

## 9 References

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## Appendix 1: Variables Measured in the Index of Relative Socio-Economic Disadvantage

The SEIFA Index of Relative Socio-economic Disadvantage is derived from Census variables related to disadvantage, such as low income, low educational attainment, unemployment, and dwellings without motor vehicles. In essence, it measures only disadvantage variables to provide an overall picture of the socioeconomic resources of people and households within an area. Because all the variables used in SEIFA were created from the 2006 Census; the list of variables was constrained by information collected at the Census. A full list of these variables is provided below.

### Included Variables

- % Occupied private dwellings with no internet connection
- % Employed people classified as Labourers
- % People aged 15 years and over with no post-school qualifications
- % People with stated annual household equivalised income between \$13,000 and \$20,799 (approx. 2nd and 3rd deciles)
- % Households renting from Government or Community organisation
- % People (in the labour force) unemployed
- % One parent families with dependent offspring only
- % Households paying rent less than \$120 per week (excluding \$0 per week)
- % People aged under 70 who have a long-term health condition or disability and need assistance with core activities
- % Occupied private dwellings with no car
- % People who identified themselves as being of Aboriginal and/or Torres Straight Islander origin
- % Occupied private dwellings requiring one or more extra bedrooms (based on Canadian National Occupancy Standard)
- % People aged 15 years and over who are separated or divorced
- % Employed people classified as Machinery Operators and Drivers
- % People aged 15 years and over who did not go to school
- % Employed people classified as Low Skill Community and Personal Service Workers
- % People who do not speak English well

### Variables Dropped

- % Employed people classified as Low Skill Clerical and Administrative Workers
- % Employed people classified as Low Skill Sales Workers
- % Occupied private dwellings with one or no bedrooms
- % People aged 15 years and over who left school at Year 11 or lower

ABS, 2006: paper 2039, Appendix.

**Index of Relative Socio-economic Disadvantage, variable weights in 2001 and 2006**

Dimension	Variable description	2001 weight	2006 weight
INCOME	% People with stated annual household equivalised income between \$13,000 and \$20,799 (approx. 2nd and 3rd deciles)	-	-0.30
	% Families with income less than \$15,600	-0.23	-
	% Families with offspring having parental income less than \$15,600	-0.29	-
EDUCATION	% People aged 15 years and over with no post-school qualifications	-0.31	-0.30
	% People aged 15 years and over who did not go to school	-0.19	-0.17
	% People aged 15 years and over who left school at Year 10 or lower	-0.25	-
EMPLOYMENT	% People (in the labour force) unemployed	-	-0.27
	% Males in labour force unemployed	-0.27	-
	% Females in labour force unemployed	-0.27	-
OCCUPATION	% Employed people classified as Labourers	-	-0.30
	% Employed people classified as Machinery Operators and Drivers	-	-0.20
	% Employed people classified as Low Skill Community and Personal Service Workers	-	-0.17
	% Employed males as classified as 'Labourers and Related Workers'	-0.27	-
	% Employed females classified as 'Labourers and Related Workers'	-0.27	-
	% Employed males classified as 'Intermediate Production and Transport Workers'	0.24	-
	% Employed females classified as 'Intermediate Production and Transport Workers'	-0.19	-
	% Employed females classified as 'Elementary Clerical, Sales and Service Workers'	0.13	-
% Employed males classified as 'Tradespersons'	-0.11	-	
HOUSING	% Households renting from a Government or Community organisation	-	-0.27
	% Occupied private dwellings requiring one or more extra bedrooms(based on Canadian National Occupancy Standard)	-	-0.20
	% Households paying rent who pay less than \$120 per week (excluding \$0 per week)	-	-0.26
	% Households renting from a Government organisation	-0.22	-
	% Occupied private dwellings with two or more families	-0.13	-
OTHER	% Families that are one parent families with dependent offspring only	-0.25	-0.26
	% Occupied private dwellings with no car	-0.19	-0.22
	% People aged 15 years and over who are separated or divorced	-0.19	-0.20
	% People who identified themselves as being of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander origin	-0.18	-0.20
	% People who do not speak English well	-0.15	-0.13
	% Occupied private dwellings with no Internet connection	-	-0.33
	% People aged under 70 who need assistance with core activities due to a long-term health condition, disability or old age	-	-0.24

Source: ABS, 2006a:69

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The Centre for Social Justice commissioned Pam Bourke Consulting to prepare this report. It was researched and written by Fiona Caniglia, Pam Bourke and Angkana Praphakom Whiley.