

Rebecca Cassells

Senior Research Fellow
National Centre for Social and Economic Modelling
University of Canberra

Personal details

Contact	NATSEM, University of Canberra, 2601 Phone: 02 6201 2787 Fax: 02 6201 2751 Email:rebeccac@natsem.canberra.edu.au
Academic qualifications	2003 Bachelor of Applied Economics, University of Canberra 2003 Bachelor of Social Sciences (Law and Geography majors), University of Canberra

Professional history

2009 – present	Senior Research Fellow, NATSEM, University of Canberra
2008 – 2009	Research Fellow, NATSEM, University of Canberra
2005 – 2008	Senior Research Officer, NATSEM, University of Canberra
2004 – 2005	Research Officer, NATSEM, University of Canberra
2003 – 2004	Research Assistant, NATSEM, University of Canberra

Relevant experience

Policy-related research experience	Rebecca has worked as an economic and social researcher at NATSEM for seven years. Over this time she has worked on many projects that have either been directly or indirectly policy related. She has a diverse portfolio of research subjects, including childcare affordability and availability; themes of disadvantage, including poverty and child housing disadvantage; regional analysis of wealth; neighbourhood effects; and gender divisions.
Gender analysis	Rebecca has a strong interest and understanding of issues surrounding gender and has recently focused much of her research on related themes. She has investigated wage gap trends for our youngest work-force generation, tracking them over time; and has also produced a high profile report that addresses gender gaps for Australian women, including employment, incomes, wealth and unpaid work.

Rebecca has also recently worked on a project for the Office for Women (FaHCSIA), investigating the key determinants of the gender wage gap in Australia, and its effect on economic growth.

Selected output

Articles in peer-refereed journals

McNamara, J., **Cassells, R.**, Wicks, P. and Vidyattama, Y. (2010 - forthcoming) 'Children in housing disadvantage in Australia: development of a summary small area index' *Housing Studies*

Cassells, R., McNamara, J., Lloyd, R. and Harding, A. (2007). Child care affordability and availability. *Agenda*, 14 (2), 123-140.

McNamara, J., **Cassells, R.**, Harding, A. and Lloyd, R. (2006). Trends in child care use and cost 1999 to 2002. *Australian Journal of Labour Economics, ABS/RADL Special Issue*, 9(2), 125-146

Cassells, R., Taylor, E., McNamara J, and Lloyd R, (2005). Capacity and need: a spatial analysis of Australian communities. *Australasian Journal of Regional Studies*, 11(3), 253-274.

Conference papers/presentations

Cassells, R., Miranti, R., Nepal, B., & Tanton, R., (2009), 'Australian women and the gender divide', Presentation to Committee for Economic Development in Australia, Sydney, July.

Miranti, R., **Cassells, R.**, Vidyattama, Y, and McNamara, J, (2009) 'Inequality in Australia : Does region matter ?', Paper presented at the 2nd General Conference of the International Microsimulation Association, Ottawa, Canada, 8th June

Cassells, R., Miranti, R., Nepal, B., & Tanton, R, (2009), 'Australian women and the gender divide', Presentation to the China Australia Governance program, NATSEM, Canberra.

Vidyattama, Y., **Cassells, R.**, and Corcoran, J., (2009), Exploring the spatio-temporal dynamics of children in jobless households in metropolitan Australia', Paper presented at People, Place and Space: Rethinking Regional Policy Agendas, 3rd ARCRNSISS National Conference, Adelaide.

Cassells R, Daly A, McNamara J & Keegan, M. (2008) 'The Gender Wage Gap for Generation Y Australians', paper presented at the Australian Conference of Economists, Gold Coast, October.

Cassells R, Daly A, McNamara J & Keegan, M. (2008) 'The Gender Wage Gap for Generation Y Australians', paper presented at the International Association for Feminist Economics (IAFFE) Conference, Torino, Italy, June 19-21.

Miranti, R., and **Cassells R.** (2008) 'Social and Economic Trends for the ACT and Australia', Presentation to ACT Public Service 'Take The Lead' 3 & 17 September 2008, Canberra.

McNamara, J., **Cassells R.**, Vidyattama, Y. and Wicks, P. (2008). 'Child housing disadvantage in Australia: a small area analysis'. Paper presented at People, Place and Space, Rethinking Regional Policy Agendas, National ARCNSISS Conference, Adelaide 30th Nov – 3rd Dec.

Cassells, R., McNamara, J., Wicks, P. and Vidyattama, Y. (2008). 'Children in housing disadvantage in Australia: a small area analysis'. Paper presented at the European Network of Housing Researchers Conference, Dublin, 6-9 July 2008.

Cassells, R. and McNamara, J. (2006). Before and after school care: costs and usage of formal child care services for school age children, 1999 and 2002. Paper prepared for the International Women and Leadership Conference: Changes, Challenges and Choices, Fremantle, 16 -17 November 2006

McNamara, J. and **Cassells, R.** (2006). Child care for infants: trends in usage and costs, 1999 to 2002. Paper presented at the 35th Conference of Economists, Curtin University, 25-27 September.

Cassells, R. & McNamara, J. (2006) 'Child care in Australia: Affordability, Availability and Subsidies, paper presented at the Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia Workshop, Childcare: A Better Policy Framework for Australia, University of Sydney, 13-14 July.

Cassells, R., McNamara, J., Lloyd, R. and Harding, A. (2005). Perceptions of Childcare Affordability and Availability in Australia : What the HILDA Survey Tells Us. Paper presented at the 9th Australian Institute of Family Studies Conference, Melbourne, 9-11 February.

McNamara, J., **Cassells, R.** and Lloyd, R. (2005). Persistence of problems with child care: evidence from the HILDA survey. Paper presented at the HILDA Survey Research Conference, Melbourne, 29-30 September 2005.

Other publications

Cassells, R., Vidyattama, Y., Miranti, R., & McNamara, J., (2009), 'The impact of a sustained gender wage gap on the Australian economy', Report to the Office for Women, Department of Families, Community Services, Housing and Indigenous Affairs

Cassells, R., Miranti, R., Nepal, B. & Tanton, R., (2009), 'She works hard for the money', AMP.NATSEM Income and Wealth Report No. 22.

Cassells, R. & Harding, A., (2007), "Generation whY?", AMP.NATSEM Income and Wealth Report, No.17.

Cassells, R., Vu, Q.N. and McNamara, J. (2007). Low income households in the ACT. Report for the ACT Council of Social Service. ACTCOSS, Canberra.

Cassells, R., Harding, A. & Kelly, S., (2006), "Problems and Prospects for Dynamic Microsimulation: A Review and Lessons for APPSIM", NATSEM Discussion Paper No.63, December.

McNamara, J., **Cassells, R.**, Lloyd, R. and Harding, A. (2005). The demographic profile of families using child care: changes between 1999 and 2002. Unpublished report for the Department of Family and Community Services.

Kelly, S., **Cassells, R.** & Harding, A. (2004). Household debt in Australia – Walking the tightrope. AMP.NATSEM Income and Wealth Report Issue 9. November 2004.