

What does the Local Child Poverty Measure tell us about the distribution of child poverty in England?

Child Poverty Unit

The views expressed in this report are the authors' and do not necessarily reflect those of the Department for Education.

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Introduction

Ending child poverty will make a huge difference not only to these children's lives but to the lives of their families, communities and to society as a whole. It means central Government, local government, their partners, communities and families themselves tackling a wide range of complex issues to improve children's chances in life.

The Child Poverty Strategy, *A New Approach to Child Poverty: Tackling the Causes of Disadvantage and Transforming Families' Lives*, set out the Government's approach to tackling child poverty for this Parliament.¹ The strategy maintained the Government's commitment to the Child Poverty Act 2010 and the duties it placed on national Government to meet four child poverty targets by 2020.²

The Act also places a statutory duty on local authorities to carry out a child poverty needs assessment in their area and to develop a local child poverty strategy, thereby establishing a framework for local partners to cooperate to tackle child poverty.

This paper explores what local level child poverty data can tell us about the distribution of child poverty in England and how child poverty rates at these lower geographies have changed over time, further developing the evidence base on the extent and distribution of child poverty. It demonstrates how this data might be exploited more fully in developing local and national strategies.

Section 1 examines how national and regional figures for the number and proportion of children living in low income poverty can mask the considerable variation that exists between local areas. Exploring the distribution of child poverty rates that exist across all local authority levels adds context to this national picture and to the rate within an individual area, showing where an area sits in the national distribution rather than just relative to a national average.

Just as national child poverty rates mask the variation between authorities, so headline results for local authorities can mask potential variation within them. **Section 2** explores the variation in child poverty rates that exist within local authorities by looking at child poverty data at ward level.

At the time of writing, three years of revised local child poverty data was available covering snapshots of child poverty in August 2006, 2007 and 2008.³ **Section 3** uses the time series element of the revised local child

¹ *A New Approach to Child Poverty: Tackling the Causes of Disadvantage and Transforming Families' Lives* is available from <http://www.education.gov.uk/childrenandyoungpeople/families/childpoverty/a0076385/child-poverty-strategy>

² The Child Poverty Act 2010 is available from <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/9/contents>

³ By the time of publication, four years worth of data will be available with 2009 data having been published at the end of September 2011.

poverty measure to explore how the number and proportion of child in poverty at local authority level changes over time.

Section 4 looks at the further breakdowns that are available with the revised child poverty measure and how these characteristics are related to variation in child poverty rates at a local level.

This report builds on the range of data and analysis and support for local areas that has already been published. This includes the Child Poverty Needs Assessment Toolkit, aimed at individuals and groups who lead on understanding family poverty locally and designed to help provide the underpinning information and insights to develop strategies that can reduce, or mitigate against the effects of, child poverty.⁴

In addition, the Child Poverty Community of Practice is an interactive network for online problem-solving, peer-support and information sharing for those interested in preventing and tackling child poverty.⁵

Further sources of support are given in the Useful Resources section at the end of this report.

Throughout this publication the local child poverty measure values as published are used. Whilst this is a reasonable approximation of relative low income it does not necessarily fully reflect all local circumstances or progress made in tackling child poverty.

This paper is not an assessment or evaluation of the performance of local authorities, their partners, or central Government in tackling child poverty.

⁴ <http://www.idea.gov.uk/idk/core/page.do?pageId=22025996>

⁵ <http://www.communities.idea.gov.uk/comm/landing-home.do?id=1362979>

Background

Defining poverty at a national level

The Child Poverty Act contains four income based targets based on the proportion of children living in households experiencing:

- **Relative low income** - the proportion of children living in households where income is less than 60 per cent of median household income before housing costs for the financial year. The target is less than 10 per cent.
- **Combined low income and material deprivation** - the proportion of children living in households that experience material deprivation where income is less than 70 per cent of median household income before housing costs for the financial year. The target is less than 5 per cent.
- **Absolute low income** - the proportion of children living in households where income is less than 60 per cent of median household income before housing costs in 2010-11 adjusted for prices. The target is less than 5 per cent.⁶
- **Persistent poverty** - the proportion of children living in relative low income for at least three out of the last four years. The target is to be set in regulations by 2015.

The number and proportion of children defined as in poverty on this basis are reported annually in the Households Below Average Income (HBAI) and Low Income Dynamics (LID) series, both published by the Department for Work and Pensions. The HBAI series presents statistics for low income in the UK based on information from the Family Resources Survey (FRS), which collects detailed income data from a representative sample of UK households each year. It uses household income adjusted (or 'equivalised') for household size and composition, to provide a proxy for standard of living.

In a similar way, Low Income Dynamics uses data from the British Household Panel Survey (BHPS) which is a longitudinal study meaning that the same households are tracked over time. The BHPS has now been subsumed in to the larger Understanding Society study which is likely to be the source of measures of persistent poverty at a national level.

The Child Poverty Strategy introduced a new suite of indicators, with fifteen measures across three themes - family resources (including the four targets in the Act), family circumstances and children's life chances.

Within the family resources theme a new measure of **severe poverty** has been developed, which is defined as the proportion of children who

⁶ Until data for 2010/11 becomes available, absolute poverty is measured against incomes in 1998/99.

experience material deprivation and live in households where income is less than 50 per cent of median household income before housing costs for the financial year.

Within family circumstances, a new measure of **in-work poverty** is defined as the proportion of children growing up in families where at least one person works but are still in relative poverty.

From 2009/10, HBAI also includes statistics on **family structures**. Specifically it measures the proportion of children living in families headed by (1) couples who are married/in a civil partnership; (2) couples who are cohabiting; and (3) lone parents who experience relative poverty or low income and material deprivation.

HBAI therefore provides us with a wide range of poverty measures with breakdowns by family characteristics at national level and regional level data on the headline indicators. However, as this is based on survey data it gives us limited information on the distribution of child poverty across the country and nothing on the variation between and within local areas as the sample sizes are insufficient for such analysis. Regional level statistics are already based on three year averages due to the volatile nature of the data for individual years caused by small sample sizes.

Defining poverty at a local level

Without detailed income data there are no direct measures of child poverty as defined above at local level. Instead, administrative data sources on benefits and tax credits from the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) and Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC) have been used in the construction of the local child poverty indicators that were used as part of Local Area Agreements and the National Indicator Set, the measures were commonly known as National Indicator, or NI, 116.

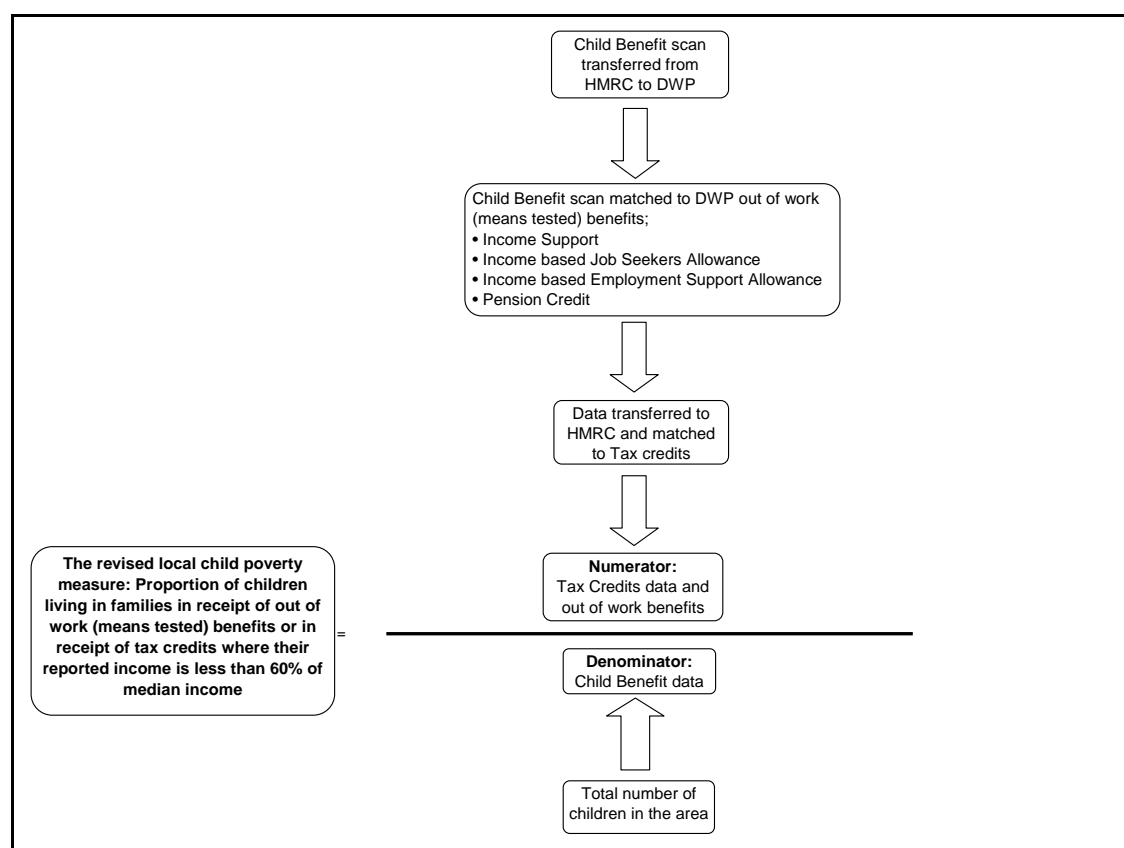
The measure originated as a measure of worklessness, measuring the proportion of children who are in families in receipt of out of work benefits (now referred to as the local child poverty proxy measure). However, this measure ignores the important issue of in work poverty where people are in employment but still living in low income. In December 2009 the revised measure which combines working and workless low income families was published for the first time. In addition to out of work (means-tested) benefits the revised measure includes those who are in receipt of tax credits but whose income is below 60 per cent of median.

Under this measure, a child is defined as per the definition used for child benefit. That is anyone aged under 16 or anyone aged 16 to 19 who is not married, in a civil partnership or living with a partner, who is living with parents and who is in full-time non-advanced education or unwaged Government training. This is also the definition of a child in HBAI and for the purposes of the Child Poverty Act.

Figure i demonstrates how the revised local child poverty measure is

constructed using data from DWP and HMRC.

Figure i: Data sources used in the construction of the revised local child poverty measure



The measure is published on an annual basis by HMRC.⁷ As it relies on finalised tax credits data (complete information on family income and circumstances for the entire year) there is a significant delay from the period covered to the point of publication. Data from August 2009 was published in September 2011.

This measure is designed to approximate the national relative low income measure at a local level. For brevity, within this paper we refer to the revised local child poverty measure as an indicator for measuring children in “poverty”, which we take to mean living in relative low income.

All counts of children under this measure are rounded to the nearest five to preserve claimant confidentiality, particularly at lower level data. All proportions are presented to the nearest 0.1 percent.

Local child poverty indicator breakdowns and limitations

Geographical breakdowns for the revised local child poverty measure are available at regional, local authority (upper and lower tier), ward, Parliamentary Constituency and Lower Layer Super Output Area (LSOA)

⁷ http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/stats/personal-tax-credits/child_poverty.htm

level.⁸ Whilst the targets and most of the breakdowns in HBAI relate to the United Kingdom, to date the revised measure only covers local authorities in England. The 2009 data, published in September 2011, includes local area statistics for all parts of the United Kingdom.

The data also provides additional breakdowns by:

- whether the claimant is claiming tax credits or Income Support (IS)/ Jobseekers Allowance (JSA);
- lone parent or couple;
- number of children;
- age of child; and
- age of the youngest child in the family.

As robust data is not available it is not possible to produce breakdowns by economic and family characteristics, e.g. by ethnicity, as are produced at a national level. Disability breakdowns (based on disability element in tax credits) may be possible in the future. However, due to very small numbers involved, this data could not be published below local authority level.

The revised measure is designed to approximate the national relative low income measure at a local level. As we do not have a full range of income data, material deprivation responses or longitudinal data, it is not possible to provide comparable data for the other income targets at local authority level. Furthermore it is not a precise measure of those whose incomes fall below the 60 per cent of median as used in reporting national child poverty rates. This is because:

- there is incomplete income information for Income Support and Jobseekers Allowance cases, meaning that the 60 per cent median income threshold cannot be applied to these groups. However, as they are claiming means-tested benefits we know that these families have low incomes;
- tax credits are assessed on taxable income which excludes non-taxable benefits administered by local authorities such as Housing Benefit or Council Tax Credit;
- take up of tax credits and means tested benefits is not universal amongst those who are eligible. However, the take up of all tax credits amongst families with children is estimated at 87 per cent;⁹ and
- the revised local child poverty figures are based on a snapshot at August rather than a reflection of the whole year.

Whilst there are limitations to the local child poverty measure, it still provides an important source of information to local areas and national policy makers on the distribution of poverty within England and within local authorities.

⁸ Whilst the local child poverty indicator does provide data at national and regional level the official measure of child poverty for these geographies remain those published in HBAI.

⁹ HMRC (2011) Child Benefit, Child Tax Credit and Working Tax Credit Take-up rates 2008-09 <http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/stats/personal-tax-credits/cwtc-take-up2008-09.pdf>

Data for the revised local child poverty measure is available from 2006 to 2008. Therefore, to enable meaningful comparisons between local and national data, this paper refers to the 2008/09 HBAI publication.¹⁰ The latest HBAI publication is for 2009/10.¹¹ Local child poverty data for 2009 was published in September 2011, however this was too late for the production of this report.

The analysis in this paper is based on the 152 top tier local authorities that are covered by the duty in the Child Poverty Act.¹²

¹⁰ Department for Work and Pensions (2010) Households Below Average Income: An analysis of the income distribution. 1994/95 – 2008/09

http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/hbai/hbai_2009/pdf_files/full_hbai10.pdf

¹¹ Department for Work and Pensions (2011) Households Below Average Income: An analysis of the income distribution. 1994/95 – 2009/10

http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/hbai/hbai2010/pdf_files/full_hbai11.pdf

¹² Comprised of metropolitan districts, non-metropolitan districts, unitary authorities, the London Boroughs, the Isles of Scilly and the City of London. However the Isles of Scilly is often excluded from analysis because of its size.

Section 1: Variation in child poverty between areas

Introduction

National and regional figures for the number and proportion of children living in low income poverty can mask the considerable variation that exists between local authorities.

Exploring the variation in child poverty rates that exist between areas adds context to both the national and local pictures. For example, local authorities will be able to see where their child poverty rate sits within the distribution of all authorities rather than just relative to a national average.

1.1 Variation in local authority child poverty rates

Nationally the proportion of children living in relative low income in both England and the UK as a whole in the 2008/09 HBAI publication was 22 per cent.¹³ Whilst slightly lower, the local measure gave broadly the same figure for England at 20.9 per cent.

Figure 1.1 is a map of child poverty rates for all top tier authorities in England in 2008, a darker shade of blue indicates a higher child poverty rate. It demonstrates that conurbations and other large urban areas, such as London, the West Midlands, and the North West, had higher child poverty rates than average with many authorities having rates above 25 per cent. Conversely, large rural authorities tended to have much lower poverty rates.

