

Dundee Fairness Commission Report: References

3 Poverty in Dundee & Opportunities for Dundee

The Facts

- The % of working age population in Dundee claiming jobseekers allowance has increased from 4.7% to 5.5% and remains above the Scottish averageⁱ
- Dundee remains the local authority with the third highest percentage of its children living in areas within the 15% Most Deprived in Scotland based on all aspects of deprivation. This increased from 35.3% to 36.9% between 2009 and 2012ⁱⁱ
- the number of referrals to Dundee Foodbank increased from 2009 in 2012/13 to 3,679 in 2013/14 and 1,196 referrals were received in first 16 weeks of 2014/15ⁱⁱⁱ
- 32% of pensioners in Dundee are in receipt of pension credit, almost twice the overall Scottish figure, ranging from 44% in Coldsides to 14% in The Ferry.^{iv}
- Long-term unemployment in Dundee City has historically been higher than the Scottish national average. Since 2010, the number of Jobseekers Allowance (JSA) recipients claiming for more than 12 months has been substantially higher than the rest of Scotland, reaching 2% of the working age population of Dundee by 2012. Since 2012, visible long-term unemployment in Dundee City has been approximately twice that of the Scottish national average.^v
- Between August 2014 and August 2015, the number of people claiming Disability Living Allowance (DLA) decreased from 11,430 to 10,940.^{vi}
- the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) 2012 stated that of the 144,290 people estimated to be living in Dundee City 42,125 people lived in data zones ranked within the 15% Most Deprived in Scotland. This is just under 30% of the population, so Dundee City has the third largest percentage of its population living in the 15% Most Deprived areas.^{vii}
- 28% of children in Dundee are classed as living in poverty, the second highest percentage of children living in poverty in Scotland. This equates to one in four children^{viii}
- based on income deprivation, 8,562 children (0-15 years) live in the data zones ranked within the 15% most income deprived according to the SIMD. Dundee City is the Local Authority with the second highest percentage of its children (35.5%) living in areas within the 15% most income deprived in Scotland.^{ix}
- The Minimum Income Standard reported by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation confirms that slow earnings growth and price increases have made households worse off compared to 2008 by between £450 and £4,000^x

6a Findings and Recommendations - Stigma

The Facts

- Over 80% of people in Scotland think that it is important to tackle child poverty and almost 90% of people in Scotland believe there is some, or quite a lot of child poverty across Scotland. However, 87% of people mistakenly believe that this is caused by parents suffering from alcoholism, drug abuse or other addictions. Even worse, 29% believe that this is the main cause of child poverty^{xi}.
- People with physical disabilities are more than twice as likely as able bodied people to experience material deprivation.^{xii} Where family members have a disability (either adults or children) average incomes are reduced and in particular the chances of having a high income are much reduced.
- Families with a child with a disability experience higher levels of debt and social exclusion. Where childcare for children with a disability is available, it is more expensive; in some cases up to 5 times as much as for an able-bodied child.^{xiii}
- Because of the extra costs of disability, the proportion of adults with a disability living in poverty is much higher. Those who are already disadvantaged are at greater risk of becoming disabled.^{xiv}

- Poverty can trigger depression and anxiety. Mental health problems can be a major obstacle to being ready for and finding work.^{xv}

6a Findings and Recommendations - Work and Wages

The Facts

- 31% of the working age population in Dundee is economically inactive, compared to 23% in Scotland.^{xvi}
- The largest group of benefit claimants in Dundee receive Employment Support Allowance (ESA) and Incapacity Benefit (IB) – this is almost 10% of the working age population in Dundee.^{xvii}
- In Tayside, there are 4.5 unemployed people for every job vacancy^{xviii}
- 3,500 unemployed people receive Job Seekers Allowance (JSA) with 20% turnover each month.^{xix}
- Long-term Unemployment in Dundee is higher than for the rest of Scotland.^{xx}
- Since 1990, almost 10,000 manufacturing jobs have been lost in Dundee largely replaced by historically high rates of employment in the public sector including Dundee City Council, NHS Tayside, Further Education and Higher Education^{xxi}
- In 2013/14, 48% of working age adults in poverty before housing costs were living in working households, as were 56% of children in poverty.^{xxii}
- In 2013/14, 50% of working age adults in poverty after housing costs were living in working households, as were 56% of children in poverty.^{xxiii}
- Dundee has lower gross weekly pay levels across full and part time workers than Scotland overall. The gross weekly pay for a full time worker in Dundee was £467 compared to £518 for Scotland.^{xxiv}
- In 2014 almost 23% of people in Dundee East were earning less than the Living Wage as set by the Scottish Living Wage campaign. In Dundee West, it was lower at nearly 12 %^{xxv}

