**BBC Sounds - Understand: the economy**

[Understand - The Economy - The Economy: 10. Inequality - BBC Sounds](https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/m001fxdr)

**10: Inequality**

Why are the rich, rich and the poor, poor, and was it always this way? Tim Harford explains what’s happened to inequality over the last 100 years in the UK and why things might be better than you think. Economic historian Victoria Bateman explains the surprising effect The Great Plague had on income and gender equality.

What impact does inequality have on society?

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Distinguish between income and wealth.

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Why did inequality change significantly in the UK in the 1980s?

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Why did income (earnings) inequality not change significantly in the UK in the 1990s?

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What has happened to income inequality since the financial crisis of 2008?

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Explain the most common measure of income inequality?

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Compare the top 10% to the bottom 10% of earners in the UK.

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What has happened to wealth inequality since the financial crisis? Why?

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Why have the incomes of the top 1% increased significantly?

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What was the Peasants’ Revolt? Compare this to the current strikes in the UK.

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What is happening to global inequality over time? Why?

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What determines the level of inequality?

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How can government reduce inequality?

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Find out more about UK inequality here:

[The Scale of Economic Inequality in the UK | The Equality Trust](https://equalitytrust.org.uk/scale-economic-inequality-uk)