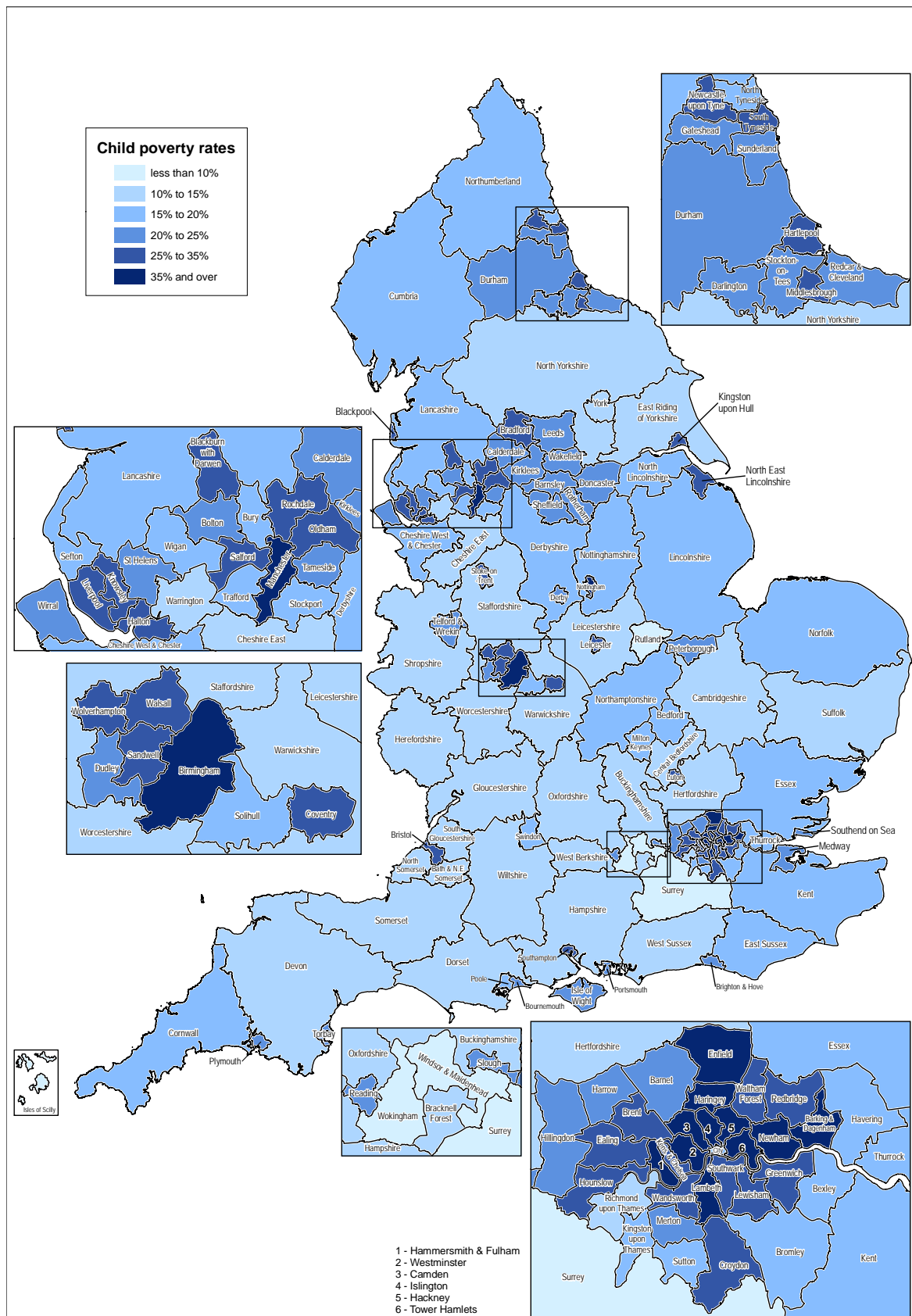
Figure 1.2 shows the distribution and quartile values of local authority rates, where a quarter of authorities had a poverty rate below the lower quartile value. If we exclude the Isles of Scilly, around half of all local authorities were in the range between 15.4 per cent and 28.4 per cent.¹⁴

Furthermore 120 local authorities (79 per cent) had child poverty rates between 10.1 and 30.0 per cent. Four local authorities were below this range, of which Wokingham had the lowest rate, 6.8 per cent of children experienced low income poverty. Twenty seven local authorities (18 per cent) had child poverty rates above 30.0 per cent. The most deprived local authority was Tower Hamlets with 57.0 per cent of all children in poverty.

¹³ This figure is based on the 2008/09 HBAI publication. Figures for England are based on a three year average and for the UK figure on a single year. The 2009/10 HBAI publication shows 21 per cent for England and 20 per cent for the UK.

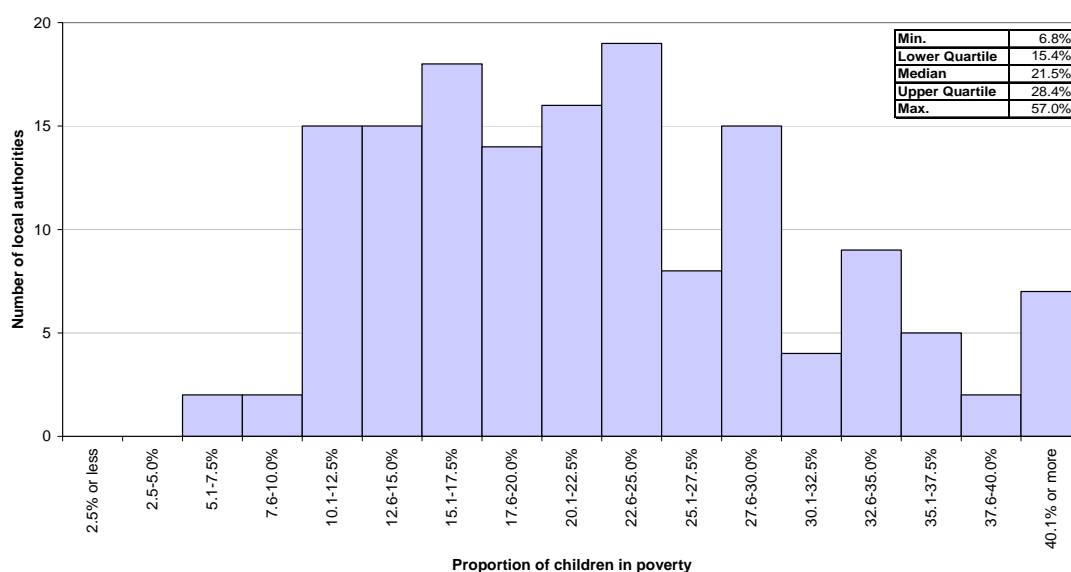
¹⁴ All analysis in this paper excludes Isles of Scilly (because of size), unless otherwise stated.

Figure 1.1: Distribution of child poverty rates in England at top tier local authority level



Source: Revised Local Child Poverty Measure 2008

Figure 1.2: Distribution of child poverty rates at top tier local authority level



Source: Revised Local Child Poverty Measure 2008

Figure 1.2 demonstrates the level of challenge that is inherent in the national targets to eradicate child poverty. The relative low income target is that less than 10 per cent of children will live in households with incomes below 60 per cent of median.

Only a handful of authorities have poverty rates below this 10 per cent level and a significant number have rates that are considerably higher. The difference between the highest and lowest quartiles is 13.0 percentage points. In an average size authority this gap would equate to an additional 9,000 children living in poverty.¹⁵ Developing this further, and considering that to meet the relative low income poverty target well over a million children in the United Kingdom need to be lifted out of poverty¹⁶:

- if all local authorities in England that are over the upper quartile (28.4 per cent) were to reduce to that level, around 0.2m children would be lifted out of poverty;
- if all local authorities over the median (21.5 per cent) were to reduce to that level, around 0.4m children would be lifted out of poverty;
- if all local authorities above the lower quartile (15.4 per cent) were to reduce to that level, around 0.7m children would be lifted out of poverty; and
- if all local authorities above the lowest decile (11.9 per cent) were to reduce to that level, around 1.0m children would be lifted out of

¹⁵ These figures are for illustrative purposes and we have assumed an average sized authority to have 70,000 children based on there being 10.8m children in England in HBAI split between 152 authorities.

¹⁶ In 2008/09 there were 2.8m children living in low income households. This represented 22 per cent of children. Achieving the relative low income target of less than 10 per cent, means more than halving this rate.

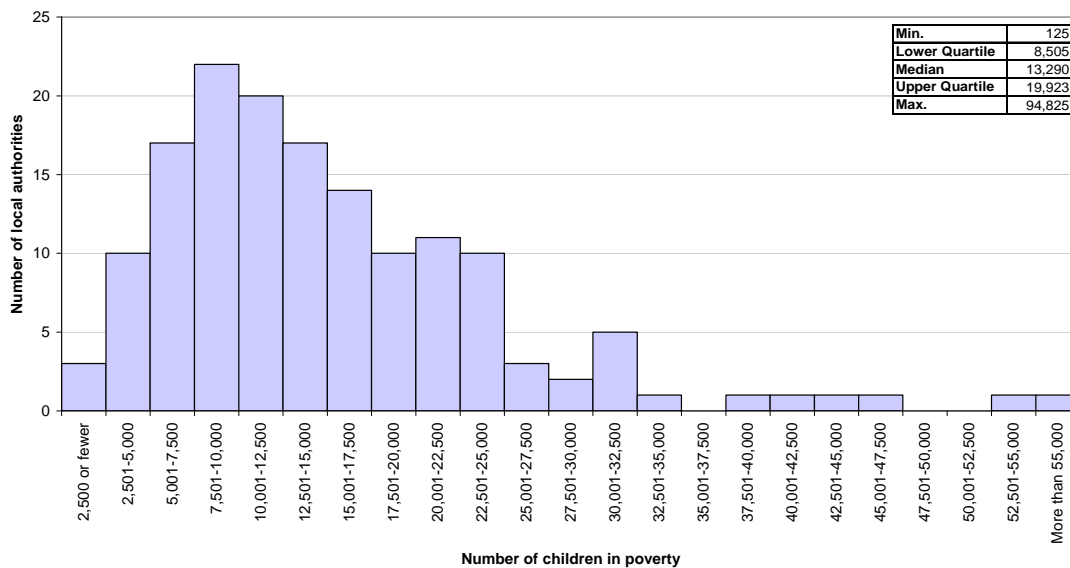
poverty.

1.2 Variation in local authority child poverty numbers

Even in the least deprived local authorities there are still children that are experiencing poverty and these numbers can be significant. The vastly different sizes of local authorities can mean that looking at proportions alone can understate the scale of child poverty within an authority. Many of the least deprived areas as measured by *percentage* in poverty still have a large *number* of children in poverty due to their size.

Figure 1.3 shows the local authority distribution when considering number of children in poverty rather than proportion. In 18 local authorities (12 per cent) there were over 25,000 children in poverty, whilst there were three local authorities (2 per cent) that had fewer than 2,500 children in poverty. Half of all local had authorities between 8,500 and 20,000 children in poverty. The local authority with the fewest children in low income poverty was City of London with 125 such children. The area with the most was Birmingham, with over 90,000 children in poverty, driven by a combination of having a very high child population and an above average, but not highest, child poverty rate.

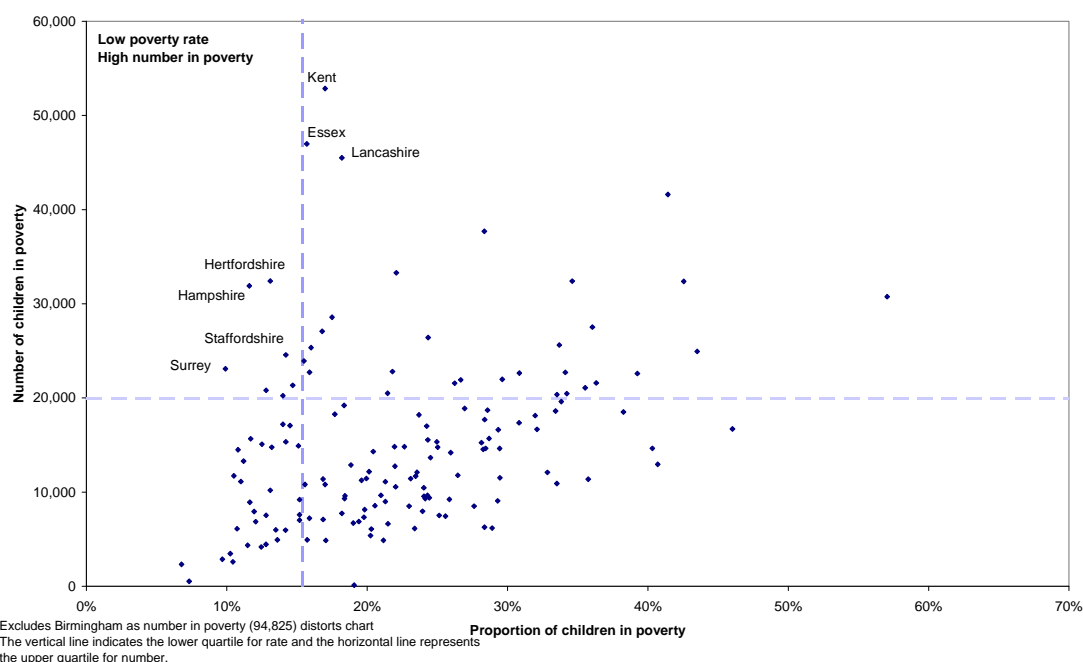
Figure 1.3: Distribution of the number of children in poverty at top tier local authority level



Source: Revised Local Child Poverty Measure 2008

Figure 1.4 plots the number of children in poverty against the child poverty rate. The vertical line show the cut offs for the lowest quartile in terms of proportion of children in poverty. The horizontal line shows the highest quartile in terms of the number of children in poverty. The top left section therefore contains authorities where the poverty *rate* was low, but the *number* of children in poverty was relatively high. To avoid distortion of the chart, Birmingham has been excluded due to its very high population and hence high number of children in poverty.

Figure 1.4: Number of children in poverty against child poverty rate at top tier local authority level



Source: Revised Local Child Poverty Measure 2008

1.3 Measuring inequality between local authorities

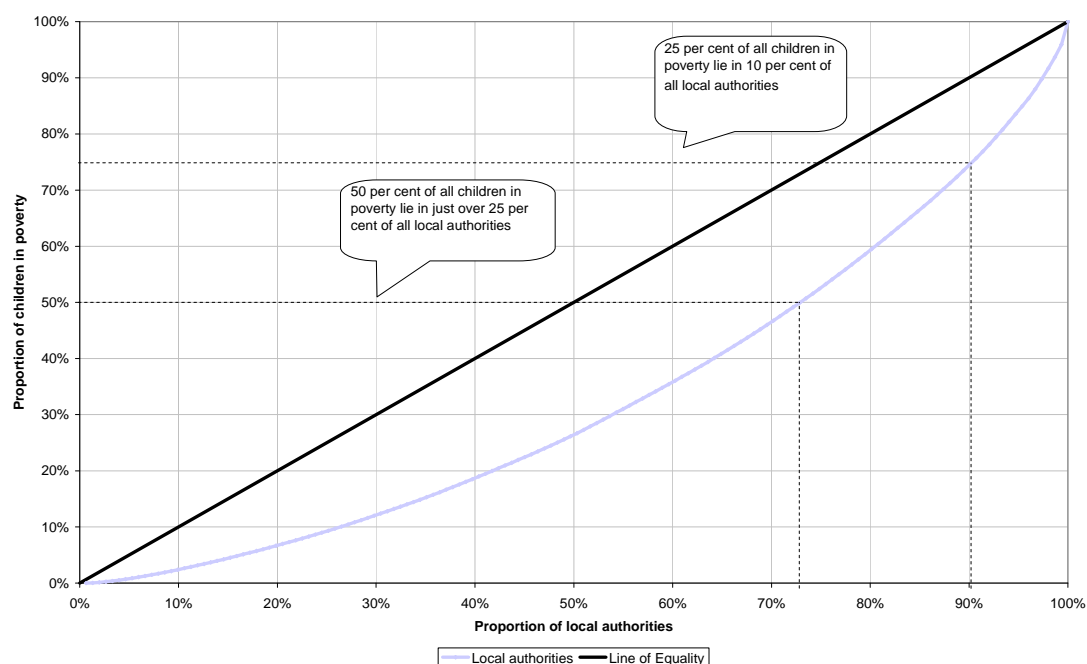
It is possible to summarise the inequality in the distribution of children in poverty through use of a Lorenz curve; a Lorenz curve is designed to demonstrate the inequalities that exist between individuals or in this case between authorities.

In Figure 1.5 authorities have been ranked in ascending order of number of children in poverty, the cumulative total of all children in poverty to that point is then plotted. The straight line demonstrates a situation in which all local authorities have the same number of children in poverty, representing perfect equality between areas (that is to say, local authorities having an equal share of the total number of children in poverty). The greater the distance between the curve and this line of equality, the greater the inequality.

Figure 1.5 shows that 50 per cent of all children in poverty were in just over 70 per cent of all local authorities in England, or in other words, half of all children in poverty were in just 30 per cent of authorities. A quarter of children in poverty were contained in just a tenth of authorities. This inequality is a function of the differing rates between areas and the differing sizes.

How poverty is distributed within an authority could be a key consideration when developing strategies for tackling child poverty and how best to target interventions. Local authorities may wish to consider how poverty is distributed within their area to effectively respond to it. The distribution of poverty within authorities is explored in more detail in Section 2.

Figure 1.5: Inequalities in the number of children living in poverty between top tier local authorities



Source: Revised Local Child Poverty Measure 2008

1.4 Variation in ward level child poverty rates

Geographical breakdowns are available at various levels, including ward and Lower Layer Super Output Area (LSOA).^{17,18} In this paper ward level data has been used demonstrate some of the analysis that is possible.

