



The Scottish  
Government  
Riaghaltas na h-Alba

# Child Poverty Measurement Framework – The Wider Evidence Base

Poverty



# **CHILD POVERTY MEASUREMENT FRAMEWORK – THE WIDER EVIDENCE BASE**

**Scottish Government Communities Analytical Services**

Scottish Government Social Research  
2014

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# 1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. This paper presents the wide range of data collected as part of the process of developing the measurement framework for Scotland's Child Poverty Strategy presented in the [2014 Annual Report on Child Poverty](#). Alongside a slightly more detailed analysis of the headline indicators, data is presented from sources considered for inclusion, but not included, in the measurement framework. This paper therefore gives a flavour of the wider evidence base, although it does not claim to be comprehensive. Only quantitative evidence is presented and some data sources which are not suitable for drawing year on year comparisons were not included in the list of potential indicators, and are therefore not covered in this paper.

1.2. Like the measurement framework, this paper is structured around the three key outcomes identified in the Child Poverty Strategy:

- Maximising financial resources of families on low incomes (Pockets)
- Improved life chances of children in poverty (Prospects)
- Children from low income households live in well-designed, sustainable places (Places)

1.3. Within this structure, the measurement framework indicators, as well as the wider data, are presented under the relevant intermediate outcomes also identified in the strategy.

## 2. MAXIMISING FINANCIAL RESOURCES OF FAMILIES ON LOW INCOMES (POCKETS)

### Intermediate outcome 1: Maximising financial entitlement of families on low incomes



2.1. The headline indicator included in the measurement framework for this outcome is the percentage of working people who are earning less than the Living Wage. The Living Wage reflects the basic cost of living in the UK, and is higher than the National Minimum Wage. This indicator was chosen in recognition of the crucial role of good quality, paid employment as a route out of poverty, and reflects the SG's commitment to promoting the Living Wage.

2.2. In 2013, 17.4 per cent of employees in Scotland earned less than the Living Wage of £7.45 per hour<sup>1</sup>. The percentage not earning the Living Wage was

<sup>1</sup> Data Source: Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings. The Living Wage at time of survey (April 2013) was £7.45, and was increased later in 2013 to £7.65

substantially higher in the private sector (26.4 per cent) than the public sector (3.5 per cent) and among part time workers (35.2 per cent) than those employed full time (10.2 per cent).

2.3. It should be noted that this indicator draws on hourly wages data, and low pay and poverty may persist for those earning the living wage or above, but who work a low number of hours. This indicator should therefore be read in conjunction with the underemployment indicator (discussed under outcome 4).

2.4. Other data related to this outcome are based on administrative data from particular welfare entitlements to reduce costs for vulnerable families. In March 2014, 122,660 households with dependent children in Scotland were in receipt of Council Tax Reduction, which reduces the Council Tax liability of vulnerable people in Scotland. This included 32,840 couple households and 89,820 single people with children.<sup>2</sup>

2.5. Administrative data is also available on the Scottish Welfare Fund, which provided grants totalling £7.2 million to 15,932 households with children receiving SWF grants between 1st April 2013 and 31st December 2013.<sup>3</sup>

## **Intermediate outcome 2: Reduced household spend of families on low incomes**



2.6. The headline indicator included in the measurement framework for this outcome looks at average private nursery costs. High childcare costs are one of the key issues affecting parents on low incomes in particular, and form a major barrier to taking up employment or increasing hours worked for many parents. In 2013, the average weekly cost of 25 hours private nursery care for children over 2 was £102.06. Future reporting will consider any changes in childcare costs in real terms, i.e. taking into account inflation.<sup>4</sup>

2.7. Relevant administrative data is also available for Scottish Government funding on energy efficiency measures in private homes, which will reduce spending on heating once installed. There are a number of different energy efficiency programmes offering different services. Overall, in 2012/13 there were 287,825 offers of energy advice or assistance made to vulnerable households under SG programmes. A breakdown by household type is available for only one of these programmes: stage 4 of the Energy Assistance Package, which offers grants of up to £6,500 for energy efficiency improvements such as insulation or new central heating

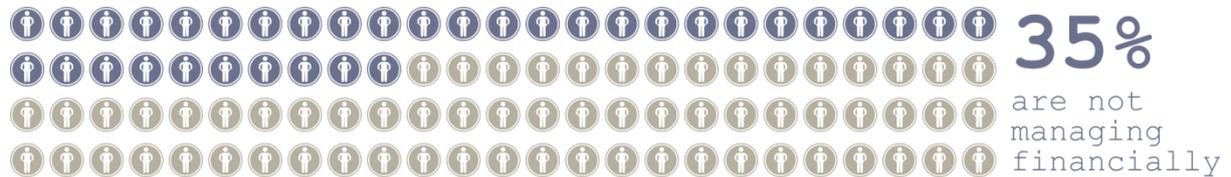
<sup>2</sup> Data source: Scottish Government

<sup>3</sup> Data source: Scottish Government

<sup>4</sup> Data Source: Annual Childcare Costs Survey

systems or boilers. In 2012/2013, 1700 households with children under 16 received support under this programme.<sup>5</sup>

### **Intermediate outcome 3: Families on low incomes are managing their finances appropriately and are accessing all financial entitlements**



2.8. The measurement framework includes two headline indicators for this outcome. The first looks at general self-perceived ability to manage financially. In 2012, 35 per cent of households with children in the bottom three income deciles reported not managing well financially. This compares to 12 per cent in other households with children.<sup>6</sup>

2.9. Information is also collected on how families are managing specifically in relation to housing costs. In 2012, 9.5 per cent of households with children had difficulties in paying their mortgage or rent, compared to 4.3 per cent of childless households. 4.6 per cent of households with children were behind on their rent or mortgage payments at the time of the survey, compared to 1.7 per cent of households without children.<sup>7</sup>



2.10. The second indicator in the framework measures access to essential financial services. In 2011, among low-income households with children, 90 per cent had access to a bank account. Due to changes in sample size for this question in the Scottish Household Survey, future data for this indicator will be based on combined years.<sup>8</sup>

2.11. Finally, relevant data for this outcome is available on whether families had savings. In 2011, more than twice as many households with children in the three lowest income deciles had no savings (62 per cent) than in the rest of Scotland (28 per cent). Only 15 per cent had savings of more than £1000, compared to 51 per cent in the rest of Scotland.

