

Child Poverty in Glasgow Report 2023



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Child Poverty in Glasgow Report 2023

Our initial brief

The Centre for Civic Innovation has been working collaboratively with child poverty experts from across the council for the past four years. The work undertaken by the CCI led to the development of the Child Poverty in Glasgow report 2020, Child Poverty: Understanding the Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic 2021 and Child Poverty: Recovering from the COVID-19 Pandemic.

This report takes a deep dive into the data that the council holds on Housing Benefit and Council Tax Reduction recipients, as well as bringing in data around kinship care, education benefits and we are finding new sources of data every year. This data research allows the council to view child poverty at a granular household level allowing for the characteristics of those in poverty to be understood. This will also allow the council to design and implement solutions that will have a real, tangible impact on children across the city. Now in its fourth year, the report is allowing the council to understand different types of poverty, such as persistent poverty and deep poverty.

Our aim is to better understand child poverty in Glasgow in order to help reach the child poverty targets set out by the Scottish Government:

- + By 2030 there is a target to ensure that fewer than 10% of children are living in relative poverty
- + By 2030 there is a target to ensure that fewer than 5% of children are living in persistent poverty

Impact of previous reports

The insights gathered in the past reports have been used to better understand the need for interventions targeted at priority groups. The initial research carried out in 2020 highlighted a significant gap in the uptake of education benefits, which led to funding being secured to set up a pilot to embed Financial Inclusion Support Officers in secondary schools across Glasgow. The role of the officers is to increase awareness and knowledge in young people of the various grants and awards available to them as well as supporting parents to maximise their income by raising awareness of entitlements to welfare benefits, grants and awards.

Glasgow's detailed understanding of the extent and depth of child poverty was also pivotal in both establishing and informing the work of our Child Poverty Pathfinder, a partnership focused on radically rethinking our approach to tackling child poverty

Framing the project

Our previous report focused on the recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and identified the major negative impact on the communities within Glasgow. This was worst felt by families on low income and those already regarded as living in poverty.

Building on this knowledge, this report will aim to understand:

- + How has the scale and depth of child poverty changed since 2022?
- + How many households with children are now receiving these benefits that weren't previously?
- + How many households with children are no longer receiving these benefits that were previously?
- + How has in-work poverty and unemployment changed since 2022?
- + How many households with children in poverty are claiming Universal Credit and how has this changed?
- + How many households with children are experiencing persistent poverty?
- + How many households with children are experiencing deep poverty?
- + How many households with children are just above the poverty line?

It is also vital that we continue to understand how this recovery from the pandemic has impacted the priority groups that were a focus of the previous child poverty reports:

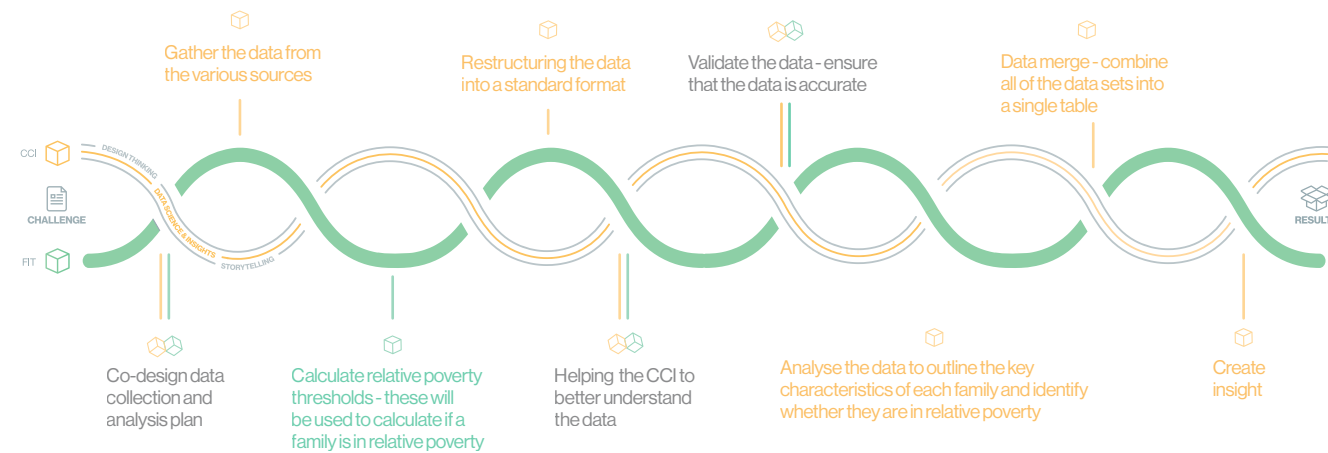
- + Lone parents
- + Mothers under the age of 25
- + Households where a member has a disability
- + Households with 3 or more children
- + Households where there is a child under the age of 1
- + Kinship care households

Families of a minority ethnicity are also highlighted as a priority group in the *Every child, every chance: tackling child poverty delivery plan 2018-2022*. However, the benefits data that we use for this analysis doesn't capture the claimants ethnicity which means that we are currently unable to provide insight into this priority group within this report.

Investigating the data

Working with the Financial Inclusion and Transformation Team

Data can identify areas of opportunity and either challenge or back up assumptions. It enables us to establish a baseline from which improvements can be made. We analyse data not just to create more data, but to create insights.



This is the fourth report that we have produced with the Financial Inclusion and Transformation team and this year we have also been drawing on the knowledge of Glasgow’s Child Poverty Pathfinder. Having a wider team of subject matter experts to work with has allowed us to ensure that this report continues to provide the most detailed understanding of child poverty in Glasgow

To provide a more detailed picture of child poverty in Glasgow, we take data from a range of sources that usually sit in isolation from each other. We can then merge this data to create a single view of each household which includes who lives there and the households income.

Each year, we try to bring something new to the report and this year is no different. Working with our subject matter experts we identified deep poverty and households just above the poverty line as a particular areas of interest to add to our existing understanding of relative and persistent poverty.

In this report we look at the following types of poverty

Relative Poverty

A person is considered to be in relative poverty when living in a household whose income is below 60% of UK median income of households of the same size.

We describe this in more detail in the Glossary at the end of this report.

Persistent Poverty

A person is considered to be in persistent poverty if they have been in relative poverty for at least three of the last four years.

Deep poverty

Deep poverty has been highlighted by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation as dramatically increasing in the past few years.

A person is considered to be in deep poverty when living in a household whose income is below 40% of UK median income of households of the same size.

We describe this in more detail in the Glossary at the end of this report.

Poverty thresholds

The poverty thresholds are calculated based on the equivalised UK household median income, which is the definition used by the OECD (Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development).

The Scottish Government provides the poverty thresholds on only two household compositions. There are currently 60 different household compositions identified in the Housing Benefit data. In order to ensure our measurements are as accurate as possible, the Financial Inclusion and Transformation Team calculated a complete set of poverty thresholds to match each individual housing composition.

Capita One Revenues and Benefits

Capita One Revenues and Benefits is the database that holds all of Glasgow City Council’s Housing Benefit (HB) and Council Tax Reduction (CTR) information. The data we received from this database was taken on the 10th of July 2023.

The Housing Benefit/Council Tax Reduction data forms the backbone of this piece of analysis. It contains information on the address of each household, who lives there and the income each household receives.

In addition to this we also received new data in the form of the income breakdown for households in receipt of Universal Credit.

Kinship Care

The Kinship Care data provides information on which children across Glasgow are in kinship care. Since there was no unique identifier that would match the kinship care onto the HB data, a data matching exercise was undertaken. This data was taken on the 12th of June 2023.

City and Ward Populations

The Ward and city populations come from the Scottish Government and are based on their statistics on the number of households with children in receipt of Child Benefit.

Education Benefits

To understand education benefits we use a database called SEEMiS. This database is used by all local authorities across Scotland to maintain school pupil records. This provides us with data around Free School Meals, School Clothing Grants and Education Maintenance Allowance. The data we received from SEEMiS is dated the 23rd of February 2023. This data is used to provide information on the uptake of education benefits across the city.

Also, once mapped to the Housing Benefit and Council Tax Reduction data, it can be used to identify those children who are eligible for the benefits but aren’t receiving them. There is no unique identifier that can be used to join this with the Housing Benefit and Council Tax Reduction data so a data match exercise was undertaken.

Caveats

As we only have Housing Benefit and Council Tax Reduction data, we don’t have information on every household with children living in poverty. Households with children that are in receipt of Universal Credit and are not claiming Council Tax Reduction will not be included. However, the data that we have provides information on enough families that it can highlight specific problem areas and show that it will likely be an issue for those we don’t know about.

Several priority groups were identified as families that were particularly vulnerable to child poverty in the Every child, every chance: tackling child poverty delivery plan 2018-2022. However, the data contained in Capita One system doesn’t capture the claimants ethnicity which means that we are currently unable to provide insight into this priority group.

What has changed since the previous report?

With this now being the 4th iteration of the Centre for Civic Innovation’s Child Poverty Report, we are now able to highlight the full scope of persistent poverty in Glasgow.

We are also now looking at deep poverty, something that was highlighted by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation in a recent report (Joseph Rowntree Foundation 2023, Dramatic increase in very deep poverty sees nearly half a million Scots facing profound hardship). This was of particular interest as the depth of poverty in Glasgow has always been known to be particularly high.

We are now working in collaboration with Glasgow City Councils Child Poverty Pathfinder to look at how we can better use the data that we have to inform decision making for service provision.

The Child Poverty Dashboard is a new tool designed by the Centre for Civic Innovation in partnership with Glasgow City Council’s Strategic Information, Innovation and Technology Team. This tool is designed to act as a partner to the Child Poverty Report that will provide council officers with the knowledge to make decisions, design services and drive policy with clear direction and knowledge. It is being built with help from GHSCP, Financial Inclusion, Transport Planning, Education and Glasgow Helps.

Child Poverty in Glasgow: An Overview

We are now able to understand child poverty in Glasgow over the past 4 years. This allows us to make a **comparison to the scale of child poverty before the pandemic**, as well as providing a more complete understanding of persistent poverty in the city.

This initial section provides an overview of child poverty in Glasgow during 2023 and provides analysis of the following key areas:

- + The overall levels of relative poverty
- + The depth of poverty
- + Changes in households in poverty
- + Households in persistent poverty
- + Households in deep poverty or just above the poverty line

Child Poverty Overview

As we have now been running the Child Poverty Report for 4 years, we can compare today's level of Child Poverty in Glasgow to pre-pandemic levels as a baseline. In order **to reach the target of 10% of child poverty in Glasgow by 2030, we would have to lift 14,256 children out of poverty** if the population remained the same.

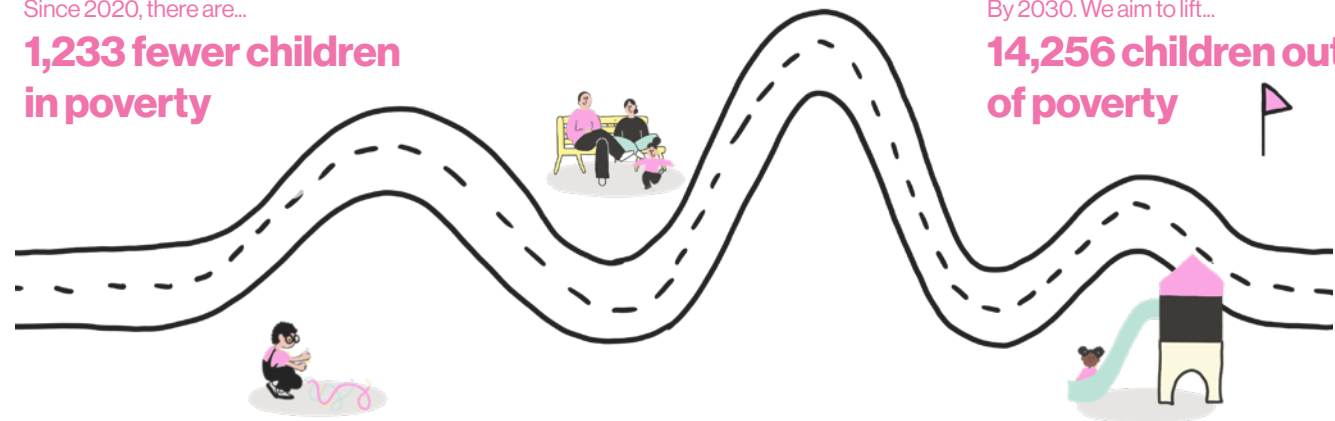
Meeting the city's targets

Since 2020, there are...

