

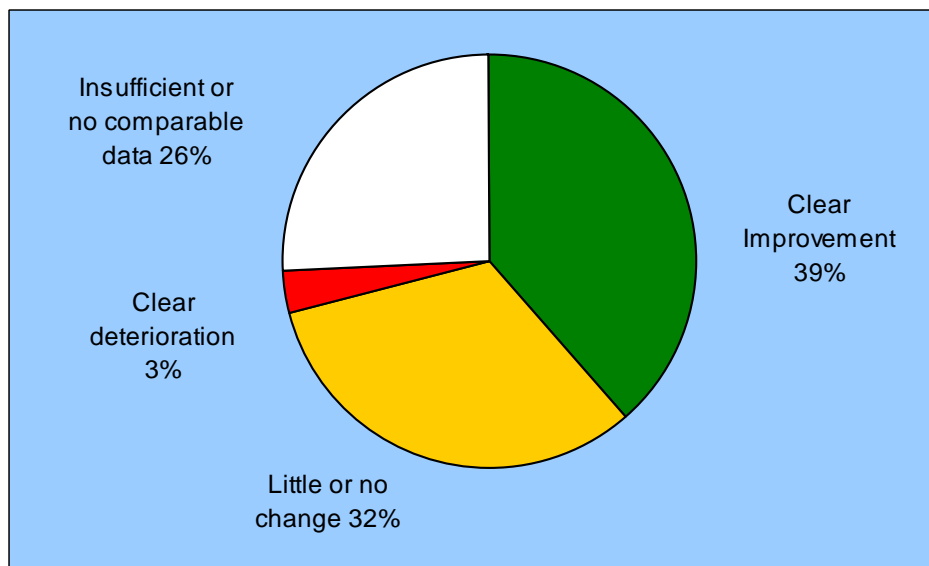
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Eradicating Child Poverty in Wales: Child Poverty Milestones and Targets Update April 2010

This release summarises the latest information on the indicators monitoring progress against the Welsh Assembly Government's Child Poverty Strategy.

Chart 1: Summary of the progress against the Child Poverty Strategy indicators



- Of the 31 child poverty indicators, 23 have sufficient data to allow an assessment (i.e. both a baseline and at least one later figure);
- Of the indicators that have been assessed, just over half of the indicators show a clear improvement, one indicator shows a clear deterioration, whilst the rest show little or no change;
- Indicators 1, 2, 3, 11, 12, 14 and 15 have been re-calculated using the Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation 2008 instead of the Townsend measure of deprivation, since the last release. New data for these indicators are published for the first time in this release.
- Since the last release, the progress status of three indicators has changed. Indicator 12 (teenage conceptions) has shown a clear improvement and is now given a green progress status. Indicator 19 (overcrowding) has been re-evaluated using different data which is more suitable for measuring the indicator and now has a red status. Indicator 22 (workless households) has been re-evaluated using statistical tests and has now been given an amber status.

Table 1 (overleaf) gives an overall summary of the progress status for each indicator. The remainder of the release presents the indicators by the five main themes of the Child Poverty Strategy.

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Table 1: Summary of the progress against the Child Poverty Strategy Indicators

	Indicator	Progress Status
1	Low birth weight	
2	Infant Mortality	
3	Five year olds with dental caries experience	
4	Child Care Places	
5	Pupils achieving Key Stage 2 Core Subject Indicator	
6	Pupils achieving Key Stage 3 Core Subject Indicator	
7	Pupils aged 15 achieving the Core Subject Indicator	
8	Pupils aged 15 achieving Level 2 threshold	
9	Pupils leaving full time education with no approved qualification	
10	16-18 year olds not in education, employment or training (NEETS)	
11	Young People with dental caries experience:	
12	Teenage conceptions (under 16s)	
13	Childhood Obesity	
14	Pedestrian injuries 5-14 year olds (reported to the police)	
15	Pedestrian injuries 5-14 year olds (hospital inpatient)	
16	Children who are killed or seriously injured casualties:	
17	Families living in B&B accommodation	
18	Families living in temporary accommodation	
19	Families living in overcrowded conditions	
20	Children's environmental health	
21	Children living in relative low income households (HBAI)	
22	Children living in workless households	
23	Lone parents in employment	
24	Credit Union membership:	
25	Child Trust Funds	
26	Adult learning	
27	Working age adults with basic skills in literacy	
28	Working age adults with basic skills in numeracy	
29	Adult learning qualification equivalent to NQF Level 2 or above	
30	Adult learning qualification equivalent to NQF Level 3 or above	
31	Adult learning qualification equivalent to NQF Level 4 or above	

- Key:**
- Clear Improvement
 - Little or no change
 - Clear deterioration
 - Insufficient or no comparable data

Table 1 summarises the overall progress status of each child poverty indicator. The following set of tables break down each indicator into five policy areas as set out in the Child Poverty Strategy and provide details on how each indicator has been assigned a progress status. Each indicator has a single progress status, however, there may be more than one measure used to monitor an indicator. In this case, each measure has been given its own progress status and an explanation has been provided as to how the overall indicator progress status was determined.

