

Children in Poverty

Children in Low-income Families, DWP 2024/25 released 26 March 2026

Annual Population Survey – Households 2023 released October 2024

English indices of deprivation 2025 released October 2025

NOTE: The term Kent refers to the Kent County Council area and excludes Medway

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[Kent facts and figures](#)

There is no single definitive measure of child poverty. This bulletin looks at several measures focusing on child poverty and deprivation. Data is presented for the Kent County Council area and provides national and regional comparisons where available.

Summary

- In 2024/25, 15.3% of children aged under 16 are living in absolute low-income families in Kent (48,142 children), down 8.0% from the previous year.
- 36.3% of children living in absolute low-income families are aged 5 to 10.
- 65.1% of children living in absolute low-income families in Kent live in a family where at least one adult is working.
- 15.3% of children aged under 16 are living in relative low-income families in Kent (48,142 children), 36.3% of which are aged 5 to 10.
- 65.1% of children living in relative low-income families in Kent live in a family where at least one adult is working.
- An estimated 4.0% of children in Kent are living in workless households in 2023.
- All of the top 20 most deprived areas in Kent according to the Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IMD2025) are among the top 10% most deprived areas in England.

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Introduction

There is no single definitive measure of child poverty. This bulletin looks at several measures focusing on child poverty and deprivation. Data is presented for the Kent County Council area and provides national and regional comparisons where available.

Children in low-income families

The Children in low-income families statistics (CiLIF), provide information on the number and proportion of children living in Relative and Absolute low income before housing costs by local area across Great Britain.

From 2019/20 CiLIF statistics are drawn from a new database "RAPID" (Registration and Population Interaction Database) which provides a single coherent view of citizens' interactions with DWP and HMRC within a tax year for the UK.

The CiLIF measure looks at the number of children in families (not households), where the income is less than 60% of median income before housing costs in both absolute and relative terms. For both measures a family must have claimed one or more of Universal Credit, Tax Credits or Housing Benefit at any point in the year to be classed as low income in these statistics.

Absolute low income is defined as a family in low income before housing costs in the reference year, in comparison with incomes in 2024/25.

Relative low income is defined as a family in low income before housing costs in the reference year.

Background information and the methodology of how the CiLIF are calculated is available from the [Department for Work and Pensions](#) on Gov.uk.

The number of children in an area is taken from the Office for National Statistics Mid-Year Population Estimates.

The latest data is for 2024/25. This is provisional and therefore subject to revision.

Children in workless households

The Annual Population Survey (APS) from the Office for National Statistics releases an annual dataset looking at households by economic activity status. The APS is a labour force based survey. Due to the sample size figures for districts are statistically unreliable. Figures at county level and above are generally more reliable.

This dataset presents an estimate of the number of households where no individuals aged 16 and over are in employment and have dependent children.

The latest data is for 2023.

English Indices of Deprivation 2025 (source: MHCLG)

The English Indices of Deprivation from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) measure relative levels of deprivation in 33,755 small areas or neighbourhoods, called Lower-layer Super Output Areas, in England.

The English Indices of Deprivation combines information from seven domain indices (which measure different types or dimensions of deprivation) to produce an overall relative measure of deprivation. The domain indices can be used on their own to focus on specific aspects of deprivation.

Among the seven domains is The Education, Skills, and Training Deprivation Domain. This measures the lack of attainment and skills in the local population. The indicators fall into two sub-domains: one relating to children and young people and one relating to adult skills.

In addition to the seven domain indices The English Indices of Deprivation also contain supplementary indices concerned with income deprivation among children (IDACI) and older people (IDAOPI).

The income deprivation affecting children index (IDACI) measures the proportion of all children aged 0 to 15 living in income deprived families. It is a subset of the Income Deprivation Domain which measures the proportion of the population in an area experiencing deprivation relating to low income. The definition of low income used includes both those people that are out-of-work, and those that are in work but who have low earnings (and who satisfy the respective means tests).

Further information about The English Indices of Deprivation 2025 can be found on the [Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government](#) webpages.

Children in low-income families

The Children in Low-income Families measure (CiLIF) looks at the number of children in families, where the income is less than 60% of median income before housing costs, in both absolute and relative terms. For both measures a family must have claimed one or more of Universal Credit, Tax Credits or Housing Benefit at any point in the year to be classed as low income in these statistics.

In 2024/25 the average (median) household income before housing costs was £719.00 per week (around £37,400 per year). 60% of the median income equates to £431.00 per week (around £22,400 per year).

Percentages are calculated using the number of children aged under 16 using the Mid-Year Population Estimates from the Office for National Statistics (ONS).