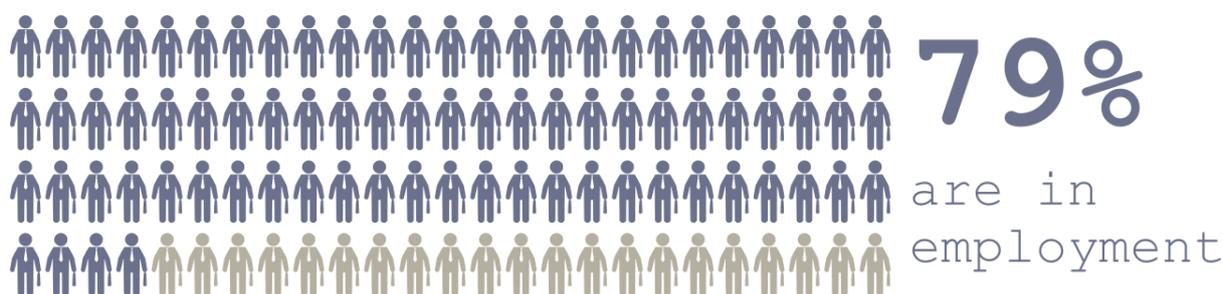
<sup>5</sup> Data source: Scottish Government

<sup>6</sup> Data source: Scottish Household Survey

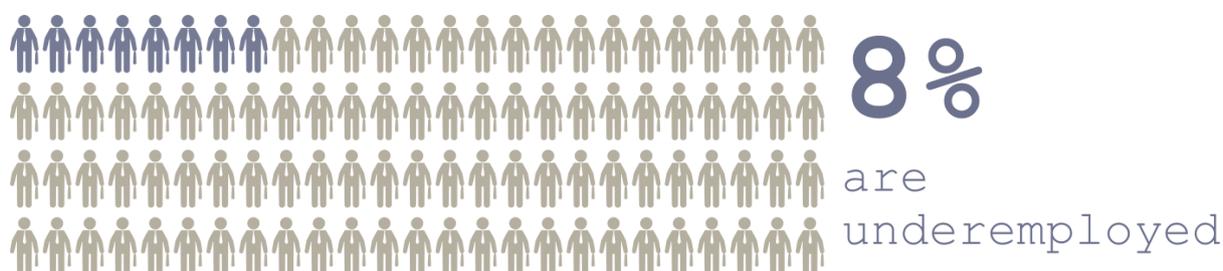
<sup>7</sup> Data source: Scottish Household Survey

<sup>8</sup> Data source: Scottish Household Survey

**Intermediate outcome 4: Parents are in good quality, sustained employment in line with skills and ambitions**



2.12. The measurement framework contains two indicators of parental employment: the employment rate and the underemployment rate. In 2012, the employment rate of parents was 79.3 per cent in 2012. This is higher than the employment rate for the population in Scotland as a whole (70.6 per cent).<sup>9</sup>



2.13. However, the high employment rate may mask a situation where individuals are working but are not in employment that meets their needs. In 2012 the underemployment rate (defined as the percentage of working people looking to increase their hours either in their current job, an additional job or a different job) was 8.4 per cent among parents.<sup>10</sup>

2.14. Related to this, the data is also available on temporary employment. This shows that in 2012 4.2 per cent of working parents were in temporary jobs.<sup>11</sup>

2.15. The employment rates varies between different types of parents. It is lower at 69.5 per cent among parents with large families with three or more children, and substantially lower among lone parents (56.5 per cent) and parents with disabilities (57.2 per cent).<sup>12</sup>

2.16. Another way of looking at parental employment is household worklessness. In 2012: 13.9 per cent of households with children were workless (i.e. none of the adult household members were in paid employment); 28.1 per cent of households with children had some working and some non-working adults; and in 58 per cent of households with children all adults were working.<sup>13</sup>

<sup>9</sup> Data source: Annual Population Survey

<sup>10</sup> Data source: Annual Population Survey

<sup>11</sup> Data source: Annual Population Survey

<sup>12</sup> Data source: Annual Population Survey

<sup>13</sup> Data source: Annual Population Survey



1:16

ratio of  
earnings of  
lowest to  
highest earners

2.17. The measurement framework includes earnings inequality as a measure of the quality of employment available at the lower skill/pay level. In 2012 the earnings of the top 10 per cent of earners were 16.3 times the earnings of the bottom 10 per cent of earners.<sup>14</sup>

2.18. Another measure of employment quality is whether the job offers personal development opportunities. In 2012, 16 per cent of parents had undertaken on the job training in the three months prior to being surveyed.<sup>15</sup>



2.19. The final area under the employment outcome focuses on whether individuals have the required skills to take up good quality employment. The headline indicator is the percentage of parents who had no or low (up to SCQF level 4 - Intermediate 1 or General Standard Grade) qualification. In 2012 this was 9.2 per cent, slightly lower than among the population as a whole (13 per cent).<sup>16</sup>

2.20. Looking at post-school qualifications (HNC/HND or above), the percentage is 45.2 per cent among parents, and 38.8 per cent among the population as a whole.<sup>17</sup>

<sup>14</sup> Data source: Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings

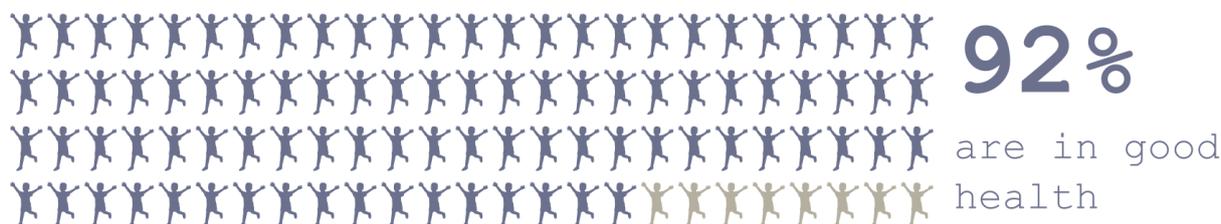
<sup>15</sup> Data source: Annual Population Survey