1,233 fewer children in poverty

By 2030. We aim to lift...

14,256 children out of poverty



<p>in 2020</p> <p>there were...</p> <p>25,485</p> <p>Children in poverty</p> <p>that is...</p> <p>24%</p> <p>of all children</p>	<p>in 2023</p> <p>there are...</p> <p>24,252</p> <p>Children in poverty</p> <p>that is...</p> <p>24%</p> <p>of all children</p>	<p>by 2030</p> <p>we aim to reduce the number of children in poverty to...</p> <p>9,996</p> <p>Children in poverty</p> <p>that is...</p> <p>10%</p> <p>of all children</p>
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By summing the total amount per week that each household is below the poverty line, we are able to see that...

Each week Glasgow's children are...
£1,551,427
below the poverty line

In a year Glasgow's children are...
£80,674,182
below the poverty line

Poverty since 2020

This year's report shows a continuing trend of an overall decline in the population of children in Glasgow. This has coincided with a reduction in the rate of child poverty since our report in 2021 which covered the previous year during which every family's life was interrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The rate of poverty has now returned to Glasgow's pre-pandemic levels of child poverty.

	2020	2021	2022	2023
Number of children in Glasgow (total)	107,775	106,745	104,625	99,965
Number of children in poverty	25,485	27,995	26,166	24,252
Number of households with children in poverty	13,827	15,346	14,269	12,932
Amount per week below the poverty line	£107	£115	£117	£115
Rate of relative poverty	24%	26%	25%	24%

Depth of poverty by priority group

As priority groups are most vulnerable to falling into poverty, it's important to understand how their depth of poverty is affected each year. Looking at the last three years we can see that some priority groups have been affected differently than others.

	Average amount per week below the poverty line					
	Lone Parents	Family with a disability	Mothers under 25	Children under one	Large families	Kinship care
2021	£110	£71	£113	£127	£195	£118
2022	£112	£69	£138	£127	£162	£117
2023	£113	£85	£134	£126	£151	£123

Changes in circumstances and impacts on child poverty

Whilst the data available doesn't show the reason for changes in circumstances, **Housing Benefit or Council Tax Reduction (HB/CTR)** claims can tell us about the households and children that have fallen into poverty or are no longer in poverty.

Each year there are many households in Glasgow where circumstances change. Some change for the better with adults getting new jobs, their children growing up into adults or some even move out of the city.

However, there are also those households whose circumstances change for the worse, meaning that they have to look to social security to help them meet their living costs.

Households that were claiming Housing Benefit or Council Tax Reduction last year...

In 2022 there were...



14,269

households in poverty claiming CTR (26,166 children)

In 2022 there were...



3,897

households were not in poverty claiming CTR (7,017 children)

This year...

1,988

of these households are no longer in poverty but are still claiming CTR

This year...

553

of these households are now in poverty

They are...

£46

per week below the poverty line

INSIGHT

For households that are existing HB/CTR claimants that have fallen into poverty, **they are £63 per week better off** than those who have fallen into poverty who have not been claiming HB/CTR



Households that are no longer claiming Housing Benefit or Council Tax Reduction...

In 2023 there are...



4,344

households no longer claiming HB/CTR that were claiming in 2022 (6,932 children)

Of which...



3,328

households were in poverty in 2022 but we no longer have any data on these families (5,345 children)

These families are...



£115

per week below the poverty line (on average)

New Council Tax Reduction and Housing Benefit Claims

In 2023 there are...



4,876

households that have made a new HB/CTR claim this year (8,757 children)

Of which...



3,426

households are in poverty (6,179 children)

New claimant households



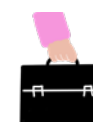
3,753

children live in lone parent households



2,397

children live in large families



2,461

children live in households where someone is in employment



£109

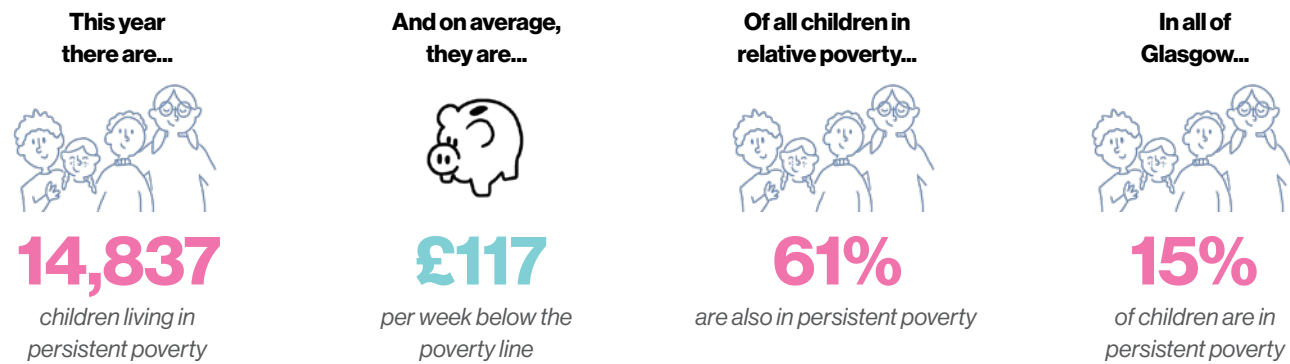
per week below the poverty line



Persistent poverty

Persistent poverty refers to a household that's been in poverty for at least three out of the last four years. This year's persistent poverty statistics are not comparable to last year's as we only had enough data to see three out of the last four years. **This year we can show every household in persistent poverty** that is claiming Council Tax Reduction.

How many children live in persistent poverty?

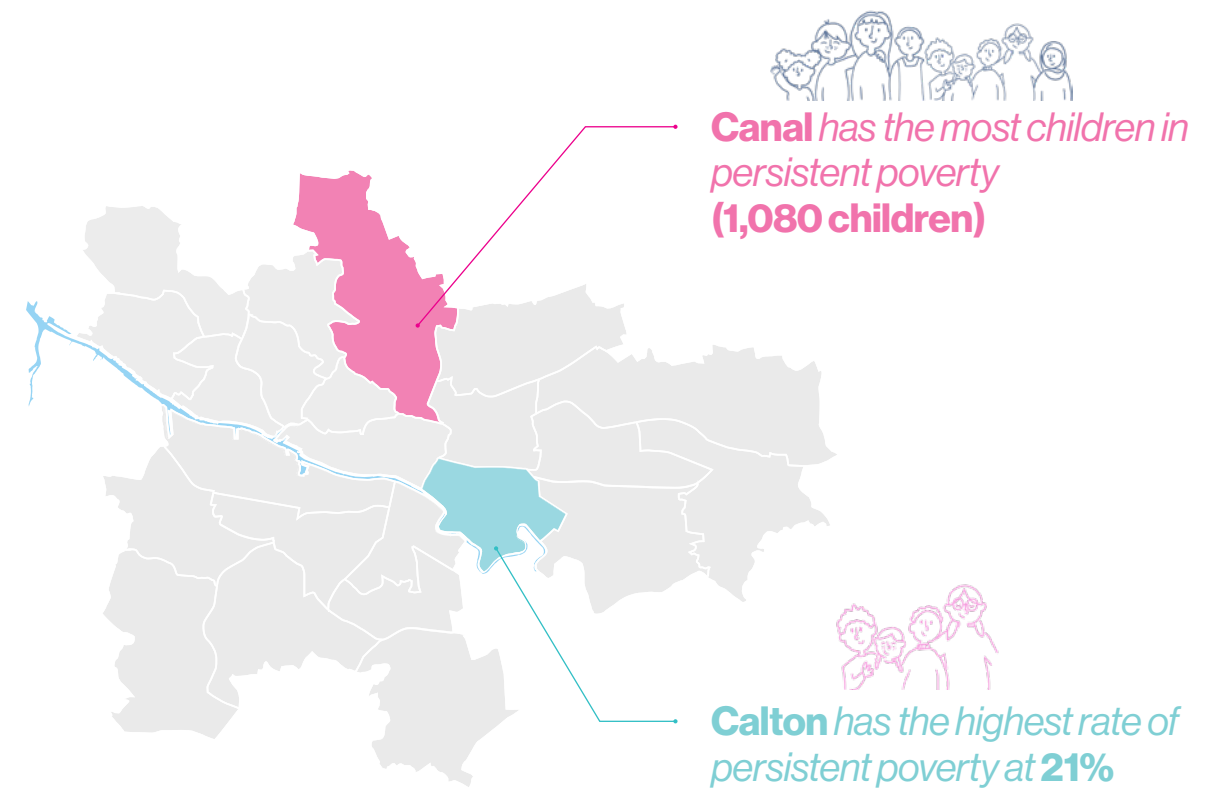


One year...
22% of children in poverty have been in poverty for 1 of the last 4 years

Two years...
17% of children in poverty have been in poverty for 2 of the last 4 years

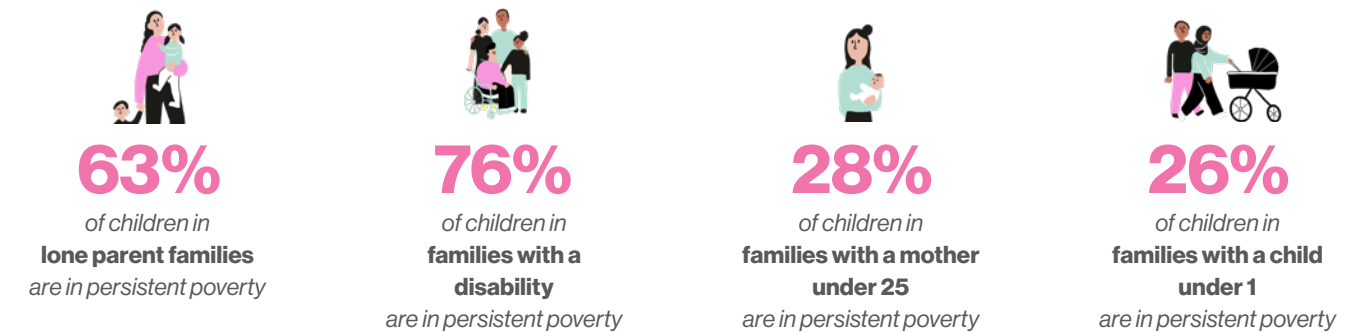
Three years...
16% of children in poverty have been in poverty for 3 of the last 4 years

Four years...
45% of children in poverty have been in poverty for 4 of the last 4 years



Persistent Poverty in priority groups

Of families in relative poverty...



64% of children in large families are in persistent poverty

63% of children in kinship care are in persistent poverty

Deep poverty and living just above the poverty line

Understanding data can be difficult as we often use averages. In order to help shine light on what's really happening, it can be helpful to look at families at either end of the poverty spectrum. Through doing this we can find out more about **what pushes people into deep poverty and how people fall into poverty in the first place?**

Just above the poverty line

Just above the poverty line refers to households **who earn up to 20% more than the relative poverty threshold.**

As our data is predominantly drawn from housing benefit and Council Tax Reduction claims, we won't have all the data about every family that is just above the poverty line. That being said, here's what we do know...

There are at least...



5,255

children in Glasgow just above the poverty line

That is...



57%

of these children live in households where there is at least one adult in employment



Deep poverty

Deep poverty refers to households who earn less than 40% of the median equivalised income.

There are...



9,972

children live in households that are in deep poverty

That is...



10%

of all children in Glasgow

Of all children in poverty...



41%

are in deep poverty

These families are...