Table 2: Early Years

Indicator	Baseline		Most Recent		Progress Status
	Year	Figure	Year	Figure	
1 Low birth weight:					
3 year percentage: most deprived fifth	1999-2001	9.44	2005-07	8.87	
3 year percentage: middle deprived fifth	1999-2001	7.59	2005-07	7.21	
Rate Ratio most:middle	1999-2001	1.24	2005-07	1.23	
2 Infant Mortality:					
Rate per 1,000: most deprived fifth	1998-2002	7.07	2004-08	5.65	
Rate per 1,000: least deprived fifth	1998-2002	4.51	2004-08	3.53	
Rate Ratio most:middle	1998-2002	1.57	2004-08	1.60	
3 Five year olds with dental caries experience:					
Mean dmft: most deprived fifth	2003-04	3.21	2005-06	2.96	
Mean dmft: middle deprived fifth	2003-04	2.41	2005-06	2.29	
Mean dmft ratio most:middle	2003-04	1.33	2005-06	1.29	
Percentage dmft:most deprived fifth	2003-04	64.9	2005-06	60.5	
Percentage dmft:middle deprived fifth	2003-04	54.8	2005-06	52.3	
Percentage dmft ratio most:middle	2003-04	1.18	2005-06	1.16	
4 Child Care Places	..	..	2009	73,645	

Three of the four indicators in the early years section have sufficient data to allow progress to be measured. The overall progress status for the three indicators is amber as there has been little or no change since the baseline year.







Indicators 1, 2 and 3 all use the combined income and employment domains of Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (WIMD) to divide the relevant population base into deprivation fifths. This is explained in further detail in the Background section of this release.

Using confidence interval tests, there has been a clear improvement in the most deprived fifth and the least/middle deprived fifth in Wales for Indicators 1 and 2. However the rate ratio between the most deprived and the least/middle deprived fifth has neither improved nor deteriorated. As inequality between the most deprived and least/middle deprived fifths has not improved or deteriorated, the progress of the overall indicator is rated as amber.

For Indicator 3 'dmft' refers to decayed, missing and filled deciduous (milk) teeth. The mean dmft figure refers to the mean number of decayed, missing or filled teeth in all children, whilst the percentage dmft shows the percentage of children with dmft greater than zero. Confidence interval tests have been performed on each of the measures and combined with the opinions of dental health professionals and statisticians, the overall indicator progress status of this indicator is amber.

There is data available since 2003 for the number of child care places in Wales (Indicator 4) which is published on the [StatsWales](#) website. However progress cannot be measured for this indicator as a baseline year has not been specified.











Table 3: Education

Indicator	Baseline		Most Recent		Progress Status
	Year	Figure	Year	Figure	
5 Pupils achieving Key Stage 2 CSI	2006	74	2009	77	
6 Pupils achieving Key Stage 3 CSI	2005	58	2009	61	
7 Pupils aged 15 achieving the CSI	2006	40	2009	46	
8 Pupils aged 15 achieving Level 2 threshold	2006	54	2009	61	
9 Pupils leaving full time education with no approved qualification	2005	2.2	2009	0.9	
10 16-18 year olds not in education, employment or training	2002/03	12	2007	12	

All six indicators in the education section have sufficient data for progress to be measured. Five of the six indicators show clear improvement, one has not shown significant improvement or decline, and no indicators have shown a significant decline.

Indicators 5-9 are based on administrative data and Indicator 10 is based on a combination of data sources. The progress status for all six indicators has been evaluated by the Statistical Directorate and all show a clear improvement apart from Indicator 10 which has shown little or no change.

