



Australian Government

Creating a Productive Future: Social and economic challenges, policy and governance

Session 1: Poverty and Inequality: Their Link to Growth and Opportunity

Paul Ronalds, PM&C
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Since 1991



Australia has recorded its longest period of economic growth over the past 100 years



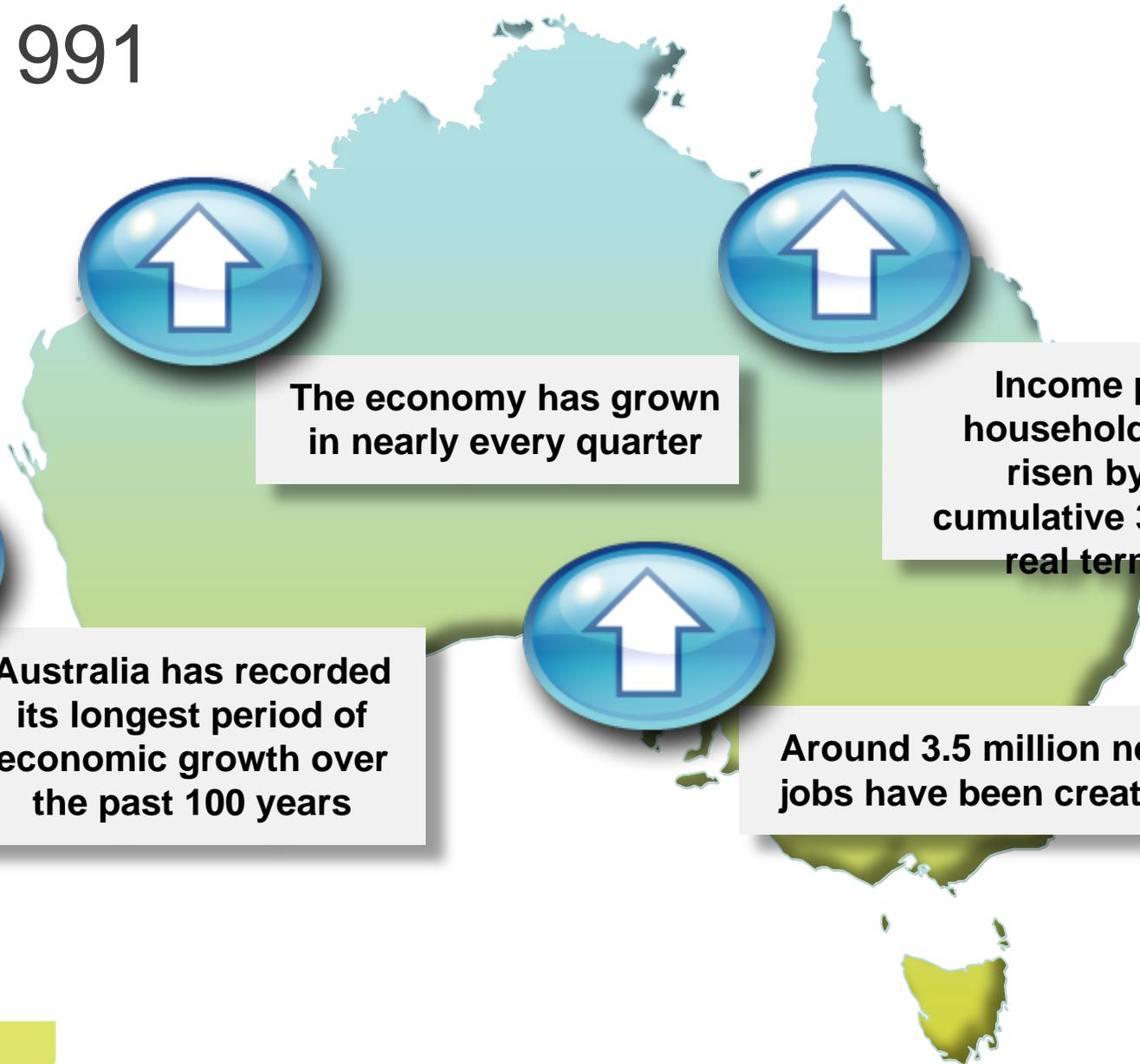
The economy has grown in nearly every quarter