Children (aged Under 16) living in absolute low-income families

Absolute low income was previously defined as a family in low income before housing costs in the reference year, in comparison with incomes in 2010/11. As a result of DWP changes to the way their Households Below Average Income estimates are calculated, the comparison year has been changed to 2024/25 and the timeseries from 2021/22 has been revised. Data from 2010/2011 to 2020/21 is no longer available. The change in reference year means that for one year only absolute low-income figures will be the same as relative low-income figures. The latest figures for the year 2024/25 are provisional and liable to revision.

In 2024/25, 48,142 children under 16 in Kent are living in absolute low-income families. This is equivalent to 15.3% of the children in the county. While this is below the national level (19.8%) it is higher than the average for the South East Region (13.0%).

Two of the local authorities in Kent are above the national average of 19.8%: Thanet (22.6%), and Dover (20.4%).

Thanet district has the highest number and proportion of children living in absolute low-income families in Kent (5,747, 22.6%). Swale has the second highest number (5,494, 17.6%). Just under a quarter (23.3%) of children living in absolute low-income families in Kent live in either Thanet or Swale.

Overall, in Kent, the number of children living in absolute low-income families has fallen by 8.0% since the previous year. This is a bigger reduction than seen in the South East region (-6.0%) and England (-5.8%).

All Kent districts saw a fall in the number of children living in absolute low-income families. Tonbridge & Malling saw the largest fall (-13.7%) and Maidstone saw the smallest (-3.9%).

Thanet district saw the biggest fall in number with 580 fewer children living in absolute low-income families than the previous year, followed by Ashford with 477 fewer.

Table 1: Children in absolute low-income families

2024/25	Total children aged under 16	Number Living in Absolute Low Income Families	% Living in Absolute Low Income Families	1-year number change	1-year % change
Ashford	27,567	4,078	14.8%	-477	-10.5%
Canterbury	26,148	4,029	15.4%	-349	-8.0%
Dartford	28,565	3,781	13.2%	-193	-4.9%
Dover	20,750	4,223	20.4%	-464	-9.9%
Folkestone & Hythe	18,470	3,451	18.7%	-420	-10.8%
Gravesham	23,717	4,364	18.4%	-204	-4.5%
Maidstone	37,175	5,336	14.4%	-214	-3.9%
Sevenoaks	23,960	2,413	10.1%	-317	-11.6%
Swale	31,157	5,494	17.6%	-355	-6.1%
Thanet	25,458	5,747	22.6%	-580	-9.2%
Tonbridge & Malling	27,178	2,839	10.4%	-450	-13.7%
Tunbridge Wells	23,913	2,387	10.0%	-149	-5.9%
Kent	314,058	48,142	15.3%	-4,172	-8.0%
Medway	61,298	10,656	17.4%	-766	-6.7%
Kent & Medway	375,356	58,798	15.7%	-4,938	-7.7%
South East	1,784,899	231,561	13.0%	-14,712	-6.0%
England	10,768,248	2,130,679	19.8%	-132,231	-5.8%