Table 4: Health

Indicator	Baseline		Most Recent		Progress Status
	Year	Figure	Year	Figure	
11 Young People with dental caries experience:					
Mean DMFT: most deprived fifth	2004/05	1.35	2008/09	1.31	
Mean DMFT: middle deprived fifth	2004/05	1.12	2008/09	0.95	
Mean DMFT ratio most:middle	2004/05	1.21	2008/09	1.38	
Percentage DMFT: most deprived fifth	2004/05	53.8	2008/09	52.4	
Percentage DMFT: middle deprived fifth	2004/05	45.5	2008/09	42.1	
Percentage DMFT ratio most:middle	2004/05	1.18	2008/09	1.24	
12 Teenage conceptions (under 16s):					
Most deprived fifth rate per 1,000:	1998-2002	15.24	2004-08	11.97	
Middle deprived fifth rate per 1,000:	1998-2002	8.05	2004-08	7.19	
Ratio most deprived:middle deprived	1998-2002	1.89	2004-08	1.67	
13 Childhood Obesity					
Percentage of obese children	..	..	2008	16	

Of the three indicators in the health section, two have sufficient data for progress to be measured. Indicator 11 shows no clear improvement or deterioration so has been given an amber status. Indicator 12 shows a clear improvement so has been given a green status, whilst there is insufficient information to measure progress for Indicator 13 so it has been given a white status.













Indicators 11 and 12 use the combined income and employment domains of Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (WIMD) to divide the relevant population base into deprivation fifths. This is explained in further detail in the Background section of this release.

For Indicator 11 'DMFT' refers to decayed, missing and filled permanent teeth. The mean DMFT figure refers to the mean number of decayed, missing or filled teeth in all children, whilst the percentage DMFT shows the percentage of children with DMFT greater than zero. Using confidence interval tests, the middle deprived fifth has shown a clear improvement for both the mean DMFT and the percentage DMFT. However there has not been any statistically significant improvement or deterioration in the most deprived fifth for both measures. As a result the ratio between the most and middle deprived fifth for both measures has increased, but not by a statistically significant margin. Statisticians from the Statistical Directorate and dental health professionals agree that when combining all 6 measures, this indicator should be given an overall progress status of amber.

All three statistics used to measure Indicator 12 have shown clear improvements. Using confidence interval tests, the number of teenage conceptions per 1,000 (girls aged 13-15) has fallen by a statistically significant margin in the most deprived fifth of Wales. There has also been a statistically significant fall in the middle deprived fifth; however, the falls have not been as great as in the most deprived fifth. As a result the rate ratio between the most deprived and middle deprived fifth has fallen also by a statistically significant margin, meaning inequality between the groups has been reduced. All three measures have a green progress status; consequently the overall indicator progress status is also green.

There is data available since 2007 for the percentage of obese children in Wales (Indicator 13) which is published on the [StatsWales](https://www.statswales.gov.wales/) website. However progress cannot be measured for this indicator as a baseline year has not been specified.

Table 5: Safe Home and Community

Indicator	Baseline		Most Recent		Progress Status
	Year	Figure	Year	Figure	
14 Pedestrian injuries 5-14 year olds (reported to the police):					
Rate per 100,000: most deprived fifth	1998-2002	220.2	2002-06	167.8	
Rate per 100,000: middle deprived fifth	1998-2002	149.2	2002-06	106.4	
Rate Ratio most:middle	1998-2002	1.48	2002-06	1.58	
15 Pedestrian injuries 5-14 year olds (hospital inpatient):					
Rate per 100,000: most deprived fifth	1998-2002	64.9	2004-08	55.5	
Rate per 100,000: middle deprived fifth	1998-2002	41.0	2004-08	32.4	
Rate Ratio most:middle	1998-2002	1.58	2004-08	1.71	
16 Children who are killed or seriously injured casualties:					
Number	1994-98	289	2008	115	
Percentage reduction since the baseline	1994-98	0	2008	60	
17 Families living in B&B accommodation	2005	242	2009	23	
18 Families living in temporary accommodation	2005	1,668	2009	1,422	
19 Families living in overcrowded conditions	2004	17,592	2008	20,949	
20 Children's environmental health	..	..	..	..

Of the seven indicators in the safe home and community section, six have sufficient data to allow progress from the baseline to be measured. Of the six measurable indicators, three have shown significant improvements since the baseline year, two have shown little or no improvement, whilst one has shown a clear deterioration.

Indicators 14 and 15 use the combined income and employment domains of Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (WIMD) to divide the relevant population base into deprivation fifths. This is explained in further detail in the Background section of this release. Using confidence interval tests, there has been a clear statistically significant improvement in the rates of the most deprived and middle deprived fifths for both indicators. However, as the improvement happened at a relatively similar rate, the rate ratio between the most and the middle deprived fifths has neither improved nor deteriorated. As inequality between the deprivation fifths has remained at similar levels, the progress status for the overall indicator is amber.













