

## **Average income**

- Look at gendered aspect of wages (different average wages for males/females).
- Calculating means given different incomes under different categories.
- Consider differences hidden by mean income, e.g. human rights lawyer will earn less than commercial lawyer. Consider why such differences exist.
- Relate to GDP per capita of a country - comparing the GDP of a rich and a poor country and how this hides inequality within the two countries.
- Consider average starting salaries of careers of your choice - how much tax, National Insurance will be deducted? Student loans? How much have you got left to live on? Now find somewhere to live? Links into percentages. Could also link to estimation - how much do you expect to earn in a day/week/year?
- Students use data (frequency tables) on income to calculate the averages and make comparisons for themselves. Then interpret this and say what it tells us about the world.
- Get students to look at wages and see that they may not be as wealthy in future as they think they're going to be. Relate to increase in soup kitchens, food banks and child poverty in the UK (supposedly a wealthy country).
- Opportunity to look at inequality in the UK as well as globally.
- Relate to the London Living Wage - why is it important? Could find data in order to compare income in the UK, London and area within which the school is situated (census data).
- Consider how average income of a family hides poverty in the UK.
- Consider the use of the mean or the median for average income - what difference does this make? Why is the mean not necessarily the best way of representing data? (hides inequalities and extreme values)
- Seeing that the mean hides extreme values is important for TMSJ. This might provide a TMSJ perspective on a lesson targeted more generally at understanding mean and median.