

University staff wage theft exceeds \$80m in three years

University staff have been underpaid more than \$80m in the past three years, a landmark report on wage theft has revealed.

The National Tertiary Education Union (Nteu) analysis of 34 cases found 22 public universities had withheld at least \$83.4m in wages since 2020.

The real the figure was likely to be in excess of \$90m higher with three cases still ongoing or without a figure disclosed.

The Nteu national president, **Dr Alison Barnes:**



This report exposes what we've known for some time - systemic wage theft has been baked into universities' business models. The sheer scale of wage theft in higher education is staggering. It's absolutely shameful that so many Australian university staff have had wages stolen.