



Poverty & COVID-19

During these unprecedented times, it is more important than ever to support those in the Australian community who will be struggling the most. The health and economic impact of COVID-19 will hit marginalised communities the hardest.

We know that for many people being sick can make you poor and being poor often makes you sick. Those in lower socioeconomic groups are at a greater risk of poor health, have higher rates of illness, disability, and death compared to those from a higher socioeconomic background. The Federal Government has stated some people at most risk of serious infection from COVID-19 than others. These include:

- older people – people over the age of 70 (over 65 for people who have pre-existing medical conditions, or over 50 for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who have pre-existing medical conditions)
- people with weakened immune systems
- people with diagnosed chronic medical conditions (such as high blood pressure, heart and lung conditions, kidney disease and diabetes)
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, who have higher rates of chronic illness.

Unemployment is also on the rise as a result of the COVID-19 induced shut-down, severely impacting on those who were already out of work or didn't have enough work before the bushfires and pandemic hit.

From:

<https://antipovertyweek.org.au/poverty-covid-19/>