



14th August 2020

Equal Pay Day – Equality good for business recovery

BPW Australia (the Australian Federation of Business and Professional Women) is marking Equal Pay Day 2020 by urging business leaders to change their habits and stay focussed on equality as critical to economic recovery.

“Gender equality and gender diversity at work is not just nice to have. Gender equity is a basic human right, but its achievement also brings socio-economic benefits to everyone. In a global pandemic, now more than ever we must not risk the gains women have made. Empowering women increases productivity and growth and the broader community thrives,” Jacqueline Graham, BPW Australia President said.

“The Workplace Gender Equality Agency has confirmed, with their recently released [2020 Gender Equity Insights Report](#) in collaboration with Bankwest Curtin Economic Centre (BCEC), that more gender balanced leadership in an organisation delivers better company performance” Jacqueline said.

Workplace Gender Equality Agency (WGEA) is an Australian Government statutory agency created by the Workplace Gender Equality Act 2012. The Agency is charged with promoting and improving gender equality in the Australian Workplaces.

This year, **Equal Pay Day 2020 will be on 28th August** and remains unchanged from 2019 and 2018. The national gender pay gap released by WGEA is 14% and there are 59 additional days from the end of the previous financial year that women must work, on average, to earn the same amount as men earned that year.

The impact of COVID-19 crisis as seen this year’s pay gap show a greater disparity between men and women. Every industry in Australia has a full time pay gap favouring full-time working men, even in female dominated industries such as health care and social assistance.



“To drive economic recovery, we need gender balanced leadership and action for a strong and thriving Australia,” Jacqueline said.

To find out more , go to <https://www.wgea.gov.au/>

About BPW Australia

BPW Australia is a community of women working to end gender inequity. Our members share an interest in the issues that affect working women in Australia and around the world today. BPW's membership includes employers and employees who work across many sectors including corporate, small business, professions, trades, non-profit and government. BPW Australia is affiliated to BPW International, which has consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and has expert and experienced representatives accredited to most United Nations agencies.

BPW Australia recommends actions in line with UN Global Compact Sustainable Development Goal 5: To Achieve Gender Equality and Empower all Women and Girls

Contact: Angela Tomazos 0457 199 646 / E policy@bpw.com.au