£169

per week below the poverty line (on average)



70%

of children in deep poverty live in **lone parent households**



92%

of children in deep poverty live in **unemployed households**



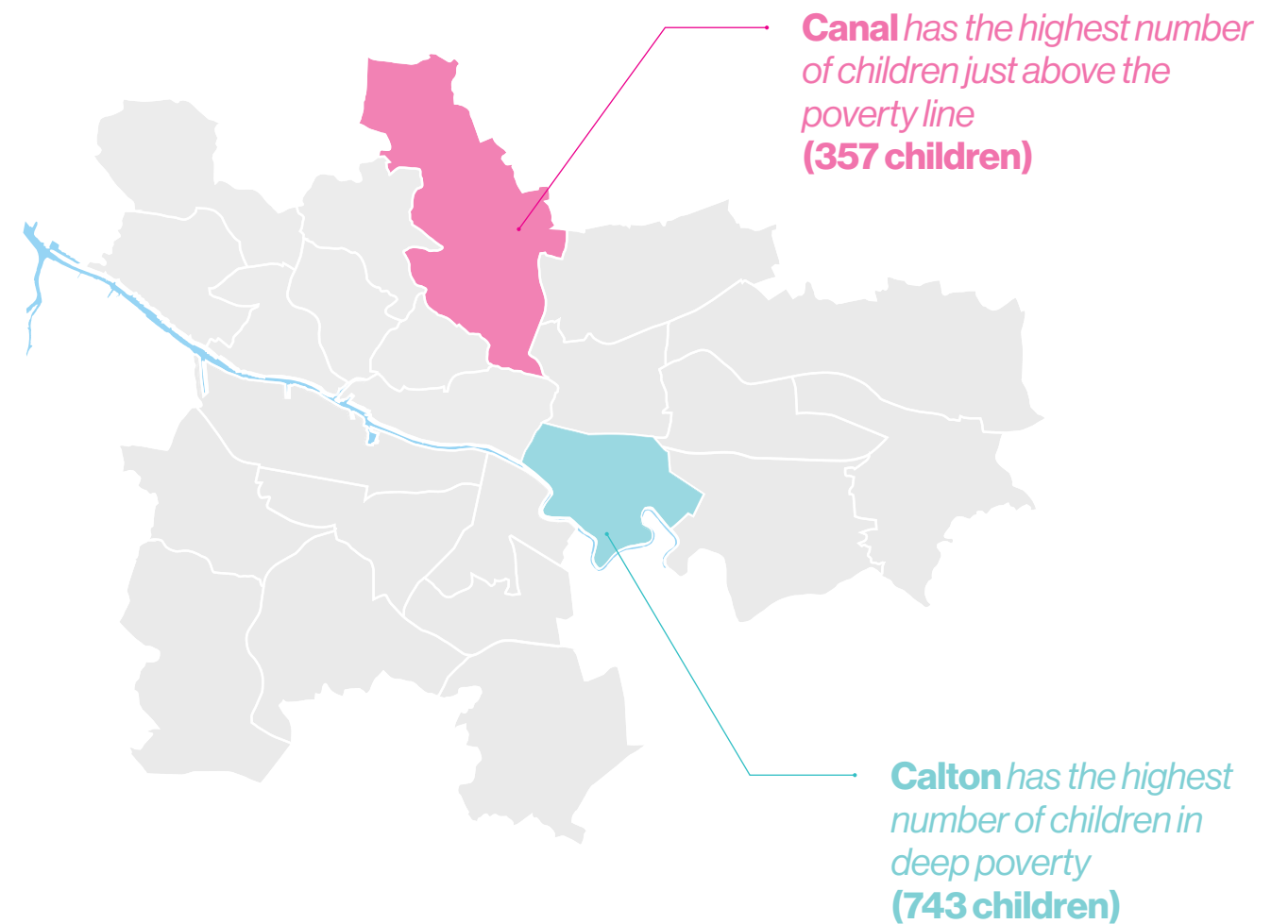
6,645

children are living in both **deep poverty and persistent poverty**



3,553

households are in both **deep poverty and persistent poverty**



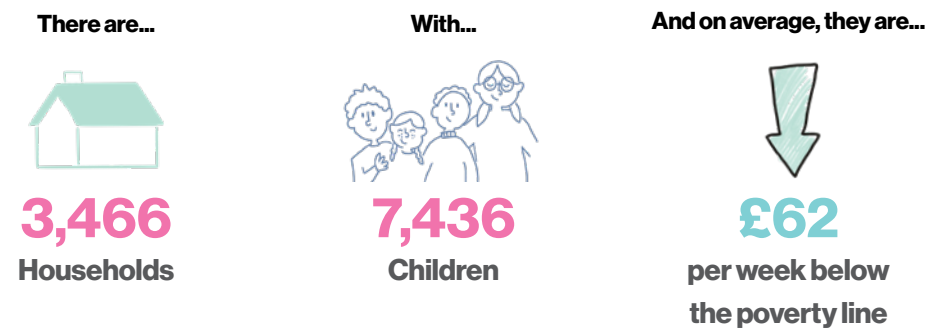
Understanding children living in households experiencing in-work poverty or unemployment

Income from employment is one of the three main drivers of poverty, meaning that it is a key factor of a household's financial situation. This section will provide an overview of **the number of children living in households that are experiencing in-work poverty and unemployment.**

Focus on In-Work Poverty and Unemployment

In-work poverty occurs when a household is living in relative poverty whilst at least one adult in the household is in some kind of employment.

Families in poverty with at least one adult in employment



INSIGHT

31% of children in relative poverty live in a household experiencing in-work poverty. (This is an increase from 23% in 2020)



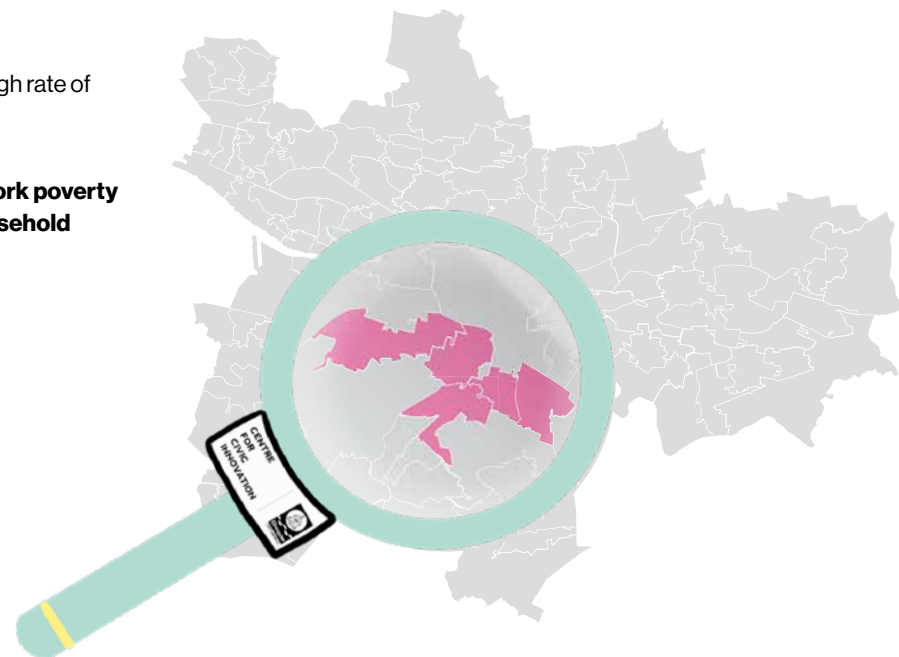
In-work poverty in the Southside

The southside of Glasgow has a particularly high rate of in-work poverty.

Govanhill West has the highest rate of in-work poverty in the city with 1 in 5 children (22%) in a household experiencing in-work poverty.

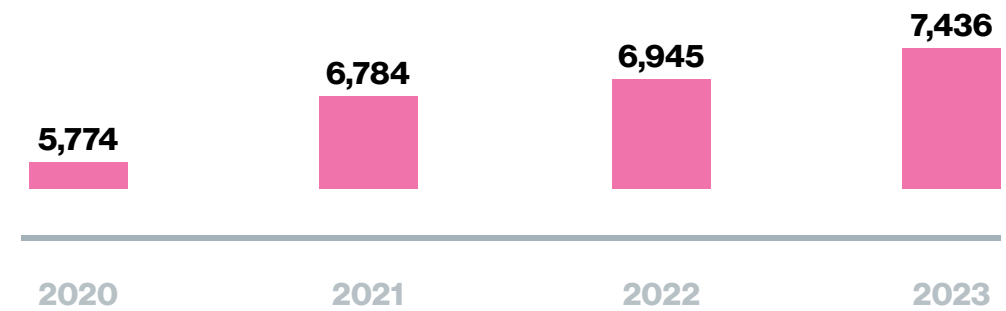
Additionally there is:

- + Govanhill East & Aikenhead (19%)
- + Strathbungo (17%)
- + Pollokshields East (16%)
- + Pollokshields West (15%)



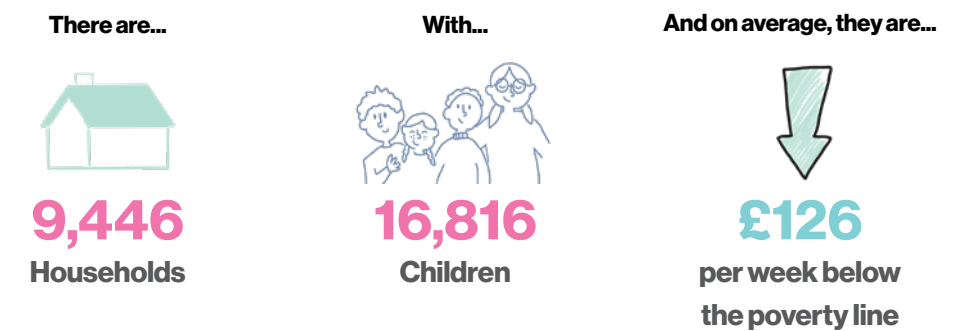
In-work poverty

The number of children in poverty in households with an adult in employment has been steadily rising since 2020.



Families in poverty with no adults in employment

The majority of children in relative poverty are living in households where no adults are in employment, meaning that they rely primarily on social security to cover living expenses.



INSIGHT



69% of children in relative poverty live in a household there are no adults in employment. (This is a decrease from 77% in 2020)

Unemployment: mother's under 25



Understanding children in households in receipt of entitlements

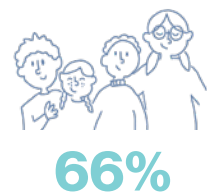
Income from **social security is one of the three main drivers of poverty**, meaning that it is a key factor of a household's financial situation. With the data that we have gathered we are able to take an in-depth look and understand:

- + Households with children that are in receipt of Universal Credit
- + The uptake of the 3 education benefits
 - + School Clothing Grant
 - + Free School Meals
 - + Educational Maintenance Allowance
- + The impact of the Scottish Child Payment

Focus on Universal Credit

Universal Credit is a payment set up to help low income families with their living costs. From the data that we receive from the Department for Work and Pensions, Universal Credit is included where there is also a claim for Council Tax Reduction allowing for a better understanding of **the affect Universal Credit has on households in poverty.**

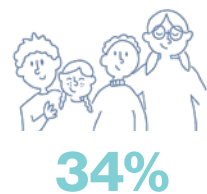
Of children in relative poverty



are in households that are receiving universal credit (15,925 children)

Of which, families are...

£105
per week below the poverty line



are in households that are not receiving universal credit (8,317 children)

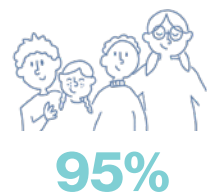
£129
per week below the poverty line

INSIGHT



Families receiving Universal Credit are **£24 per week better off** than families who aren't.

Of children in relative poverty



live with a mother under 25 live in a household that receives universal credit

Of which, families are...