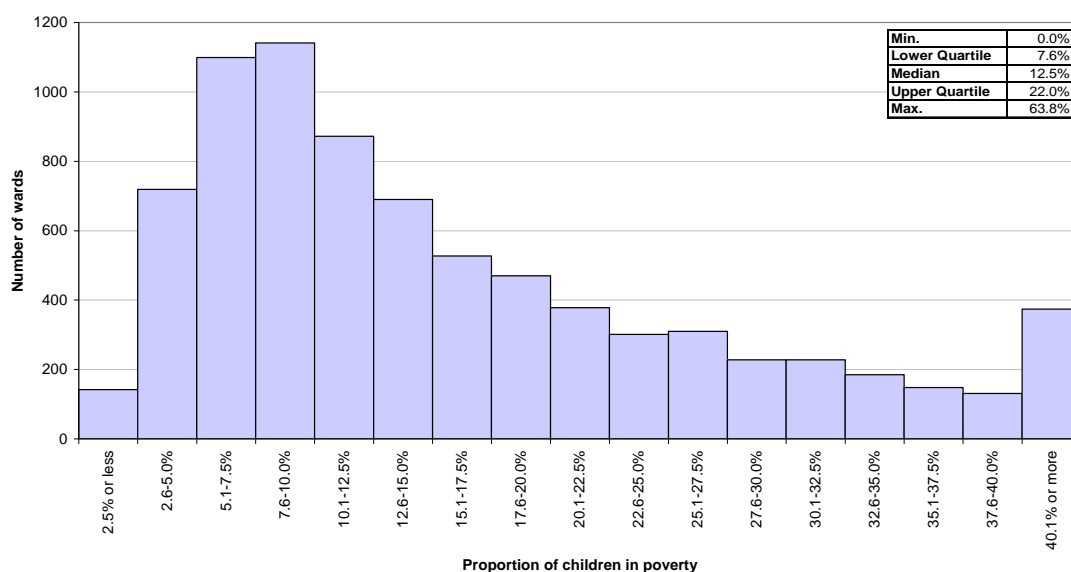
Figure 1.6 shows the distribution and range of ward scores.¹⁹ It shows a very different distribution at ward level compared to local authority level, as seen earlier, with the ward distribution skewed much further to the left with a large number of wards having relatively low child poverty rates in comparison to the national rate.

¹⁷ Electoral wards are the areas from which local authority councillors are elected. Approximately 7,950 wards were included in the analysis and they vary in size.

¹⁸ Lower Layer Super Output Areas are geographical areas with a minimum population of 1,000.

¹⁹ Isles of Scilly wards included in ward level analysis

Figure 1.6: Distribution of child poverty rates at ward level



Source: Revised Local Child Poverty Measure 2008

In 2008, of a total of 7,943 wards, 142 (2 per cent) had rates of 2.5 per cent or below, 374 (5 per cent) had rates in excess of 40 per cent, and half of all wards were in the range of 7.6 per cent to 22.0 per cent.

The wards with the lowest proportion of children living in relative low income were found in the City of London where each had very few or no children in low income poverty, these were followed by Petersfield Rother in Hampshire with 0.6 per cent of children living in poverty. Princes Park ward in Liverpool had the highest child poverty rate with 63.8 per cent of all children in poverty.

Almost 40 per cent of wards had poverty rates below the 10 per cent level. A significant number had rates that were considerably higher. The difference between the highest and lowest quartiles was 14.4 percentage points. In an average size ward this gap would broadly equate to an additional 200 children living in poverty.²⁰

Developing this further and again considering that to meet the relative low income poverty target well over a million children in the United Kingdom need to be lifted out of poverty:

- if all wards in England that are over the upper quartile (22.0 per cent) were to reduce to that level, around 0.6m children would be lifted out of poverty;
- if all wards over the median (12.5 per cent) were to reduce to that level, around 1.1m children would be lifted out of poverty;
- if all wards above the lower quartile (7.6 per cent) were to reduce to

²⁰ These figures are for illustrative purposes and we have assumed an average sized ward to have 1,500 children based on there being 10.8m children in England in HBAI split between 7,943 wards.

that level, around 1.5m children would be lifted out of poverty; and

- if all wards above the lowest decile (4.9 per cent) were to reduce to that level, around 1.8m children would be lifted out of poverty.

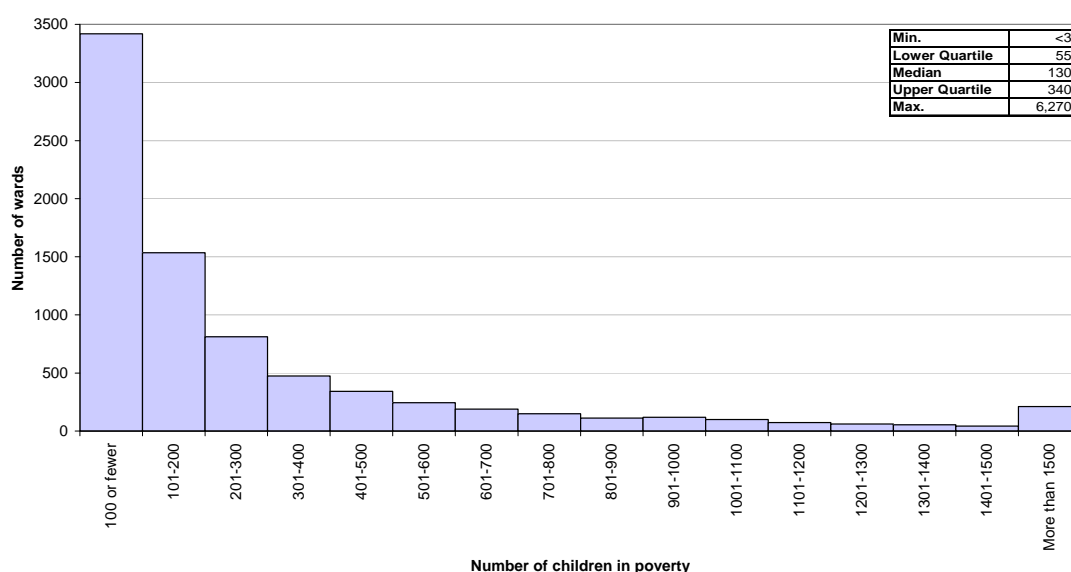
1.5 Variation in ward level child poverty numbers

Whilst there is less variation in overall size between wards than local authorities, it is important to consider the number of children in poverty as well as the proportion at ward level. Figure 1.7 shows the ward distribution and quartile values when considering number of children in poverty rather than proportion.

Out of a total of 7,943 wards just over 3,400 (43 per cent) had fewer than 100 children in poverty, whilst 211 wards (3 per cent) had over 1,500 children in poverty.

There were several wards in different local authorities with very few or no children in low income poverty. The majority of these wards were in City of London. The ward with the greatest number of children in poverty was Washwood Heath in Birmingham, with 6,270 children in poverty. When ranking wards in descending order by the number of children in poverty, Birmingham local authority had 8 wards in the top 10.

Figure 1.7: Distribution of the number of children in poverty at ward level

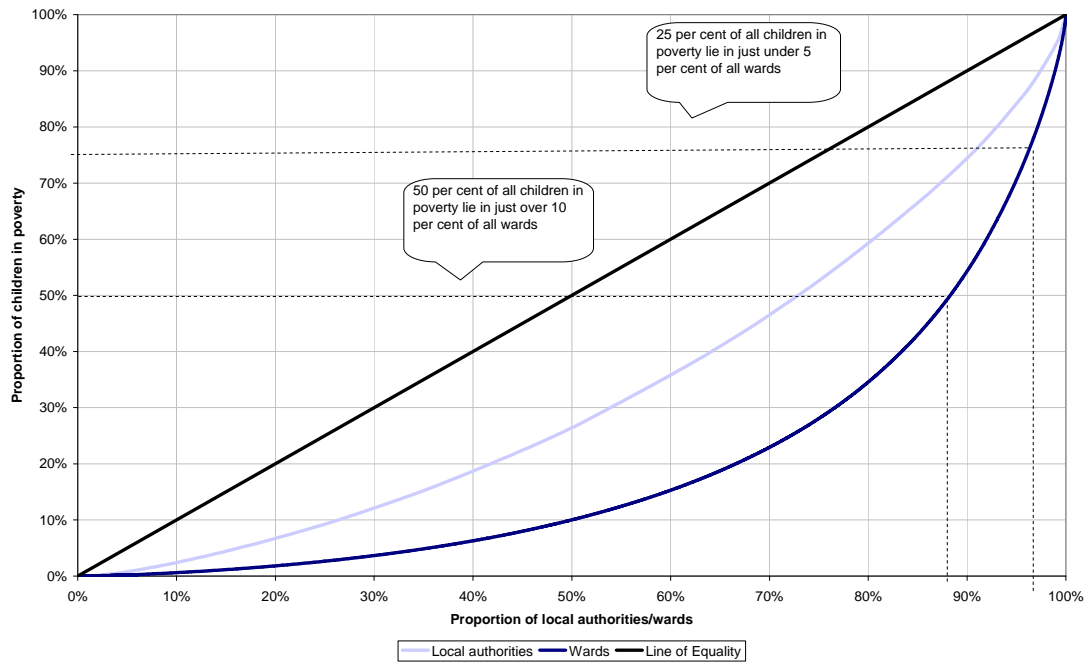


Source: Revised Local Child Poverty Measure 2008

1.6 Measuring inequality between wards

When comparing the distribution of children in poverty at local authority and ward level through the Lorenz Curve, there is far greater inequality at ward level. Figure 1.8, shows that 50 per cent of all children in poverty lie in just under 90 per cent of all wards. In other words, around half of all children in poverty were found in just over a tenth of all wards.

Figure 1.8: Inequalities in the proportion of children living in poverty between top tier local authorities and wards



Source: Revised Local Child Poverty Measure 2008

Summary and Key Results

National and regional figures for the number and proportion of children living in low income poverty can mask the considerable variation that exists between local authorities.

- Conurbations and other large urban areas have higher child poverty rates than average. Large rural authorities tend to have much lower rates.
- In 2008, 50 per cent of local authorities had child poverty rates between 15.3 per cent and 28.4 per cent. Only four local authorities had child poverty rates below 10.0 per cent. Rates at ward level were skewed further towards lower rates, 50 per cent of all wards are in the range of 7.6 per cent and 22 per cent.
- The least deprived local authority was Wokingham where 6.8 per cent of children experienced low income poverty. The most deprived local authority was Tower Hamlets with 57.0 per cent of all children in poverty.
- Even in the least deprived local authorities there are still children that are experiencing poverty and these numbers can be significant. The vastly different sizes of local authorities can mean that looking at proportions alone can understate the scale of child poverty within an authority. Many of the least deprived areas as measured by *percentage* in poverty still have a large *number* of children in poverty due to their size.
- Fifty per cent of all local authorities had between 8,500 and 20,000 children in poverty. Only 3 local authorities had fewer than 2,500 children in poverty. The local authority with the fewest children in poverty was City of London with 125. The local authority with the highest number was Birmingham with over 90,000.
- The wards with the lowest proportion of children living in relative low income were found in City of London, where each had very few or no children in poverty. Princes Park ward in Liverpool had the highest child poverty rate with 63.8 per cent of all children in poverty.
- Around half of all children in poverty lived in just a quarter of local authorities. Around half of all children in poverty lived in just a tenth of wards.

Section 2: Variation within local authorities

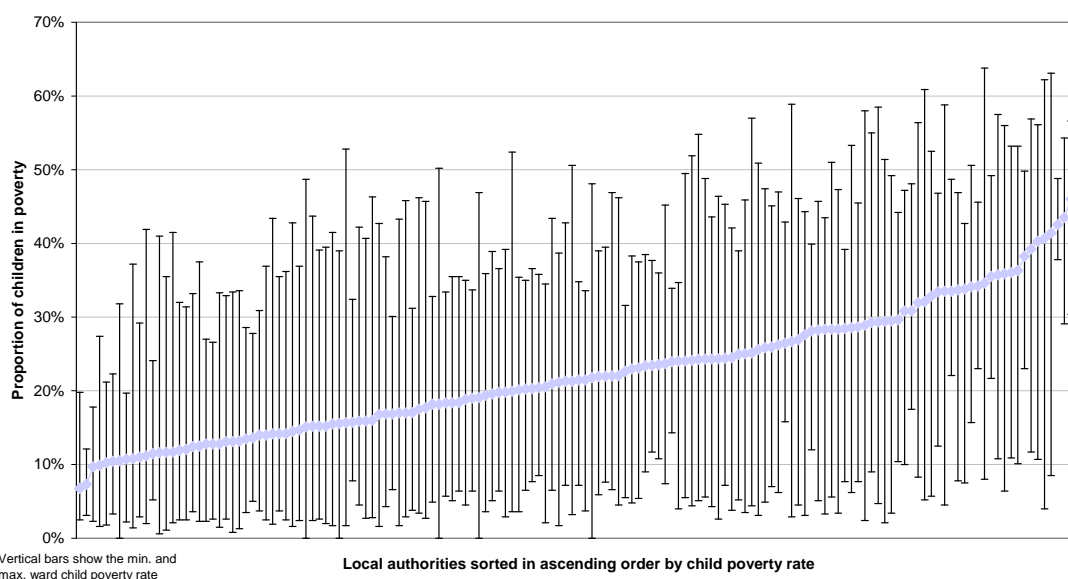
Introduction

We have so far looked at the distribution of poverty *between* local authorities and between wards. The lower level data provided by the revised local child poverty measure allows us to examine the variation that exists *within* local authorities. Just as national child poverty rates mask the variation between authorities, so headline results for local authorities can mask potential variation within them. In this section we use ward level data within authorities to explore this further. Similar analysis could also be carried out using the Lower Layer Super Output Area (LSOA) data that is also available.

2.1 The range of child poverty rates within an authority

Figure 2.1 demonstrates the two components of variation of child poverty rates, between and within authorities. Local authorities have been ordered lowest to highest by their overall poverty rate, represented by a blue dot, and the vertical bars show the highest and lowest child poverty rates at ward level.

Figure 2.1: Overall child poverty rates and highest and lowest ward rate for top tier local authorities



Source: Revised Local Child Poverty Measure 2008

The chart demonstrates the wide range of child poverty rates that can exist within an individual authority. Of the 151 authorities included in the analysis, the difference between the highest and lowest ward within the authority was:

- less than 20 percentage points in nine authorities;
- between 20 and 40 percentage points in 87 authorities; and
- more than 40 percentage points in 55 authorities.

There are few areas that did not have at least one ward where the poverty rate was above the national average. Of the 151 authorities included in the

analysis:

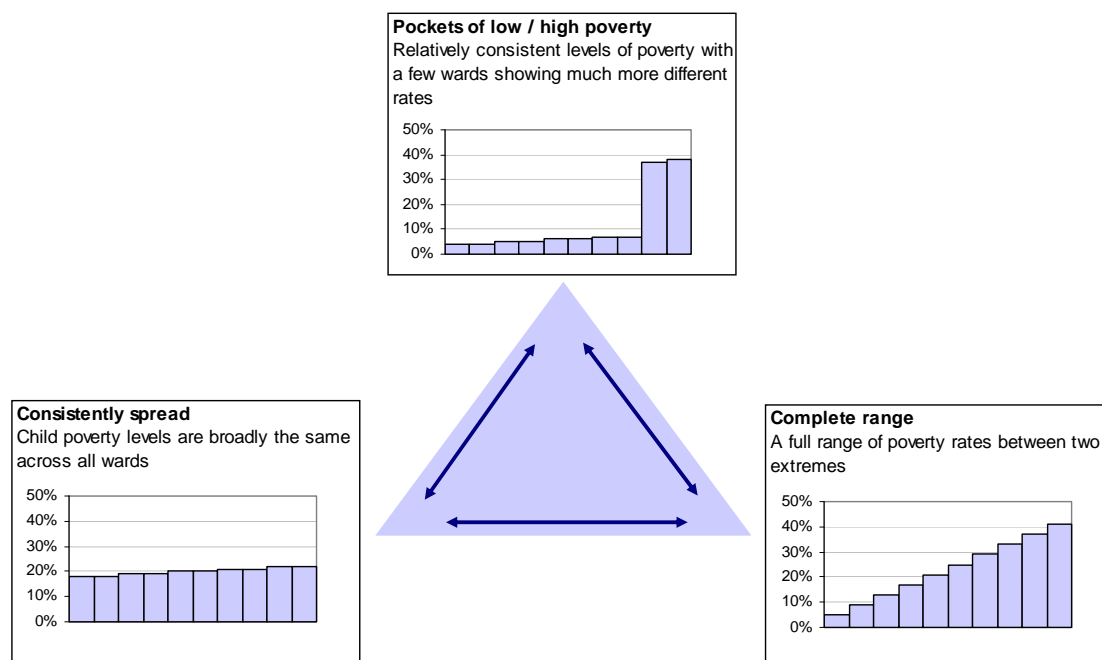
- 128 had at least one ward where the poverty rate was below 10 per cent;
- 115 had at least one ward where the poverty rate was above 35 per cent; and
- 93 authorities, or nearly two thirds, had at least one ward where the rate was below 10 per cent and another where the rate was above 35 per cent.

