

Press release

MIND THE GENDER RENT GAP

- Millennial women spend a higher proportion of their salary on rent than men -

- **New research by SpareRoom conducted with 6,000 millennial flatsharers¹ reveals how the gender pay gap has created a knock-on ‘gender rent gap’**
- **One in four (27%) females are spending more than half of their salary on rent, compared to just 17% of males**
- **More than half (56%) of males admitted they’d be able to afford their rent on their own, compared with just 39% of females**

It’s clear there’s still a huge gap between female and male salaries. A comprehensive survey of 5,959 millennial flatsharers, carried out by SpareRoom, reveals the gender pay gap has created a gender rent gap – with one in four (27%) women spending over half their monthly pay on rent, compared to just 17% of men.

Millions of people flatshare and, when it comes to the cost of rent, flatmates typically split the costs equally, regardless of gender. However, women earning less than men means they are more rent burdened, which has a severe knock on effect on the rest of their lives.

One in three (36%) millennial women don’t consider their rent to be affordable, compared to 30% of men. What’s more, over half (56%) of men said they’d be able to afford to rent on their own if they chose to, compared to just 39% of women.

The figures show the barriers to female homeownership are the same. Almost half (47%) of millennial women admit they’d only be able to afford a deposit if they teamed up with a partner, compared to just one third (37%) of men. Among those who don’t expect to buy, 60% of millennial women said it’s because they don’t earn enough to get a mortgage, compared to 51% of men.

Additional findings from the research reveal how just one in four millennial females (26%) have an annual pre-tax income of over £30,000, compared to 34% of male flatsharers.

Miriam Tierney, SpareRoom spokesperson adds: “This research shows just how far the consequences of the gender pay gap extend. It’s not just about how much you earn, it’s about how that affects the fundamental things in life. In simple terms, it’s relatively more expensive to rent in the UK if you’re female. That means the one thing at the heart of all our lives, having a secure, affordable home, is harder for some people, simply because of their gender.”

- ENDS -

For more information please contact spareroom@cowpr.com or call 020 7234 9150.

Notes to Editors

Research conducted by SpareRoom in 2019 with 5,959 millennial (aged under 35) flatsharers

About SpareRoom

SpareRoom is the UK's leading flat and house share site with over 9 million registered users. Founded in the UK in 2004, the company expanded into the US market in 2011 and has currently helped over a million people find a room or roommate in the US.