£19
per week worse off than the city average

INSIGHT

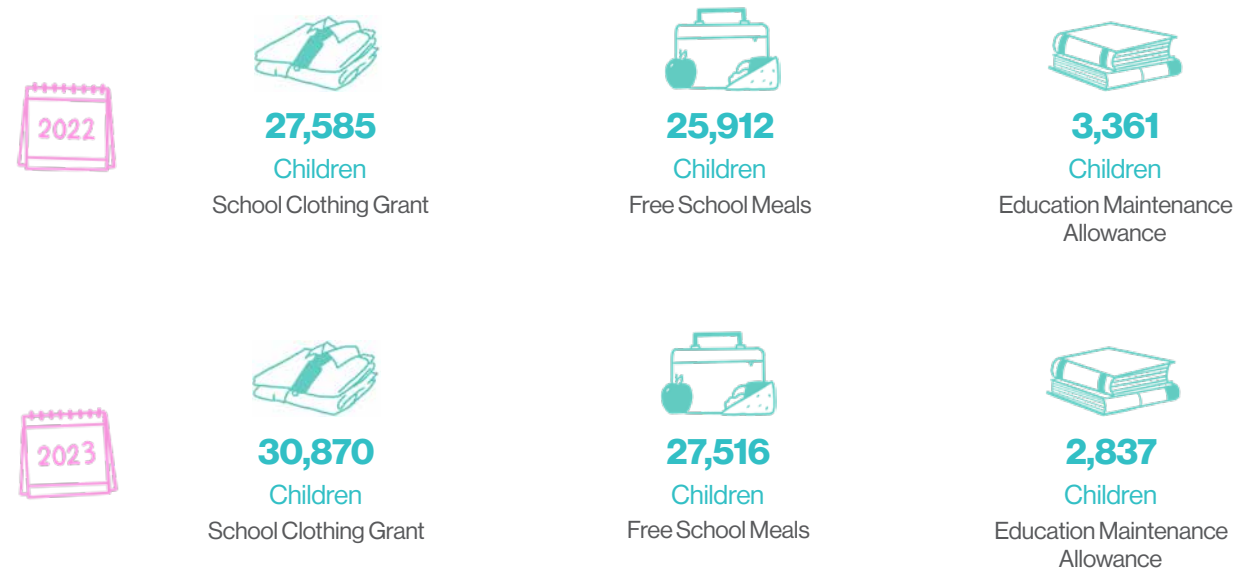
If you are under 25, you receive around £19 per week less than someone who is over 25. **For mothers under 25, the average depth of poverty is £19 per week below the average in Glasgow.**



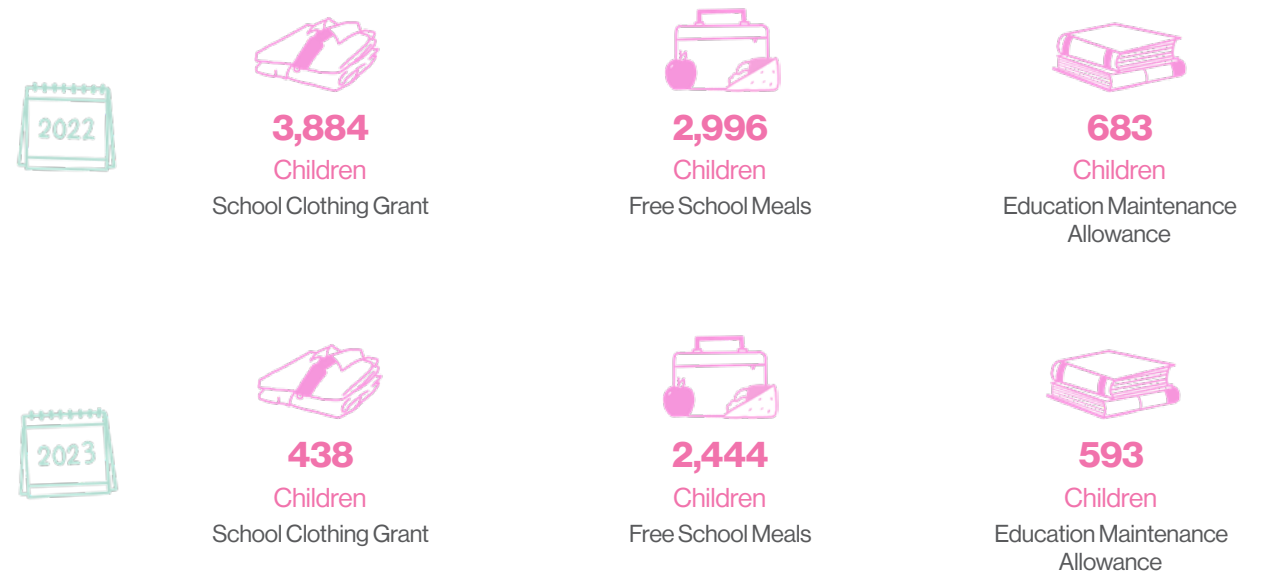
Focus on Education Benefits

There are 3 specific benefits that are received by children who are of school age: **School Clothing Grant, Free School Meals and Educational Maintenance Allowance.**

Children receiving education benefits



Children who are eligible but are not claiming education benefits



Focus on the Scottish Child Payment

The Scottish Child Payment is a benefit that has been set up to reduce child poverty in Scotland. **As of November 2023 the payment was increased to £25 per week per child under the age of 16.** There is no cap on the number of eligible children for a household.

The data we have allows us to understand who is eligible for the Scottish Child Payment. However, without data from Social Security Scotland to compliment this, we can't understand the actual gap in the uptake of this benefit or how many children it has actually lifted out or relative poverty.

The eligibility criteria are not based on income, but rather whether the applicant is in receipt of any of the following benefits:

- + Universal Credit
- + Income Support
- + Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- + Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- + Child Tax Credit
- + Working Tax Credit
- + Pension Credit

Scottish Child Payment



99%

of children in poverty live in a household where a child is **eligible for the Scottish Child Payment**



20,312

children under sixteen in poverty are eligible for the Scottish Child Payment

INSIGHT



As of the 30th June 2023, Social Security Scotland estimate that **50,885 children in Glasgow are currently benefitting from the Scottish Child Payment.**

Scottish Child Payment: high level statistics to 30th June 2023

If every child that was eligible for the Scottish Child Payment received it...

This would put...



£507,800

into the pockets of families every week

That would be...



£26.4 million

into the pockets of families every year

And...



4,852

children **would be lifted out of poverty** if the Scottish Child Payment uptake was maximised

INSIGHT



In order to meet the Scottish Government's 2023 target, we would need to **lift 6,259 children out of poverty this year.**

That would put us at a **difference of 1,407 children** to meet this year's interim target.






Understanding the housing tenure of families with children in poverty

The **cost of living is one of the three main drivers of poverty**, meaning that it is a key factor of a household's financial situation. A big part of the cost of living comes from housing costs. This section will provide an overview of the the different types of housing that children in relative poverty live in.

Focus on Housing Tenure

Housing tenure refers to the various ways that a person can arrange to live in a property. From the data we are able to see the **different types of housing tenure of those living in relative poverty**






Types of housing tenure

<p>Community based housing association</p>  <p>These are non-profit organisations that provide affordable housing and support for local communities</p>	<p>Glasgow Housing Association</p>  <p>This is the largest housing association in Glasgow</p>	<p>Owner occupier</p>  <p>This is when someone lives within a property they own</p>	<p>Private rented sector</p>  <p>This is when someone live in a home they rent from someone else</p>	<p>Voluntary organisation</p>  <p>Small organisations that provide social rented housing</p>
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What types of housing tenure do people in poverty have?

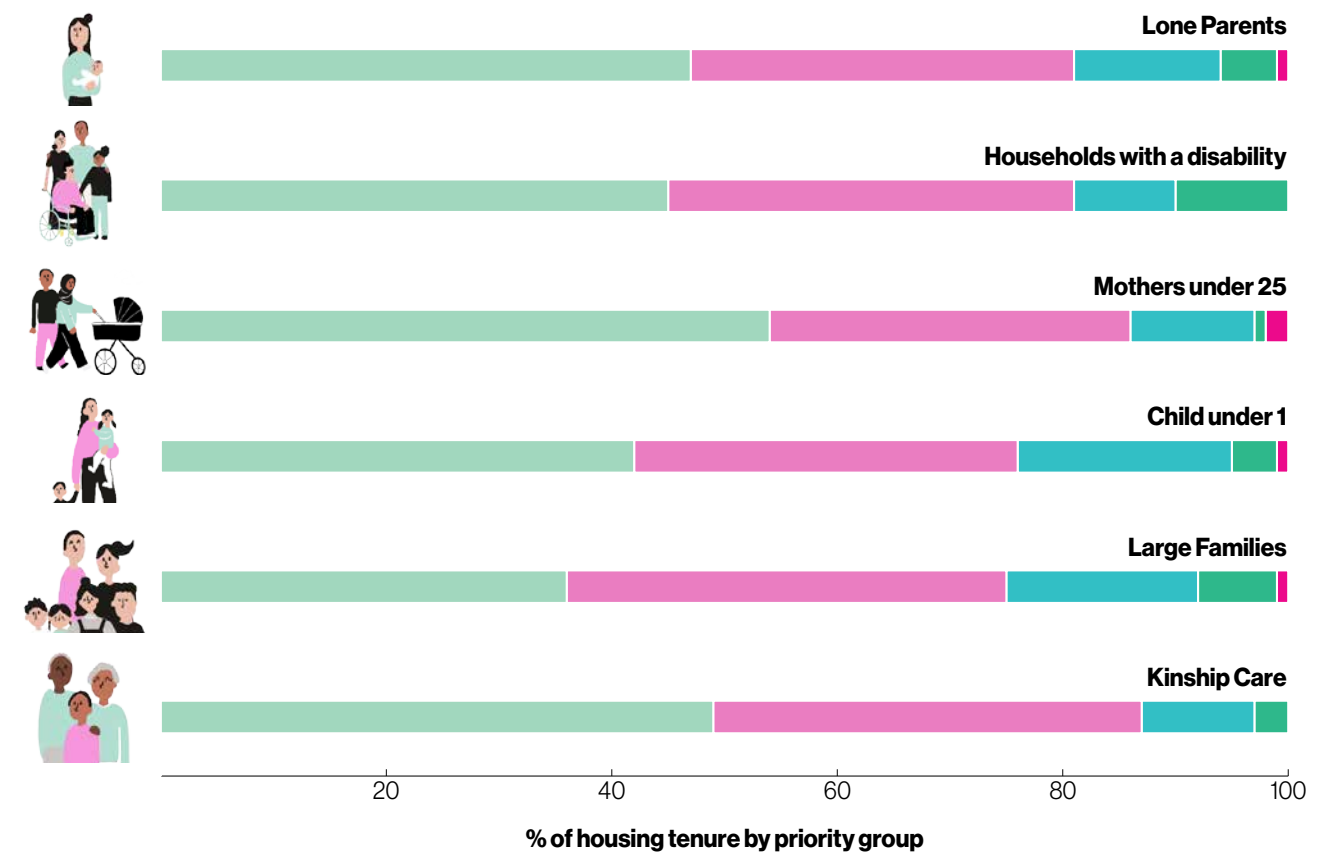
Housing tenure is an important aspect in the cost of living for many families. For example, as the private rented sector tends to be more expensive than other types of housing so it has an outsized impact on families ability to purchase everyday goods.

	Community based housing association	Glasgow Housing Association	Owner occupier	Private rented sector	Voluntary organisation
Amount per week below the poverty line	£112	£120	£105	£125	£126
Number of households	5,794	4,225	2,119	686	112
Number of children	10,191	8,394	4,031	1,418	218


 <p>42% of children in poverty live in a community based housing association</p>	 <p>35% of children in poverty live in a home provided by Glasgow Housing Association</p>	 <p>17% of children in poverty live in a home with the home-owner</p>	 <p>6% of children live in a home that is privately rented</p>	 <p>1% of children live in a home provided by a voluntary organisation</p>
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In priority groups, what are the most common types of housing tenure?

The poverty thresholds and incomes that we use are calculated before housing costs, so we still need to consider how housing costs impact families living in poverty.



INSIGHT

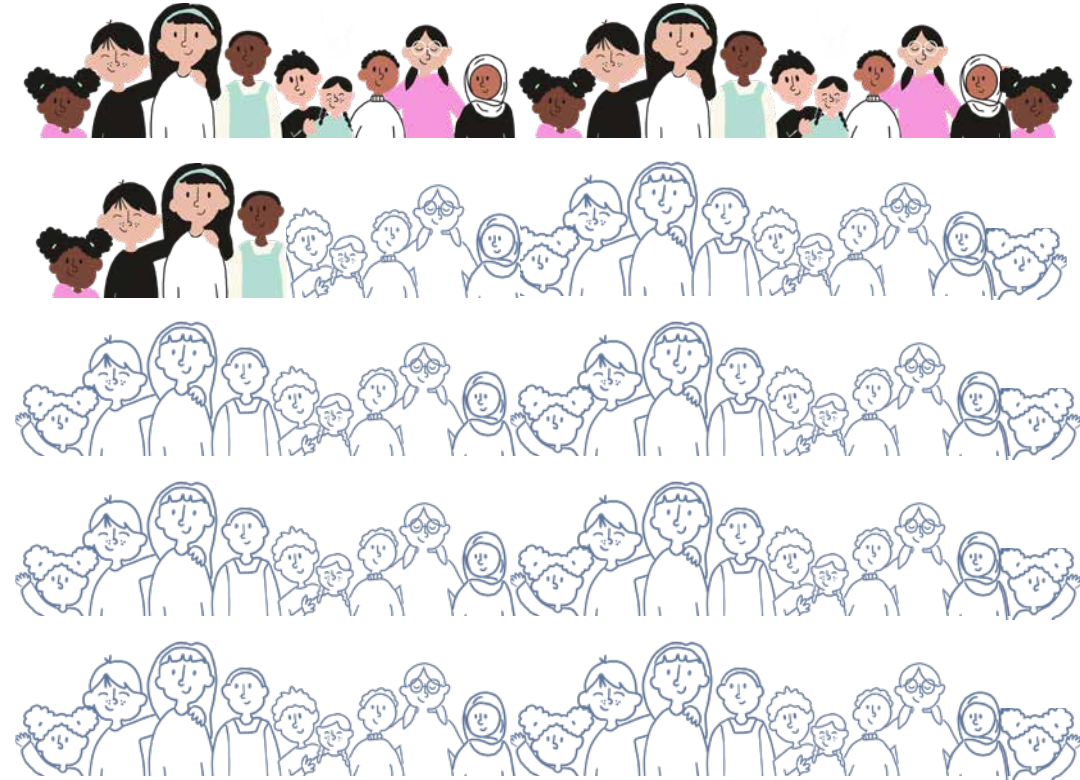


There are 4,031 children in poverty living in owner occupied households and with the recent increases to mortgage interest rates, **many of these households will be seeing a large increase in bills.**

People and Priority Groups

In the Every child every chance: delivering a child poverty action plan 2018–2022 from the Scottish Government, **several groups are highlighted as being disproportionately affected by child poverty**. In response to this we are continuing to look at how these groups have changed over the past year, and how being a part of multiple priority groups can have a different effect.

