

# Trends in Household Wealth-Adjusted Income in Australia

*Alan Fenna*  
*Curtin University*

*Alan D. Tapper*  
*Curtin University*

**Paper Abstract:** Wealth-adjusted income combines monetary income, household taxation, the value of in kind social services, and the value of annuitized net worth. The Australian Bureau of Statistics has two data sets from which wealth-adjusted income can be calculated, one from 2003–04 and one from 2009–10. In this paper we examine trends in the distribution and the age structure of equivalent household wealth-adjusted income in these data sets. The only previous similar Australian study was described by Travers and Richardson in *Living Decently* (1993). The only comparable recent study is that by Wolff and Zacharias ('Household wealth and the measurement of economic wellbeing', *Journal of Economic Inequality*, 2009) using US data from 1983, 1989, 1995 and 2001. We will draw comparisons with the findings of these studies.