

THE EQUALITY TRUST

The latest monthly round-up of research and news around pay & income inequality.

Most of the information in this email was previously reported via our twitterfeed (@equalitytrust).

NEWS FROM THE EQUALITY TRUST

At our annual conference, *Inequality Today 2015*, our supporters got a preview screening of new documentary *The Divide*, which tells the human story of the Spirit Level book. Professors Kate Pickett and Richard Wilkinson were on hand to respond. Our excellent guest speaker Professor Mike Savage explained how the subject of his book – renewed interest in social class – has coincided with growing concern about inequality. You can read more about the day [here](#).

In the press, The Equality Trust was quoted in the [Telegraph](#), [The Sun](#), the [Daily Express](#) and the [Daily Mirror](#), discussing the link between life expectancy gaps and economic inequality. And for Equal Pay Day, we wrote in [Left Foot Forward](#) about how reducing the gender pay gap can help reduce income inequality overall.

We also blogged on:

- [Why the Living Wage CAN Reduce Inequality](#)
- [Our Silent Killer: UK Health Gap is an Abuse of Human Rights](#)
- [How poor do the poor have to be before you care about inequality?](#)
- [Our police and justice regimes fail to deliver equality of opportunity, and some people are proposing to make things worse](#)
- [The Pay Gap](#)
- [Autumn Statement Response](#)
- [The Autumn Statement Creates a More Unequal UK](#)
- [Examining The Class Divide: Inequality Today 2015](#)

PROGRESS AND DEVELOPMENTS

Polling for [Ipsos Mori](#)'s monthly Issues Index shows public concern about poverty and inequality is at its joint highest level ever.

State school pupils are likely to do better at university than privately educated pupils who start with similar grades, according to [Cambridge University](#) research.

The UK [infant death rate](#) is one of the worst among all Western countries and experts have said inequality could be to blame.

[Michael Marmot](#)'s annual review of inequality and health showed 'Middle England' is stagnating in quality of life improvement.

On wealth inequality, the [IFS](#) showed 5 per cent of people have assets exceeding £1.2m, while 9 per cent have none at all.

LOW AND HIGH PAY

The [Guardian](#) revealed the majority of top CBI companies fail to pay the Living Wage.

Research by the [Resolution Foundation and CIPD](#) showed the new higher minimum wage will push up wages at 54 per cent of employers.

Companies should reveal pay ratios between bosses and average workers, argued a new report from the [High Pay Centre](#).

The [Labour Research Department](#) warned that the salary gap between average wages and those of top executives is widening each year.

LIVING COSTS

[Official figures](#) showed Britain's cost-of-living crisis is preventing millions of people from saving for retirement, especially low-income workers.

The lack of affordable homes will exclude 350,000 people from the housing market by 2020, according to analysis by [Savills](#).

POVERTY AND SOCIAL SECURITY

The [Joseph Rowntree Foundation](#) said more young people than over-65s are living in poverty, due to lack of decent jobs and affordable homes.

The number of kids in poverty in private rented houses has doubled in 10 years, found [New Policy Institute](#) research.

Flaws in Universal Credit are leaving vulnerable people penniless, according to a [Citizens Advice](#) study.

Scottish children from poor backgrounds are twice as likely to face [police action](#) as rich children who commit the same crime.

We rely on donations to keep our campaign going. If you found this bulletin interesting and informative, please consider supporting our work by [signing up as a regular supporter or by making a one off contribution](#). You can also support our work by forwarding this bulletin to people you know who might be interested in our work. Thank you!