<sup>16</sup> Data source: Annual Population Survey

<sup>17</sup> Data source: Annual Population Survey

### 3. IMPROVE LIFE CHANCES OF CHILDREN IN POVERTY (PROSPECTS)

#### Intermediate outcome 5: Children from low income households have improving levels of physical and mental health



3.1. The headline indicator for physical health included in the measurement framework is the percentage of children aged between 2 and 15 from households in the bottom three income deciles with good or very good parent assessed health. In 2010 and 2011 (combined years), the percentage was 91.8 per cent. This is lower than the 98.4 per cent in the highest three income deciles.<sup>18</sup>

3.2. Overweight and obesity is also widely used as a proxy for children's general health. In 2012 and 2011 (combined years) 66.3 per cent of children aged between 2 and 15 from the lowest three income deciles had a Body Mass Index (BMI) within a healthy range (between the 2nd and 85th percentile of the UK growth reference charts). This is slightly lower than for children in the highest three income deciles (69.4 per cent).<sup>19</sup>

3.3. Breakdowns are also available from routine health assessments carried out for primary 1 children as part of the Child Health Systems Programme Schools system. This shows that in 2012/13 for children from the 15 per cent most deprived data zones, 74.5 per cent were in the healthy weight category, 12.8 were overweight (between the 85<sup>th</sup> and 95<sup>th</sup> percentile) and 11.6 per cent were obese (95<sup>th</sup> percentile or over). This compares to 78.2 per cent healthy weight, 11.8 overweight and 8.8 obese for children living in the rest of Scotland. The percentage of children who were underweight was 1.1 in the 15 per cent most deprived areas and 1.2 in the rest of Scotland.<sup>20</sup>

3.4. Dental health information from school inspections is another commonly used physical health indicator. Among the children inspected, 48 per cent living in the 15 most deprived areas had no obvious decay experience, compared to 69.4 in the rest of Scotland in 2012.<sup>21</sup>

<sup>18</sup> Data source: Scottish Health Survey

<sup>19</sup> Data source: Scottish Health Survey

<sup>20</sup> Data source: Child Health Systems Programme School System

<sup>21</sup> Data source: National Dental Inspection Program



3.5. The headline indicator for the mental wellbeing aspect of children’s health is the percentage of 13 and 15 year olds on free school meals with below average scores on the Warwick Edinburgh Mental Wellbeing Scale (WEMWBS).

Respondents are asked to indicate how often they have experienced 14 positive thoughts and feelings related to well-being and psychological functioning in the last two weeks. WEMWBS scores are reported on a scale of 14 to 70, with higher numbers indicating better mental wellbeing.<sup>22</sup> In 2010, 20 per cent of 13 and 15 year olds receiving free school meals had a below average WEMWBS score, compared to 12.3 per cent among children not receiving free school meals.<sup>23</sup>

3.6. Data on children’s mental health is also available from the General Health Questionnaire 12 question set (GHQ12). GHQ12 is a widely used standard measure of mental distress and psychological ill-health consisting of questions on concentration abilities, sleeping patterns, self-esteem, stress, despair, depression, and confidence in the previous few weeks. Responses are scored and combined to create an overall score of between zero and twelve. A score of four or more (referred to as a ‘high’ GHQ12 score) has been used here to indicate the presence of a possible psychiatric disorder. In 2010 and 2011 (combined years), 10.5 per cent of 13 to 15 year olds from the three lowest income deciles and 7.7 per cent from the highest income deciles had a high GHQ12 score.<sup>24</sup>

3.7. General life satisfaction is also measured among 11, 13 and 15 year olds. Young people were asked to rate their life satisfaction using a visual analogue scale with 11 steps ranging from 0 (the worst possible life) to 10 (the best possible life). Respondents were asked to indicate at which step they would place their lives at present. Positive life satisfaction was defined as a score of 6 or more. This shows that in 2010, 84 per cent of children in the third least affluent households were satisfied with their life, compared to 90.9 per cent in the third most affluent households.<sup>25</sup>

3.8. Information is also available on the self-confidence of 11, 13 and 15 year olds. In 2010, 50.5 per cent from the third least affluent households and 61.7 from the third most affluent households reported feeling confident most or all of the time.<sup>26</sup>

<sup>22</sup> The sample was divided into three groups, on the basis of their combined scores for the constituent items of WEMWBS. The three groups are those with ‘above average’ mental wellbeing (a score of over one standard deviation above the mean score), those with ‘average’ mental wellbeing (a score within one standard deviation of the mean) and those with ‘below average’ mental wellbeing (a score of more than one standard deviation below the mean). This three-fold classification has been created solely for the purposes of analysis and is not based on any evidence that an average or below average score is problematic. As a rule, WEMWBS scores are not used as a diagnostic tool.

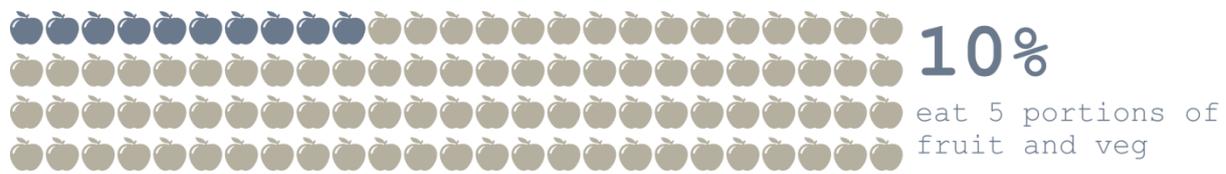
<sup>23</sup> Data source: Scottish Schools Adolescent Lifestyle and Substance Use Survey

<sup>24</sup> Data source: Scottish Health Survey

<sup>25</sup> Data source: Health Behaviour in School-aged Children Study

<sup>26</sup> Data source: Health Behaviour in School-aged Children Study

3.9. The final area of indicators for the health outcome focuses on children and young people’s health behaviours. Three indicators are included in the measurement framework, looking at diet, sedentary activities and smoking.



