



INCOME



- The City of Playford is located on the Northern-most fringes of metropolitan Adelaide, 30 kilometres from the CBD
- The second largest of South Australia's 19 metropolitan councils, the City of Playford contains 35 suburbs and covers an area of 346 km²

Income and socioeconomic position are inextricably linked and among the most important individual-level determinants. People with higher incomes generally enjoy better health and longer lives than those with a low income. This social gradient exists for a wide range of outcomes.¹

Personal income

At \$455, the median weekly personal income in the City of Playford was almost \$100 lower than in Adelaide (\$554), and \$80 lower than in South Australia (\$534).

Median weekly personal income, 2011



WISer 2013

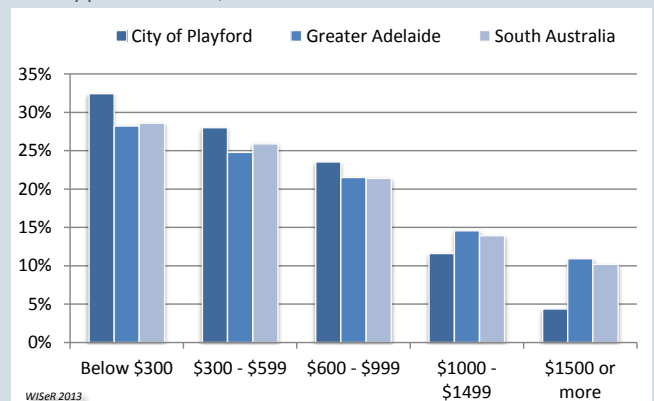
Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics 2011.

People live in poverty when they do not have enough resources to reliably meet basic needs such as food, housing, heating and health care. In March 2011, the poverty line for a single person was estimated at around \$300 per week.²

Almost a third of City of Playford residents (32%) had a weekly personal income below the poverty line. This was higher than the proportion of residents living in poverty in Greater Adelaide (28%).

At the other end of the income scale, there were considerably fewer earning weekly incomes over \$1,500 in the City of Playford at 4% of residents, compared with a much higher 10% of the population in Greater Adelaide.

Weekly personal income, 2011



WISer 2013

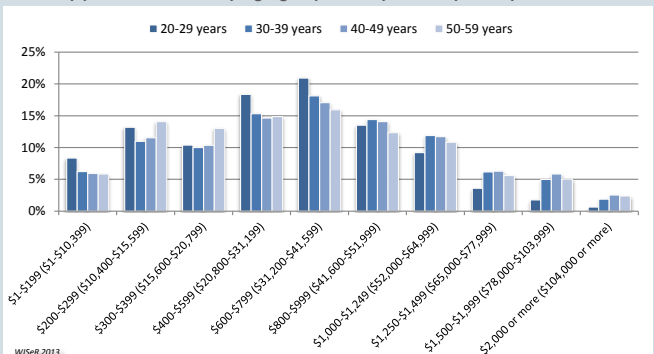
Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics 2011, excluding persons not stating or not applicable.

Some of the differences in personal income between the City of Playford and Greater Adelaide can be accounted for by the youthful City of Playford population, as it is often the case that young workers have a lower income than older workers. However, it is clear that this pattern does not completely explain the income differential.

Young residents (aged 20-29 years) were most likely to have weekly incomes under \$800, at 71% of their age group. However residents aged 50-59 years were over-represented in the weekly income bracket between \$200 and \$399, at 27% compared to 24% of those aged 20-29 years.

At the higher end of the income scale, those aged 40-49 years had the highest proportion earning more than \$1,000 per week.

Weekly personal income by age group, 20-59 years, City of Playford, 2011



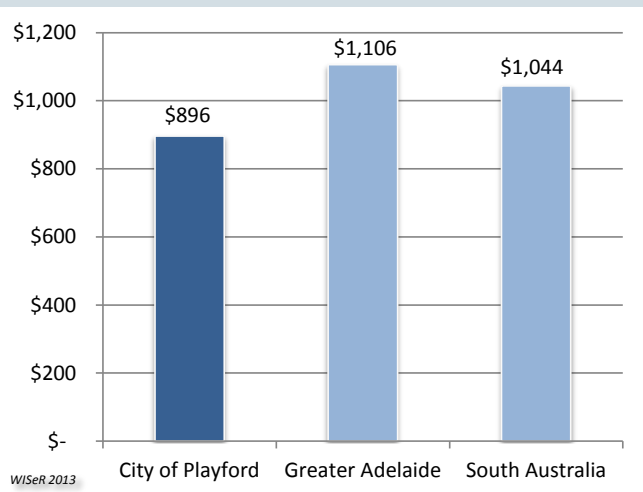
WISer 2013

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics 2011, excluding persons not stating or not applicable.

Household income

The City of Playford reported a median household income of \$896 per week compared with \$1,106 in Greater Adelaide.

