

Briefing:

Children in poverty in working households

28 March 2019

Summary of key points:

Figures in this note are taken from the Households Below Average Income (HBAI) series of releases from the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP).

- There are now 847,000 children in working households who are tipped into poverty by their family's housing costs
- The number of children in working households who are in poverty has grown by 833,000 since 2010/11
- This is a 40% increase

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Figures in black in the table below are compiled from the annual releases; those in blue are derived from these.

| Year | % of children in working families in poverty | | Number of children in working families | | | |
|--|--|---------------------------|--|----------------|----------------|------------------------|
| | Before housing costs (BHC) | After housing costs (AHC) | Total (m) | In poverty BHC | In poverty AHC | Housing costs 'uplift' |
| 2010/11 | 13% | 19% | 10.9 | 1,417,000 | 2,071,000 | 654,000 |
| 2011/12 | 13% | 20% | 11.1 | 1,443,000 | 2,220,000 | 777,000 |
| 2012/13 | 13% | 20% | 11.1 | 1,443,000 | 2,220,000 | 777,000 |
| 2013/14 | 13% | 21% | 11.2 | 1,456,000 | 2,352,000 | 896,000 |
| 2014/15 | 14% | 22% | 11.6 | 1,624,000 | 2,552,000 | 928,000 |
| 2015/16 | 15% | 23% | 11.6 | 1,740,000 | 2,668,000 | 928,000 |
| 2016/17 | 15% | 24% | 11.8 | 1,770,000 | 2,832,000 | 1,062,000 |
| 2017/18 | 17% | 24% | 12.1 | 2,057,000 | 2,904,000 | 847,000 |
| Increase, 2010/11 to 2017/18 (number): | | | | 640,000 | 833,000 | 193,000 |
| Increase, 2010/11 to 2017/18 (percentage): | | | | 45% | 40% | 30% |

The housing costs 'uplift' figure is the difference between the BHC and AHC measures; this is the number of children who are not counted as being in poverty before housing costs are taken into account, but are afterwards – simply put this is the number of children in working households who are tipped into poverty by their family's housing costs.

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- This is a 40% increase.