There has been a clear fall in the number of children killed or seriously injured in Wales (Indicator 16) since the baseline year, leading to a large percentage reduction since the baseline year. The assessment of the Statistical Directorate is that progress on this indicator is green.

The number of families living in bed and breakfast accommodation (Indicator 17) and in temporary accommodation (Indicator 18) has fallen by a clear margin since the baseline year. The assessment of the Statistical Directorate is that progress on this indicator is green.

The number of families living in overcrowded conditions (Indicator 19) has increased since the baseline year. The Statistical Directorate assessment of this Indicator is that it should be given a red progress status as there has been a clear deterioration. It is important to note that this indicator is now measured using the 'total number of households with one or more dependent children that are overcrowded'. Previous editions of this release had used the measure 'total number of all households that are overcrowded'. As a consequence of this change in definition, the progress status of this indicator has changed from amber to red since the last edition of this release.

There is currently no specific definition for Indicator 20, so a progress status cannot be allocated.

Table 6: Income Poverty

Indicator	Baseline		Most Recent		Progress Status
	Year	Figure	Year	Figure	
21 Children living in relative low income households (HBAI)	1998/99-2000/01	35	2005/06-2007/08	32	
Percentage of children:					
22 Children living in workless households	2006	16.9	2008	18.0	
23 Lone parents in employment	2004-06	54.4	2006-08	55.4	
24 Credit Union membership:					
Overall membership	..	..	2009	49,300	
Junior membership	..	..	2009	8,300	
25 Child Trust Funds	..	..	..	..
26 Adult learning	..	..	..	..
27 Working age adults with basic skills in literacy	2004	75	..	..
28 Working age adults with basic skills in numeracy	2004	47	..	..
29 Adult learning qualification equivalent to NQF Level 2 or above	2004	66	2008	70	
30 Adult learning qualification equivalent to NQF Level 3 or above	2004	45	2008	49	
31 Adult learning qualification equivalent to NQF Level 4 or above	2004	26	2008	28	

Of the eleven indicators in the income poverty section, six have sufficient information to allow progress from the baseline to be measured. Half of these have shown a significant improvement, whilst the other half have shown little or no progress. No indicator has shown a clear deterioration.

Indicator 21, the percentage of children living in households below average income (HBAI) has stayed relatively stable since the baseline year. The Statistical Directorate has assessed that the progress status for this indicator is amber.

Both the percentage of children living in workless households (Indicator 22) and the percentage of lone parents in employment (Indicator 23) has increased. However using confidence interval tests the increase in the percentage of children living in workless households is not significantly greater than the baseline, so it has been given an amber status. The percentage of lone parents in employment has also been given an amber status as the figure for the most recent year is not significantly greater than the baseline figure.

There is data available since 2005 for the number of credit union members in Wales (Indicator 24) which is published on the [StatsWales](#) website. However progress cannot be measured for this indicator as a baseline year has not been specified.

It has yet to be decided what the correct dataset is to measure Child Trust Funds (Indicator 25) in terms of child poverty, so it remains unmeasured.


Suitable data is not currently available to measure the Adult Learning (Indicator 26) indicator.

There is only baseline data available for adults with basic skills in literacy and numeracy (Indicators 27 and 28); new survey data is expected to be available by the end of 2010.

There has been clear improvement in all three NQF levels indicators. Using confidence interval tests, the most recent data is statistically significantly greater than the baseline year, so all three indicators have been given a green progress status.

Background

This first release presents an overview of progress of the indicators specified in the Welsh Assembly Government's Child Poverty Strategy.

The statistics come from a range of sources in Wales and across the UK, which are updated at different times and intervals. The full set of data and notes on all of the indicators will be available through our [StatsWales](#) website. This website allows the user to manipulate and download data. The indicators are also presented with additional commentary in the [Child Poverty Online Report](#) which is also available on the StatsWales website. The Report was last updated in February 2010 and will be updated throughout the year. In addition local authority data is available for many indicators on StatsWales. Information about specific data issues will be included in the Child Poverty Online Report and through the  symbol on StatsWales.

This First Release will be updated annually to provide a snapshot of progress across all the indicators. The next update is provisionally scheduled for November 2010. StatsWales reports will be updated periodically throughout the year as new data becomes available.