Source: DWP Stat Xplore; ONS MYPE

Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

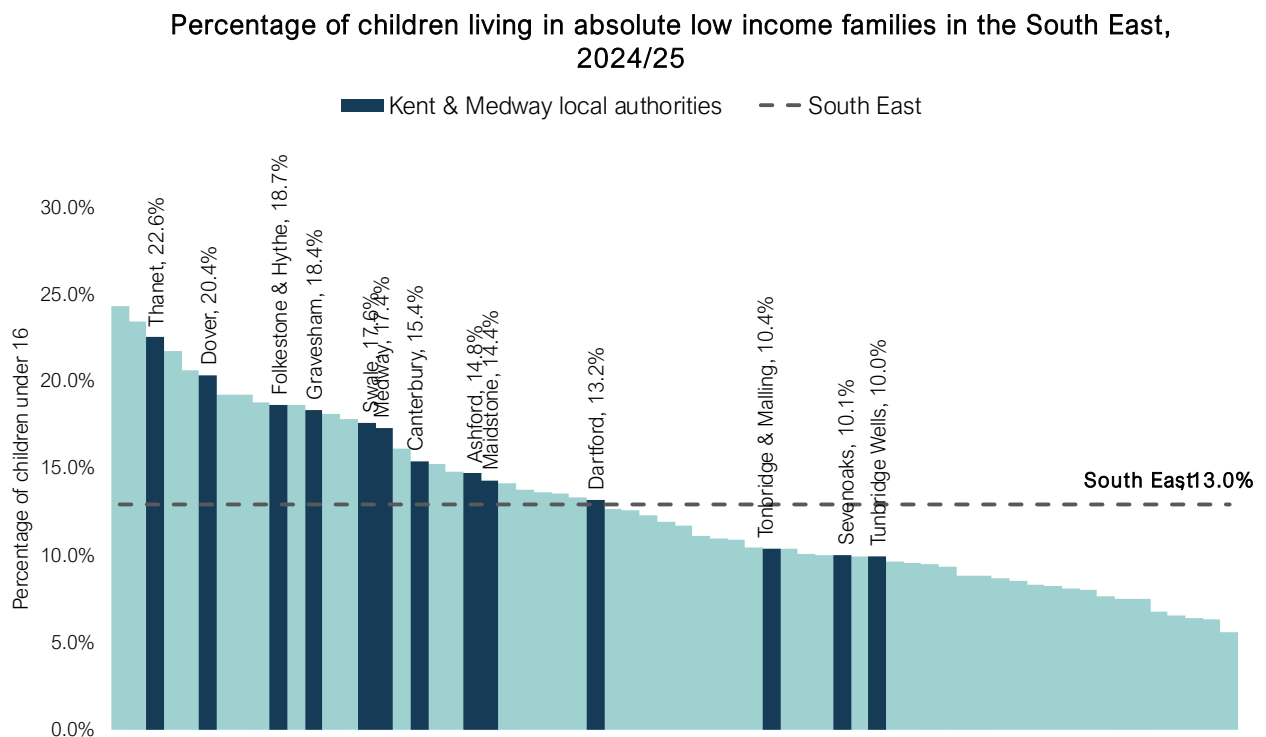
Chart 1 overleaf shows the percentage of children in absolute low-income families in Kent districts compared to other authorities in the South East.

Thanet has the third highest proportion of children living in absolute low-income families in the South East. Dover and Folkestone & Hythe have the 6th and 10th highest respectively out of the 64 local authorities in the region.

Overall, the proportion of children living in absolute low-income families in the South East region is 13.0%. Most local authorities in Kent are above the South East rate except for Tonbridge & Malling (10.4%), Sevenoaks (10.1%) and Tunbridge Wells (10.0%).

A table showing the number and proportion of children living in absolute low-income families in all South East local authorities can be found in table 27 in the Annex at the end of this bulletin.

Chart 1: Children in absolute low-income families in local authorities in the South East



Source: DWP Stat Xplore; ONS MYPE
Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Tables 2a and 2b show a time series of the number and proportion of children living in absolute low-income families in Kent local authorities.

Table 2a: Number of children who are in absolute low-income families from 2021/22

Area	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Ashford	4,238	4,791	4,555	4,078
Canterbury	4,016	4,620	4,378	4,029
Dartford	3,602	4,074	3,974	3,781
Dover	4,067	4,743	4,687	4,223
Folkestone & Hythe	3,493	3,881	3,871	3,451
Gravesham	4,324	4,664	4,568	4,364
Maidstone	5,026	5,725	5,550	5,336
Sevenoaks	2,684	2,922	2,730	2,413
Swale	5,422	6,049	5,849	5,494
Thanet	5,650	6,520	6,327	5,747
Tonbridge & Malling	3,101	3,412	3,289	2,839
Tunbridge Wells	2,293	2,565	2,536	2,387
Kent	47,916	53,966	52,314	48,142
Medway	10,601	11,552	11,422	10,656
Kent & Medway	58,517	65,518	63,736	58,798
South East	224,176	253,437	246,273	231,561
England	2,063,261	2,316,688	2,262,910	2,130,679

Source: DWP Stat Xplore; ONS MYPE

Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Table 2b: Percentage of children who are in absolute low-income families from 2021/22

Area	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Ashford	16.3%	17.9%	16.6%	14.8%
Canterbury	16.3%	18.3%	17.0%	15.4%
Dartford	13.8%	15.1%	14.3%	13.2%
Dover	20.1%	23.1%	22.6%	20.4%
Folkestone & Hythe	19.2%	21.3%	21.0%	18.7%
Gravesham	19.4%	20.7%	19.6%	18.4%
Maidstone	14.9%	16.2%	15.3%	14.4%
Sevenoaks	11.3%	12.2%	11.3%	10.1%
Swale	18.2%	19.9%	19.0%	17.6%
Thanet	22.5%	25.8%	25.0%	22.6%
Tonbridge & Malling	11.7%	12.7%	12.1%	10.4%
Tunbridge Wells	10.1%	11.1%	10.8%	10.0%
Kent	16.0%	17.7%	16.8%	15.3%
Medway	18.6%	19.9%	19.1%	17.4%
Kent & Medway	16.4%	18.0%	17.2%	15.7%
South East	13.0%	14.5%	13.9%	13.0%
England	19.7%	21.9%	21.1%	19.8%