Around 3.5 million new jobs have been created



Income per household has risen by a cumulative 30% in real terms



Improvements



60% rise in employment rate of older Australians over the last decade



86% of those aged 20-24 years have a Year 12 or equivalent qualification, up from 79% in 2001



Two-thirds of 25–64 year olds hold post-school qualifications, an increase of 75% since 1997

The rates of child protection notifications fell by 26% from 2008-09 to 2010-11



Problems

Around 5% of Australians experience multiple disadvantages

Indigenous disadvantage

The same geographical areas continue to be disadvantaged.

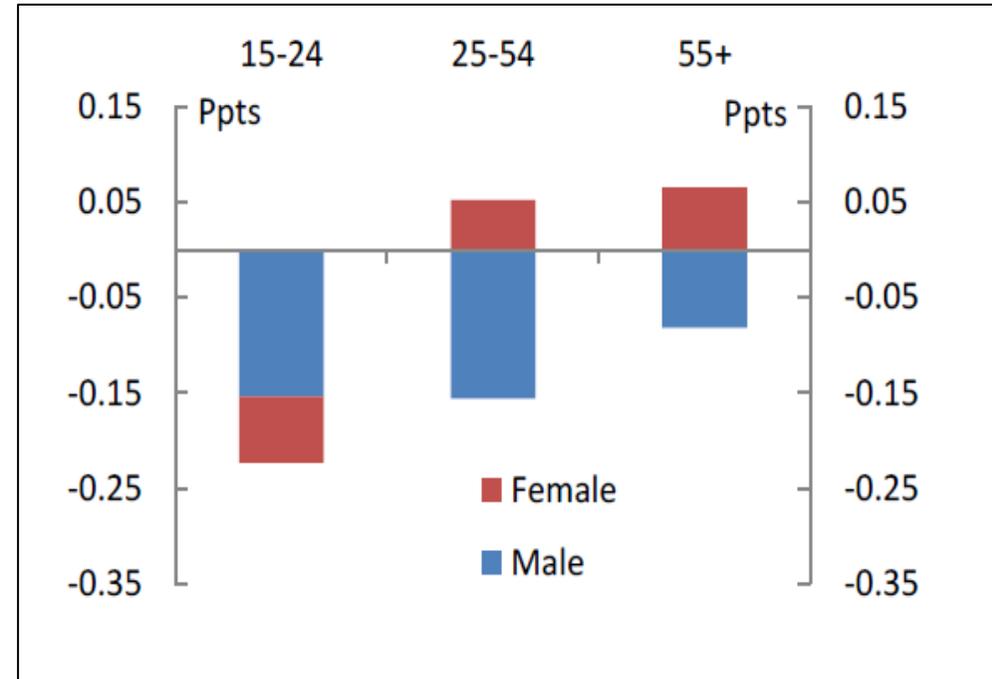
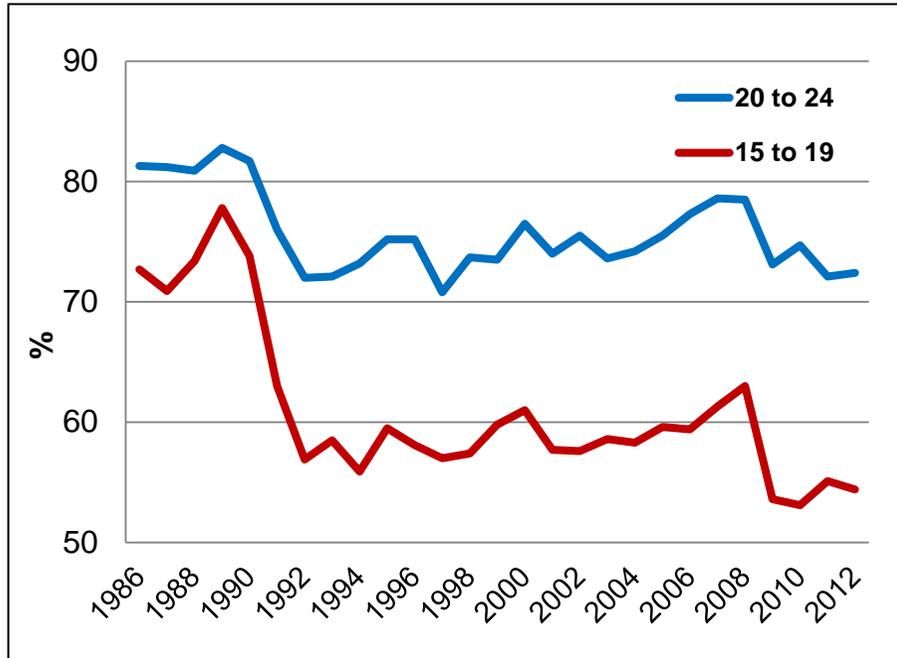
Persistent welfare dependence. Latest HILDA data reports 45% of people relying on a welfare payment in 2001 were also welfare reliant in 2009