3.10. The first headline indicator looks at diet as measured by fruit and vegetable consumption. In 2010 and 2011 (combined years) only 10.2 per cent of 2 to 15 year olds from households in the lowest three income deciles were eating the recommended five portions of fruit and vegetables a day, compared to 16.0 in the highest three income deciles.<sup>27</sup>

3.11. Another measure of the quality of children and young people’s diets is crisp consumption among 2 to 15 year olds. In 2010 and 2011 (combined years), the percentage eating crisps every day was 46.9 per cent among children from households in the bottom three incomes deciles, almost twice as high as among those in the top three income deciles (26.2 per cent).<sup>28</sup>



3.12. The second health behaviour included in the measurement framework is screen time, a recognised measure of sedentary activities. In 2008 and 2010 (combined years) 14.1 per cent of 2 to 15 year olds from households in the lowest three income deciles spent four or more hours a day looking at a screen, higher than among children from the three highest income deciles (9 per cent).<sup>29</sup>

3.13. Physical activity is also measured directly. In 2010-11, 71 per cent of children aged 2-15 from the bottom three income deciles were active for at least 60 minutes a day (including school-based activity). The difference to children from the three top income deciles (76 per cent) was not statistically significant.<sup>30</sup>

3.14. Another measure of how active children are is the percentage of children walking or cycling to school. In 2012, 58 per cent of households with children in the lowest three income deciles reported that the child usually walks or cycles to school. This is higher than the 50 per cent in all other households with children.<sup>31</sup>

<sup>27</sup> Data source: Scottish Health Survey  
<sup>28</sup> Data source: Scottish Health Survey  
<sup>29</sup> Data source: Scottish Health Survey  
<sup>30</sup> Data source: Scottish Health Survey  
<sup>31</sup> Data source: Scottish Household Survey



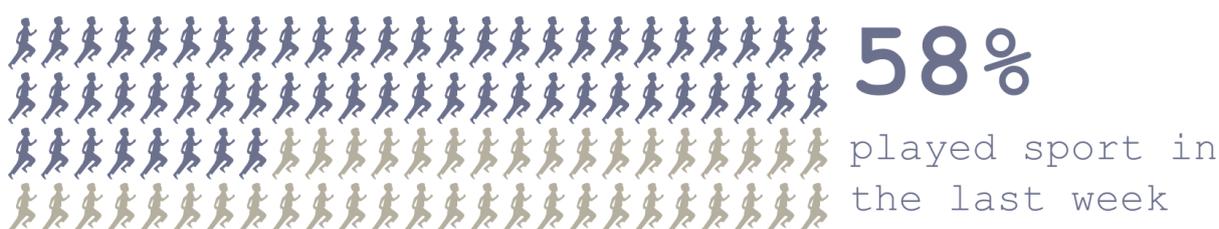
3.15. The third and final health behaviour included in the measurement framework is smoking among 15 year olds. In 2010, 20.9 per cent of 15 year olds receiving free school meals were regular smokers, defined as smoking at least one cigarette a week, compared to 11 per cent among those not receiving free school meals.<sup>32</sup>

3.16. Information is also available on passive smoking, showing that 24.6 per cent of children in the bottom three income deciles had been exposed to second hand smoke, compared to just 1.8 per cent in the top three income deciles in 2012.<sup>33</sup>

3.17. Data on adolescent drinking shows that in 2010, 22.8 per cent of 15 year olds on free school meals reported drinking alcohol on a weekly basis, compared to 19.3 of those not receiving free school meals. Young people receiving free school meals also drank more on average than others: the mean weekly alcohol consumption among drinkers was 32.2 and 24.8 units among the two groups respectively.<sup>34</sup>

3.18. Data on drug use is also available. In 2010, 47.8 per cent of 15 year olds receiving free school meals and 41.4 per cent of other 15 year olds had ever been offered drugs. Among young people on free school meals, 25.6 per cent had taken drugs in the last year, and 9.3 per cent reported taking them at least once a month. For comparison, the percentages among those not receiving free school meals were 17.3 and 5.1 per cent respectively.<sup>35</sup>

**Intermediate outcome 6: Children from low income households experience social inclusion and display social competence**



3.19. The first indicator for this outcome included in the measurement framework looks at participation in sport as an example of a positive activity or hobby. In 2010 and 2011 (combined years), the percentage of children aged 2-15 from households in the bottom three income deciles who have played sport in the last week was 58.2

<sup>32</sup> Data source: Scottish Schools Adolescent Lifestyle and Substance Use Survey

<sup>33</sup> Data source: Scottish Health Survey

<sup>34</sup> Data source: Scottish Schools Adolescent Lifestyle and Substance Use Survey

<sup>35</sup> Data source: Scottish Schools Adolescent Lifestyle and Substance Use Survey

per cent. This is substantially lower than the 80.4 per cent who have done so in the top three income deciles.<sup>36</sup>



3.20. The second headline indicator in the measurement framework is the ease with which children feel able to talk to their mother, included as a measure of family relationships and resilience. In 2010, 79.0 per cent of 11, 13 and 15 year olds from the bottom third of the family affluence scale found it easy to talk to their mother or stepmother. This compares to 81.5 per cent of those in the top third of the family affluence scale, which is not a statistically significant difference.<sup>37</sup>

3.21. The question is also asked in relation to the father or stepfather, where they are present. In 2010, 60.4 per cent of 11, 13 and 15 year olds from the bottom third of the family affluence scale found it easy to talk to their father or stepfather, compared to 65.1 per cent for those in the highest third of the family affluence scale.