Source: DWP Stat Xplore; ONS MYPE

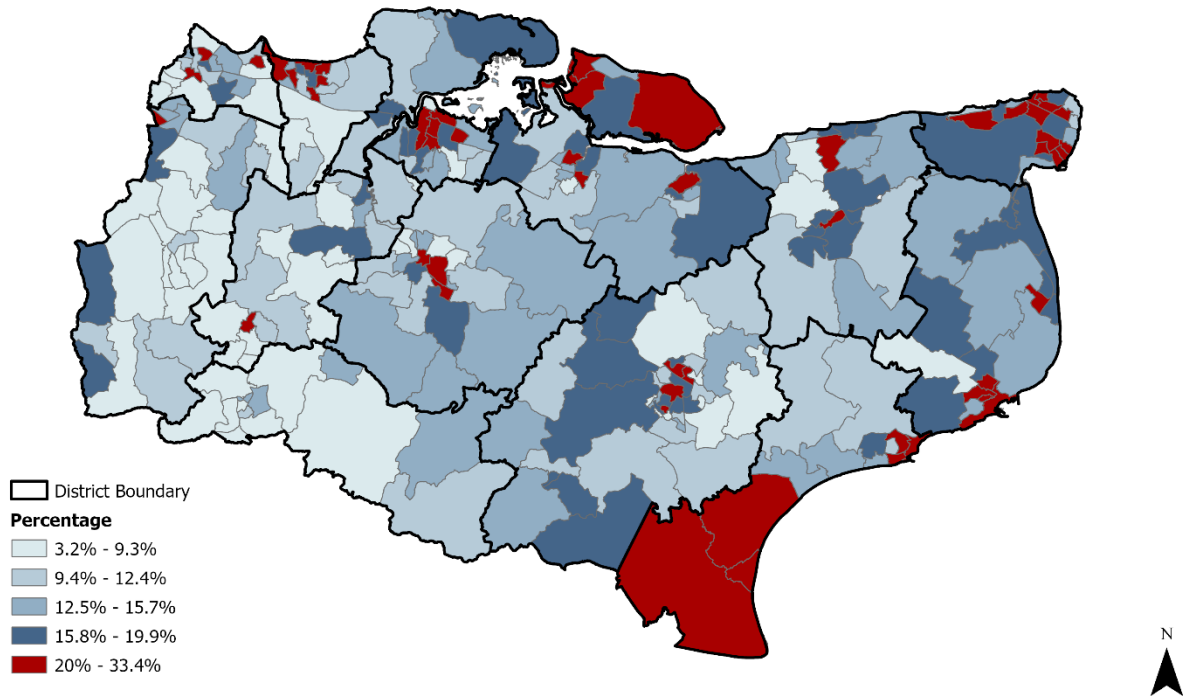
Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Children in absolute low-income families data is also available at ward level.

Map 1 shows the proportion of children aged under 16 living in absolute low-income families.

Map 1: Percentage of children aged under 16 living in absolute low-income families

Percentage of children in absolute low-income families
2024/25



Source: DWP
Map produced by Kent Analytics, Kent County Council
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The highest proportions of children living in relative low-income families tend to be in the east and north of the county, however all local authorities except Tunbridge Wells have some areas with the high proportions of children living in relative low-income families.

Table 3 shows the number of wards in each district within each Kent quintile.

More than half (52.2%) of the wards in Thanet are within the 20% of wards in Kent with the highest proportion of children in absolute low-income families (those where 19.9% or more children are in absolute low-income families). Tunbridge Wells is the only district that has no wards within the highest 20%.

Half the wards in Tunbridge Wells, and just under half in Sevenoaks and Tonbridge & Malling and are within the 20% in Kent with the smallest proportion of children in absolute low-income families (9.1% or less).

Table 3: Number of wards within Kent quintiles in each district

2024/25	20% lowest children in absolute low income families			20% highest children in absolute low income families		Total number of wards
	20-40%	40-60%	60-80%	20-40%	40-60%	
Ashford	7	11	5	12	4	39
Canterbury	3	2	6	7	3	21
Dartford	7	4	4	2	3	20
Dover	0	1	4	6	6	17
Folkestone & Hythe	0	3	3	1	6	13
Gravesham	2	5	2	2	6	17
Maidstone	3	6	8	2	3	22
Sevenoaks	12	6	3	4	1	26
Swale	1	3	7	7	6	24
Thanet	0	2	4	5	12	23
Tonbridge & Malling	9	6	1	2	1	19
Tunbridge Wells	7	2	4	1	0	14
Kent Total	51	51	51	51	51	255

Source: DWP Stat Xplore

Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

The top ten wards in Kent with the highest proportion of children aged under 16 living in absolute low-income families are shown in table 4 overleaf. Dane Valley ward in Thanet has the highest proportion of children living in low-income families (33.4%). Nine of the top ten wards are within coastal districts.