The contribution of data and analysis by organisations such as the Public Health Wales Observatory and the Welsh Oral Health Information Unit is gratefully acknowledged. Although most indicators are currently measured, extensive work is being conducted that reviews the current indicators and aims to improve on the number of indicators that can be measured so that all the child poverty targets have regular progress updates.

The Child Poverty Strategy





In October 2006 the Welsh Assembly Government published its own cross cutting child poverty targets published in '[Eradicating Child Poverty – Measuring Success](#)', across a number of policy areas in order to measure progress in tackling child poverty. The milestones and targets that have been adopted to measure progress towards eradicating child poverty by 2020 cover five main themes. They are:

Early years;
Education;
Health;
Safe Home and Community; and
Income Poverty.

They have mainly been taken from existing targets and are informed by departmental strategic plans such as The Learning Country 2 and the Road Safety Strategy for Wales. The Children and Families (Wales) Measure, passed by the National Assembly on 10 November 2009, places a duty on the Welsh Assembly Government to publish a new child poverty strategy for Wales. This is under development and will be published in 2010. It is intended that an update to this statistical first release will be published shortly after the new child poverty strategy is released, which will reflect any changes made in the strategy.

Assessing Indicators

To highlight whether or not an indicator is improving, staying the same or deteriorating, a standard progress status key or set of 'traffic lights' is used:

-  Clear improvement
-  Little or no change
-  Clear deterioration
-  Insufficient or no comparable data

The traffic light is determined by comparing the latest available data with data from the baseline year. It reflects the overall change in the measure from the baseline year to its latest position rather than fluctuations during the intervening years. Where possible confidence interval tests have been used to determine the progress status of indicators; in the absence of suitable statistical testing, the progress status has been determined by the expert statistician in that field within the Statistical Directorate. There are data issues with specific indicators, such as volatility and small numbers; expert statisticians have carefully considered these types of issues before giving their opinion on the progress status.

Confidence Intervals

All indicator progress statuses that have been decided using statistical methods have used confidence interval tests at the 95% level. Where it is desirable for a figure to decrease (e.g. low birth weight babies) the decision process for progress status is as follows: where the upper confidence limit for the most recent year is less than the figure for the baseline year the indicator is labelled green, indicating a likely significant improvement; where the figure for the baseline year is within the confidence limit range for the most recent year, the indicator is labelled amber indicating no significant change; where the lower confidence limit for the most recent year is greater than the figure for the baseline year, the indicator is labelled red indicating a likely significant deterioration. Where it is desirable for the figure to increase (e.g. achievement of a qualification NQF Level 2 or above) the decision for red and green is reversed. It is important to note that a confidence interval test is not definitive. All confidence intervals are approximate as they do not account for sampling design differences.

Additional Notes

Indicators 1, 2, 3, 11, 12, 14 and 15 have been re-calculated using the combined income and employment domains of the Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (WIMD) to generate deprivation fifths for Wales. This means that the 1,896 Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) have been ranked in terms of their material deprivation (income plus employment) and separated into the most deprived fifth of LSOAs, the second most deprived fifth of LSOAs and so on. The most deprived fifth refers to the people who live in LSOAs that are ranked between 1 and 379 in WIMD, the middle deprived fifth refers to the people who live in LSOAs ranked between 759 and 1,138 in WIMD and the least deprived fifth refers to the people who live in LSOAs ranked between 1,517 and 1,896. Previously these indicators had been measured using Townsend scores. WIMD is the Welsh Assembly Government's official measure of deprivation and is far more wide ranging and up to date than Townsend scores which are based on 2001 Census data. More information about WIMD can be found on the [WAG Statistics](#) website.

Indicators 1, 2, 12, 14, 15, 21, 23 use data averaged across more than one year. This minimises the effect that small numbers and sampling errors have on producing robust statistics.

There is not suitable data available to measure progress for Indicators 20, 25 and 26. There is currently being work undertaken to review these indicators and find a suitable way for measuring them.

Data for indicators 22 and 23 can now be sourced from the Annual Population Survey (APS). Previously figures had been sourced from the Labour Force Survey (LFS); the APS produces more robust statistics than the LFS. The baseline figure has been re-calculated using the data from the APS and progress has been measured by statistics from the APS.

Indicators 27 and 28 are based on survey data. They both have a baseline, but the survey has not been re-run until this year so data is not available post-baseline year at this moment and their progress remains immeasurable. It is anticipated that new survey data will be available in time for the next update of this statistical release.