

CHILD POVERTY



Poverty has a lasting, damaging impact on the future life chances of children and intensifies systemic inequalities. Poverty disproportionately impacts children and young people growing up in black or ethnic minority families – 46% of whom live in poverty after housing costs in England.

3,396 children (0-16 years), or 10.0% of the child population in Hammersmith and Fulham were living in absolute poverty in the year ending March 2021. During this period, 4,105 children (12.1%) were living in relative poverty in Hammersmith & Fulham.

Among the twenty UK local authorities with the highest child poverty rates in 2020/21, after housing costs are accounted for, seven are in London. Among London Boroughs, Hammersmith and Fulham ranks 10th lowest of 33 boroughs for level of child poverty after housing costs are accounted for.

KEY INDICATORS

Children living in absolute poverty (LBHF, 2021)

10.0%



Children living in relative poverty (LBHF, 2021)

12.1%



Child poverty after accounting for housing costs (LBHF, 2020/21)

29.4%

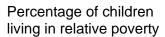


Child Poverty Data



Percentage of children living in absolute poverty

10.0 UK 15.1



12.1 UK 18.7

Percentage of children living in poverty after accounting **29.4**

for housing costs

London 35.0



Inequalities

In the UK in 2020, after accounting for housing costs:

- 49% of children living in lone-parent families are in poverty.
- 46% of children from black and minority ethnic groups are in poverty, compared with 26% of children in white British families.
- 75% of children growing up in poverty live in a household where at least one person works.
- 47% of children living in families with 3 or more children live in poverty.

Demographics



Number of children (0-19) in absolute lowincome families by work status in London in 2020:

In working families

Not in working families

255,000

85,000

340,000

In 2020, there were more children in working absolute low-income families than not in working ones in London, and across the United Kingdom.

Number of children (0-19) in relative lowincome families by family type in London in 2020:

Lone parent
Couple

164,000

259,000

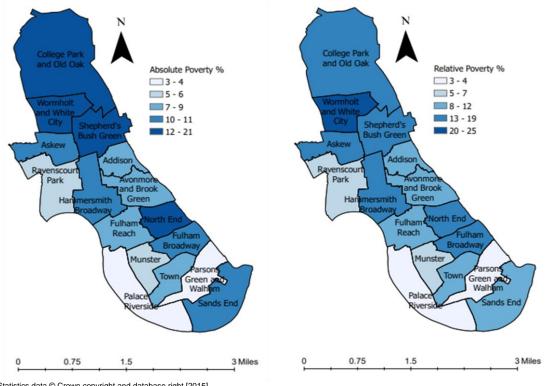
424,000

In 2020, there were more children in relative lowincome families with a couple family type in London and across the United Kingdom.

Poverty Maps



Ward maps of children living in absolute poverty and relative poverty in Hammersmith and Fulham in 2021 (percent of children):



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Overview



In London, after housing costs, 35% (600,000) of children were in poverty (families living on less than 60% of the median income after housing costs are accounted for) in 2020/21. Although this suggests that London's child poverty rate fell slightly (-2%) between 2019/20 and 2020/21, the first year of the pandemic, this change coincided with the temporary £20 uplift in universal credit which has now been removed. The removal of the uplift is expected to increase the child poverty rate again.

Childcare costs have risen 42% since 2008, twice the rate of inflation.

The UK has relatively high employment rates, but an unstable labour market, putting UK households at higher risk of moving in and out of in-work poverty.

Between 1998 and 2003 reducing child poverty was made a priority – with a comprehensive strategy and investment in children – and the number of children in poverty fell by 600,000.

Data Sources:

Child Poverty Action Group, 2023. Solutions to Poverty. [Online] https://cpag.org.uk/child-poverty/solutions-poverty [Accessed Feb 2023].

Department for Work and Pensions, 2022. Children in Low Income Families: local area statistics, United Kingdom, financial years ending (FYE) 2015 to 2021.

End Child Poverty, 2022. Child Poverty in Your Area. [Online] https://endchildpoverty.org.uk/child-poverty/ [Accessed Feb 2023]. End Child Poverty, 2022. More Than One Third of London Children Still Living in Poverty As Fears Situation Will Worsen In Cost Of Living Crisis. London.

Data trends shown by: Increase/ negative:



Decrease, positive:



No significant change:





