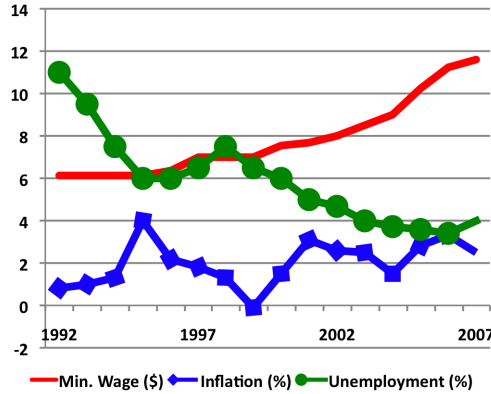




10 good reasons to sign the petition



- 450,000 are paid less than \$15 an hour.** 100,000 workers are on the minimum wage of \$12.50 an hour. That's not enough to live on.
- 30% of New Zealanders on the lowest incomes in 2004 were actually worse off** in real dollars than they were 20 years ago. The top 10% were 21% better off.
- Profits increased 11% a year from 2000-2004** according to the Reserve Bank. On the other hand the OCED says the average worker only got an increase of **1.7% in the 10 years** from 1995-2005.
- There is no proven link between unemployment and wage increases** according to NZ Treasury research. In fact there is some evidence wage increases actually stimulate the economy.
- Unemployment dropped from 11% to 4% and inflation has stayed low** over the last 25 years, even though the minimum wage doubled from \$6.12 to \$12.50.
- Superannuation was set by Parliament at 66% of the average wage** for a couple because it was seen as fair. Yet the minimum wage for a full-time worker is less than 50%.
- Other state benefits are automatically increased every year** by the inflation rate. Workers have no guarantee. Many get nothing.
- The Labour, Green and Maori parties** support \$15 an hour. So does the Council of Trade Unions.
- The Australian minimum wage is NZ\$17.50.** National says they want pay parity with Australia and that our wages are too low.
- \$15 is a good start.** It's time for a fairer balance between a living wage and a company's profits. After all, there is no business without workers



That's why you should sign the petition.

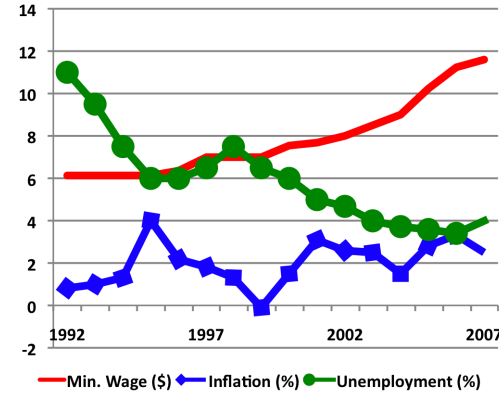
For sources and more information go to: www.unite.org.nz



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Support the Campaign for a Living Wage

- This petition is organised by the Unite Union – a union with many low paid workers. It is supported by many other organisations and trade unions.
- If 300,000 people sign this petition before 1st May next year the government has to ask every voter in the country to vote on whether to raise the minimum wage to \$15 an hour.
- A victory will make it easier to lift all wages (even for those paid over \$15 an hour).
- Every voter will be asked to vote on the following question:
“Should the adult minimum wage be raised in steps over the next three years, starting with an immediate rise to \$15 per hour, until it reaches 66% of the average total hourly earnings as defined in the Quarterly Employment Survey?”
- If a majority votes yes, it will make it easier for us to win wage increases for all workers.
- Contact us to help with the Campaign for a Living Wage

Stronger Together

Workers are always better off if they join together. If there is a union on your site we recommend you join it.

If there is no union on your site contact our National Organiser **Kathryn Tucker** to see if we can help you get a better deal.

Post: **Freepost UNITE (no stamp required)**
PO Box 7175, Wellesley St.
Auckland 1141

Email: **support@unite.org.nz**

Phone: **0800 2 UNITE (0800 286 483)**

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