2.2 Describing the distribution of child poverty within local authorities

The analysis above demonstrates the wide range of poverty that exists within authorities but it does not fully describe the pattern of poverty within an individual area. For example, in an area with one ward with a low rate and one ward with a high rate, what is the picture in the other wards? Is there a full range of rates, or do they tend to be at the extremes too?

Understanding the distribution of poverty within an area might be an important consideration when developing strategies to tackling it. We can broadly categorise the potential 'types' of distribution within local authorities, Figure 2.2 demonstrates three such classifications.

Figure 2.2: Classifying the distribution of poverty within top tier local authorities



In practice it is unlikely that a local authority will fit neatly in to one classification and will instead demonstrate characteristics of more than one group. Furthermore, just because two authorities show a similar distribution it does not necessarily follow that they face similar circumstances. However, taken alongside other data and local knowledge it may be a useful indicator towards comparator authorities. Therefore we now look in more detail at the

classifications and authorities that show such characteristics.

Classification 1: Consistently spread

In these authorities, child poverty rates are broadly the same across most if not all wards within the local area, the range of scores is low and there are unlikely to be wards that are considered 'atypical' of the authority as a whole. The overall poverty rate for the authority, and by definition for its constituent wards, may be either high or low. Local authorities that demonstrated these characteristics in 2008 included Bracknell Forest, Rutland, South Gloucestershire, Windsor and Maidenhead, Tower Hamlets and Newham.

In Newham (Figure 2.3a) 42.6 per cent of children were in poverty which is well above the national average. The highest rate at ward level was in Little Ilford where 48.8 per cent of children ward were in poverty and the lowest rate was Wall End where 37.8 per cent of children were in poverty. This gives a range for ward rates of 11.0 percentage points.

Classification 2: Complete range

These authorities not only have a wide range of poverty rates in terms of the difference between the lowest and the highest but also have wards with rates across the range in between. The overall rate for these areas can be both below and above average but typically they are not extreme. Local authorities that demonstrated these characteristics in 2008 included Rochdale, Lancashire and Coventry.

In Coventry (Figure 2.3b) 26.9 per cent of children were in poverty which was slightly above the national average. At ward level, 46.1 per cent of children in Foleshill ward were in poverty, compared to 4.5 per cent of children in Wainbody ward giving a range value for ward rates of 41.6 percentage points. Between these two extremes there were wards with a broad range of child poverty rates.

Classification 3: Pockets of low / high poverty

In these authorities the poverty rates are fairly consistent between wards. However there are a small number of wards that are atypical of the authority as a whole. In an authority with a low poverty rate these wards will be high and vice versa. If looking at wards ranked by their poverty rate there will be a considerable difference between one particular ward and the next. Local authorities that demonstrated these characteristics in 2008 included Brighton and Hove, Kingston-Upon-Thames, North Somerset and Solihull.

In Solihull (Figure 2.3c) 15.2 per cent of children were in poverty, which was below the national average. However there were three wards which showed much higher poverty rates. In Smith's Wood 39.1 per cent of children were in poverty compared to 2.6 per cent in St Alphege. The range value for ward rates was 36.5 percentage points and a 15.7 percentage point difference was seen between Kingshurst and Fordbridge (child poverty rate of 34.6 per cent) and the next highest ward Bickenhill (child poverty rate of 18.9 per cent).

Figure 2.3a: Distribution of child poverty rates at ward level within Newham

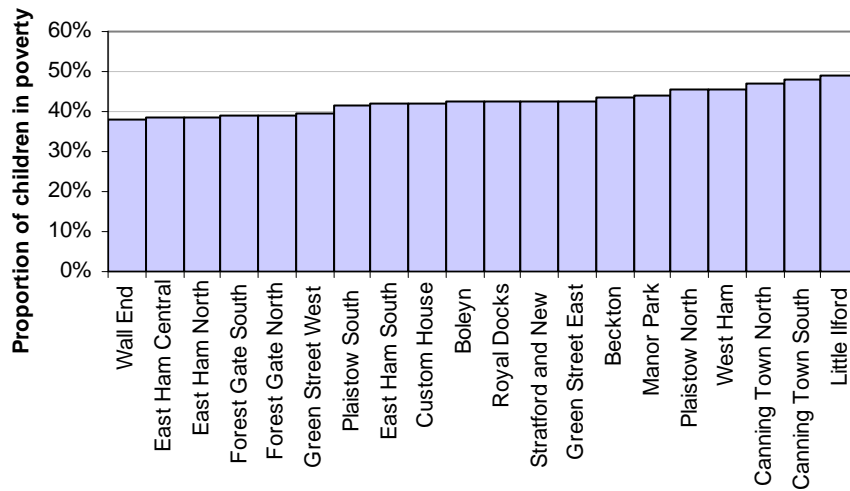


Figure 2.3b: Distribution of child poverty rates at ward level within Coventry

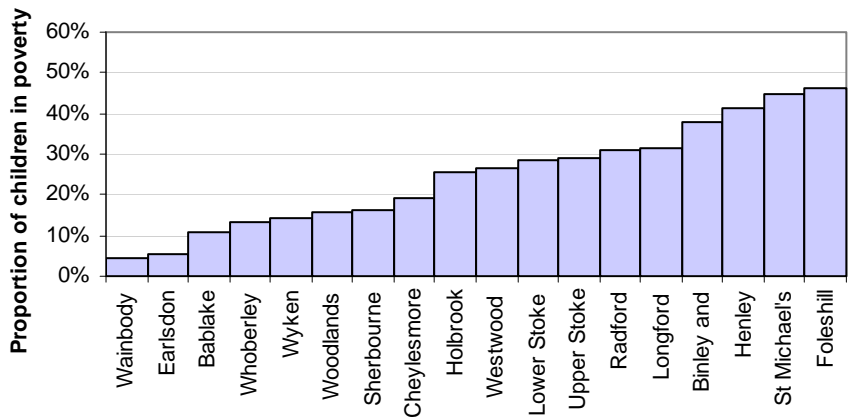
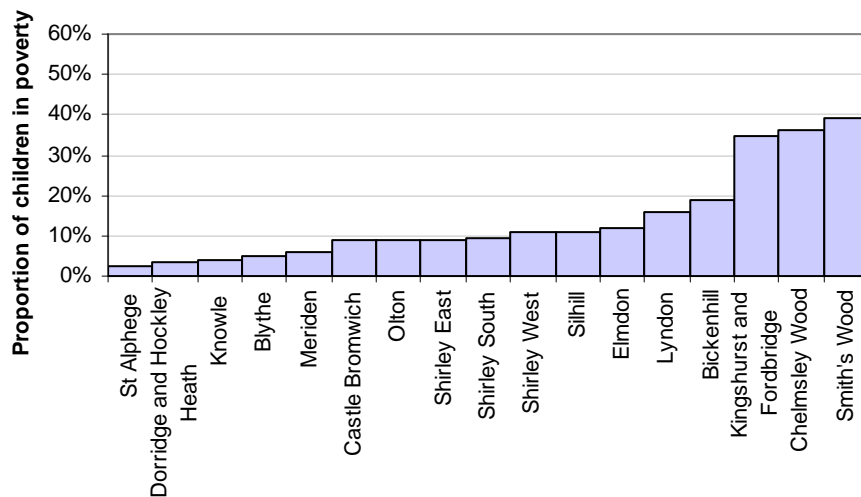


Figure 2.3c: Distribution of child poverty rates at ward level within Solihull



Source: Revised Local Child Poverty Measure 2008

Summary and Key Results

Just as national child poverty rates mask the variation between authorities, so headline results for local authorities can mask potential variation within them. This section has explored the variation in child poverty rates that exist within local authorities by looking at the child poverty rates at ward level and has shown that:

- in 55 authorities the difference in poverty rate between the highest and lowest ward was over 40 percentage points;
- ninety three authorities, or nearly two thirds, had at least one ward where the rate was below 10 per cent and another where the rate was above 35 per cent; and
- understanding the distribution of poverty within an area might be an important consideration when developing strategies to tackling it. The 'types' of distribution local authorities can be broadly categorised as consistently spread, complete range and pockets of low or high poverty.

Section 3: Variation over time

Introduction

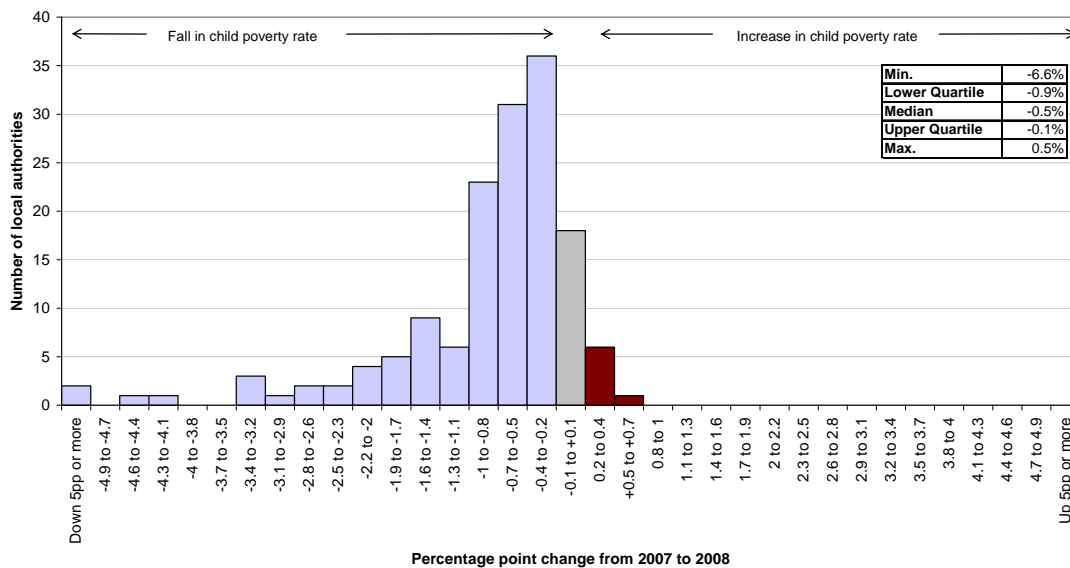
At the time of writing, three years of revised local child poverty data is available covering snapshots of child poverty in August 2006, 2007 and 2008. This section uses the time series element of the local child poverty indicator to explore how the number and proportion of child in poverty at local authority level has changed over time.

Exploring data in this way may help local areas in making links between changes in poverty rates and local interventions and circumstances, changes in benefits and tax credits and the wider economic situation. For example, changes in one authority may be much larger than might be expected given other changes and it might be possible to identify particular interventions in that area that are helping to drive improvements.

3.1 Changes in child poverty from year to year

Figure 3.1 shows the percentage point change in the headline child poverty rates at top tier local authority level between 2007 and 2008.

Figure 3.1: Change in child poverty rates from 2007 to 2008 at top tier local authority level



Source: Revised Local Child Poverty Measure 2007 and 2008

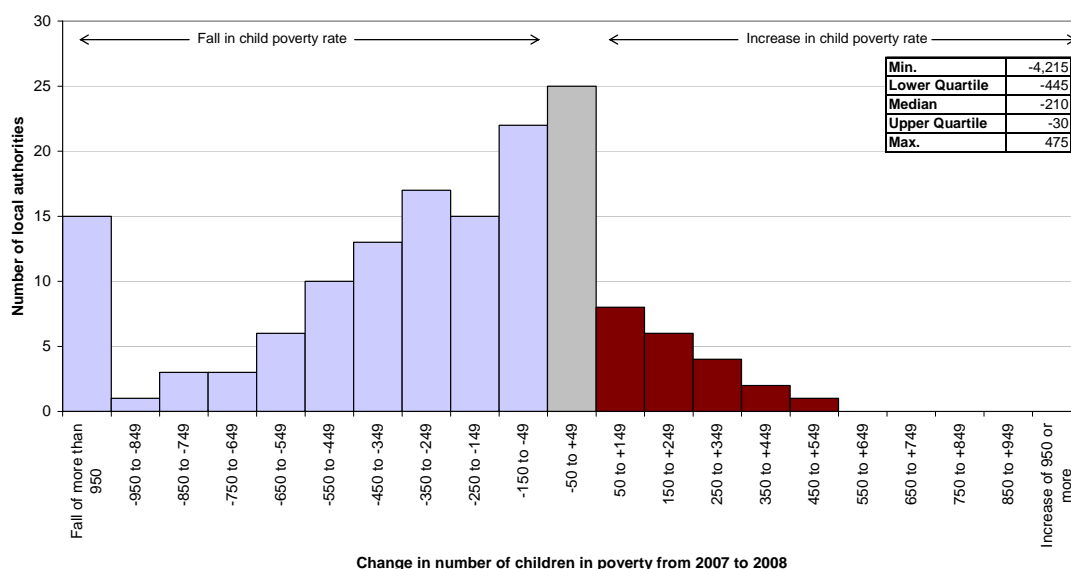
The majority of local authorities, 127 or 84 per cent, saw a decrease in their child poverty rates between 2007 and 2008. The falls were generally small with most being one percentage point or less. The largest fall was seen in Tower Hamlets where the poverty rate decreased by 6.6 percentage points.

There were 16 local authorities in which the poverty rate increased but again the changes were small with the largest increase at 0.5 percentage points in Havering. Eight local authorities saw no change between 2007 and 2008 in

their published child poverty figure.

As well as looking at how rates change we can look at how the number of children in poverty changes from one year to the next.²¹ This is a combination of both changes in the rate and in the size of the authority. Figure 3.2 shows how the number of children in poverty changed by local authority between 2007 and 2008.

Figure 3.2: Change in the number of children in poverty from 2007 to 2008 at top tier local authority level



Source: Revised Local Child Poverty Measure 2007 and 2008

Figure 3.2 shows that the majority of local authorities saw their number of children in poverty decrease. In total, from 2007 to 2008, 118 local authorities saw a decrease in the number of children in poverty; in a number of cases this amounted to over one thousand fewer children in poverty within the authority.

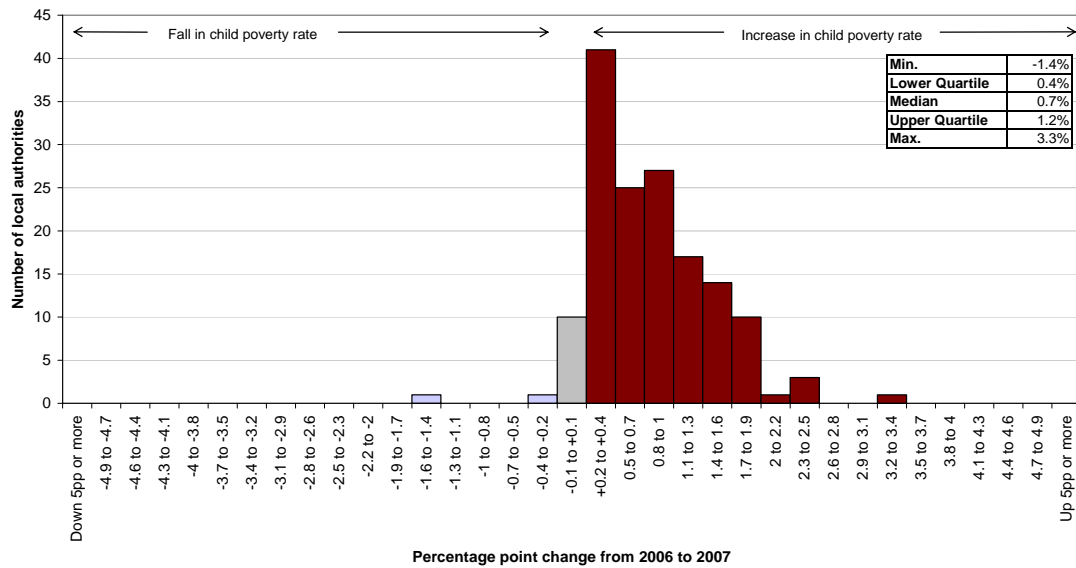
The local authority with the largest decrease in the number of children in poverty between 2007 and 2008 was Birmingham with a reduction of over 4,000 children. Enfield saw the largest increase in the number of children in poverty with an increase of just over 450.

The year on year changes seen in 2008 were quite different from what had been seen the year before. Figure 3.3 shows the change in child poverty rates from 2006 to 2007.