6c Findings and Recommendations - Closing the Education Gap

The facts

- 28% of S4 pupils in Dundee achieved 5 plus awards at level 5 (Intermediate 2 Credit Standard Grade) in comparison to the Scottish average of 40%.^{xxvi}
- The percentage of pupils in S4 achieving 5 plus awards at level 5 in Dundee was 19% in the lowest performing school and 57% in the highest performing school. A difference of 40% between these two schools. (2013/14)^{xxvii}
- The percentage of total school leavers attaining literacy and numeracy at level 5 was 46% in Dundee in comparison to a national figure of 56%^{xxviii}
- The percentage of school leavers attaining literacy and numeracy at level 5 ranges across the City, the lowest percentage being in Strathmartine Ward at 33% of school leavers attaining literacy and numeracy at level 5, the highest percentage was 69% of school leavers in The Ferry. (2014/15)^{xxix}
- Of the 4772 children aged between 3 and 5 in Dundee in 2014/15, 3530 took up their funded part time pre school education place^{xxx}
- Dundee's secondary schools have the highest rate of exclusions amongst Scottish Local Authorities – almost double the average for Scotland^{xxxi}
- Compared to the rest of Scotland, fewer pupils from Dundee progress to university but more go to further education colleges.^{xxxii}

6d Findings and Recommendations – Benefits, Advice and Support

Key Facts

- For Dundee City the current estimate is that £56m a year is taken out of the economy amounting to a reduction of £560 a year per working age adult because of welfare reforms from 2010.^{xxxiii}
- In Dundee at August 2015, there were 17,540 benefit claimants.^{xxxiv}

- In relation to referrals for benefit sanctions, the decision to apply a sanction in Dundee City was at 40% in September 2014 and 51% in September 2015. The decision not to apply a sanction increased from 25% to 32% over the same period.^{xxxv}
- During the period September 2014 to September 2015 there were 3,249 JSA sanction decisions made for residents of Dundee City. The figure ranged from 403 sanctions in September 2014 to 210 in September 2015. In Scotland overall the figure ranged from 8,523 in September 2014 to 3,849 in September 2015. The number of JSA sanctions represents 6.9% of JSA Dundee City claimants and 5.8% across Scotland.^{xxxvi}
- During the period January to September 2015, the number of Scottish Welfare Fund applications in Dundee fell by 1,022 or 14% when compared to the same period in 2014. The number of applications in Scotland also reduced by 859 applications or 1%.^{xxxvii}
- The number of claims of Personal Independence Payment continues to rise as this benefit replaces Disability Living Allowance. In September 2015 there were 1934 PIP claims, an increase of 1551 from September 2014.^{xxxviii}
- Over £12.7m in benefit payments were secured for clients by advice providers in the city. A further £7.7m in debts were rescheduled for clients.

6e Findings and Recommendations - Housing and Communities

Key Facts^{xxxix}

- 27% of all households in Dundee receive Housing Benefit - the third highest area in Scotland.
- Almost a quarter of private rented households in Dundee are in receipt of housing benefit.
- Average rents in the private sector have increased for all property sizes between 2010 and 2015, ranging from an increase of 6.7% for two bedroom properties to an increase of 19.3% for four bedroom properties
- 3,470 households received Discretionary Housing Payments in Dundee (as at end September 2015). The average award was £562 which is the seventh highest in Scotland and £86 more than the Scottish average.
- Dundee had 1,439 homelessness applications in 2014/15 – the 6th highest in Scotland.
- The number of homeless households in temporary accommodation in Dundee rose from 176 in 2010 to 279 in January 2015. The highest figure in that period was in January 2011 when there were 319 temporary households.