3.22. Information is also available on how supportive parents and other household members are towards children's learning. In 2013, 67 per cent of Secondary 2 pupils from the 30 per cent most deprived areas reported that someone at home asked them what they did in school very often. Among the 30 per cent least deprived groups the percentage was 71 per cent. In addition, 57 per cent of Secondary 2 pupils from the 30 per cent most deprived areas reported that there was someone who helped them with their homework if they needed help very often. The percentage in the least deprived groups was 63 per cent. Patterns were similar at Primary 4 and Primary 7.<sup>38</sup>



3.23. The third headline indicator for the social inclusion outcome related to children feeling valued at school. In 2010, 71.1 per cent of 11, 13 and 15 year olds from the bottom third of the family affluence scale agreed that pupils in their class accept them, compared to 77.4 per cent for those in the highest third of the family affluence scale.

3.24. There are a number of related indicators about social inclusion in schools. In 2010, 79.4 per cent of 11, 13 and 15 year olds from the bottom third of the family affluence scale felt that their teachers accepted them as they were, 60.3 per cent thought that their teacher cared about them as a person, and 54.2 trusted their

<sup>36</sup> Data source: Scottish Health Survey

<sup>37</sup> Data source: Health Behaviour in School-aged Children Study

<sup>38</sup> Data source: Scottish Survey of Literacy and Numeracy

teachers. Children from the highest third of the family affluence scale had very similar perceptions (79.8 per cent, 60.6 per cent and 53.7 per cent respectively).<sup>39</sup>

3.25. Looking at bullying, in 2010, 25.7 per cent of 11, 13 and 15 year olds from the bottom third of family affluence scale had had at least one experience of bullying in the last 2 months. This compares 21.8 per cent of those in the highest third of the family affluence scale.<sup>40</sup>

3.26. Information is also available on friendship groups. In 2010, 82.6 per cent of 13 year olds on free school meals had at least three or more close friends, compared to 85.9 per cent among other 13 year olds. Among 15 year old children, 78.3 per cent of pupils on free school meals had at least three or more close friends, compared to 85.3 per cent for those not receiving free school meals.<sup>41</sup>

### **Intermediate outcome 7: Children from low income households have improving relative levels of educational attainment, achieving their full potential**

3.27. The measurement framework will include a headline indicator measuring educational attainment, recognised as key factor contributing to the future prospects of Scotland's children, and which also displays a strong social gradient. The Scottish Government is currently working with key partners to discuss these issues further. The indicator for inclusion in the measurement framework will be presented in the next annual report.

3.28. There are a number of national datasets that could support the monitoring of different aspects of improvement in attainment and achievement across Scotland. Tariff scores are one option for measuring attainment which is widely used. To calculate tariff scores, points are awarded for particular grades in particular level courses. The tariff score is calculated by simply adding together all the tariff points accumulated from all the different course levels and awards a pupil attains. The average tariff score was 407 in 2012/13. Tariff scores display a strong social gradient, and increase as deprivation decreases. The methodology for calculating tariff scores has been revised substantially for reporting on the 2013/14 attainment, and therefore comparisons between current scores and future scores will not be possible.

3.29. Attainment information is also available from the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA), an international test for 15 year olds in reading, mathematics and science skills. This provides measures of how much variation in test scores can be explained by socio-economic and cultural factors measured through the Index of Economic, Social and Cultural Status<sup>42</sup>. In 2012, 13 per cent of variation in maths PISA scores, and 11 per cent of variation in reading PISA scores

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<sup>39</sup> Data source: Health Behaviour in School-aged Children Study

<sup>40</sup> Data source: Health Behaviour in School-aged Children Study

<sup>41</sup> Data source: Scottish Schools Adolescent Lifestyle and Substance Use Survey

<sup>42</sup> The Index of Economic, Social and Cultural Status is constructed from the responses given by students in their background questionnaire and collects information on parental education and occupation, learning resources in the home and access to IT.

and science PISA scores could be explained by socio-economic factors. This was similar to the OECD average.<sup>43</sup>

3.30. PISA also looks at degree to which average attainment changes as social background changes. In 2012, the impact of a one point<sup>44</sup> improvement on the Index of Economic, Social & Cultural Status was 37 points for maths, 34 points for reading and 36 points for science, roughly equivalent to one year of education. Again, this was similar to the OECD average.<sup>45</sup>

3.31. Literacy and numeracy levels are also measured through the Scottish Survey of Literacy and Numeracy. For numeracy, in 2013, 61 per cent of Primary 4 pupils in the most deprived 30 per cent SIMD areas performed well or very well at the relevant Curriculum level, substantially lower than the 75 per cent of those in the 30 per cent least deprived areas. Gaps were even larger at Primary 7 (53 and 77 per cent) and Secondary 2 (25 and 52 per cent).<sup>46</sup>

3.32. Similar differences in performance were evident for literacy: In 2012, 74 per cent of Primary 4 pupils in the deprived areas were performing well or very well at the relevant level in reading, compared to 91 per cent for the least deprived category. The gap was similar at both Primary 7 (82 and 96 per cent) and Secondary 2 (75 and 92 per cent).<sup>47</sup>

3.33. Regarding writing, 54 per cent of Primary 4 pupils in the most deprived areas were performing well or very well at or beyond the relevant level in 2012. This compares to 75 per cent of children in the least deprived category. The gap was slightly wider at Primary 7 (61 and 82 per cent) and Secondary 2 (54 and 76 per cent).<sup>48</sup>



9.4

mean Strengths and Difficulties score

3.34. The headline measure for cognitive and emotional skills included in the measurement framework is the Mean Strength and Difficulties (SDQ) score for children aged 4-12 years of children from households in the bottom three income deciles. SDQ results are presented as a difficulty score on a range from 0 to 40, with higher scores indicating higher risk of mental health and behavioural problems. A score up to 13 is considered normal. The mean score for children aged 4 to 12 from households in the bottom three income deciles was 9.4 in 2010 and 2011 (combined years). This compares to a score of 6.6 for the top three income deciles.<sup>49</sup>

<sup>43</sup> Data source: Programme of International Student Assessment

<sup>44</sup> The Index is set to zero for the mean student across the OECD by background. A score of one is a standard deviation above the mean (roughly one third of the distribution from the mean). A score of minus one is a standard deviation below.