If Glasgow was 100 children...



24 would live below the poverty line

Of those 24...*



*some children may be part of more than one group

Focus on lone parents

Lone parents face a number of issues that affect their experience of poverty, with only one source of income and being the sole care provider, the **depth and scale of poverty for lone parents is far greater** and this is evidenced in this report.



Households with a lone parent are...
£113
per week below the poverty line

In 2023 there are...



15,526

children living in poverty in lone parent households in Glasgow

That is...



1,724

fewer than last year. (17,250 in 2022)

Of all children in poverty...



64%

are in lone parent families

Of these children...



6,982

are in deep poverty

INSIGHT

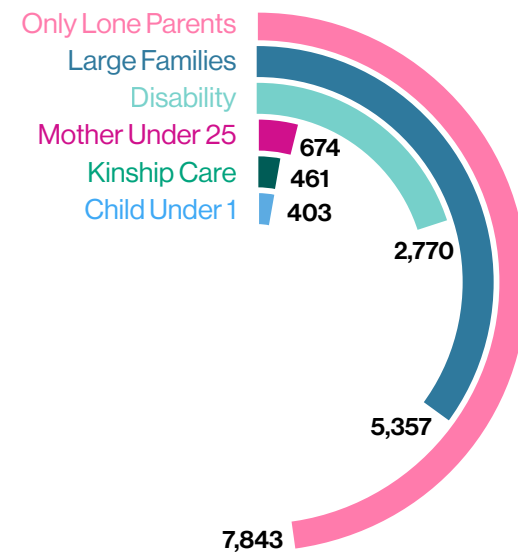


Lone parent families are **£6 per week worse off** than they were in 2020 and **£1 per week worse off** than 2022

Lone parents households are made of these other priority groups

Many households contain multiple priority groups and sometimes, one person can be in several priority groups at once. Understanding how these characteristics intersect can help us understand how to make better interventions.

The **majority of children living in relative poverty in Glasgow live in lone parent households**. Almost a third of those children live in households where there are 3 or more children, having a much higher depth of poverty than the rest of the priority groups.



Depth of poverty – Households with lone parents and other priority groups



families with a lone parent and a **disability** are

£70
per week below the poverty line



families with a lone parent and a **mother under 25** are

£134
per week below the poverty line



families with a lone parent and a **child under one** are

£126
per week below the poverty line



families with a lone parent and **3 children or more** are

£158
per week below the poverty line



families with a lone parent and a **child in kinship care** are

£117
per week below the poverty line



families with a lone parent that **is in no other priority groups** are

£114
per week below the poverty line

INSIGHT

In general, lone parent families that fall into other priority groups are **worse off** than other lone parent households



In-work poverty and unemployment

In-work poverty

In 2022 there were...

2,663

children in lone parent households with at least one adult in employment

on average they were....

£54

per week below the poverty line

In 2023 there are...

2,845

children in lone parent households with at least one adult in employment

on average they are....

£42

per week below the poverty line

This means there are...

182

more children in lone parent households with at least one adult in employment

on average lone parent families with at least one adult in employment are...

£12

per week better off

Unemployment

In 2022 there were...

14,587

children in lone parent households with no adults in employment

on average they were....

£117

per week below the poverty line

In 2023 there are...

12,681

children in lone parent households with no adults in employment

on average they are....

£118

per week below the poverty line

This means there are...

1,906

fewer children in lone parent households with no adults in employment

on average lone parent families with no adults in employment are...

£1

per week worse off

Focus on disability

Children and adults with disabilities often require more support to do the things that most of us would expect to be made easy. State benefits are overly complicated and many rights are lost as soon as a disabled person turns sixteen years old. Additionally, the poverty thresholds **don't take into account the extra costs associated with having a disability**.



Households with a disability are...
£85
per week below the poverty line

In 2023 there are...



4,403

children living in households with a disability

That is...



588

fewer than last year. (4,991 in 2022)

Of all children in poverty...



18%

are in households with a disability

Of these children...



1,563

are in deep poverty

INSIGHT

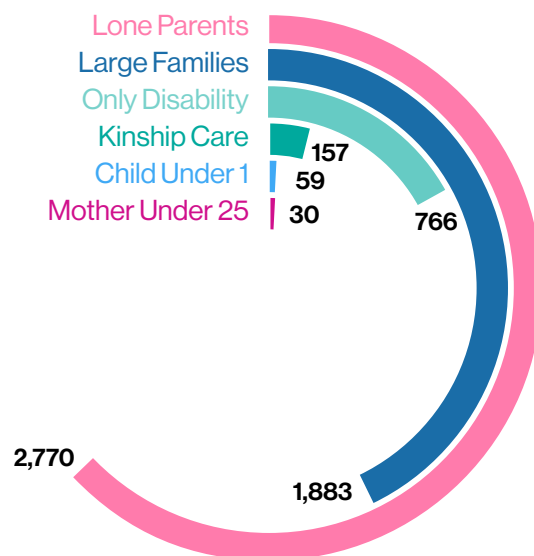


Households with a disability have the highest rate of unemployment across all the priority groups with **94% of children living in households where no adults are in employment**.

Households with a disability are made of these other priority groups

Many households contain multiple priority groups and sometimes, one person can be in several priority groups at once. Understanding how these characteristics intersect can help us understand how to make better interventions.

As the poverty thresholds don't take into account the cost of living with a disability, **having a disability can drastically increase a family's cost of living**. This can compound other factors that increase a household's chances of falling into poverty.



Depth of poverty – Households with a disability and other priority groups



families with a disability and a lone parent are

£70
per week below the poverty line



families with a disability and a mother under 25 are

£77
per week below the poverty line



families with a disability and a child under one are

£83
per week below the poverty line



families with a disability and 3 children or more are

£177
per week below the poverty line



families with a disability and a child in kinship care are

£90
per week below the poverty line



families with a disability that are in no other priority groups are

£100
per week below the poverty line

INSIGHT



Large families with a disability are **significantly above the city average for depth of poverty**

In-work poverty and unemployment

In-work poverty

In 2022 there were...

169

children in a household with someone with a disability with at least one adult in employment

on average they were....

£37

per week below the poverty line

In 2023 there are...

245

children in a household with someone with a disability with at least one adult in employment

on average they are....

£51

per week below the poverty line

This means there are...

76

more children in a household with someone with a disability with at least one adult in employment

on average households with a disability and at least one adult in employment are...

£14

per week worse off

Unemployment

In 2022 there were...

4,822

children in households with a disability with no adults in employment

on average they were....

£69

per week below the poverty line

In 2023 there are...

4,158

children in households with a disability with no adults in employment

on average they are....

£87

per week below the poverty line

This means there are...

664

fewer children in households with a disability with no adults in employment

on average households with a disability and no adults in employment are...

£18

per week worse off

Focus on mothers under 25

Similar to lone parents, young mothers also have gaps in their employment history due to having to care for a child. Finding employment, secure housing and education are real struggles when childcare already takes up so much time and money. **People under 25 also receive less from Universal Credit.**



Households with a mother under 25 are... **£134** per week below the poverty line

Of children with a mother under 25... **546** are in deep poverty

Of households in poverty with a mother under 25 **95%** are claiming Universal Credit

In 2023 there are... **878** children living in households with a mother under 25

That is... **46** fewer than last year. (924 in 2022)

INSIGHT

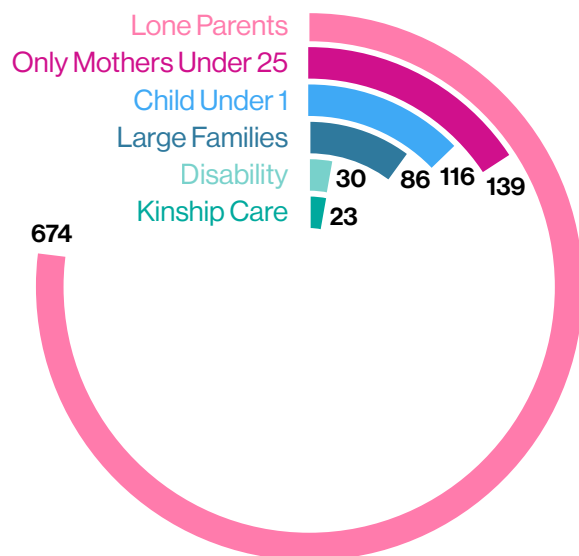


Households with a mother under 25 are **£19 per week further below the poverty line than the city average.**

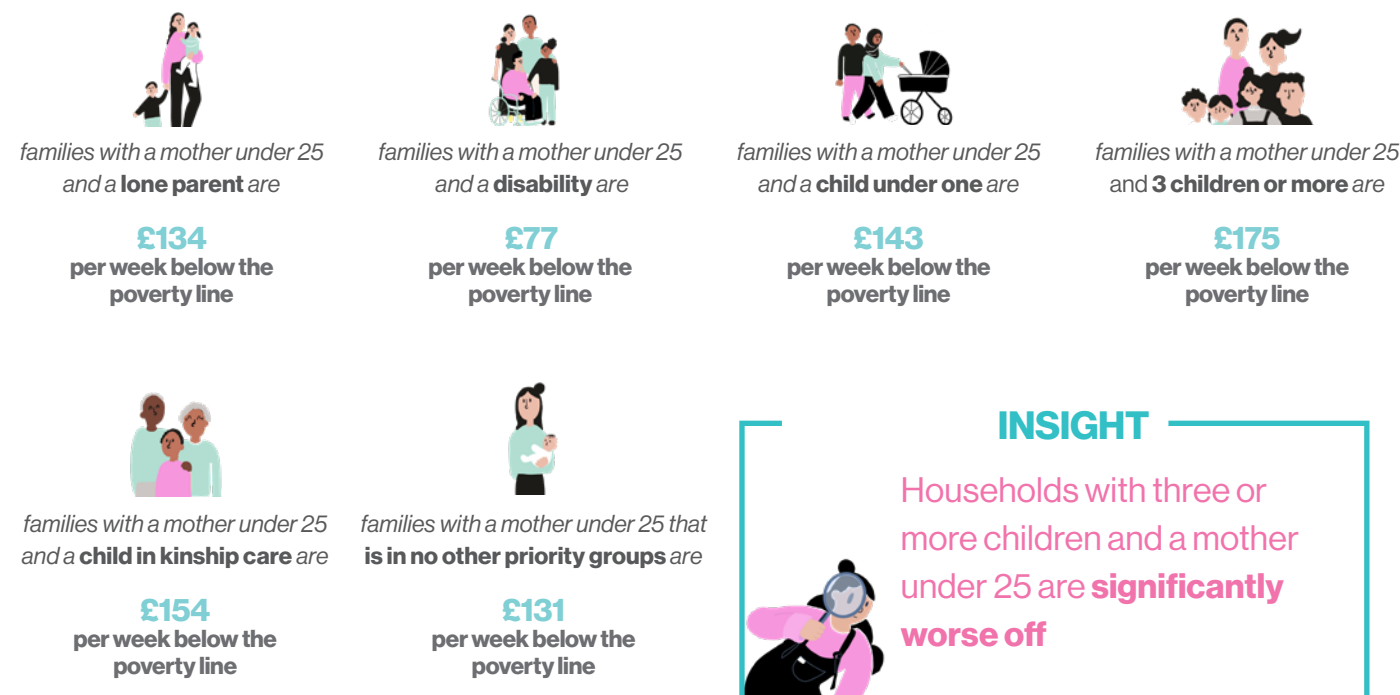
Households with a mother under 25 are made of these other priority groups

Many households contain multiple priority groups and sometimes, one person can be in several priority groups at once. Understanding how these characteristics intersect can help us understand how to make better interventions.

