

# Freedom of Information request 14/2014

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## Information request

- 1) The rates of UK child poverty each year from 2004-2014 in relative terms (expressed as percentages of the child population of the UK if possible)
- 2) The rates of UK child poverty each year from 2004-2014 in absolute terms (expressed as percentages of the child population of the UK if possible)

## DWP response

Estimates of the number and proportion of children in relative and absolute low income in the UK have consistently been reported since 1998/99; these are available for each financial year up to 2012/13, the latest period for which estimates are available. Estimates of the proportion of children in low income are based on interviews with a sample of individuals and are therefore subject to a small range of uncertainty.

## Rates of children in relative and absolute low income, UK 2004/05–2012/13

Year	Relative Poverty	Absolute Poverty
2004/05	21%	21%
2005/06	22%	21%
2006/07	22%	21%
2007/08	23%	22%
2008/09	22%	20%
2009/10	20%	18%
2010/11	18%	18%
2011/12	18%	20%
2012/13	17%	19%

These estimates can be found in the latest HBAI publication, available at the link below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/households-below-average-income-hbai--2>

Relative low income measures the proportion of children living in households where income is less than 60 per cent of median household income. Absolute

low income measures the proportion of children living in households where income is less than 60 per cent of median household income in 2010/11 updated by RPI inflation. These definitions are consistent with the definitions in the Child Poverty Act 2010.