

Childrens Right2Food Dashboard: Technical Report

Government Programmes

Free School Meals

Number of children eligible, and number of children claiming Free School Meals is from [Schools, pupils and their characteristics: January 2020](#).

Number living in poverty is estimated based on 31% of children in England living in poverty (AHC) of all children aged 5-18 year old based on [ONS population estimates mid-2019](#). These figures come from the “[Households below average income](#)” statistics published by DWP for the 2018/19 financial year.

We have not included number of children who are eligible or claiming Universal Infant Free School Meals (UIFSM) which are available to all children in the first three years of school regardless of income or benefits.

Holiday Provision

Number of children reached refers to the government aim to support “[up to 50,000 children](#)” rather than the number who have actually been reached.

Number of children eligible for Free School Meals is from [Schools, pupils and their characteristics: January 2020](#).

Number living in poverty is estimated based on 31% of children in England living in poverty (AHC) of all children aged 5-18 year old based on [ONS population estimates mid-2019](#). These figures come from the “[Households below average income](#)” statistics published by DWP for the 2018/19 financial year.

Healthy Start

Population size is calculated from [ONS population estimates mid-2019](#) (0-3 year olds) and [PHE's Surveillance of influenza and other respiratory viruses in the UK, Winter 2019-20](#) (pregnant women – table 5).

Percentage living in poverty is estimated based on 31% of children in England living in poverty (AHC) and 22% of adults living in poverty (AHC). These figures come from the “[Households below average income](#)” statistics published by DWP for the 2018/19 financial year. HBAI estimates are based on the Family Resources Survey which has a sample of 19,000 UK households. Income After Housing Costs is derived by deducting housing costs, including: rent, water rates and charges, mortgage interest payments, and structural insurance premiums. Full methodology can be seen [here](#).

Healthy Start data are provided on the [NHS Healthy Start Website](#). This data are broken down by Local Authority in England. “Eligible” is defined as those claimants showing as eligible to claim for Healthy Start i.e. are in receipt of specified benefits. “Signed up for Healthy Start” refers to those classified as “Entitled” which is defined as those claimants that are confirmed as having a validated application form/claim and therefore vouchers have been issued to them. Healthy Start data are

collected every 4 weeks. This data refer to Cycle 228 which refers to the period between 12/10/2020 and 08/11/2020.

Impact on children

Food insecurity

Data on food insecurity have been calculated from data obtained by [YouGov surveys](#) commissioned by the Food Foundation. The technical document on these surveys can be seen [here](#).

Poverty

Maps data on child poverty are from [End Child Poverty Coalition](#). Households are living in poverty if their household income (adjusted to account for household size,) is less than 60% of the median. All poverty rates for the England map are calculated on an after housing costs (AHC) basis and shown at constituency level. Data is from 2018/19. Full methodology can be seen [here](#).

Data on ethnicity are from the “[Households below average income](#)” statistics published by DWP for the 2018/19 financial year. HBAI estimates are based on the Family Resources Survey which has a sample of 19,000 UK households. Data on time series are from the same source. Data refer to the UK. Poverty is defined as less than 60% of the median after housing costs (AHC).

Overweight and Obesity

Data on overweight and obesity are from the National Child Measurement Programme conducted by Public Health England from the school year [2019/20](#) (published October 2020). The figures cover children in Reception (aged 4-5 years) and Year 6 (aged 10-11 years) in mainstream state-maintained schools in England. The overall national participation rate was 95% in 2018/19 and has increased over time. The BMI classification is derived by calculating the child's BMI centile and assigning the BMI classification based on the following thresholds:

- Overweight is defined as a BMI centile greater than or equal to the 85th centile but less than the 95th centile (i.e. overweight but not obese)
- Obesity is defined as a BMI centile greater than or equal to the 95th centile.

Further details on the NCMP methodology can be seen [here](#).

Diabetes

Data on prevalence and deprivation are from the [National Paediatric Diabetes Audit 2018/19](#) conducted by the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health. The report provides an analysis of data submitted by healthcare professionals caring for children and young people with diabetes in England and Wales over 2018/19 from all 175 Paediatric Diabetes Units capturing information on 30,155 children and young people up to the age of 24 who are under the care of a consultant paediatrician (of which 2.6% had type 2 diabetes). Prevalence and/or incidence rates of type 2

diabetes cannot be accurately calculated from NPDA data as an unknown number of children and young people are treated for Type 2 diabetes in primary care and will therefore not be included in the paediatric audit. All that can be concluded is that there are year on year increases in the number of children and young people with Type 2 diabetes being managed within PDUs. Deprivation quintiles are based on IMD and WIMD.

Data on admissions to hospital are from [Hospital Episode Statistics, NHS Digital](#) published in January 2019 in response to a media request. The data refer to Finished Admission Episodes with a primary or secondary diagnosis of type 2 diabetes broken down for the financial years 2013-14 to 2017-18 in English NHS hospitals and English NHS commissioned activity in the independent sector. A finished admission episode (FAE) is the first period of admitted patient care under one consultant within one healthcare provider. Admissions do not represent the number of patients, as a person may have more than one admission within the period. Changes to the figures over time need to be interpreted in the context of improvements in data quality and coverage

Dental decay

Data are from the [Oral health survey for 5-year-old children 2019](#) conducted by Public Health England published in March 2020. These results are from the National Dental Epidemiology Programme biennial survey which took place in the academic year 2018 to 2019. The prevalence of experience of dental decay refers to the percentage of children with one or more teeth with visually obvious dental decay experience.

Height

Data are from the Public Health England analysis of National Child Monitoring Programme, published [here](#).

Consumption

Consumption vs recommendations

Consumption data were calculated from analysing results of the National Diet and Nutrition Survey.

Data from NDNS years 5&6 (2012/13 to 2013/14) and 7&8 (2014/15 to 2015/16) were combined to maximise sample size, applying the household income cut-offs and selecting children aged under 19 years. We used these data to estimate:

- The proportion of children in the UK exceeding the current guidance on sugar (years 7&8 only), salt (year 5 only) and saturated fat consumption.
- The proportion of children in the UK not reaching the current guidance on fibre (years 7&8 only), fruit and vegetables and oily fish consumption.

The NDNS provides weights to adjust for differential selection probabilities of households and individuals and non-response. The focus on a specific sub-sample of the population means that the use of these weights would not be entirely appropriate. However, sensitivity analysis using unweighted estimates did not give significantly different results and so it was decided to present weighted estimates.

Age ranges the data refer to are:

- Saturated fat: >5 years
- Free sugars: >2 years
- Salt: from 4 years
- Fruit and veg: > 11 years
- Fibre (AOAC): from 2 years
- Oily fish: all ages |

Material deprivation data has come from the "[Households below average income](#)" statistics published by DWP for the 2018/19 financial year. HBAI estimates are based on the Family Resources Survey which has a sample of 19,000 UK households. The before housing costs (BHC) figures are reported. Material deprivation is an additional way of measuring living standards and refers to the self-reported inability of individuals or households to afford particular goods and activities that are typical in society at a given point in time, irrespective of whether they would choose to have these items, even if they could afford them. Full methodology can be seen [here](#).

Food Environment

Please see the [Broken Plate technical report](#) for information on how these metrics were calculated.

Affordability - metric 3

Fastfood Outlets – metric 2 (place to buy food)

Advertising – metric 1

Sugar content – metric 6 (food products – sugar in cereals)