<sup>45</sup> Data source: Programme of International Student Assessment

<sup>46</sup> Data source: Scottish Survey of Literacy and Numeracy

<sup>47</sup> Data source: Scottish Survey of Literacy and Numeracy

<sup>48</sup> Data source: Scottish Survey of Literacy and Numeracy

<sup>49</sup> Data source: Scottish Health Survey



3.35. The final headline indicator for this outcome included in the measurement framework is satisfaction with local schools, included as a proxy of school quality. In 2012, 91 per cent of adults from households with children in the bottom three income deciles were satisfied with local schools (analysis excludes those with no opinion). This is not a statistically significant difference from the 89 per cent for the rest of Scotland.<sup>50</sup>

3.36. Finally, data is available on the motivations for learning and perceptions of school children. In 2013, 84 per cent of Secondary 2 school pupils from the 30 per cent most deprived areas agreed that they enjoyed learning. The percentage in the 30 per cent least deprived areas was 90 per cent. Levels saying they enjoyed learning were higher among the Primary 4 and Primary 7 groups and the percentage enjoying learning were similar between deprivation groups.<sup>51</sup>

3.37. In the same year, 93 per cent of Secondary 2 school pupils from the 30 per cent most deprived areas were interested in learning about different things. The percentage for the least deprived group was similar at 96 per cent. Percentages among Primary 4 and Primary 7 children were similar and there was little difference between deprivation groups at these ages.

3.38. Almost all Secondary 2 children also agreed that they wanted to do well in their learning (96 per cent in the most deprived and 98 per cent in the least deprived groups). Percentages were similarly high among Primary 4 and Primary 7 children. However, among Secondary 2 pupils the percentage agreeing a lot was notably lower in the 30 per cent most deprived group (82 per cent) than the 30 per cent least deprived group (90 per cent). No such difference was evident in the younger age groups.<sup>52</sup>

**Intermediate outcome 8: Young people from low income backgrounds are in good quality, sustained employment in line with skills and ambitions**



3.39. The first indicator for the young people’s employment outcome included in the measurement framework is the percentage of school leavers in positive destinations, defined as higher education, further education, employment, training,

<sup>50</sup> Data source; Scottish Household Survey  
<sup>51</sup> Data source: Scottish Survey of Literacy and Numeracy  
<sup>52</sup> Data source: Scottish Survey of Literacy and Numeracy

voluntary work or activity agreements. For those who left school during or at the end of the academic year 2012/13, 81.9 per cent of school leavers from the 15 per cent most deprived areas were in a positive destination approximately 9 months after leaving school. This is compared to 91.6 per cent of all other school leavers.

3.40. Going beyond school, in 2011-12, 64.4 per cent of graduates were in positive destinations 6 months after graduating. This information cannot be broken down by income or deprivation.



3.41. The second headline indicator in the measurement framework relates to expectations for being in a positive destination. In 2010, 86.4 per cent of 15 year olds in the lowest third of the family affluence scale thought that they would be in a positive destination when they left school. This compares to 90.6 per cent of those in the top third of the family affluence scale.<sup>53</sup>



3.42. The final two indicators under this outcome relate to Modern Apprenticeships as an example of suitable work for young people, and should be read in conjunction. The number of Modern Apprenticeships starts, a measure of the availability of suitable employment, was 25,284 in 2013/2014, while the Modern Apprenticeships completion rate was 77 per cent. It should be noted that there are a number of reasons why a young person may not complete an apprenticeship, including moving to a higher level job or another positive destination.

#### 4. CHILDREN FROM LOW INCOME HOUSEHOLDS LIVE IN WELL-DESIGNED, SUSTAINABLE PLACES

4.1. The indicators under the 'places' outcome are intended as measures of the characteristics of the areas in which children grow up, rather than the characteristics of the children or their families themselves. Findings are therefore presented for the

<sup>53</sup> Data source: Health Behaviour in School-aged Children Study

15 per cent most deprived SIMD areas as a whole, and are not narrowed down to households with children.

**Intermediate outcome 9: Children from low income households live in high quality, sustainable housing**



4.2. The first indicator for this outcome in the measurement framework is the ratio of housing costs to income, which was included as a measure of the affordability of housing. Analysis shows that, on average, households in Scotland spend 9.8 per cent of their combined post-tax income on housing.<sup>54</sup>

4.3. Data is also available on overcrowding. This shows that in 2012, 5 per cent of households in the 15 per cent most deprived areas were overcrowded under the bedroom standard, compared to 2 per cent elsewhere.<sup>55</sup>

4.4. A measure of accessibility of housing for the most vulnerable individuals and families is the percentage of homeless households that were entitled to settled accommodation. In 2012/13 this percentage was 95.7 per cent.<sup>56</sup>



4.5. The headline indicator for this outcome, satisfaction with the condition of the home, represents a proxy for housing quality. In 2012, 69 per cent of adults living in the 15 per cent most deprived SIMD areas were satisfied with the condition of their home. This is substantially lower than adults in the rest of Scotland (82 per cent). Similarly, 84 per cent of people in the most deprived areas are satisfied with their home generally, compared to 93 in the rest of Scotland.<sup>57</sup>

4.6. In the same year, in the 15 per cent most deprived areas 63 per cent of dwellings had disrepair to critical elements, and 41 per cent met the Scottish Housing Quality Standard (SHQS), a composite measure of housing quality providing a 'floor' below which a property should ideally not fall. The equivalent figures for the rest of Scotland are not statistically significantly different at 60 per cent and 48 per cent respectively.<sup>58</sup>

<sup>54</sup> Data source: Family Resources Survey

<sup>55</sup> Data source: Scottish House Conditions Survey

<sup>56</sup> Data source: Scottish Government administrative data

<sup>57</sup> Data source: Scottish House Conditions Survey

<sup>58</sup> Data source: Scottish House Conditions Survey

4.7. Information is also available on fuel efficiency, where dwellings in deprived areas tend to perform slightly better than those in the rest of Scotland. The SAP 2005 rating is a general rating based on the energy costs associated with space heating, water heating, ventilation and lighting on a scale from 1 to 100 where higher numbers indicate better efficiency. In 2012, the rating score was 68 in the 15 per cent most deprived areas and 63 in the rest of Scotland<sup>59</sup>. A possible explanation is that deprived areas are often also areas with high levels of social housing, and social housing energy efficiency has been regulated upwards, while social housing also tends to be newer and therefore more energy efficient.

