

**ING DIRECT Financial Wellbeing Index (FWI) – Q1 2012**  
**State by State Snapshot**

**Nationally**

- Household Financial Wellbeing Index is 106.9 (up slightly from 105.6 in Q4).
- All dimensions show an improvement with their index besides credit card debt
- 46% of households' income increased in the past twelve months
- 24% of households said their income has decreased over the past 12 months
  - 35% of those households put the decrease down to less work hours and 26% say their salary decreased
- Of those whose income increased, the main avenues of gaining extra income were selling goods (9%), doing odd jobs for cash (8%) or working more hours part-time (8%).

**NSW**

- Household Financial Wellbeing Index is 105.2 in the first quarter of 2012 (Q1), below the national Index score of 106.9
- 47% of NSW households have seen incomes rise in the past year. This figure rises to 53% for women, and drops to 41% among NSW men.
- 27% of NSW households are living on less than they were a year ago
- 33% cited reduced working hours is the cause for a drop in income

**VIC**

- The Index rose to 109.0 in Q1 2012, up from 101.4 in Q4
- 27% of households saw their income fall over the last 12 months
- 42% experienced higher incomes over the past year – the lowest level across the states
- Leaner incomes and a higher cost of living is seeing Victorians supplement household income
  - Selling personal possessions - 14%
  - Doing odd jobs for cash - 13%
  - Re-entering the workforce - 7%

**QLD**

- The Index for Qld is 109.0 in Q1 2012, above the national Index score of 106.9
- 45% of Queenslanders saw their income increase over the past year
- 52% cite rising salaries; 10% took on an extra job; and 8% are working longer hours.
- 18% of households earned a reduced income in the past 12 months

**SA**

- The Index for SA dropped to 103.5 in Q1 2012, down from 105.5 in Q4 2011
- 22% of SA households are getting by on reduced incomes
- 43% of SA households enjoyed rising income
- Faced with rising living costs, SA households plan to:
  - Take on an extra part time job – 9%
  - Work more part time hours – 8%
  - Do odd jobs paying cash – 8%

**WA**

- The Index reached 106 in Q1 2012, below the national Index score of 106.9
- 55% of WA households experienced a rise in income in the past year – the highest nationally
- 20% of WA households have seen their income drop over the past year (24% nationally)
- 10% of households are working longer hours, and 12% plan to take on more work over the year ahead.

**For a full copy of the report, please visit the [ING DIRECT Online Newsroom](#)**

**Contact: Caroline Thomas, PR Manager, ING DIRECT, 02 9018 5160 or 0413 317 225.**