



Promoting and Developing
Social Security Worldwide.

Case Study: Australia

Seminar on Social Security in Times of Crisis:
Impact, Challenges and Responses

Sean Innis
Group Manager, Social Policy
Department of Families, Housing, Community
Services and Indigenous Affairs, Australia

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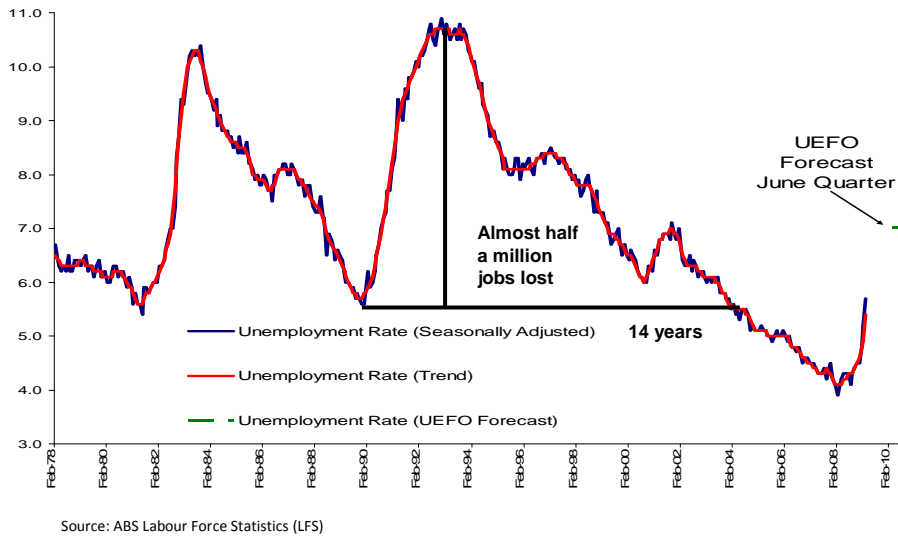


Australian Social Policy in the Economic Downturn

**ISSA Seminar on Social Security in Times of Crisis:
Impact, Challenges and Responses
Geneva, 24-25 April 2009**

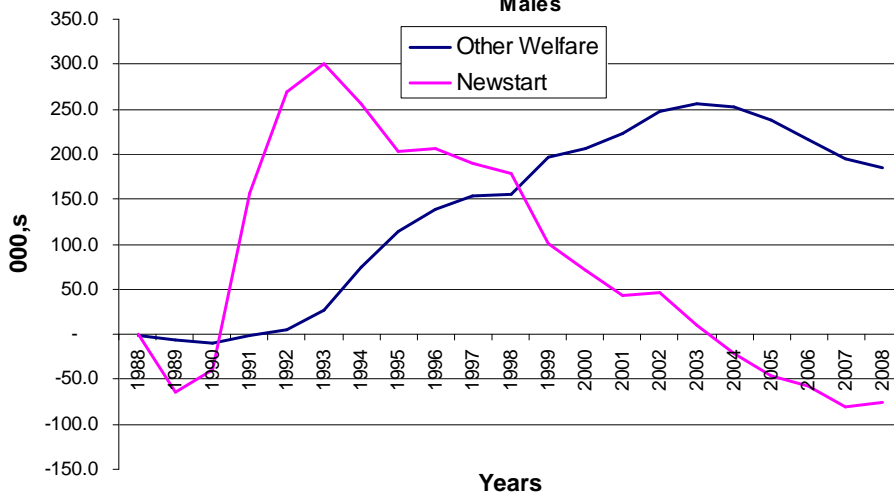
**Sean Innis
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Unemployment

