

## Income inequality, by design

Published: January 19, 2026, 8:16 am

---

This [has just been published](#) by the FT:

*Income inequality increased in the UK in 2018 as benefits cuts hit the income of the country's poorest households and higher wages helped the richest get richer.*

*The average income for the richest fifth in Britain increased by 4.7 per cent last year according to data released by the Office for National Statistics on Tuesday.*

*This contrasted with a 1.6 per cent income drop for the poorest fifth. The highest earners benefited from better wages while the poorest households saw a drop in income driven by a fall in cash benefits, according to the ONS.*

There is little reason to add more: what we have is increasing income inequality by design in the UK.

That is what none years of Tory government has delivered.

And yes, we do need to be angry. Because dividing society by choice in this way is a crime against humanity.