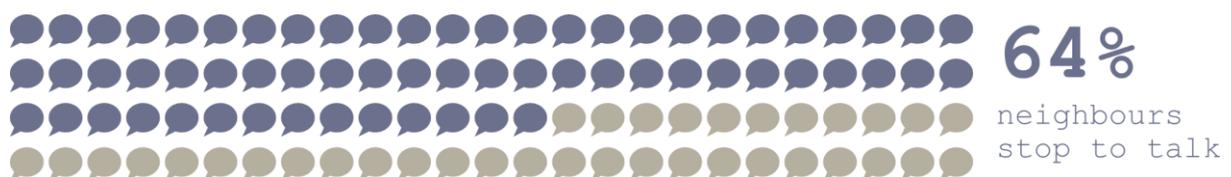
4.8. The fuel poverty rate, defined as where the household needs to spend 10 per cent or more of income on fuel use in order to heat the dwelling to an acceptable standard is 29 per cent in the 15 per cent most deprived areas, compared to 27 per cent in the rest of Scotland.<sup>60</sup> This difference is not statistically significant.

**Intermediate outcome 10: Children from low income households grow up in places that are socially sustainable**

***Community engagement and interaction***



4.9. The first headline indicator for this outcome looks at community engagement and influence in decision making. In 2012, 21 per cent of adults in the 15 per cent most deprived areas agreed that they could influence decisions affecting their local area. The figure for the rest of Scotland is 24 per cent, which is not a statistically significant difference.<sup>61</sup>



4.10. The second headline indicator looks at community interactions and supportiveness from the perspective of children. In 2010, 63.8 per cent of 13 and 15 year olds living in in the 15 per cent most deprived SIMD areas agreed that people in their area say hello and talk to each other in the street. In the rest of Scotland, this percentage was substantially higher at 76.4 per cent.<sup>62</sup>

<sup>59</sup> Data source: Scottish House Conditions Survey

<sup>60</sup> Data source: Scottish House Conditions Survey

<sup>61</sup> Data source: Scottish Household Survey

<sup>62</sup> Data source: Health Behaviour in School-aged Children Study. It should be noted that postcode information required for SIMD is not available for 26% of survey respondents. Findings presented are for the remaining individuals only.

4.11. Data is also available for related measures of community support and trust from a children’s perspective. In 2010, 64.9 per cent of 13 and 15 year olds living in in the 15 per cent most deprived SIMD areas said that they could ask for help or a favour from neighbours. Again this is substantially lower than the percentage elsewhere (72.8 per cent).<sup>63</sup>

4.12. There are also very large differences in trust. In the 15 per cent most deprived area, 38.6 per cent of 13 and 15 year olds agreed that they could trust people in their local area, very substantially lower than the 68.5 per cent in the rest of Scotland. Similarly, 29.8 per cent of 13 and 15 year olds in the deprived areas and only 16.3 per cent elsewhere agreed that people would take advantage of them if they got the chance<sup>64</sup>.

4.13. Other relevant measures look at neighbourhood problems. In 2012 in the 15 per cent most deprived areas, 18 per cent reported that noisy neighbours or loud parties were common, compared to 9 per cent elsewhere, and 9 per cent said neighbourhood disputes were common, compared to 4 per cent elsewhere<sup>65</sup>.



4.14. The final two headline indicators under the socially sustainable places outcome focus on communities being safe. Looking at experience of crime, in 2012/13, 21.3 per cent of adults in the 15 per cent most deprived SIMD areas were victims of one or more crimes. This is higher than the adults living in the rest of Scotland (16.1 per cent)<sup>66</sup>.



4.15. An indicator is also included on perceptions of crime and anti-social behaviour occurring in the local area. In 2012, 34 per cent of people in the 15 per cent most deprived areas said that drug misuse or dealing were common in their area, very substantially higher than in the rest of Scotland (9 per cent).<sup>67</sup>

4.16. There are a number of related anti-social behaviour measures. In the 15 per cent most deprived areas in 2012, 13 per cent said vandalism, graffiti or damage to property was common, 8 per cent said groups or individual harassing others was common and 18 per cent said rowdy behaviour was common. The equivalent figures

<sup>63</sup> Data source: Health Behaviour in School-aged Children Study

<sup>64</sup> Data source: Health Behaviour in School-aged Children Study

<sup>65</sup> Data source: Scottish Household Survey

<sup>66</sup> Data source: Scottish Crime and Justice Survey

<sup>67</sup> Data source: Scottish Household Survey

for the rest of Scotland are lower at 5 per cent, 3 per cent and 10 per cent respectively.<sup>68</sup>

4.17. In terms of perceptions of safety, 66 per cent of adult in the 15 per cent most deprived areas said they felt very or fairly safe walking alone in their neighbourhood at night, notably lower than in people in the rest of Scotland (85 per cent).<sup>69</sup>

4.18. Perceptions of safety measures are also available from a children's perspective, and also show a large difference between the most deprived areas and elsewhere. In 2010, 75.7 per cent of 13 and 15 year olds in the 15 per cent most deprived SIMD areas felt safe in their local area most or all of the time, compared to 91 per cent in the rest of Scotland, while 63.6 per cent thought it was safe for younger children to play outside, compared to 82.9 per cent in the rest of Scotland.<sup>70</sup>

4.19. Data is also available on perceptions of changes in crime generally. In 2012/13, 72 per cent of adults living in the 15 per cent most deprived areas perceive the crime rate in their local area to have stayed the same or reduced in the past two years. This is slightly lower than the adults living in the rest of Scotland (76 per cent)<sup>71</sup>.

### **Intermediate outcome 11: Children from low income households grow up in places that are physically sustainable**



4.20. The first indicator included in the measurement framework under the physical sustainability outcome considers general satisfaction with neighbourhoods. In 2012, 80 per cent of adults from the 15 per cent most deprived SIMD areas thought that their neighbourhood was a good place to live, substantially lower than the rate in the rest of Scotland (96 per cent)<sup>72</sup>.