In total, 147 local authorities (97 per cent) saw an increase in their child poverty rates during this period. The local authority with the largest increase in rate from 2006 to 2007 was Tower Hamlets, with a 3.3 percentage point increase. As shown above, this was subsequently more than offset by showing the largest decrease the following year.

²¹ For the purposes of simplicity we have assumed that a precise number is published. In practice all numbers are actually rounded to the nearest 5 children to protect confidentiality. This assumption is highly unlikely to change the main arguments of the analysis.

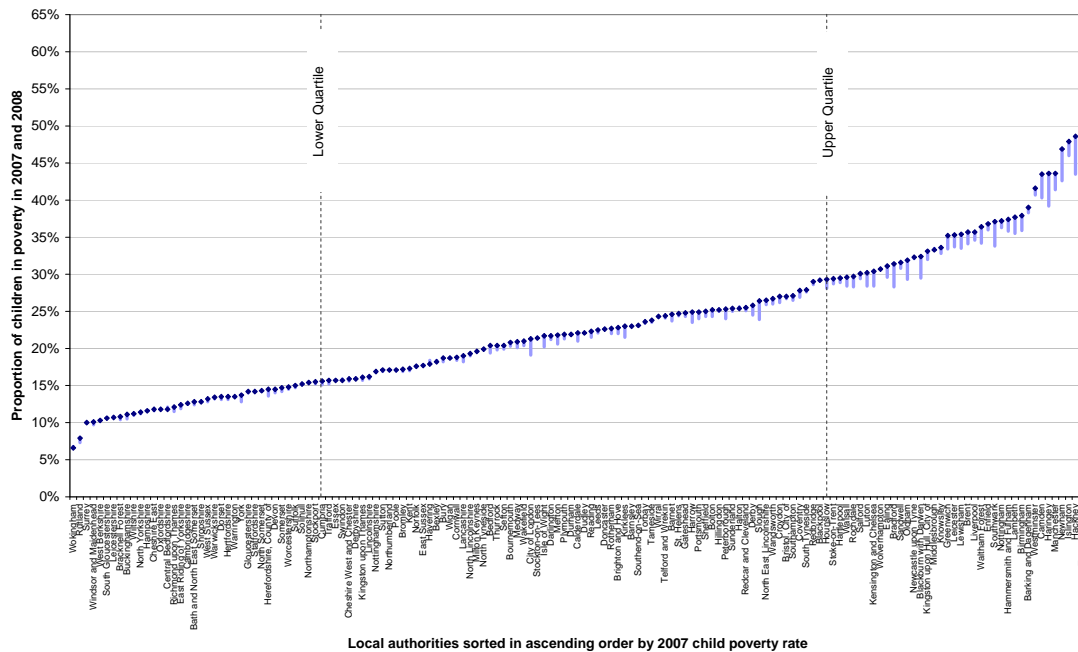
Figure 3.3: Change in child poverty rates from 2006 to 2007 at top tier local authority level



Source: Revised Local Child Poverty Measure 2006 and 2007

In each year the largest changes were generally associated with higher initial child poverty rates. Figure 3.4 plots the child poverty rates for local authorities in 2007, ordered from lowest to highest, with the vertical bars representing change between 2007 and 2008 (so that the end of the bar is the 2008 rate). Local authorities to the far right of the chart, those with a higher proportion of children in poverty have shown the greatest decrease in their child poverty rates from 2007 to 2008.

Figure 3.4: Child poverty rate by top tier local authority in 2007 with vertical bar representing change in child poverty rate in 2008



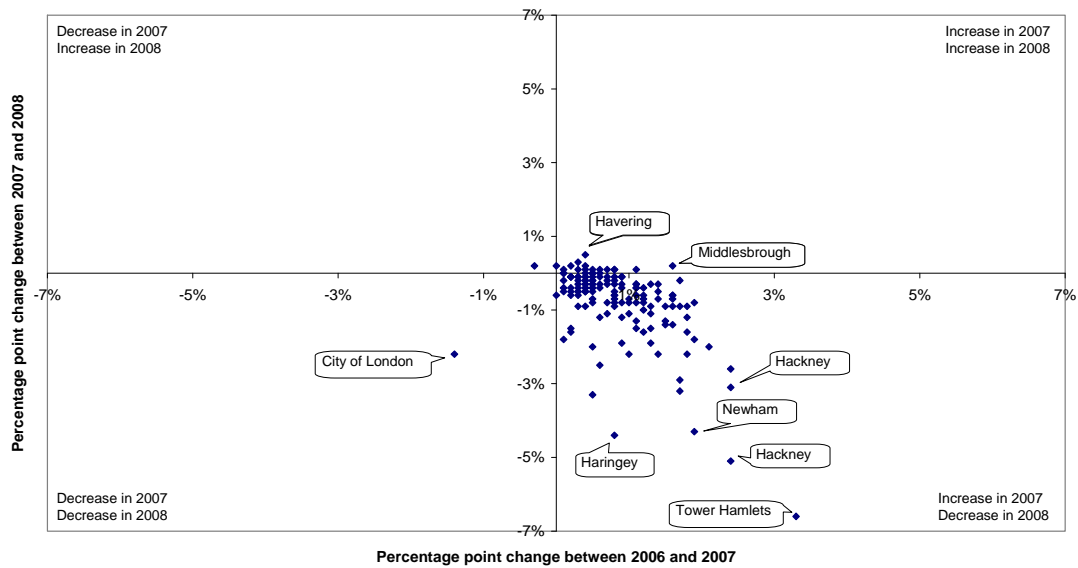
Source: Revised Local Child Poverty Measure 2007 and 2008

3.2 Changes in child poverty rates from 2006 to 2008

Having looked at the changes from 2006 to 2007 and 2007 to 2008, it is now possible to consider the changes from 2006 to 2008, to begin to identify longer term trends. Figure 3.5 plots the change for each local authority in 2008 against the change that they saw in 2007. Local authorities in the top right quadrant saw increases in child poverty in both years and the bottom left quadrant shows authorities in which the rate fell in both years. Other local authorities saw increases one year and falls the next or vice versa.

As previous analysis has shown, the majority of local authorities saw a small increase in child poverty rates from 2006 to 2007 followed by a small decrease from 2007 to 2008. In some local authorities, such as Tower Hamlets, the decrease in 2008 more than offset the increase seen in the previous year. In general, the larger the increase seen in the first year, the larger the decrease seen in the second. Only City of London saw a decrease in child poverty rates in 2007 and in 2008.

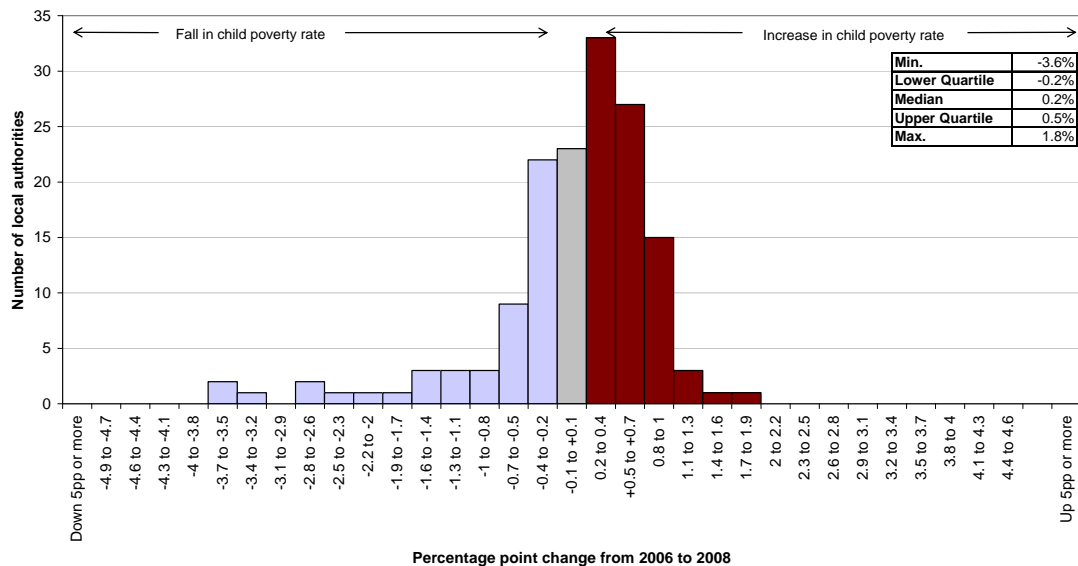
Figure 3.5: Percentage point change in child poverty rates from 2006 to 2007 and 2007 to 2008 at top tier local authority level



Source: Revised Local Child Poverty Measure 2006, 2007 and 2008

The overall effect was that the child poverty rate in the vast majority of local authorities changed by less than two percentage points, either an increase or a decrease, between 2006 and 2008. Figure 3.6 shows the range of changes that were seen between these two points.

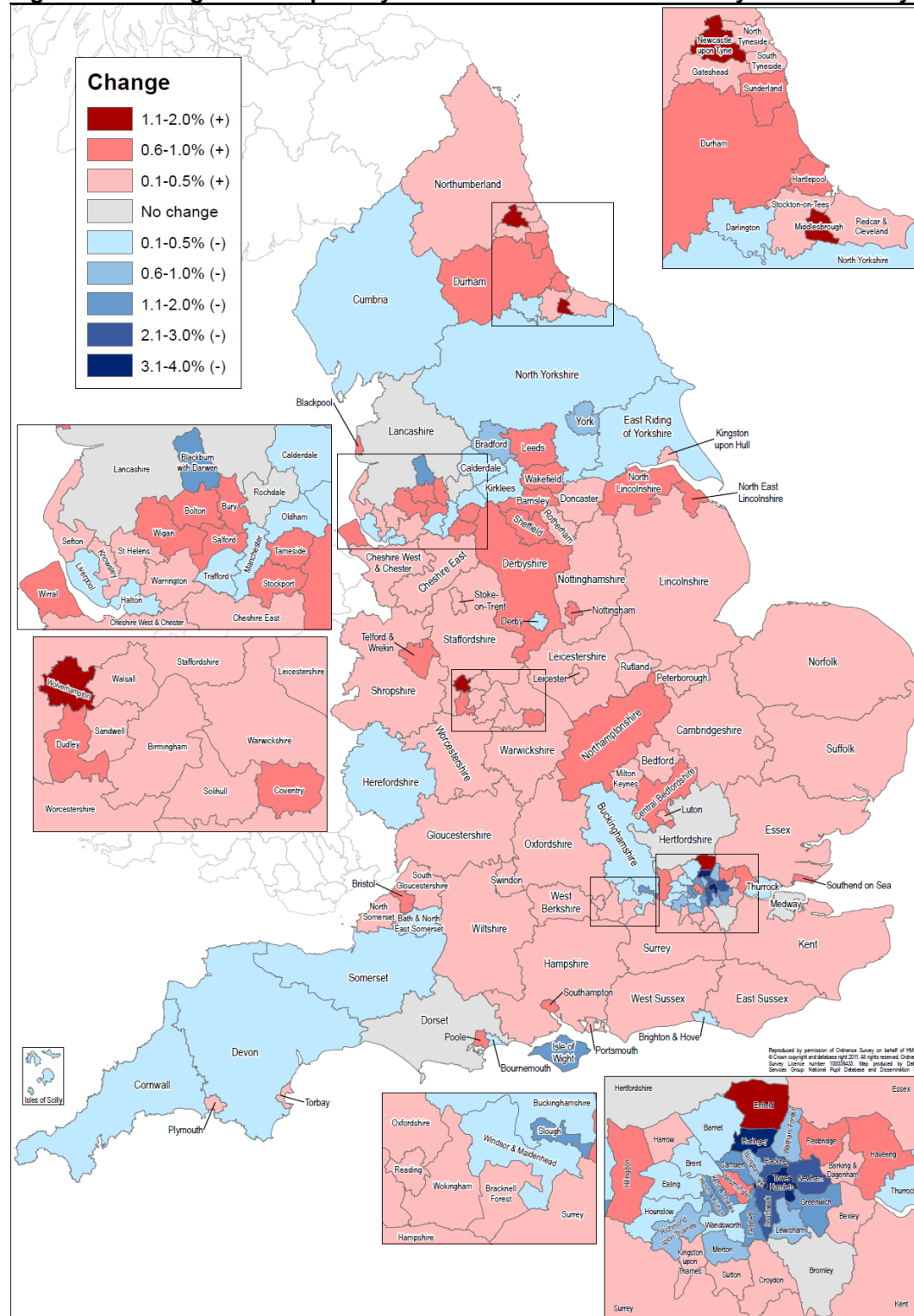
Figure 3.6: Change in child poverty rates from 2006 to 2008 at top tier local authority level



Source: Revised Local Child Poverty Measure 2006 and 2008

Where an authority saw a large rise or fall in one year, this was often balanced by a move in the other direction the following year. However, overall the majority of local authorities saw an increase in child poverty rates, with 97 local authorities having a higher child poverty rate in 2008 than in 2006. There were 49 local authorities that saw a fall in child poverty rates with five local authorities showing no change from 2006 to 2008 (Figure 3.7).

Figure 3.7: Change in child poverty rates between 2006 and 2008 by local authority



Summary and Key Results

In this section the time series element of the local child poverty indicator has been used to explore how the number and proportion of child in poverty at local authority level changes over time. It has shown that:

- the majority of local authorities, 127, saw a decrease in their child poverty rates between 2007 and 2008. The falls were generally small with most being one percentage point or less, however in a number of cases the fall translated to over one thousand fewer children in poverty within the authority;
- the year on year changes seen in 2008 were quite different from what had been seen the year before. In total, 147 local authorities (97 per cent) saw an increase in their child poverty rates between 2006 and 2007.
- areas with the highest child poverty rates generally saw the largest year on year changes in those rates, either up or down. Whilst the falls in 2008 often offset, or exceeded, the increases seen the previous year, a majority of local authorities saw an increase in their child poverty rates between 2006 and 2008.

Section 4: Breakdowns within the local child poverty indicator

The analysis so far has concentrated on the overall child poverty numbers and rates at local authority and ward level. The revised local child poverty measure also provides data on family size, lone parent and couple families, age of youngest child in the family and the split between the two elements of the indicator (those in receipt of means tested out of work benefits and those in receipt of tax credits where income is below 60 per cent of median).

As discussed earlier in this paper it is not possible to produce breakdowns by the full range of economic and family characteristics that are produced at a national level (e.g. by ethnicity). This is because the data is not of a sufficient quality. Disability breakdowns (based on disability element in tax credits) may be possible in the future.

Where the poverty rate for a particular group or the composition of those in poverty in an authority is different from the norm, this may indicate a particular local circumstance or issue that might be investigated further with additional data or local knowledge.

4.1 Income Support, Job Seekers Allowance and Tax Credits

The revised child poverty measure includes those who are in receipt of tax credits but whose income remains below 60 per cent of median, to try and address the issue of in work poverty. However it is not a true measure of in-work poverty in itself. This is because there will be people who are working but not working sufficient hours to qualify for tax credits or who are eligible but not claiming.

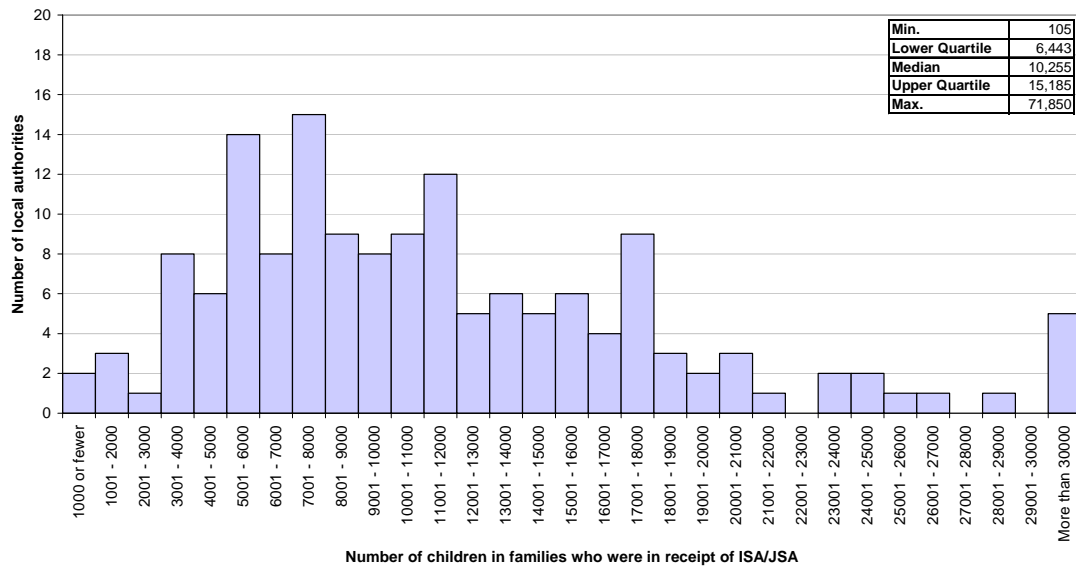
Therefore, analysis of the two components of the revised indicator does not compare groups of purely workless and working families. It can though still be useful to compare local authorities to see whether the split between these two parts is different from other areas. This may indicate, but not show directly, a different set of circumstances in a particular authority.