6f Findings and Recommendations - Food and Fuel

Key facts

- Referrals to Dundee Food Bank increased by 18% in 2015/16 with 8,354 people receiving support.^{xi}
- 22 % of all referrals to Trussell Trust food banks in Scotland are due to low income and people who are struggling with insecure work, low wages and high living costs.^{xii}
- In 2014/15, a total of 4,054 vouchers were issued for the Dundee Food Bank (More at other non-Trussell Trust). At least 127 were to households/families where at least one person was in work.^{xiii}
- ^{xiiii}Fuel poverty across all housing tenures has risen in Dundee City to 42% against the Scottish average of 36%.
- Dundee City has the highest level of households in fuel poverty across all Scottish cities.
- Extreme fuel poverty in Dundee has reduced from 11% in 2011-13 to 7% in 2015 and fuel poverty has reduced by 1% over the same period.^(*)
- 51% of those in fuel poverty in Dundee are living in the private rented sector
- Two-thirds of single pensioner households suffer from fuel poverty
- 38% of single parent households live in fuel poverty

Poverty in Dundee and Opportunities for Dundee

- ⁱ Nomis; <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk>
- ⁱⁱ Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation; <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/SIMD>
- ⁱⁱⁱ Dundee Foodbank, Trussell Trust
- ^{iv} Department of Work and Pension; <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/dwp-statistical-summaries>
- ^v Nomis; <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk>
- ^{vi} <https://stat-xplore.dwp.gov.uk>
- ^{vii} Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation; <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/SIMD>
- ^{viii} <http://www.endchildpoverty.org.uk/poverty-in-your-area/>
- ^{ix} Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation; <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/SIMD>
- ^x <https://www.jrf.org.uk/report/scotland-without-poverty>

The Stigma

- ^{xi} Public Attitudes to Poverty, Inequality and Welfare in Scotland and Britain, Scottish Government
- ^{xii} A vision for Inclusive Scotland 2014, Inclusion Scotland
- ^{xiii} Save the Children, http://www.savethechildren.org.uk/sites/default/files/docs/Why_Money_Matters.pdf
- ^{xiv} Same as xiii
- ^{xv} Same as xiii

Work and Wages

- ^{xvi} “A Step Change in Improvement of Employability Outcomes in Dundee”, ^{xvi} <http://www.dundeepartnership.co.uk/content/dundee-partnership-forum>
- ^{xvii} <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/>
- ^{xviii} “A Step Change in Improvement of Employability Outcomes in Dundee”, ^{xviii} <http://www.dundeepartnership.co.uk/content/dundee-partnership-forum>
- ^{xix} Same as xvii
- ^{xx} Same as xvii
- ^{xxi} Same as xvii
- ^{xxii} Poverty and Income Inequality in Scotland: 2013/2014
- ^{xxiii} Poverty and Income Inequality in Scotland: 2013/2014
- ^{xxiv} Annual survey of hours and earnings, 2015
- ^{xxv} Living Wage Foundation

Closing the Education Gap

- ^{xxvi} http://www.audit-scotland.gov.uk/docs/local/2014/nr_140619_school_education.pdf
- ^{xxvii} http://www.audit-scotland.gov.uk/docs/local/2014/nr_140619_school_education.pdf
- ^{xxviii} Dundee City Council Education Department, Insight Tool
- ^{xxix} Dundee City Council Education Department, Insight Tool
- ^{xxx} Dundee City Council Family and Information Service
- ^{xxxi} Dundee City Council Education Department
- ^{xxxii} Skills Development Scotland

Benefits and Advice

- ^{xxxiii} Sheffield Halam <https://www.shu.ac.uk/research/cresr/ouexpertise/local-impact-welfare-reform-scotland>
- ^{xxxiv} Nomis; <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk>
- ^{xxxv} <https://stat-xplore.dwp.gov.uk>
- ^{xxxvi} <https://stat-xplore.dwp.gov.uk>
- ^{xxxvii} Scottish Government Welfare Fund Statistics
- ^{xxxviii} <https://stat-xplore.dwp.gov.uk>

Housing and Communities

- ^{xxxix} Scottish Government Housing Statistics

Food and Fuel

- ^{xl} Trussell Trust, Dundee Foodbank
- ^{xli} <http://www.trusselltrust.org/resources/documents/Press/Trussell-Trust-foodbank-use-tops-one-million.pdf>
- ^{xlii} Trussell Trust, Dundee Foodbank
- ^{xliii} All fuel poverty statistics, Scottish Government <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Housing-Regeneration/TrendFuelPoverty>