There is a particularly high crossover between lone parents and mothers under 25. This poses significant challenges as mothers under 25 already have a lower minimum wage and benefits entitlements. **As many households with a mother under 25 only have 1 adult who can provide income, this makes mothers under 25 particularly vulnerable.**



Depth of poverty – Households with a mother under 25 and other priority groups



In-work poverty and unemployment



Focus on children under one

As having a baby is so costly, **the first year of having a child is especially challenging**. A large portion of the family's existing budget has to be spent on the baby and the associated costs of being pregnant which often means families have to make difficult decisions about what they can afford.



Households with a child under one are...
£126
per week below the poverty line

In 2023 there are...



690

children living in households with a child under one

That is...



5

fewer than last year. (695 in 2022)

Of households in poverty with a child under one



70%

have no adults in employment

Of households with a child under one...



346

are also in deep poverty

INSIGHT

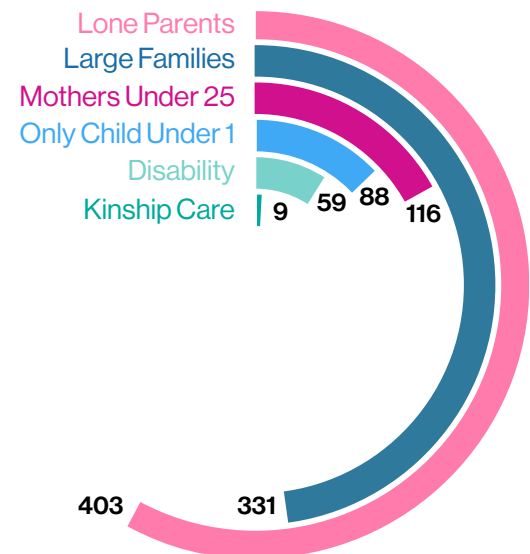


Families with a child under one are **£58 per week worse off in 2023 compared to 2020**

Households with a child under one are made of these other priority groups

Many households contain multiple priority groups and sometimes, one person can be in several priority groups at once. Understanding how these characteristics intersect can help us understand how to make better interventions.

There is a particularly high crossover between lone parent households and households with a child under one year old. **With fewer adults in the home, juggling work and childcare during a baby's first months can prove more challenging than in other households.**



Depth of poverty – Households with children under one and other priority groups



families with a child under one and a **lone parent** are

£126
per week below the poverty line



families with a child under one and a **disability** are

£83
per week below the poverty line



families with a child under one and a **mother under 25** are

£143
per week below the poverty line



families with a child under one and **3 children or more** are

£158
per week below the poverty line



families with a child under one and a **child in kinship care** are

£48
per week below the poverty line



families with a child under one that is in **no other priority groups** are

£180
per week below the poverty line

INSIGHT

Households with a child under one that fall into no other recorded priority groups have **the highest depth of poverty**

In-work poverty and unemployment

In-work poverty

In 2022 there were...

231

children in a household with a child under one with **at least one adult in employment**

on average they were....

£92

per week below the poverty line

In 2023 there are...

218

children in a household with a child under one with **at least one adult in employment**

on average they are....

£58

per week below the poverty line

This means there are...

13

fewer children in a household with a child under one with **at least one adult in employment**

on average families with a child under one with **at least one adult in employment** are....

£34

per week better off

Unemployment

In 2022 there were...

464

children in a household with a child under one with **no adults in employment**

on average they were....

£143

per week below the poverty line

In 2023 there are...

472

children in a household with a child under one with **no adults in employment**

on average they are....

£143

per week below the poverty line

This means there are...

8

more children in households with a child under one with **no adults in employment**

on average families with a child under one have **seen no change in depth of poverty**

Focus on large families

Large families of at least three children often struggle to find housing that is spacious and affordable enough to accommodate their family. It can be hard to find adequate childcare and as there are more children, **it costs much more to provide activities, basic needs and access to digital devices.**



Households with large families are...
£151
per week below the poverty line

In 2023 there are...



10,233

children living in households with large families

That is...



414

fewer than last year. (10,647 in 2022)

Of households in poverty with large families



64%

are in persistent poverty

That is...



4,314

children in deep poverty

INSIGHT

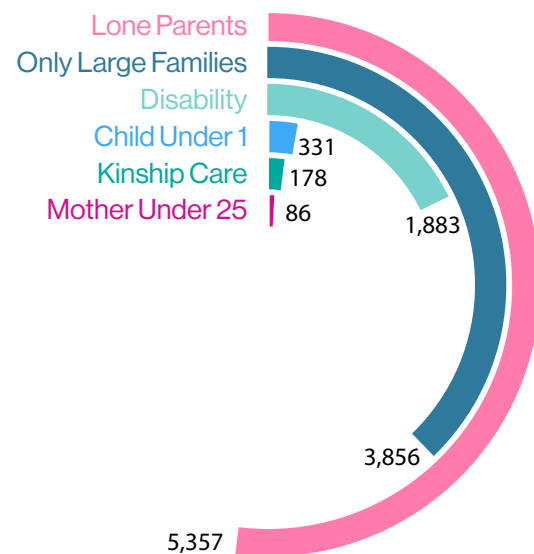


Households with large families have the **highest rate of in-work poverty across the city** with 39% of children in large families having at least one adult in employment.

Households with a child under one are made of these other priority groups

Many households contain multiple priority groups and sometimes, one person can be in several priority groups at once. Understanding how these characteristics intersect can help us understand how to make better interventions.

As large families have more children to provide for they tend to have a greater depth of poverty than other priority groups.



Depth of poverty – Households with large families and other priority groups



large families with a **lone parent** are

£158
per week below the poverty line



large families with someone with a **disability** are

£177
per week below the poverty line



large families with a **mother under 25** are

£175
per week below the poverty line



large families with a **child under one** are

£158
per week below the poverty line



large families with a **child in kinship care** are

£150
per week below the poverty line



large families that are in **no other priority groups** are

£132
per week below the poverty line

INSIGHT



Large families that fall into **more than one priority group** are significantly worse off

In-work poverty and unemployment

In-work poverty

In 2022 there were...

3,668

children in a household with a large family with at least one adult in employment

on average they were....

£92

per week below the poverty line

In 2023 there are...

3,960

children in a household with a large family with at least one adult in employment

on average they are....

£84

per week below the poverty line

This means there are...

292

more children in a household with a large family with at least one adult in employment

on average large families with at least one adult in employment are...

£8

per week better off

Unemployment

In 2022 there were...

6,979

children in large families with no adults in employment

on average they were....

£206

per week below the poverty line

In 2023 there are...

6,273

children in large families with no adults in employment

on average they are....

£184

per week below the poverty line

This means there are...

706

fewer children in large families with no adults in employment

on average large families with no adults in employment are...

£22

per week better off

Focus on kinship care

Kinship care refers to children who live with an extended family member or family friend. This often happens due to an emergency in the family meaning **these families are often more exposed to life crises**. Kinship carers are often elderly meaning they are worried about retirement and being able to offer continued care for their child.



Households with a child in kinship care are...
£123
per week below the poverty line

In 2023 there are...



537

children living in a household with a child in kinship care

That is...



47

fewer than last year. (695 in 2022)

Of households in poverty with a child in kinship care



72%

are in persistent poverty

That is...



246

children in deep poverty

INSIGHT

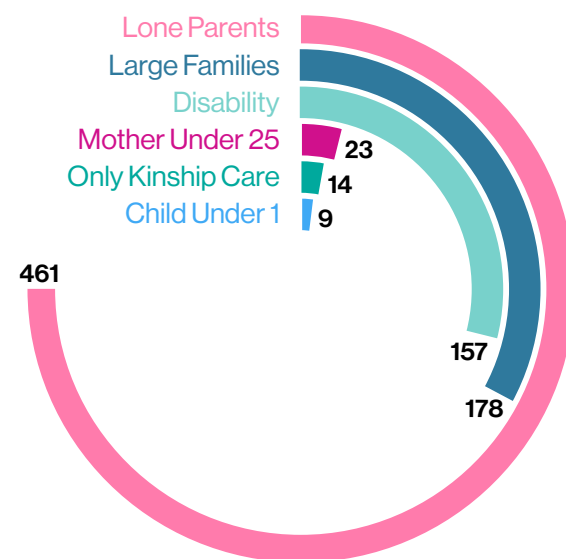


Only 9% of children in kinship care households in poverty experience in-work poverty

Households with a child in kinship care are made of these other priority groups

Many households contain multiple priority groups and sometimes, one person can be in several priority groups at once. Understanding how these characteristics intersect can help us understand how to make better interventions.

The most common crossover for children in kinship care are lone parent households and households with three or more children.



Depth of poverty – Households with children in kinship care and other priority groups



families with a child in kinship care and a lone parent are

£117
per week below the poverty line



families with a child in kinship care and a disability are

£90
per week below the poverty line



families with a child in kinship care and a mother under 25 are

£154
per week below the poverty line



families with a child in kinship care and 3 children or more are

£150
per week below the poverty line



families with a child in kinship care and a child under one are

£48
per week below the poverty line



families with a child in kinship care that are in no other priority groups are

£160
per week below the poverty line

INSIGHT

The majority of kinship care households are also lone parent households

In-work poverty and unemployment

In-work poverty

In 2022 there were...

44

children in a household with a child in kinship care with at least one adult in employment

on average they were....

£117

per week below the poverty line

In 2023 there are...

47

children in a household with a child in kinship care with at least one adult in employment

on average they are....

£126

per week below the poverty line

This means there are...

3

more children in a household with a child in kinship care with at least one adult in employment

on average households with a child in kinship care with at least one adult in employment are...

£9

per week worse off

Unemployment

In 2022 there were...

540

children in a household with a child in kinship care with no adults in employment

on average they were....

£102

per week below the poverty line

In 2023 there are...

490

children in a household with a child in kinship care with no adults in employment

on average they are....

£46

per week below the poverty line

This means there are...

50

fewer children in households with a child in kinship care with no adults in employment

on average households with a child in kinship care with no adults in employment are...

£56

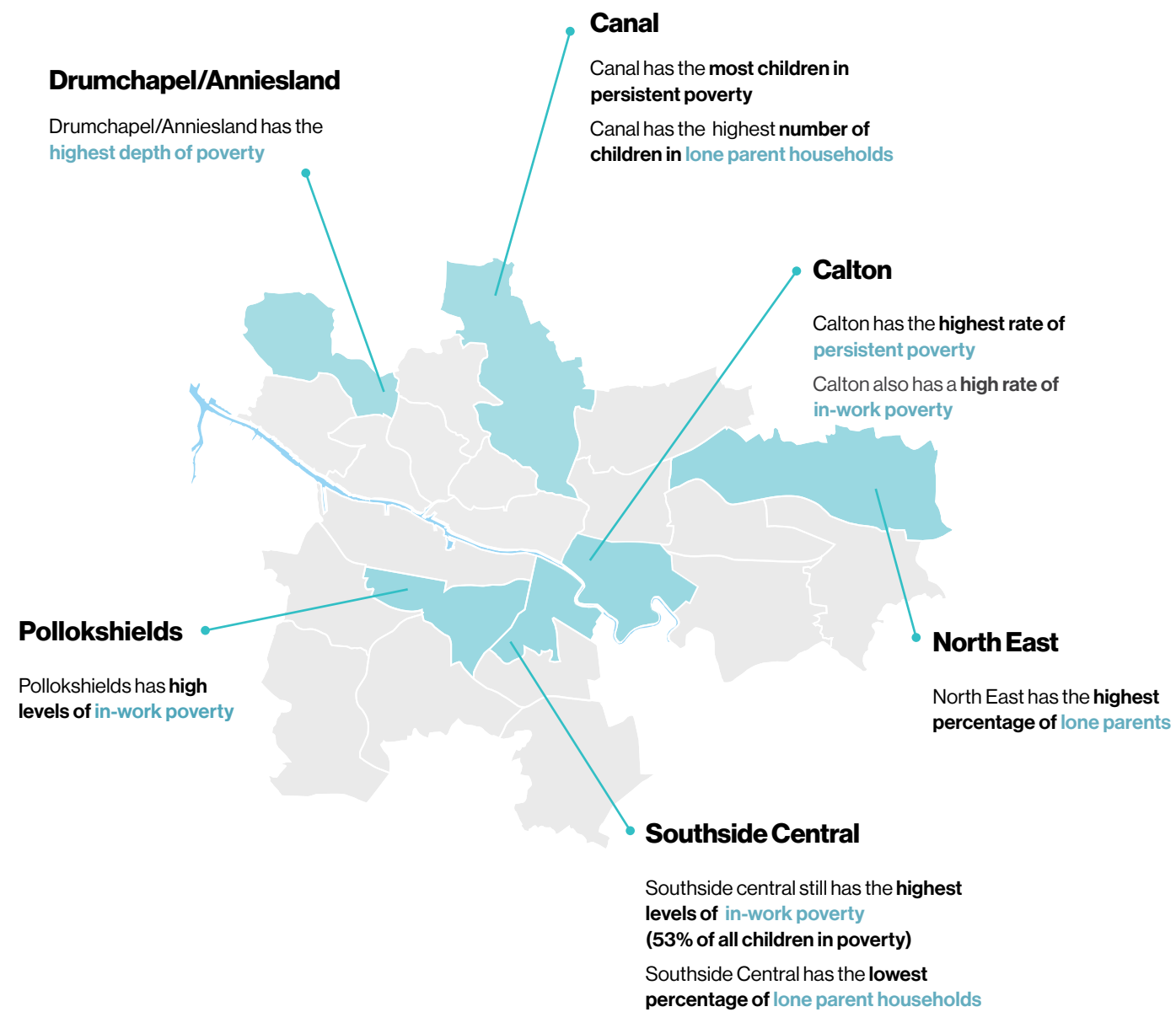
per week better off

Understanding places

Wards

Whilst poverty affects the whole of Glasgow, some areas are more heavily affected than others. One way to understand this is to **split the city up into its electoral wards**, which provides a high level overview of the spread of poverty across the city, as well as the different challenges faced in different areas.