Section 1 has shown that there was considerable variation between authorities in terms of the number of children in poverty. This was driven both by the actual poverty rate in an area and the overall size of the authority. Similarly there was considerable variation in the number of children in families who were in receipt of means tested out of work benefits (Figure 4.1) or who were in receipt of tax credits where income was below 60 per cent of median (Figure 4.2).

Again this variation can in part be explained by the different sizes of authority. One way to control for this is to look at the composition of the total children in poverty within the authority. Figure 4.3 plots the proportion of children in poverty who were in families in receipt of means tested out of work benefits. In most authorities around three quarters of those in poverty were in families in receipt of out of work benefits. Where rates were considerably different to this it may point towards an above average issue of in work poverty (if lower)

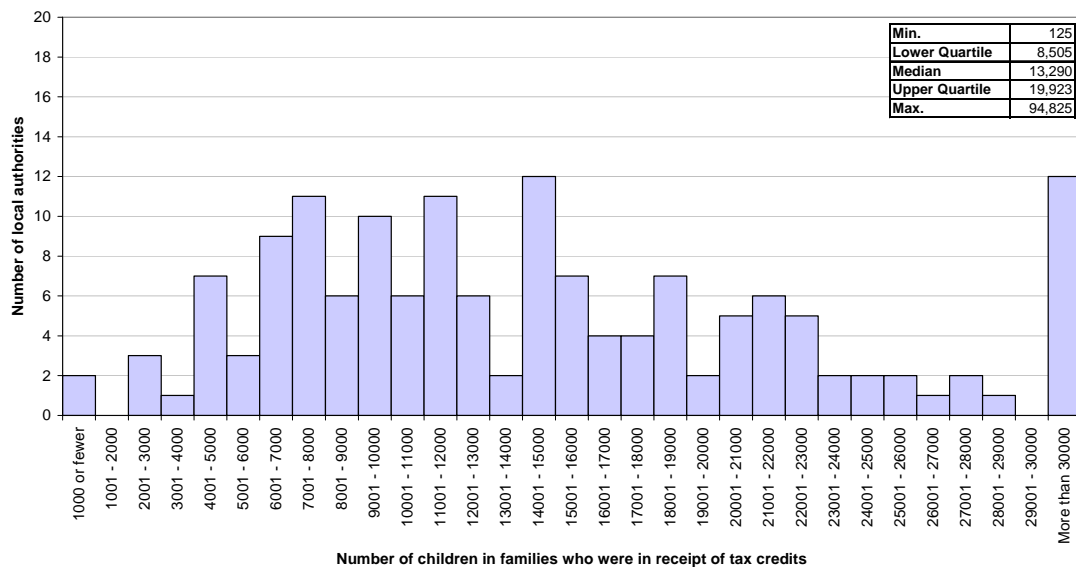
or worklessness (if higher).

Figure 4.1: Number of children in families who were in receipt of Income Support or Jobseekers Allowance at top tier local authority level



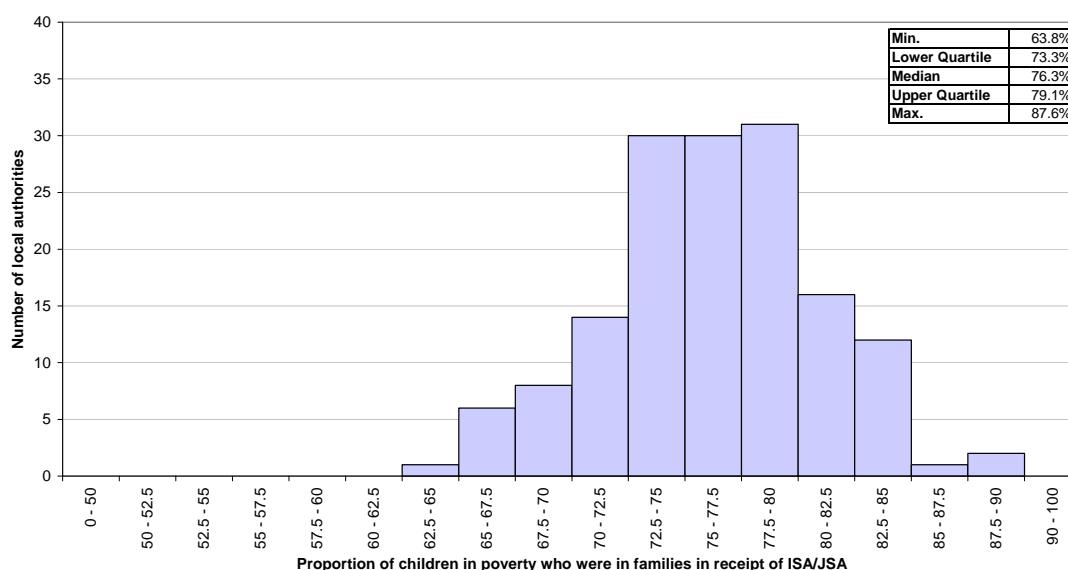
Source: Revised Local Child Poverty Measure 2008

Figure 4.2: Number of children in families who were in receipt of tax credits where income is below 60 per cent of median income at top tier local authority level



Source: Revised Local Child Poverty Measure 2008

Figure 4.3: Composition of children in poverty – proportion who were in families in receipt of Income Support or Jobseekers Allowance at top tier local authority level



Source: Revised Local Child Poverty Measure 2008

4.2 Size of family

Data published in Households Below Average Income (HBAI) shows that children in large families (those with three or more children) were more likely to live in poverty. In 2008/09 31 per cent of children from large families lived in households with incomes below 60 per cent of median Before Housing Costs compared to 19 per cent of one child families.

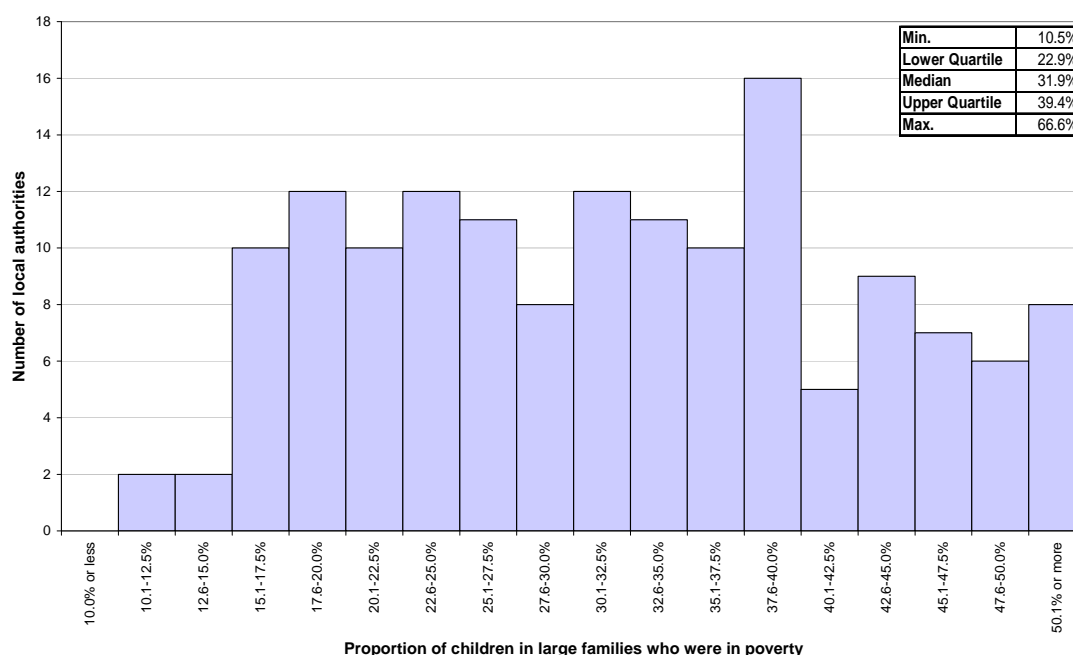
This means that children from large families were over represented in the child poverty population. In 2008/09 they made up 27 per cent of the child population but 38 per cent of children in poverty.

The local child poverty measure includes data on the number of children in poverty by size of family. Combining this with published child benefit statistics at local authority level enables an estimate of the proportion of children in poverty by family size to be made.²²

On this basis, 31.0 per cent of children in large families were in poverty. This compares to 17.9 per cent and 15.6 per cent for one child and two children families respectively. This masks considerable variation between authorities as shown in Figure 4.4.

²² http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/stats/child_benefit/menu.htm

Figure 4.4: The proportion of children in large families who were in poverty at top tier local authority level



Source: Revised Local Child Poverty Measure 2008, and Child Benefit statistics 2008.

The highest poverty rate for large families was seen in Tower Hamlets, where 66.6 per cent of children in large families were in poverty. This contrasts to Rutland, where 10.5 per cent of children in large families were in poverty.

Much of this difference might be attributed to the fact that authorities had very different rates for poverty overall rather than it being an issue related to size of families. A more useful comparison might be to consider how the poverty rate for large families compares with the rate for small families.

One way of doing this is through the use of odds ratios, calculated as the odds of being in poverty for a large family divided by the odds of being in poverty for a small family. This therefore shows the relative likelihood for large families in comparison to small.

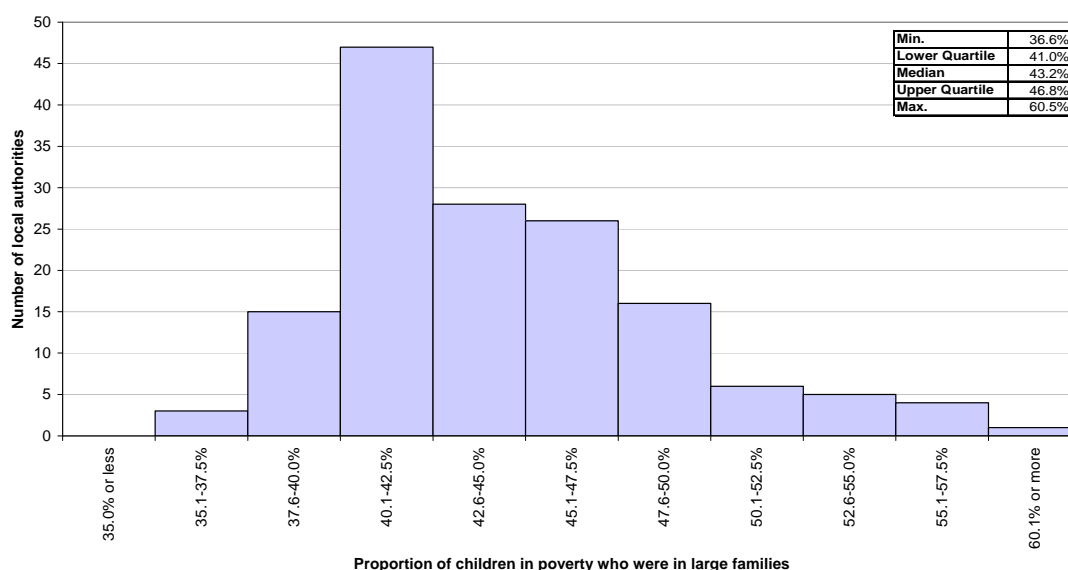
Nationally, in 2008/09 the odds ratio was 1.9.²³ In authorities with odds ratios larger than this the effect of being in a large family is greater within that authority than in the country as a whole; the largest ratio seen was 3.4 and the smallest was 1.3.²⁴

It is also possible to look at the composition of children in poverty in larger families. Figure 4.5 shows that in the majority of local authorities between 40 and 50 per cent of children in poverty were living in larger families.

²³ Poverty rate for large families from HBAI was 31 per cent, for small families it was 19 per cent. The odds ratio = $(0.31 / 1-0.31) / (0.19 / 1-0.19)$.

²⁴ This excludes the City of London as when doing breakdowns by characteristics the groups become very small.

Figure 4.5: Composition of children in poverty – proportion who were in large families at top tier local authority level



Source: Revised Local Child Poverty Measure 2008

4.3 Lone parents and couples

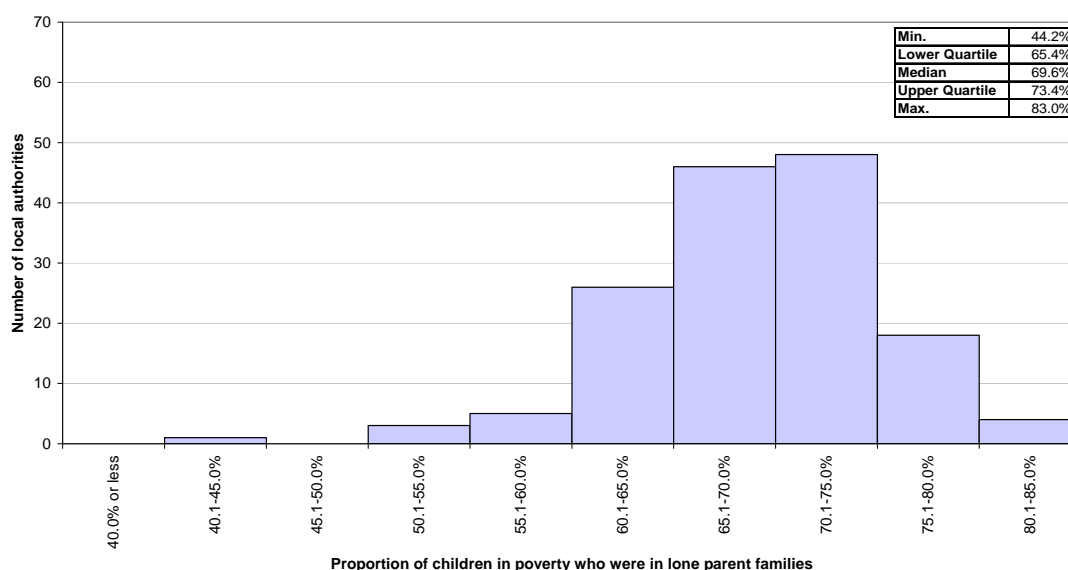
Data published in HBAI shows us that children in lone parent families were more likely to live in poverty than those in couple families. In 2008/09, 34 per cent of children from lone parent families lived in households with incomes below 60 per cent of median Before Housing Costs compared to 18 per cent of couple families.

This means that children from lone parent families were over represented in the child poverty population. In 2008/09 they made up 24 per cent of the child population but 38 per cent of children in poverty.

The local child poverty measure includes data on the number of children in poverty by whether the family is headed by a lone parent or a couple. However, the ratio of lone parents to couples is quite different to the results seen through HBAI.

Using the local child poverty indicator 68.2 per cent of children in poverty were in families headed by a lone parent. As set out in the background section to this report there are definitional differences between the two measures. Most authorities have a similar composition to this national rate with half falling in the range 65.5 per cent to 73.4 per cent (Figure 4.6).

Figure 4.6: Composition of children in poverty – proportion who were in lone parent families at top tier local authority level



Source: Revised Local Child Poverty Measure 2008

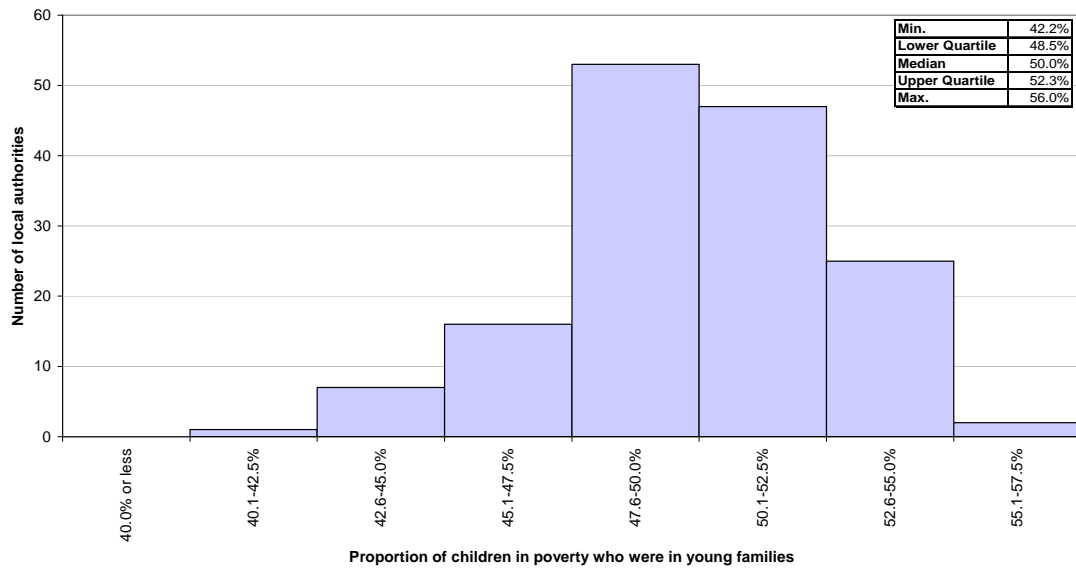
4.4 Age of youngest child in family

Data published in HBAI shows that families with young children were more likely to live in poverty than others. In 2008/09 24 per cent of children from young families (where the youngest child is aged 0-4 years) lived in households with incomes below 60 per cent of median Before Housing Costs compared to 22 per cent of all children.