Median weekly household income, 2011

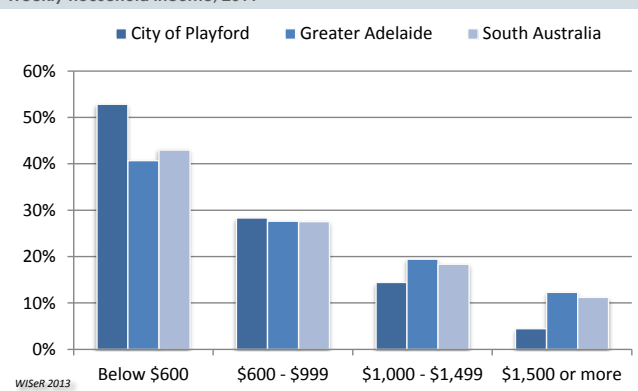


Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics 2011.

Over half of households in the City of Playford had weekly incomes below \$600 (53%), a greater proportion than the average for households in Greater Adelaide (41%).

Conversely, only 4% of City of Playford households earned \$1,500 or more per week, compared with a much higher 12% for Greater Adelaide households.

Weekly household income, 2011



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics 2011, excluding households not or partially stated, or not applicable.

Government benefits and allowances

The City of Playford had a higher proportion of residents in receipt of benefits or concessions than the equivalent for Adelaide³, both overall and when examined by the individual categories of benefits and concessions.

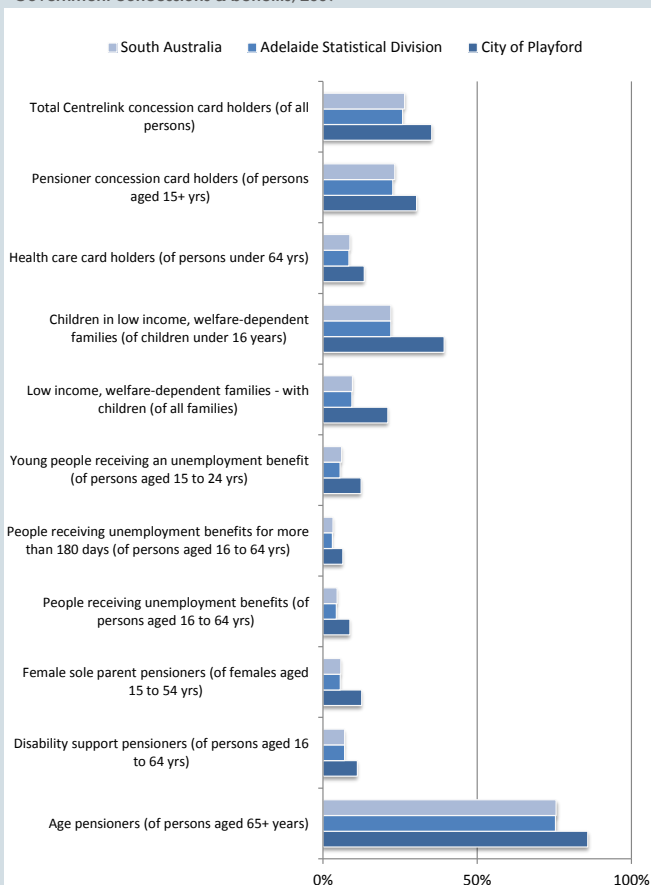
In 2009 in the City of Playford, there were 8,259 age pensioners (86% of the population aged over 65 years), 5,508 disability support pensioners (11% of eligible residents aged 16-64 years) and 2,700 female sole parent pensioners (13% of females).

Of the 4,316 people receiving an unemployment benefit, almost three quarters (3,169) had been on the benefit for longer than 180 days. Almost a quarter of families (3,958, 21%) were on low incomes and welfare dependent, compared to only 9% of Adelaide families.

More than a third of all City of Playford residents held a Centrelink concession card (35%), compared to 26% across Adelaide. Entitlement to either an Australian Government Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card is often used as a proxy for low socioeconomic status.

The Health Care Card provides access to reduced cost medical expenses, as well as to educational, recreational, transport or other concessions from national, state and local governments. People who have a Pensioner Concession Card include those in receipt of a number of pension and benefit types with the largest group being those who are receiving the Age Pension. Other groups include people with disabilities, carers and sole parents.

Government concessions & benefits, 2009



Source: Public Health Information Development Unit 2013.

1. Hetzel D, Page A, Glover J, Tennant S. (2004). Inequality in South Australia: Key determinants of wellbeing. Vol 1: The Evidence. Adelaide: SA Dept. Health.
 2. Homelessness Australia. (2011). Homelessness and Poverty. Retrieved 8 March, 2013, from [http://www.homelessnessaustralia.org.au/UserFiles/File/Fact%20sheets/Fact%20Sheets%202011-12/Homelessness%20&%20Poverty%202011-12\(2\).pdf](http://www.homelessnessaustralia.org.au/UserFiles/File/Fact%20sheets/Fact%20Sheets%202011-12/Homelessness%20&%20Poverty%202011-12(2).pdf)

3. For this data reference to Adelaide is defined by the Adelaide Statistical Division, not the new Greater Adelaide region, a reflection on the boundaries in use at 2009, the year which the data refers to.