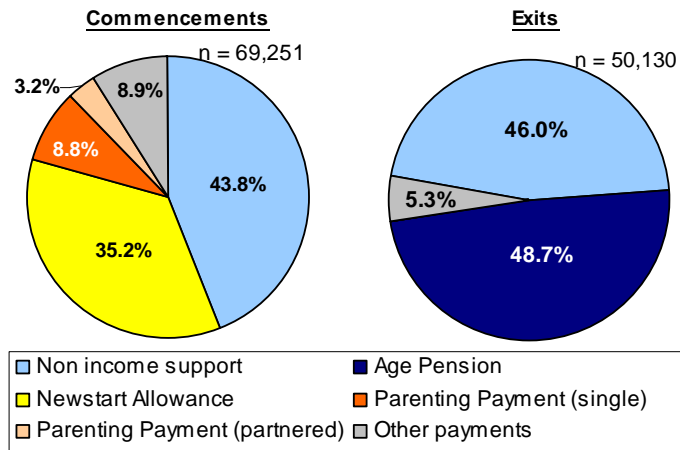


Welfare Dependency

Change in Newstart and Other Welfare numbers since 1988
Males

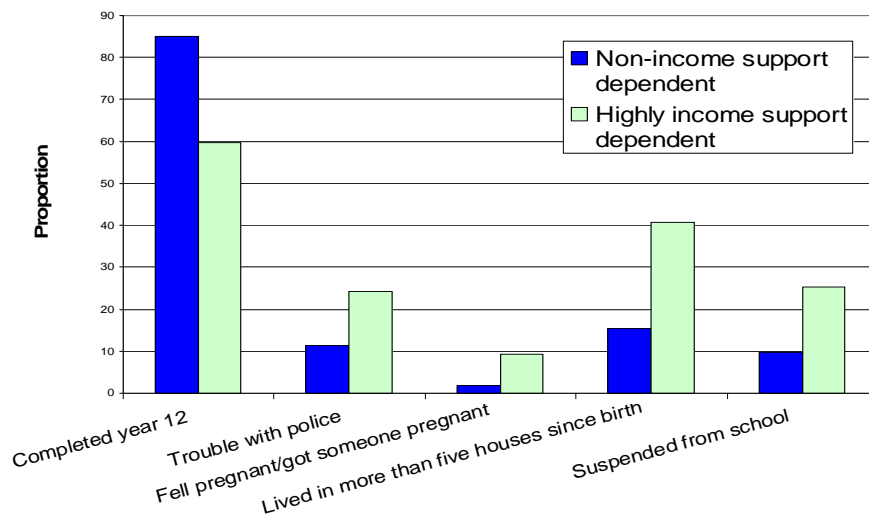


Disability Pensions: commencements and exits



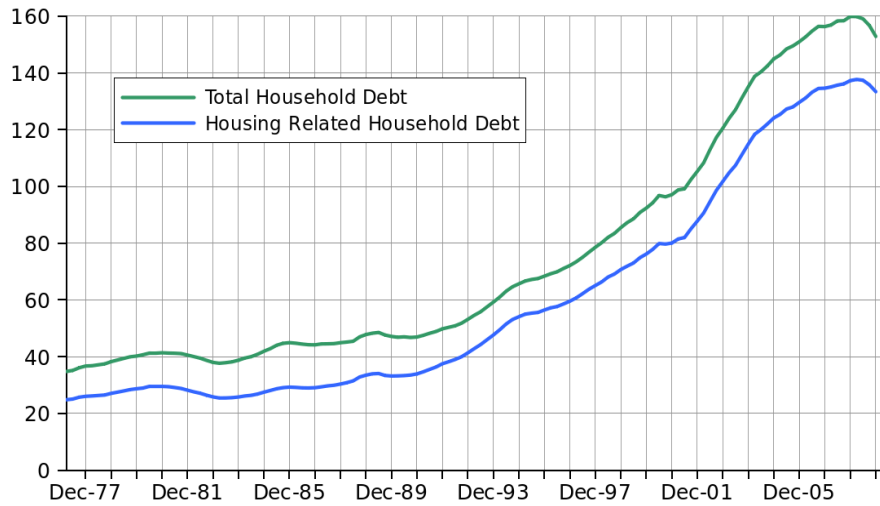
Intergenerational disadvantage

Outcomes for 18 years olds - children of non-dependent and children of highly income support dependent parents



Household debt

Percent of Disposable Income



Source: Reserve Bank of Australia

Australia's response

Stabilise financial sector

Bank deposit guarantees
Interest rate changes
\$4b Business Investment Partnership
\$2b line of credit to car dealers

Effective safety net

Adjust deeming rates
Revaluation of pensioners' assets
Reduced superannuation drawdown requirements
Increased funding for Financial Management Program and Emergency Relief

Avoid job losses

Cash-in-hand stimulus packages
Boost to first home owner grant
Social housing and school building program
Increase/bring forward infrastructure spending
Jobs Fund

Avoid long term dependency

Skills package for laid-off apprentices and trainees
Immediate assistance for redundant workers

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