This means that children from young families were over represented in the child poverty population. In 2008/09 they made up 44 per cent of the child population but 48 per cent of children in poverty.

The local child poverty measure includes data on the number of children in poverty by age of youngest child. The composition using the local measure was similar to that seen through national measurement. Using the local child poverty measure, approximately half of all children in poverty were in families where the youngest child was between 0-4 years. In the majority of local authorities, children from families where the youngest child was aged 0-4 years made up between 45 and 55 per cent of all those in poverty (Figure 4.7).

Figure 4.7: Composition of children in poverty – proportion who were in families where the youngest child was aged 0-4 years at top tier local authority level



Source: Revised Local Child Poverty Measure 2008

Summary and Key Results

The local child poverty measure provides further breakdowns which may be useful in understanding poverty at a local level. Where the poverty rate for a particular group or the composition of those in poverty in an authority is different from the norm, this may indicate a particular local circumstance or issue that might be investigated further with additional data or local knowledge.

- There was considerable variation in the number of children in families who were in receipt of means tested out of work benefits or who were in receipt of tax credits where income was below 60 per cent of median. In most authorities, around three quarters of those in poverty were in families in receipt of out of work benefits. Where rates were considerably different to this, it may point towards an above average issue of in work poverty (if lower) or worklessness (if higher).
- Using the local child poverty measure, 31.0 per cent of children in large families were in poverty. This compares to 17.9 per cent and 15.6 per cent for one child and two children families respectively. This varies considerably by authority, partly due to varying total poverty rates and partly due to different effects for large families.
- Using the local child poverty measure 68.2 per cent of children in poverty were in families headed by a lone parent (compared to 38 per cent in HBAI). Most authorities had a similar composition to this rate with half falling in the range 65.5 per cent to 73.4 per cent
- The proportion of children in poverty who were in young families (youngest child aged 0-4 years) was similar to that seen in HBAI. Approximately half of all children in poverty were in families where the youngest child was between 0-4 years. In the majority of local authorities such children made up between 45 and 55 per cent of all those in poverty.

Conclusion

This paper has examined what local level data can tell us about the distribution of child poverty in England and how child poverty rates at these lower geographies have changed over time, further developing the evidence base on the extent and distribution of child poverty.

Section 1 explored how national and regional figures for the number and proportion of children living in low income poverty can mask the considerable variation that exists between local authorities. Around half of all children in poverty lived in just a quarter of local authorities and in just a tenth of local wards.

Even in the least deprived local authorities there were still children that were experiencing poverty and these numbers were often significant. The vastly different sizes of local authorities can mean that looking at proportions alone can understate the scale of child poverty within an authority. Many of the least deprived areas as measured by *percentage* in poverty still had a large *number* of children in poverty due to their size.

Just as national child poverty rates mask the variation between authorities, so headline results for local authorities can mask potential variation within them. **Section 2** explored the variation in child poverty rates that existed within local authorities by looking at child poverty data at ward level.

In 55 authorities the difference in poverty rate between the highest and lowest ward was over 40 percentage points. In nearly two thirds there was at least one ward where the rate was below 10 per cent and another where the rate was above 35 per cent. Understanding the distribution of poverty within an area might be an important consideration when developing strategies to tackling it. The potential 'types' of distribution within local authorities can be broadly categorized as consistently spread, complete range and pockets of low / high poverty.

Three years of revised local child poverty data is available covering snapshots of child poverty in August 2006, 2007 and 2008. **Section 3** used the time series element of the revised local child poverty measure to explore how the number and proportion of child in poverty at local authority level changed over time.

The majority of local authorities saw a decrease in their child poverty rates between 2007 and 2008. The falls were generally small with most being one percentage point or less, however in a number of cases the fall translated to over one thousand fewer children in poverty within the authority. This change was quite different from what had been seen the year before where nearly all authorities saw an increase in their child poverty rates.

Areas with the highest child poverty rates generally saw the largest year on year changes in those rates, either up or down. Whilst the falls in 2008 often offset, or exceeded, the increases seen the previous year, a majority of local

authorities saw an increase in their child poverty rates between 2006 and 2008.

Finally, in **Section 4** looked at the further breakdowns that are available with the revised child poverty measure and saw how they varied between authorities and also how they differed from equivalent measures at a national level. Where the poverty rate for a particular group or the composition of those in poverty in an authority is different from the norm, this may indicate a particular local circumstance or issue that might be investigated further with additional data or local knowledge.

For example, in most authorities around three quarters of those in poverty were in families in receipt of out of work benefits. Where rates were considerably different to this, it may point towards an above average issue of in work poverty (if lower) or worklessness (if higher).

The analysis in this paper has focussed on the revised local child poverty measure, formerly known as NI 116. However there is a wide range of data related to poverty that is available at a local level including education outcomes, employment statistics, worklessness and health. Using these data sources, along with locally collected data and knowledge, can help to explain the patterns of poverty within an authority and in developing strategies to combat it.

Useful resources

The following is a list of data sources and other resources that may be useful in helping to understand poverty and how best to tackle it.

Local child poverty statistics

The local child poverty data used throughout this publication is available from the HMRC website. This publication is based on data from August 2008, data from August 2009 was published in September 2011.

http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/stats/personal-tax-credits/child_poverty.htm

Households Below Average Income (HBAI)

This National Statistics publication contains the latest estimates of child, working age and pensioner poverty in the United Kingdom as measured by low income or material deprivation.

HBAI uses data from the Family Resources Survey owned by the Department for Work and Pensions and examines incomes, after adjusting for the household size and composition, as a proxy for material living standards. More precisely, it is a proxy for the level of consumption of goods and services that people could attain given the disposable income of the household in which they live.

Measures are presented at a national level across a range of breakdowns including ethnic group, economic status and disability. Regional estimates are available on a 3-year average basis.

The latest data is for 2009/10 and is available from:

http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/index.php?page=hbai_arc

Local data sheets

The basket of indicators was produced by the Child Poverty Unit to identify the main drivers of poverty that can be influenced by local authorities.

Performance data on the national measures are included in the local data sheets for every local authority in England.

<http://media.education.gov.uk/assets/files/xls/c/child%20poverty%20basket%20of%20indicators.xls>

ONS neighbourhood statistics

This site, managed by the Office for National Statistics, contains data across a wide range of topics at various geographical levels.

<http://www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/dissemination/>

Needs assessment toolkit

The toolkit is aimed at individuals and groups who lead on understanding family poverty locally and designed to help provide the underpinning information and insights to develop strategies that can reduce, or mitigate against the effects of, child poverty.

<http://www.idea.gov.uk/idk/core/page.do?pagelId=22025996>

Child Poverty Unit website

The Child Poverty Unit website provides information about the services and support available to help end child poverty in the UK including the first national child poverty strategy, access to research and data, an explanation of the Child Poverty Act and role of the Child Poverty Unit, and details of pilot programmes and other strategies designed to combat the issue.

<http://www.education.gov.uk/childrenandyoungpeople/families/childpoverty>

Communities of practice

The Child Poverty Community of Practice is an interactive network for online problem-solving, peer-support and information sharing for those interested in preventing and tackling child poverty.

<http://www.communities.idea.gov.uk/comm/landing-home.do?id=1362979>

ANNEX: Top tier local authority headline statistics 2006-2008

New ONS code from 01/01/2011	Code	Local Authority	Local Area Agreement (LAA)	Number of all children in families in receipt of CTC (<60% median income) or IS/JSA			% of all children in "Poverty"			Of those in poverty % of children in			
				2006	2007	2008	2006	2007	2008	IS/JSA claimant families	3+ children families	lone parent families	families where youngest child is aged 0-4 years
										2008	2008	2008	2008
NORTH EAST													
E06000005	00EH	Darlington	Y	4,870	4,980	4,875	21.3%	21.7%	21.2%	78.8%	34.2%	72.6%	53.0%
E06000047	00EJ	Durham	N	21,830	22,835	22,805	21.0%	21.9%	21.8%	77.2%	34.3%	64.0%	48.9%
E08000020	00CH	Gateshead	Y	9,600	9,885	9,655	24.0%	24.8%	24.3%	78.5%	37.2%	67.2%	47.9%
E06000001	00EB	Hartlepool	Y	6,000	6,335	6,180	27.9%	29.5%	28.9%	80.8%	42.7%	65.5%	50.4%
E06000002	00EC	Middlesbrough	N	10,470	10,870	10,915	31.7%	33.3%	33.5%	81.0%	45.0%	70.5%	51.2%
E08000021	00CJ	Newcastle upon Tyne	Y	15,845	16,660	16,670	30.6%	32.3%	32.1%	79.9%	45.6%	66.9%	50.0%
E08000022	00CK	North Tyneside	Y	8,055	8,190	8,145	19.7%	19.9%	19.8%	79.0%	31.5%	69.9%	49.8%
E06000048	00EM	Northumberland	N	10,675	10,935	10,805	16.7%	17.1%	17.0%	75.8%	25.9%	64.3%	47.9%
E06000003	00EE	Redcar and Cleveland	Y	7,590	7,720	7,520	24.9%	25.5%	25.1%	80.7%	37.8%	68.7%	47.1%
E08000023	00CL	South Tyneside	N	8,560	8,650	8,505	27.4%	27.9%	27.6%	81.9%	41.0%	71.1%	46.4%
E06000004	00EF	Stockton-on-Tees	N	8,780	9,030	8,990	21.0%	21.4%	21.3%	81.6%	31.5%	73.0%	52.4%
E08000024	00CM	Sunderland	Y	14,505	15,140	14,760	24.2%	25.4%	25.0%	78.4%	39.9%	64.9%	48.1%
NORTH WEST													
E06000008	00EX	Blackburn with Darwen	N	11,965	12,625	11,515	30.7%	32.4%	29.5%	66.8%	38.0%	51.5%	47.3%
E06000009	00EY	Blackpool	Y	8,770	9,060	9,070	28.4%	29.2%	29.3%	78.8%	42.8%	67.4%	49.8%
E08000001	00BL	Bolton	N	15,005	16,015	15,540	23.7%	25.2%	24.3%	73.1%	35.2%	60.2%	49.0%
E08000002	00BM	Bury	Y	7,325	7,975	7,740	17.3%	18.7%	18.2%	71.6%	26.5%	62.9%	48.6%
E06000049	00EQ	Cheshire East	N	8,630	9,030	8,920	11.3%	11.8%	11.6%	72.3%	17.8%	69.6%	48.5%
E06000050	00EW	Cheshire West and Chester	N	10,665	11,085	10,810	15.3%	15.9%	15.6%	75.1%	23.3%	70.9%	48.2%
E10000006	16	Cumbria	N	15,345	15,555	14,910	15.4%	15.6%	15.1%	74.7%	21.6%	67.7%	46.1%

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E06000006	00ET	Halton	Y	7,550	7,460	7,455	25.7%	25.4%	25.6%	82.9%	38.5%	74.8%	50.1%
E08000011	00BX	Knowsley	Y	12,205	12,520	12,095	32.6%	33.6%	32.8%	87.6%	45.2%	79.9%	45.0%
E10000017	30	Lancashire	N	45,840	47,745	45,495	18.2%	19.0%	18.2%	71.5%	27.3%	63.4%	48.8%
E08000012	00BY	Liverpool	Y	33,255	33,645	32,400	34.7%	35.7%	34.6%	87.5%	46.8%	79.5%	45.0%
E08000003	00BN	Manchester	Y	41,225	43,135	41,610	41.8%	43.6%	41.4%	81.8%	52.4%	71.0%	51.3%
E08000004	00BP	Oldham	N	16,580	17,960	16,620	29.5%	31.9%	29.3%	71.4%	42.6%	53.1%	53.0%
E08000005	00BQ	Rochdale	N	14,490	15,260	14,540	28.2%	29.7%	28.3%	74.5%	39.7%	58.0%	49.2%
E08000006	00BR	Salford	Y	13,920	14,750	14,635	28.5%	30.1%	29.4%	81.1%	39.7%	71.2%	53.5%
E08000014	00CA	Sefton	Y	11,685	11,880	11,445	19.9%	20.4%	19.9%	81.7%	28.4%	75.0%	42.2%
E08000013	00BZ	St. Helens	N	9,170	9,535	9,390	23.9%	24.7%	24.4%	83.0%	38.3%	71.3%	49.3%
E08000007	00BS	Stockport	N	8,780	9,415	9,210	14.4%	15.5%	15.2%	77.1%	22.3%	72.4%	49.9%
E08000008	00BT	Tameside	N	11,125	11,825	11,690	22.5%	23.8%	23.5%	78.0%	35.4%	66.8%	48.7%
E08000009	00BU	Trafford	N	7,570	7,860	7,600	15.3%	15.7%	15.2%	74.9%	22.6%	70.6%	48.1%
E06000007	00EU	Warrington	N	5,735	5,965	5,985	13.0%	13.5%	13.5%	76.3%	21.8%	68.3%	50.2%
E08000010	00BW	Wigan	N	12,250	12,720	12,875	18.1%	18.7%	18.8%	76.7%	28.6%	67.1%	49.0%
E08000015	00CB	Wirral	N	16,635	17,095	17,000	23.5%	24.3%	24.2%	83.8%	34.0%	77.1%	48.4%
YORKSHIRE AND THE HUMBER													
E08000016	00CC	Barnsley	Y	10,970	11,320	11,425	22.3%	23.0%	23.1%	78.2%	35.6%	65.7%	48.6%
E08000032	00CX	Bradford	N	37,280	40,840	37,705	29.0%	31.4%	28.3%	67.6%	37.9%	52.3%	52.0%
E08000033	00CY	Calderdale	N	9,660	10,085	9,660	21.4%	22.1%	21.0%	74.0%	32.3%	63.9%	49.8%
E08000017	00CE	Castler	Y	14,555	14,720	14,825	22.3%	22.6%	22.7%	76.4%	33.9%	65.4%	52.1%
E06000011	00FB	East Riding of Yorkshire	N	8,055	8,240	7,935	12.1%	12.4%	11.9%	68.6%	18.5%	63.3%	45.2%
E06000010	00FA	Kingston upon Hull, City of	N	17,965	18,705	18,125	31.8%	33.1%	32.0%	81.8%	45.6%	69.4%	50.1%
E08000034	00CZ	Kirklees	N	20,480	21,795	20,495	21.7%	23.0%	21.5%	70.7%	30.4%	60.7%	49.1%
E08000035	00DA	Leeds	N	31,775	33,695	33,295	21.4%	22.5%	22.1%	78.1%	34.1%	70.3%	53.1%
E06000012	00FC	North East Lincolnshire	Y	9,215	9,520	9,230	25.3%	26.5%	25.9%	81.0%	37.6%	69.2%	52.0%

