

Statistical bulletin

# Children living in long-term workless households in the UK: 2021

Annual UK estimates of the number of children living in households where all adults have not worked for at least 12 months.



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# 1 . Main points

- In 2021, 1.1 million children (8.9%) lived in long-term workless households, up 1.0 percentage points on the previous year.
- Of all the children in workless households, 86.0% lived in long-term workless households.
- The lowest percentage of children in long-term workless households was in the South East (5.3%).
- The highest percentage of children in long-term workless households was in the North East (16.8%).

## 2 . Children living in long-term workless households in the UK data

### [Children living in long-term workless households \(Table A1\)](#)

Dataset | Released on 26 October 2022

Annual estimates of the number of children living in households in the UK where all the adults have not worked for at least 12 months.

### [Children living in long-term workless households, by combined economic status \(Table B\)](#)

Dataset | Released on 26 October 2022

Annual estimates of the number of children living in households in the UK where all the adults have not worked for at least 12 months, by combined economic status of adults in the household.

### [Children living in long-term workless households, by region \(Table D\)](#)

Dataset | Released on 26 October 2022

Annual estimates of the number of children living in households in the UK where all the adults have not worked for at least 12 months, by region of residence

## 3 . Measuring the data

Annual Population Survey (APS) household datasets are used for the analysis of family or household characteristics. For all analysis in this bulletin, a household is defined as containing at least one person aged 16 to 64 years. This bulletin focuses on the number of children living in workless households (households where no adult is in employment) and long-term workless households (households where no adult has worked in the previous 12 months).

### APS reweighting

APS estimates published in the bulletin have been reweighted for periods from January to December 2020, using updated [Pay As You Earn \(PAYE\) Real Time Information \(RTI\) data](#). The non-response bias adjustment previously implemented for England, Wales and Scotland data, has now also been applied to Northern Ireland data. Our [Impact of reweighting on Labour Force Survey key indicators: 2022 article](#) explains the impact and gives a more detailed reweighting timeline.

### Coronavirus

For information on how labour market data sources are affected by the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, see our [Coronavirus and the effects on UK labour market statistics article](#), published on 6 May 2020. This article details some of the challenges that we have faced in producing estimates. Our [Comparison of labour market data sources article](#), published on 27 April 2022 compares our labour market data sources and discusses some of the main differences.

## 4 . Links to related statistics

For more up-to-date estimates on working and workless households for the UK, see our [Working and workless households in the UK April to June 2022 bulletin](#).

For local area estimates on working and workless households, see our [Workless households for regions across the UK: 2021 bulletin](#).

## 5 . Cite this statistical bulletin

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