
*Appendix B*  
*Bibliography*  
*Index*
## LIST OF FIGURES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Figure</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>Wages share of total income, 1960–1 to 2005–6</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>Profits share of total income, 1960–1 to 2005–6</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.1</td>
<td>Estimated poverty rates by age group, 2001</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.2</td>
<td>Estimated poverty rates by workforce</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.1</td>
<td>Estimated increase in average household income by region,</td>
<td>115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>before and after adjusting for housing costs, 1996 to 2001</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.2</td>
<td>Unemployment rate by region, 2001</td>
<td>119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.1</td>
<td>Female employment by industry, April 2006</td>
<td>131</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LIST OF TABLES

2.1 Total weekly earnings by occupation, percentage of employees in each income range, 2005  page 24
2.2 BCA CEO total cash remuneration, shareholder return and adult earnings, trend comparisons 1990–2005  27
2.3 Number of Australian households, by income range, 2003–4  31
2.4 Income shares of the Australian population, 2003–4  33
2.5 Income inequality in Australia, as shown by the Gini coefficient, 1978–9 to 2003–4 (available years)  36
2.6 Income inequality in Australia, as shown by the P90/P10 ratio, 1994–5 to 2003–4  37
2.7 Income share of different income groups, Australia, 1994–5 to 2003–4  37
2.8 International comparison of income inequality, selected countries  41
3.1 Wealth held in bank deposits, 2002  52
3.2 Wealth held in equity investments, 2002  54
3.3 Wealth held in superannuation, 2002  55
3.4 Wealth held in housing, 2002  56
4.1 The wealth needed to be on the Australian rich list, 1994–2006  66
4.2 Asset values of the super rich in Australia, 1994–2006  67
4.3 Concentration of assets among the Australian super rich, 1994–2006  68
4.4 Principal sources of wealth of top ten wealth holders in Australia, 1994 and 2006  72
4.5 Selected background characteristics and wealth sources of the top 10 wealth holders in Australia, 1994 and 2006
4.6 All-time richest Australians in 2004, selected entries
5.1 Poverty rates in OECD countries
6.1 Estimated average household incomes by region, 2001
6.2 Estimated average household income by state and region, as a percentage of average Sydney household income, 2001
6.3 Unemployment rates by state and territory, and by region, 2001
6.4 Proportion of households in given income groups, by region, 2001
7.1 Male and female average weekly earnings, February 2006
7.2 Female earnings as a percentage of male earnings, 1985–2006
7.3 Workforce status of males and females, May 2006
7.4 Female participation in the workforce and workforce status, June 1980–June 2006, selected years
7.5 Workforce status of males and females, June 1980–June 2006, selected years
7.6 Average hours per week of unpaid domestic work in couple households, 2001
7.7 International comparison of gender inequalities in income and burden of work
8.1 Methods of setting pay by sector, May 2004 (% of employees)
9.1 Attitudes to needs, by income quintile
12.1 Attitudes to economic inequality in Australia, 1984–2003; per cent of the population who consider that income differences in Australia are too large
12.2 Attitudes to income redistribution in Australia, 1984–2003; per cent of the population who think that income should be redistributed
A.1 Attitudes of different income groups to gap between high and low incomes according to gross annual income of respondent
A.2 Attitudes of different income groups to the statement, 'Ordinary working people do not get a fair share of the nation's wealth', according to gross annual income of respondent 232

A.3 Attitudes of different income groups to the statement, 'Government should redistribute income', percent, by gross annual income of respondent 232

B.1 Comparison of equivalence scales utilised in the NATSEM Report (2004) and the Henderson Reports (1975) on Poverty 233
Research in the social sciences has an inherently collective character. Individual researchers compile and interpret information about patterns and processes, as we have done in this study, drawing on previous knowledge developed by other researchers. This is both inevitable and desirable. In developing this analysis of economic inequality we have built on a wide array of previously published research, as well as official data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics. These sources are carefully acknowledged in the text and in the comprehensive bibliography.

We would also like to acknowledge the direct assistance of other researchers. Bill Pritchard commented on an earlier draft of chapter 6, Elizabeth Hill made helpful suggestions about chapter 7 and Phil Raskall helped clarify the relationship between economic inequality and the balance of payments that is considered in chapter 10. Three anonymous referees also provided comments on an earlier draft of the whole volume; their work had a major influence on the revisions we made for the final version.

Makiz Ansari provided valuable research assistance at an early stage in the project. Eleanor Armstrong did much of the word processing. Kim Armitage from Cambridge University Press buoyed our spirits with her enthusiasm for publishing the volume, and Kate Indigo steered it through the production process. Sandra Goldbloom Zurbo was an excellent copy editor and Neale Towart efficiently compiled the index.

The veracity of the published work and its value for future researchers and policy-makers, as well as students of the social sciences, is our own joint responsibility, of course. We hope it helps to inform and to make a difference.

Frank Stilwell
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February 2007