4.21. Satisfaction data is also available for particular aspects of neighbourhoods. The headline indicator included in the measurement framework focuses on public transport as a key public service, which also has an important influence on the economic sustainability outcome through improving physical access to employment

<sup>68</sup> Data source: Scottish Household Survey

<sup>69</sup> Data source: Scottish Household Survey

<sup>70</sup> Data source: Health Behaviour in School-aged Children Study

<sup>71</sup> Data source: Scottish Crime and Justice Survey

<sup>72</sup> Data source: Scottish Household Survey

opportunities in other areas. In 2012, 76 per cent of adults in the 15 per cent most deprived SIMD areas were satisfied with the quality of local public transport. This is slightly higher than in the rest of Scotland (71 per cent). A possible explanation for this difference is that the majority of the most deprived areas are urban areas, which tend to report higher levels of public transport satisfaction.<sup>73</sup>

4.22. Another relevant measure is satisfaction with community centres and facilities. In 2012, 66 per cent of people in the 15 per cent most deprived areas were satisfied. There was no statistically significant difference to people in the rest of Scotland (70 per cent).



4.23. The final headline indicator included in the measurement framework for this outcome relates to the environmental quality of public spaces. In 2012, 59 per cent of adults in the 15 per cent most deprived SIMD areas could access green space within a six minute walk. In the rest of Scotland, this percentage was substantially higher at 72 per cent.<sup>74</sup>

4.24. Information available on the physical characteristics of neighbourhood also shows that in 2012, 28 per cent of people in the 15 per cent most deprived areas reported rubbish or litter lying about, and 34 per cent reported animal nuisance such as noise or dog fouling, higher than in the rest of Scotland (20 per cent and 34 per cent respectively).<sup>75</sup>

**Intermediate outcome 12: Children from low income households grow up in places that are economically sustainable**

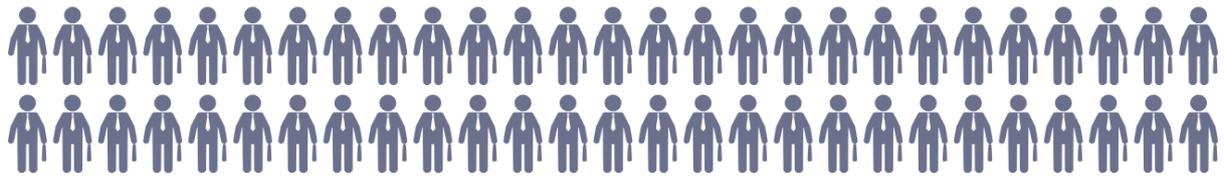
4.25. The indicators under the economic sustainability outcome measure inequality between areas, by looking at the gap between the outcomes of all adults living in the 15 per cent most deprived SIMD areas and the outcomes for people in the rest of Scotland.

<sup>73</sup> Data source: Scottish Household Survey

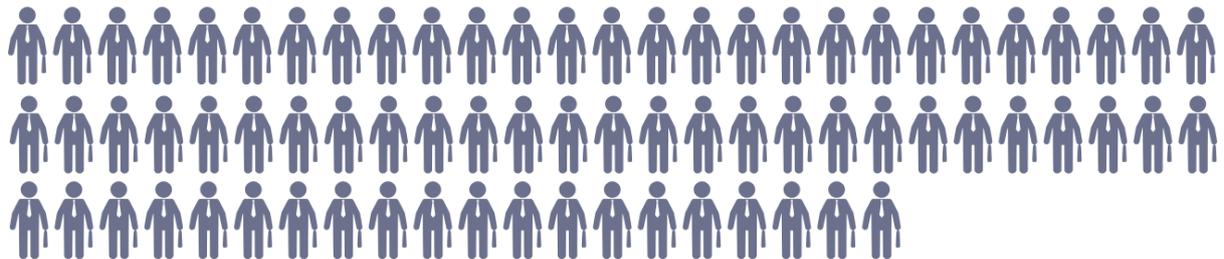
<sup>74</sup> Data source: Scottish Household Survey

<sup>75</sup> Data source: Scottish Household Survey

# 20 percentage points employment gap



deprived areas



elsewhere

4.26. The first headline indicator in the measurement framework looks at the employment rate. In 2012, the gap between the 15 per cent most deprived SIMD areas and the rest of Scotland was 19.6 percentage points, from 53.8 per cent in the most deprived areas to 73.4 per cent elsewhere.<sup>76</sup>

# 16 percentage points without qualifications gap



deprived areas



elsewhere

4.27. The second headline indicator considers those with low or no qualifications. In 2012, the gap between the most deprived areas and the rest of Scotland was 15.9 percentage points, from 26.7 per cent of people having qualifications at SCQF level 4 or below in the 15 per cent most deprived areas, compared to 10.8 per cent elsewhere.<sup>77</sup>

4.28. Related to this, the gap for post-school qualifications (HND or above) was 21.9 per cent in 2012, between 20 per cent in the 15 per cent most deprived areas and 41.9 per cent elsewhere.<sup>78</sup>

<sup>76</sup> Data source: Annual Population Survey

<sup>77</sup> Data source: Annual Population Survey

<sup>78</sup> Data source: Annual Population Survey

# 12 percentage points internet use gap



deprived areas



elsewhere

4.29. The final headline indicator for the economic sustainability outcome is personal internet use, included as a proxy for digital infrastructure. In 2012, the gap was 12 percentage points, with 67 per cent of people in the 15 per cent most deprived areas using the internet for personal use, compared to 79 per cent elsewhere.<sup>79</sup>

<sup>79</sup> Data source: Scottish Household Survey

**Social Research series**

**ISSN 0950-2254**

**ISBN 978-1-78412-729-9**

**web only publication**

**[www.scotland.gov.uk/socialresearch](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/socialresearch)**

Produced for the Scottish Government by APS Group Scotland,  
21 Tennant Street, Edinburgh EH6 5NA  
DPPAS34703 (08/14)