Following the GFC, the full-time employment rate of young people fell sharply



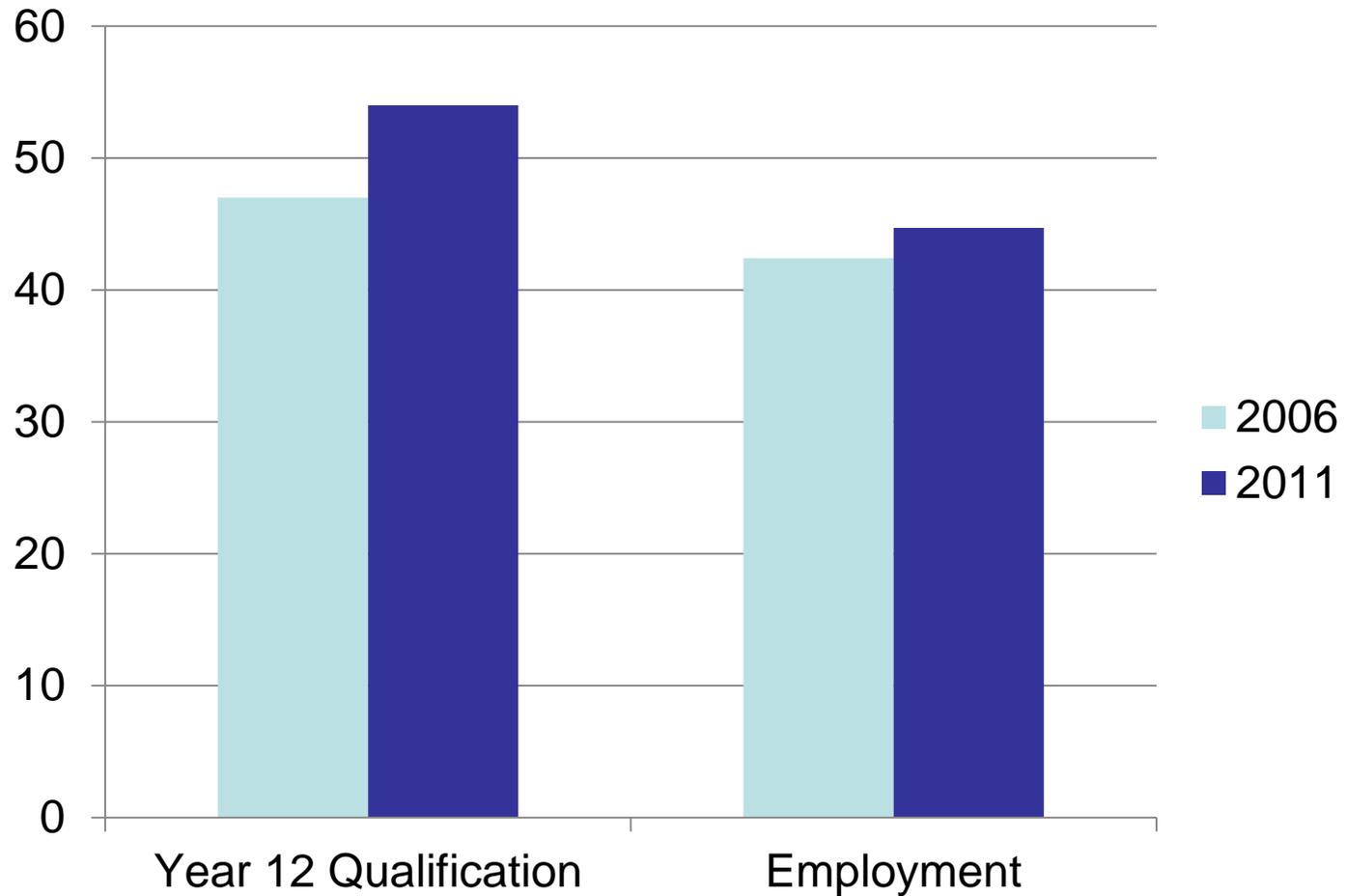
Youth at risk

Following the GFC, the full-time employment rate of young people fell sharply, and has not regained its former level

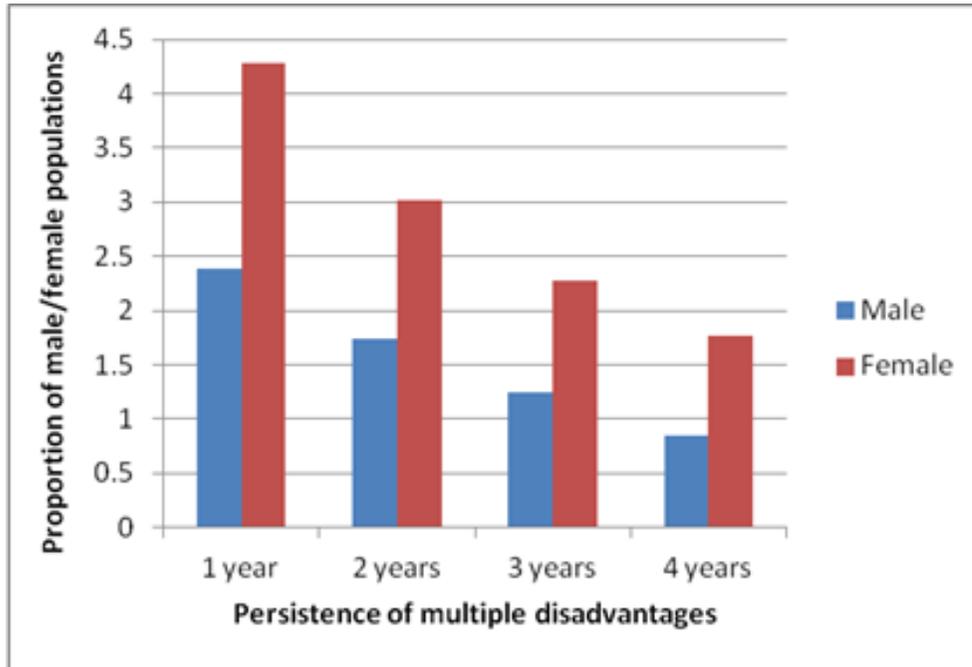


Change in labour force participation rates, 2011-2013

Closing the Gap on Indigenous Disadvantage



Persistent multiple disadvantages



- In 2010, 640 000 (around 5%) Australians aged between 18 and 64 years experienced three or more disadvantages

- Around one third of the people aged 18 to 64 years who experienced multiple disadvantages in 2006 experienced multiple disadvantages two years later.

- Women are more likely than men to have multiple disadvantages, and are more likely to have those disadvantages persist.

Persistent welfare dependence

Latest HILDA data reports 45% of people relying on a welfare payment in 2001 were also welfare reliant in 2009