Child poverty by Ward

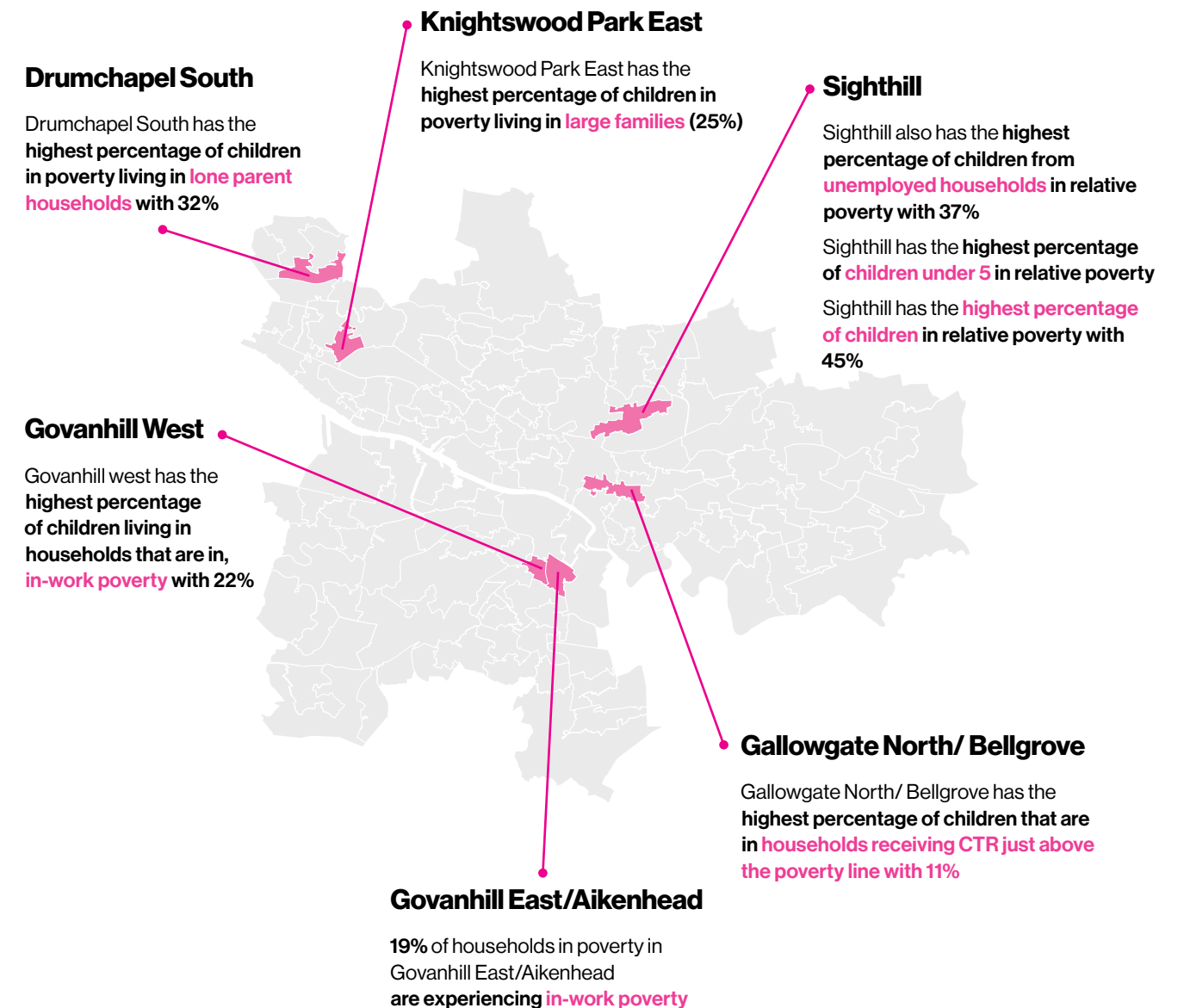


Understanding places

Communities

This year, we are able to break the data down into even smaller areas. Intermediate zones, which we are calling communities, are a good way to look at the data at a more granular level. **This will allow for services to be targeted to much more localised areas.**

Child poverty by community



Designing informed services and driving policy

This year we've been working with several teams within the council to understand what they need to design better, more informed services and drive policy change. We did this by designing tools to help provide the people who provide services with the information they need to reduce child poverty. We created the tools by conducting several workshops and semi-structured interviews. The tools we have designed have already been used to help provide and inform better services around school-age childcare.

We heard these key frustrations...

- + Services are often delivered across the city and it's difficult to target interventions where they're needed most
- + Many services have datasets but they're difficult to interrogate
- + Datasets are not joined up and tricky to compare
- + Funding is siloed and inconsistent
- + We need a good understanding of life transitions as that's when families are most vulnerable
- + Different types of poverty are not as obvious as they need to be

Some of the intended use cases include...

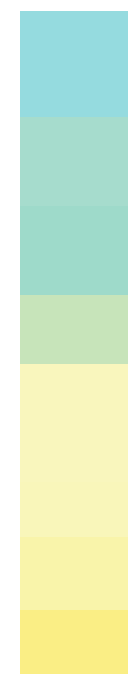
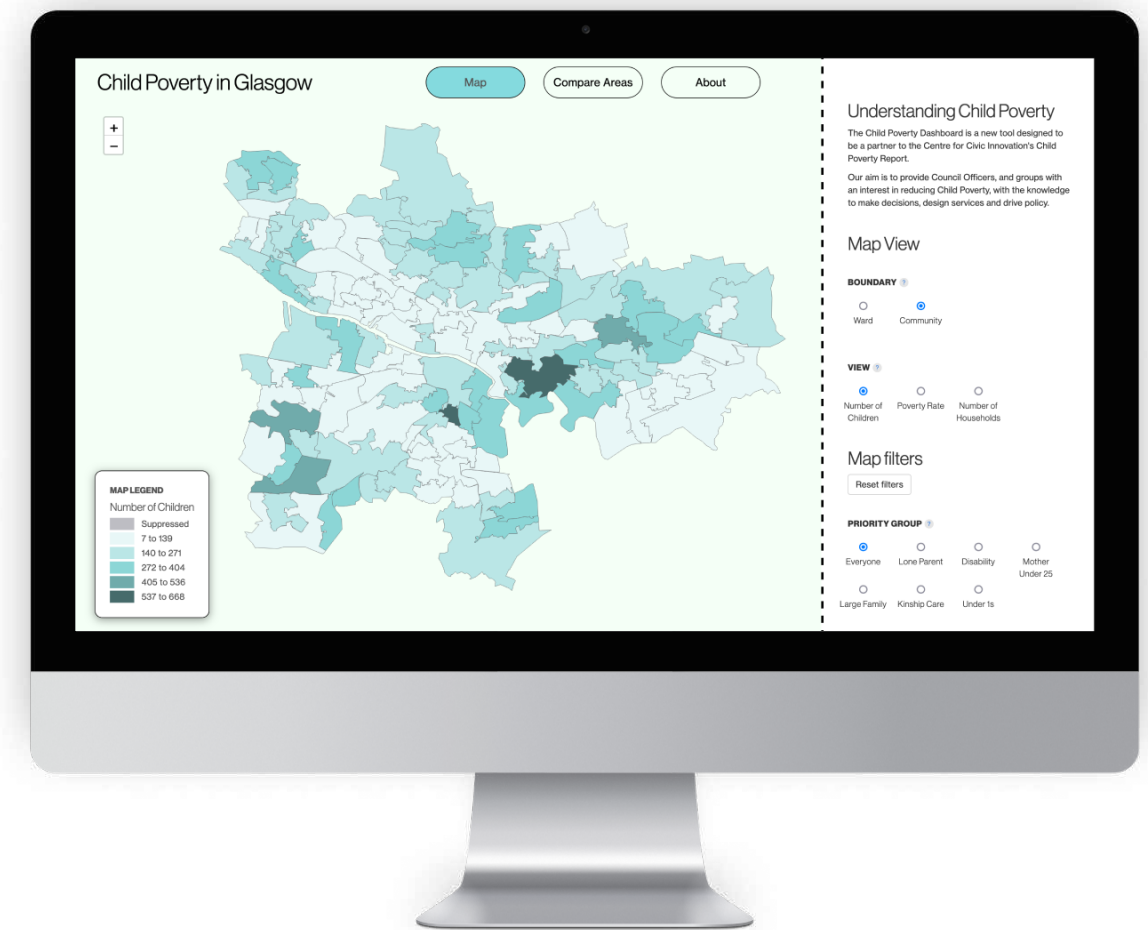
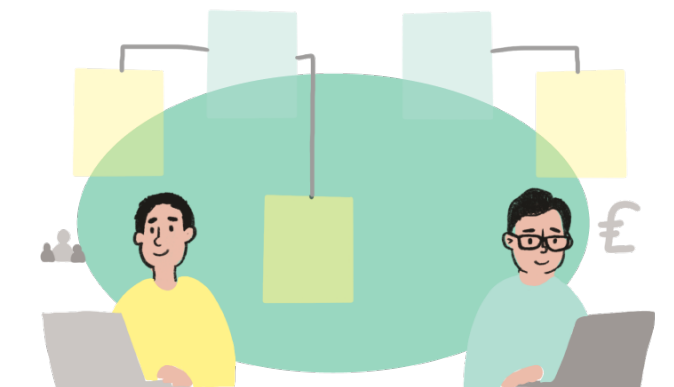
- + Targeting school-age childcare across the city
- + Developing employability projects in areas where they're needed most
- + Mapping service funding to families' needs
- + Tendering for services
- + Understanding child poverty around specific school catchment areas would help develop services based in schools
- + Compare child poverty to the uptake of schemes and services such as free travel for under twenty-tuos

From wider teams we also heard that...

- + We need to do more to understand poverty beyond income
- + We need to understand the specific problems that families face
- + Every family should have access to opportunities and facilities that allow them to thrive
- + We need a better understanding of the people we aren't reaching
- + There isn't any way to view trends over time

Heres what it does...

- + Visually displays the data that we have on a map of Glasgow, broken down my electoral wards and neighbourhoods
- + Provides information on the number of children in poverty and the depth of poverty for each area
- + Allows for filters, such as the priority groups, to be applied
- + Provides a facility to compare the scale of child poverty within different areas of the city.
- + Will provide more up-to-date data to a range of stakeholders throughout the year, allowing for more informed decision making.



