

1 At least 1 in 7 adults are living in poverty

The situation is worse for households where the main income-earner is unemployed (62% in poverty), and for sole-parents (34% in poverty).

2 Jobseeker over \$200/week below the poverty line

JobSeeker pays \$57/day (\$397/week), which is \$38/day (\$264/week) below the Henderson Poverty-Line (\$661/week). It is one of the lowest unemployment payments in the developed world. In fact, all our welfare payments are below the Henderson Poverty-Line.

3 People on Jobseeker are missing out

According to a 2024 ACOSS report, People receiving JobSeeker are:

- 14 times more likely to go without a substantial meal daily

- 9 times more likely to lack a phone or a car

- 8 times more likely to lack access to home internet or a washing machine

4 Housing costs out of control

SA's housing market has skyrocketed since COVID; since April 2020:

- House prices increased 85% in Adelaide, and 89% in regional SA

- Rents have increased 52% across SA

According to Anglicare's latest Rental Affordability Snapshot, less than 1% of rentals, nationwide, are affordable for people on JobSeeker.

5 Public housing waiting list remains huge

According to the Productivity Commission (2024), SA still has over 14,000 on the waiting list. While there has been some progress towards building new public housing, the number of new built public homes has very been modest. After 2026/2027, we will not be building enough new public housing to even match population growth, let alone meet need. If our public housing waiting list were a town, it would be the 8th-largest town in SA.

ANTI-POVERTY WEEK 2025 FACTSHEET

Things Governments Can Do To Tackle Poverty Crisis + Housing Insecurity



FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Raise ALL Centrelink payments to the poverty line

This is an incredibly wealthy nation – no one should have to live on an income where it is a struggle to look after their health, keep a roof over their head, and be part of their community.

We lifted huge numbers of people out of poverty in 2020, when the COVID Supplement temporarily doubled JobSeeker and Youth Allowance. We can do it again – all it would take is political will – political will that has been missing from the Albanese Government.

End Taxpayer handouts for property investors -Fund public housing

Negative Gearing and Capital Gains tax breaks drain billions from the community annually, money that could build essential public housing. Why should taxpayers support property investors? These unnecessary subsidies inflate housing costs, benefiting the wealthy while hurting those in need of homes.

STATE GOVERNMENT

Freeze rents for 2 years, Then introduce rent caps

With rents skyrocketing beyond incomes, it's crucial for the State Government to safeguard renters from exorbitant increases. A temporary rent freeze, followed by limits tied to inflation, is essential.

Make public transport cheaper

Lower public transport fares would greatly benefit those with limited incomes, enabling them to stay mobile and engaged in daily life. In SA, both the Liberals and the Greens advocate for 50-cent fares—it's time for the State Government to catch up.

“Payments being so far below the poverty line means I can’t afford to eat and take care of my medical needs. I have to choose between the two. Nobody should have to make these choices.” – Mel, Anti-Poverty Network SA member

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For a complete list of references and more details, reach out to Anti-Poverty Network SA at info@apnsa.org or visit apn-sa.org. We believe Partner Income Tests should go; everyone deserves their own reliable income. Stay tuned for our upcoming campaign!

For further info, see our JobSeeker Factsheet on our website
<https://apn-sa.org/2025/10/13/anti-poverty-week-2025-factsheet/>