

## Wealth and New Zealand

*Max Rashbrooke*

New Zealand's national character has been shaped by principles of egalitarianism and the belief in a 'fair go'. Yet in 2015 the top 1 per cent of New Zealanders owned three times as many assets as the entire bottom half put together – and the *NBR* Rich List revealed the biggest proportional increase in wealth since it first appeared in 1986.

Max Rashbrooke examines how wealth, as distinct from income, shapes our experience. Drawing on previously unpublished data, he explores what constitutes wealth in New Zealand – and where, how and why it is held. An award-winning journalist whose work on income inequality has contributed significantly to public discussion, Rashbrooke analyses this significant new shift in wealth distribution, and its impact on New Zealand.

*2015 publication; 132 pages; includes graphs, tables, maps and sources.*

**Themes:** Wealth, poverty, inequality, income distribution, housing in New Zealand, government policy

**Curriculum areas:** Economics, Social Studies

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