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E06000013	00FD	North Lincolnshire	Y	6,405	6,785	6,710	18.4%	19.3%	19.0%	75.8%	28.9%	66.8%	52.4%
E10000023	36	North Yorkshire	N	13,375	13,565	13,290	11.3%	11.4%	11.2%	67.1%	16.5%	67.6%	46.6%
E08000018	00CF	Rotherham	N	12,440	13,080	12,745	21.7%	22.7%	22.0%	77.6%	34.5%	63.8%	49.0%
E08000019	00CG	Sheffield	N	25,380	26,935	26,415	23.6%	25.0%	24.3%	78.0%	37.4%	63.3%	52.4%
E08000036	00DB	Wakefield	N	13,885	14,615	14,300	19.9%	21.0%	20.4%	76.8%	31.9%	68.0%	50.1%
E06000014	00FF	York	Y	4,665	4,740	4,450	13.4%	13.7%	12.8%	73.3%	19.7%	73.1%	51.1%
EAST MIDLANDS													
E06000015	00FK	Derby	Y	13,300	14,120	13,665	24.7%	25.8%	24.5%	75.0%	35.6%	67.0%	52.5%
E10000007	17	Derbyshire	N	24,365	25,180	25,335	15.4%	15.9%	16.0%	75.1%	25.1%	65.2%	48.3%
E06000016	00FN	Leicester	N	24,945	26,565	25,625	33.5%	35.3%	33.7%	75.1%	44.6%	60.8%	52.3%
E10000018	31	Leicestershire	N	13,805	14,410	14,495	10.3%	10.7%	10.8%	69.9%	16.9%	66.7%	49.9%
E10000019	32	Lincolnshire	N	21,995	23,025	22,730	15.8%	16.2%	15.9%	71.4%	23.6%	63.0%	48.9%
E10000021	34	Northamptonshire	N	22,115	23,660	23,925	14.6%	15.4%	15.5%	75.5%	23.2%	71.8%	53.9%
E06000018	00FY	Nottingham	N	20,955	21,855	21,590	35.4%	37.2%	36.3%	82.7%	47.8%	72.1%	52.7%
E10000024	37	Nottinghamshire	N	26,130	27,270	27,080	16.3%	16.9%	16.8%	76.1%	26.4%	67.5%	48.3%
E06000017	00FP	Rutland	N	505	565	525	7.1%	7.9%	7.3%	63.8%	10.5%	73.3%	50.5%
WEST MIDLANDS													
E08000025	00CN	Birmingham	Y	93,265	99,040	94,825	35.8%	37.9%	35.9%	75.8%	46.2%	58.8%	52.7%
E08000026	00CQ	Coventry	N	17,915	19,165	18,875	26.2%	27.8%	26.9%	80.8%	38.6%	71.6%	52.9%
E08000027	00CR	Dudley	Y	14,240	14,860	14,830	21.2%	22.1%	22.0%	76.4%	34.6%	62.1%	49.6%
E06000019	00GA	Herefordshire, County of	N	5,085	5,230	4,930	14.1%	14.5%	13.6%	69.6%	18.9%	66.1%	46.5%
E08000028	00CS	Sandwell	Y	21,635	22,780	22,645	30.4%	31.6%	30.8%	77.4%	42.3%	62.2%	51.5%
E06000051	00GG	Shropshire	N	7,450	7,580	7,540	12.7%	12.8%	12.8%	68.6%	18.7%	64.1%	46.8%
E08000029	00CT	Solihull	N	6,790	7,065	7,015	14.7%	15.2%	15.2%	77.5%	22.4%	75.3%	48.5%
E10000028	41	Staffordshire	N	23,595	24,620	24,575	13.7%	14.2%	14.2%	73.0%	23.0%	65.2%	47.8%

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E06000021	00GL	Stoke-on-Trent	Y	15,330	15,900	15,690	28.2%	29.4%	28.7%	77.9%	41.4%	62.3%	53.6%
E06000020	00GF	Telford and Wrekin	N	8,950	9,375	9,305	23.3%	24.4%	24.1%	80.6%	36.9%	67.2%	51.0%
E08000030	00CU	Walsall	Y	17,255	18,375	17,695	27.8%	29.6%	28.4%	75.5%	39.1%	58.0%	52.8%
E10000031	44	Warwickshire	Y	14,295	14,940	14,760	13.0%	13.4%	13.2%	74.2%	20.3%	71.1%	49.8%
E08000031	00CW	Wolverhampton	Y	16,705	17,265	17,360	29.6%	30.7%	30.8%	80.9%	43.3%	67.4%	51.3%
E10000034	47	Worcestershire	Y	16,590	17,455	17,060	14.1%	14.8%	14.5%	74.7%	22.3%	67.9%	49.2%
EAST OF ENGLAND													
E06000055	00KB	Bedford	N	6,700	7,170	6,880	19.2%	20.4%	19.4%	73.5%	28.7%	67.4%	50.9%
E10000003	12	Cambridgeshire	N	14,515	15,080	15,090	12.3%	12.6%	12.5%	74.2%	18.9%	70.3%	50.3%
E06000056	00KC	Central Bedfordshire	N	6,455	6,665	6,865	11.5%	11.8%	12.1%	73.3%	18.5%	78.4%	52.7%
E10000012	22	Essex	N	45,015	46,610	46,975	15.3%	15.7%	15.7%	76.8%	22.8%	74.0%	47.6%
E10000015	26	Hertfordshire	Y	31,680	32,875	32,415	13.1%	13.5%	13.1%	74.3%	18.9%	74.9%	49.6%
E06000032	00KA	Luton	N	14,175	15,290	14,640	28.3%	30.2%	28.4%	70.1%	37.7%	57.4%	52.8%
E10000020	33	Norfolk	N	27,510	28,515	28,565	17.1%	17.6%	17.5%	73.1%	25.3%	63.5%	48.3%
E06000031	00JA	Peterborough	N	9,790	10,630	10,455	23.8%	25.3%	24.0%	72.7%	34.7%	63.3%	54.0%
E06000033	00KF	Southend-on-Sea	N	8,140	8,460	8,505	22.4%	23.1%	23.0%	77.8%	32.5%	72.6%	49.0%
E10000029	42	Suffolk	N	20,735	21,660	21,340	14.5%	15.0%	14.7%	72.3%	20.9%	68.1%	49.5%
E06000034	00KG	Thurrock	N	7,165	7,485	7,335	20.1%	20.4%	19.8%	79.9%	28.7%	73.3%	53.2%
LONDON													
E09000002	00AB	Barking and Dagenham	N	17,200	18,135	18,510	38.2%	39.0%	38.3%	81.7%	48.5%	75.1%	54.8%
E09000003	00AC	Barnet	N	17,690	18,555	18,195	23.8%	24.6%	23.7%	75.0%	30.8%	69.1%	51.0%
E09000004	00AD	Bexley	N	9,370	9,420	9,600	18.2%	18.2%	18.4%	79.1%	26.3%	79.9%	50.2%
E09000005	00AE	Brent	N	22,150	23,205	22,720	34.5%	35.7%	34.1%	78.1%	50.6%	68.7%	52.7%
E09000006	00AF	Bromley	N	11,290	11,535	11,385	16.9%	17.2%	16.9%	79.5%	25.0%	79.2%	50.1%
E09000007	00AG	Camden	N	15,055	15,600	14,640	41.8%	43.5%	40.3%	81.0%	55.1%	67.7%	50.5%

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E09000001	00AA	City of London	N	155	140	125	22.7%	21.3%	19.1%	84.0%	38.2%	60.0%	52.0%
E09000008	00AH	Croydon	N	21,060	21,940	21,565	26.1%	27.0%	26.2%	80.0%	37.4%	76.8%	52.4%
E09000009	00AJ	Ealing	Y	21,265	22,455	21,970	30.0%	31.1%	29.6%	78.5%	43.5%	67.4%	52.2%
E09000010	00AK	Enfield	Y	25,080	27,050	27,525	34.9%	36.8%	36.0%	77.3%	49.4%	69.6%	53.9%
E09000011	00AL	Greenwich	N	19,255	19,425	18,610	35.1%	35.2%	33.4%	83.5%	44.8%	79.1%	52.3%
E09000012	00AM	Hackney	Y	26,220	27,505	24,945	46.2%	48.6%	43.5%	74.9%	49.2%	64.9%	53.0%
E09000013	00AN	Hammersmith and Fulham	N	11,590	11,600	11,370	37.2%	37.4%	35.8%	85.0%	48.8%	77.8%	50.5%
E09000014	00AP	Haringey	Y	23,675	24,485	22,600	42.8%	43.6%	39.2%	79.1%	51.4%	72.6%	50.3%
E09000015	00AQ	Harrow	N	11,785	12,680	12,110	23.3%	24.9%	23.5%	71.5%	38.0%	62.3%	49.2%
E09000016	00AR	Havering	N	8,770	9,015	9,300	17.5%	17.9%	18.4%	79.0%	25.3%	78.1%	47.3%
E09000017	00AS	Hillingdon	N	14,625	15,130	15,340	24.4%	25.2%	25.0%	78.4%	38.3%	73.0%	53.6%
E09000018	00AT	Hounslow	N	14,850	15,540	15,245	28.4%	29.3%	28.1%	78.5%	41.7%	70.1%	53.5%
E09000019	00AU	Islington	Y	16,870	17,120	16,710	46.6%	47.9%	46.0%	86.3%	59.3%	77.0%	48.9%
E09000020	00AW	Kensington and Chelsea	Y	6,515	6,650	6,265	29.9%	30.4%	28.4%	84.0%	35.0%	73.3%	43.7%
E09000021	00AX	Kingston upon Thames	N	4,665	4,990	4,930	15.2%	16.1%	15.7%	71.3%	24.2%	69.4%	50.0%
E09000022	00AY	Lambeth	Y	21,945	22,235	21,080	36.7%	37.7%	35.5%	83.4%	47.6%	83.0%	50.9%
E09000023	00AZ	Lewisham	N	20,540	21,100	20,355	34.5%	35.4%	33.5%	82.9%	45.6%	80.3%	52.6%
E09000024	00BA	Merton	N	8,510	8,865	8,550	21.2%	21.8%	20.6%	72.9%	30.0%	68.2%	50.4%
E09000025	00BB	Newham	Y	33,170	34,835	32,370	45.0%	46.9%	42.6%	74.5%	52.8%	60.7%	50.6%
E09000026	00BC	Redbridge	N	17,260	18,445	18,705	27.9%	29.0%	28.6%	72.6%	41.4%	62.9%	50.7%
E09000027	00BD	Richmond upon Thames	N	4,405	4,485	4,345	12.1%	12.1%	11.5%	75.3%	16.8%	74.1%	45.0%
E09000028	00BE	Southwark	N	21,200	21,205	19,610	36.6%	37.1%	33.8%	82.9%	42.9%	81.7%	51.4%
E09000029	00BF	Sutton	N	6,825	7,095	7,090	16.7%	17.1%	16.9%	77.5%	24.8%	76.1%	51.1%
E09000030	00BG	Tower Hamlets	Y	32,570	33,880	30,745	60.3%	63.6%	57.0%	75.0%	66.6%	44.2%	52.4%
E09000031	00BH	Waltham Forest	Y	20,075	21,225	20,450	35.0%	36.4%	34.2%	77.6%	46.9%	68.2%	52.7%
E09000032	00BJ	Wandsworth	N	13,685	14,150	14,190	26.2%	26.7%	26.0%	78.7%	36.8%	73.9%	52.3%
E09000033	00BK	Westminster	Y	12,380	13,040	12,945	39.9%	41.6%	40.7%	81.7%	55.4%	64.2%	47.5%

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													2008
SOUTH EAST													
E06000036	00MA	Bracknell Forest	N	2,550	2,650	2,595	10.3%	10.8%	10.4%	75.0%	15.8%	80.7%	51.6%
E06000043	00ML	Brighton and Hove	Y	10,555	10,815	10,555	22.3%	22.8%	22.0%	77.5%	31.9%	72.8%	45.7%
E10000002	11	Buckinghamshire	N	12,050	12,330	11,725	10.9%	11.1%	10.5%	68.0%	15.5%	67.5%	49.1%
E10000011	21	East Sussex	N	17,610	18,255	18,275	17.2%	17.7%	17.7%	73.5%	24.1%	69.7%	46.5%
E10000014	24	Hampshire	N	31,515	32,095	31,910	11.5%	11.6%	11.6%	72.5%	17.5%	73.7%	49.9%
E06000046	00MW	Isle of Wight	Y	5,715	5,815	5,380	21.5%	21.7%	20.2%	72.6%	26.8%	68.1%	45.4%
E10000016	29	Kent	N	51,425	53,385	52,865	16.9%	17.3%	17.0%	74.9%	24.5%	69.6%	49.5%
E06000035	00LC	Medway	N	12,170	12,580	12,170	20.2%	20.9%	20.1%	78.3%	28.1%	73.5%	49.2%
E06000042	00MG	Milton Keynes	N	10,550	11,045	11,255	19.0%	19.6%	19.6%	76.3%	30.7%	74.7%	56.0%
E10000025	38	Oxfordshire	N	15,085	15,650	15,660	11.5%	11.8%	11.7%	74.1%	17.6%	72.6%	54.1%
E06000044	00MR	Portsmouth	N	9,320	9,785	9,560	23.6%	24.9%	24.0%	77.6%	33.7%	74.2%	52.3%
E06000038	00MC	Reading	Y	6,420	6,760	6,635	21.2%	22.3%	21.5%	79.3%	30.9%	74.6%	55.1%
E06000039	00MD	Slough	N	8,045	8,460	7,965	25.8%	26.4%	23.9%	74.5%	33.4%	68.3%	52.5%
E06000045	00MS	Southampton	N	11,100	11,770	11,790	25.5%	27.1%	26.5%	79.8%	36.9%	73.5%	53.8%
E10000030	43	Surrey	N	22,605	23,330	23,090	9.8%	10.0%	9.9%	71.9%	14.5%	74.3%	50.2%
E06000037	00MB	West Berkshire	N	3,325	3,455	3,470	10.1%	10.3%	10.2%	73.3%	15.4%	74.9%	51.7%
E10000032	45	West Sussex	N	20,360	21,320	20,815	12.7%	13.2%	12.8%	72.1%	18.1%	72.4%	46.9%
E06000040	00ME	Windsor and Maidenhead	N	2,905	2,975	2,870	10.0%	10.1%	9.7%	67.2%	14.8%	70.7%	50.3%
E06000041	00MF	Wokingham	N	2,160	2,260	2,325	6.4%	6.6%	6.8%	66.7%	11.1%	75.3%	48.0%
SOUTH WEST													
E06000022	00HA	Bath and North East Somerset	N	4,180	4,305	4,180	12.5%	12.8%	12.4%	74.5%	16.5%	75.2%	44.3%
E06000028	00HN	Bournemouth	N	5,985	6,120	6,080	20.4%	20.8%	20.3%	76.9%	28.7%	74.2%	47.8%
E06000023	00HB	Bristol, City of	N	20,770	21,835	21,915	25.6%	27.0%	26.7%	83.3%	39.0%	75.5%	54.6%
E06000052	00HE	Cornwall	Y	19,100	19,660	19,205	18.6%	18.8%	18.4%	67.0%	25.2%	60.8%	43.9%

New ONS code from 01/01/2011	Code	Local Authority	Local Area Agreement (LAA)	Number of all children in families in receipt of CTC (<60% median income) or IS/JSA			% of all children in "Poverty"			Of those in poverty % of children in			
										IS/JSA claimant families	3+ children families	lone parent families	families where youngest child is aged 0-4 years
				2006	2007	2008	2006	2007	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008
E1000008	18	Devon	N	20,605	21,005	20,235	14.4%	14.5%	14.0%	66.1%	19.1%	65.0%	44.5%
E1000009	19	Dorset	N	10,040	10,545	10,190	13.1%	13.5%	13.1%	67.7%	18.0%	68.1%	46.6%
E1000013	23	Gloucestershire	N	16,640	17,325	17,195	13.7%	14.2%	14.0%	74.5%	20.6%	71.7%	49.9%
E0600053	00HF	Isles of Scilly	N	20	20	15	4.1%	4.5%	3.9%	0.0%	0.0%	33.3%	0.0%
E0600024	00HC	North Somerset	N	5,750	5,960	5,955	14.1%	14.3%	14.2%	75.3%	21.0%	72.3%	49.7%
E0600026	00HG	Plymouth	N	10,905	11,350	11,100	21.1%	21.9%	21.3%	78.6%	30.8%	70.0%	49.8%
E0600029	00HP	Poole	N	4,560	4,855	4,860	16.2%	17.1%	17.0%	75.0%	26.3%	74.8%	48.9%
E1000027	40	Somerset	N	15,450	15,935	15,335	14.4%	14.7%	14.2%	69.6%	20.5%	66.4%	49.0%
E0600025	00HD	South Gloucestershire	N	5,970	6,020	6,100	10.5%	10.6%	10.7%	74.6%	17.1%	77.0%	49.8%
E0600030	00HX	Swindon	N	6,755	6,965	7,225	15.3%	15.7%	15.9%	77.2%	24.2%	72.1%	52.5%
E0600027	00HH	Torbay	N	5,985	6,210	6,140	22.9%	23.6%	23.4%	75.8%	31.3%	66.1%	45.8%
E0600054	00HY	Wiltshire	N	10,805	11,345	11,120	10.9%	11.2%	11.0%	70.1%	16.0%	71.9%	49.6%

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