Conclusion

With every year of the Child Poverty Report, **we find new ways to look at, understand and take action on child poverty.** When we started, we built the most detailed picture of relative poverty in any local authority in Scotland. In the following year we were able to look at the impact the COVID-19 pandemic and an economic crisis had on child poverty. Last year, we were able to understand how the scale and depth of relative poverty was changing as the city began to recover from the pandemic, as well as being able to begin to understand how many households were in persistent poverty and what impact this was having. This year, we are able to understand the full scope of **persistent poverty**, as well as being able to look at the impact of **deep poverty** and families that are **just above the poverty line.**

Since the last report, the number of children in Glasgow living in relative poverty has **dropped from 26,166 to 24,252.** We have now seen a return to the pre-pandemic levels of relative poverty, with a **decrease of 1,914 children** living in relative poverty bringing the percentage of **children in Glasgow in relative poverty back down to 24%** the same levels as in 2020.

This year we were able to highlight the continual increase of the number of children living in households in in-work poverty. Since 2020 this has **increased by 1,692 children, from 5,744 children (23%) to 7,436 children (31%).** The depth of poverty for households in in-work poverty has also changed. They are now **£12 per week better off.** However, this improvement still leaves them **£62 per week below the poverty line.** While employment will significantly reduce the depth of poverty, it is clear that it in no way guarantees families will be lifted out of poverty.

The number of children living in households in receipt of Universal Credit has increased this year to 15,925, **an increase of 1,763 children.** On average, the depth of poverty for households receiving Universal Credit, is £105 per week. This is £24 per week less than those that aren't. However, households where there is a mother under 25 in receipt of Universal Credit, are **£19 per week worse off than the average.**

The uplift of the Scottish child payment from £10 to £25 a week for children under the age of 16 will make a significant difference in reducing the depth of poverty of families in Glasgow. If all of the eligible households that we know of were to be receiving it, it could lift **4,852 children out of relative poverty.**

Having 4 years worth of data to analyse, we have been able to see a more complete picture of persistent poverty in Glasgow. 14,837 children in Glasgow (14%) are living in households experiencing the affects of persistent poverty.

That's 61% of children living in relative poverty. In fact, **45% of children in relative poverty have been living in poverty for the past 4 years.**

We know that Glasgow suffers from a very high depth of poverty, so having a definition for deep poverty, published by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation, has allowed for the better understanding of those that are most heavily affected. There are **9,972 children in Glasgow experiencing deep poverty,** that's 1 in 10 children across the city. With a staggering depth of poverty of **£169 per week,** it's clear these families will need much more support to help lift them out of poverty.

Through the Child Poverty Pathfinder, Glasgow City Council is keen to adopt more early interventions in regards to child poverty, helping families before they reach the crisis point. To help with this it's important to understand the families that are just above the poverty line. This report highlights **5,255 children living in households that are within 20% of the relative poverty threshold.**

Understanding the families that are in relative poverty in Glasgow from a geographical perspective across the city is key to deploying services to support families that are impacted by poverty. As such, we have begun to develop tools that will allow Glasgow City Council to do just that, and allow for a **more targeted and informed approach to service provision across the city.**

Next steps

Now that we have the tools to look at the impact of child poverty interventions across the city, we can begin **targeting services where they're needed most.**

Through several workshops and interviews we have identified teams who can use our data to target school-age childcare, develop communications campaigns to maximise the uptake of Financial Inclusion services and target early years services.

Now that we have this capability, we'll be extending it to make the data available on a more regular schedule. This will make it much easier to track interventions and see what kind of changes have the biggest impact. We can use these tools and insight to understand where we need a richer, clearer picture to tackle child poverty in the city.

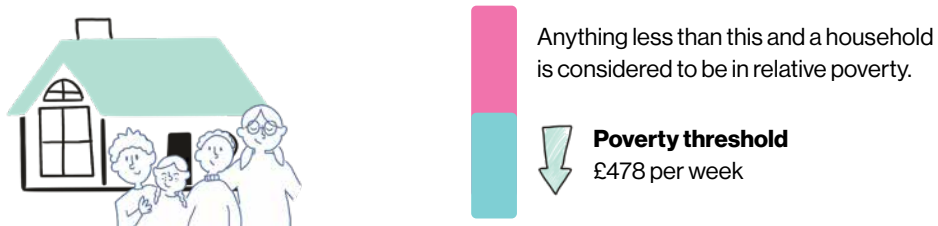
This also helps us understand where we need to deploy person-centred research to better understand where and when families' need services before reaching a crisis point. We will also be able to investigate whether the things we discover are widespread throughout the city or contained within certain areas or neighbourhoods.

Now that this work is embedded as a key element of the Child Poverty Pathfinder, we can use these resources as a foundation from which to **build and develop vital services that are responsive, caring and person-centred.**

Glossary

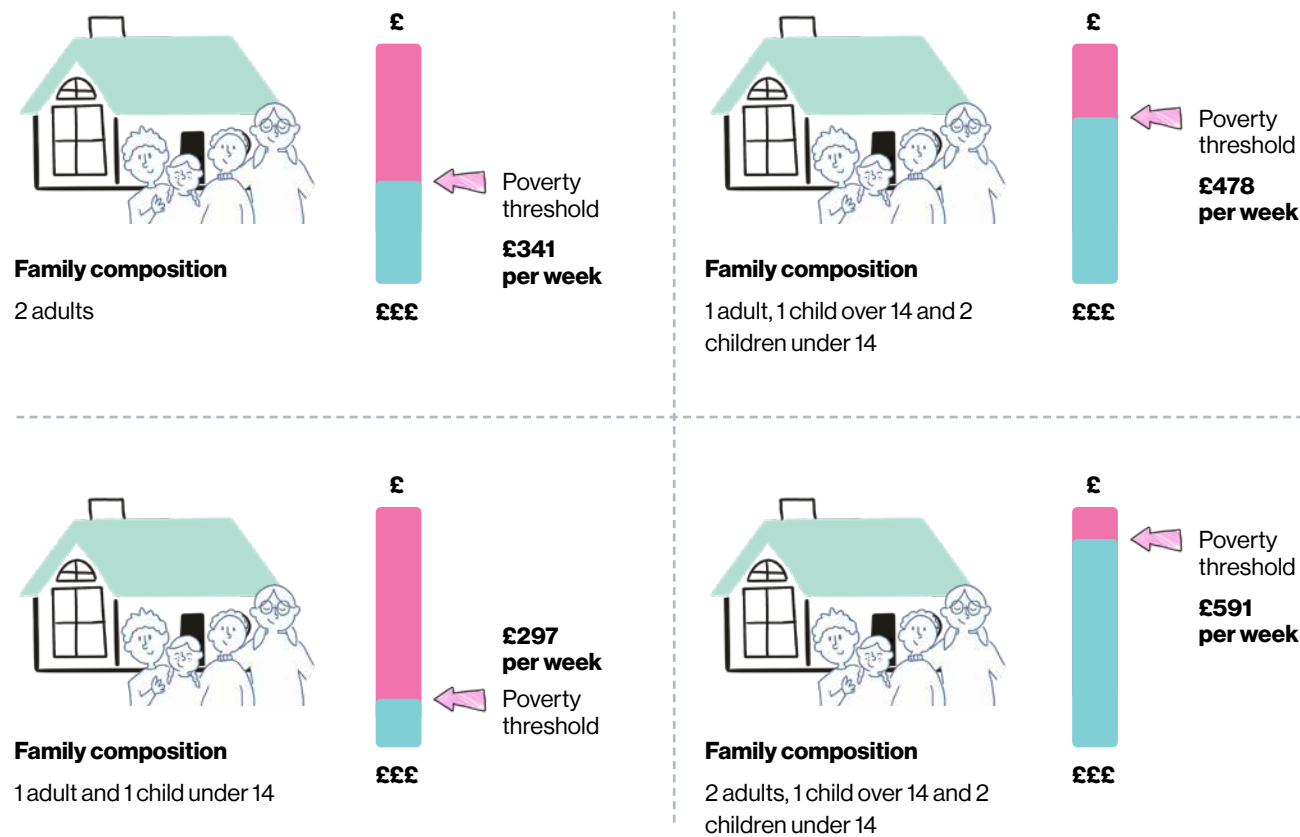
Poverty threshold

If the total income of a household falls below the poverty threshold then that family is considered to be in relative poverty. For example, for a house with 2 adults and 2 children under 14 years old, the poverty threshold is £478 per week.



Equivalised

As households are of different sizes and compositions, they require a different poverty threshold depending on the number of adults and children that live in the household. Equivalisation is an adjustment to every household's income to turn it into "equivalised household income". Using equivalised household income, taking an adult couple with no children as the reference point, we can compare different households, even when they vary in size.



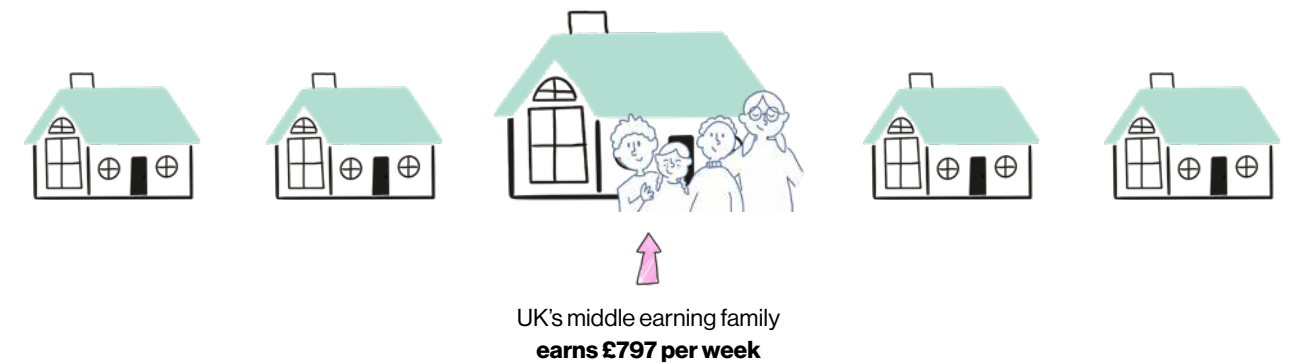
Median

We often talk about "median UK income". This could also be referred to as the middle household income.



Relative poverty

The relative poverty threshold is derived by looking at the median equivalised household income (2017-20) of every household in the UK and taking 60% of that. Equivalised income for a family with 2 adults and 2 children under 14, the median equivalised household income (2017-20) BHC is £797 per week.



Poverty thresholds

While Relative poverty is 60% of the median household income, deep poverty is 40% of the median household income. This means in a household of 2 adults and 2 children under 14, there is a difference in the deep poverty threshold of £159 per week compared to the relative poverty threshold.



Understanding Child Poverty in Glasgow

The rate of child poverty in Glasgow increased by two percentage points during the COVID-19 pandemic. This has now fallen to 2020 levels again. The total number of children living in Glasgow has also reduced in this time. **This means fewer children in the city are living in poverty that in 2020 but the rate of poverty remains the same at 24%.**

2020

24% of children in Glasgow in poverty

25,485 children in poverty

PEOPLE MAKE GLASGOW

On average these families were...
£107 per week below the Poverty line

2021

27,995 children in poverty

26% of children in Glasgow in poverty

On average these families were...
£115 per week below the Poverty line

2022

26,166 children in poverty

25% of children in Glasgow in poverty

On average these families were...
£117 per week below the Poverty line

2023

14,837 children in persistent poverty

24% of children in Glasgow in poverty

On average these families were...
£115 per week below the Poverty line

THE BARRAS

Understanding Child Poverty in Glasgow priority groups

Priority groups are identified by the Scottish Government as families that are most vulnerable to child poverty. Income from employment is one of the main drivers of poverty. To reduce child poverty in the city, we have to understand the specific challenges that these families face. **This data is an important step in understanding how to break down the barriers for families most at risk of experiencing child poverty.**

In 2020...

16,142 children in poverty

On average these families were...
£107 per week below the Poverty line

In 2023...

15,526 children in poverty

On average these families were...
£113 per week below the Poverty line

Families with one parent

9,764 children in persistent poverty

In 2020...

5,113 children in poverty

On average these families were...
£70 per week below the poverty line

In 2023...

4,403 Children in Poverty

On average these families were...
£85 per week below the poverty line

3,334 children in persistent poverty

Families with a disability

In 2020...

5,750 children in poverty

On average these families were...
£57 per week below the poverty line

Families with in work poverty

THE BARRAS

In 2023...

£62 per week below the poverty line

3,820 Children in Persistent poverty

7,436 Children in poverty

In 2020...

19,735 children in poverty

On average these families were...
£112 per week below the poverty line

In 2023...

16,816 Children in poverty

On average these families were...
£126 per week below the poverty line

10,567 Children in Persistent poverty

Families with no-one in employment

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