The top ten wards in Kent with highest number of children living in absolute low-income families are shown in table 5 overleaf. Sheerness ward in Swale has the highest number of children living in absolute low-income families (968).

Table 4: Top ten wards in Kent with highest percentage children in absolute low-income families, 2024/25

Ward Name	District	Number	%
Dane Valley	Thanet	590	33.4%
Newington	Thanet	468	32.1%
Town & Castle	Dover	487	32.1%
Tower Hamlets	Dover	320	30.9%
St Radigunds	Dover	482	30.4%
Northwood	Thanet	344	30.3%
Stanhope	Ashford	282	29.7%
Sheerness	Swale	968	29.3%
Walland & Denge Marsh	Folkestone & Hythe	370	29.0%
Cliftonville West	Thanet	631	29.0%

Source: DWP Stat Xplore; ONS MYPE

Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Table 5: Top ten wards in Kent with the highest number of children in absolute low-income families, 2024/25

Ward Name	District	Number	%
Sheerness	Swale	968	29.3%
Northfleet & Springhead	Gravesham	653	25.8%
Park Wood & Mangravet	Maidstone	632	27.0%
Cliftonville West	Thanet	631	29.0%
East Folkestone	Folkestone & Hythe	605	24.5%
Dane Valley	Thanet	590	33.4%
Temple Hill	Dartford	577	24.3%
Shepway	Maidstone	557	22.3%
High Street	Maidstone	524	22.4%
Coldharbour & Perry Street	Gravesham	509	21.1%

Source: DWP Stat Xplore; ONS MYPE

Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Children in absolute low-income families by age

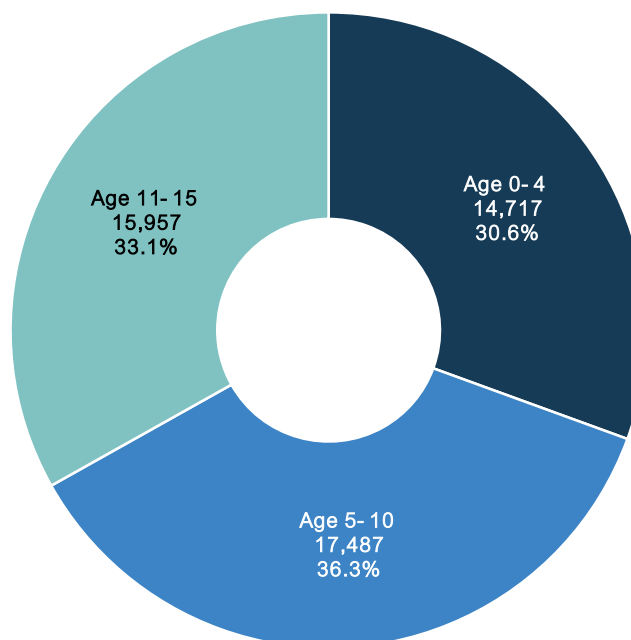
It is possible to look at children in absolute low-income families by age group.

14.6% of children in Kent aged 5-10 are living in absolute low-income families. They account for the biggest proportion of children living in absolute low-income families (36.3%).

Chart 2 shows the proportion of children living in absolute low-income families in Kent by age group.

Chart 2: Children living in absolute low-income families: Age Group

Proportion of children in absolute low income families in Kent by age group, 2024/25



Source: DWP Stat Xplore; ONS MYPE
Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Thanet has the highest number of children aged 5-10 and 11-15 living in absolute low-income families whilst Swale had the largest number aged 0-4. Thanet had the highest proportion in all age groups.

Sevenoaks has the lowest number and proportion of children in absolute low-income families ages 0-4. Tunbridge Wells has the lowest number and proportion of children ages 5-10 and 11-15.

Table 6 shows the proportion of children living in absolute low-income families in Kent local authorities by age group.

Table 6: Children in absolute low-income families: Age group

2024/25	0 - 4	5 - 10	11 - 15	% of all children aged 0 - 4	% of all children aged 5 - 10	% of all children aged 11 - 15
Ashford	1,292	1,456	1,334	16.9%	13.8%	14.3%
Canterbury	1,157	1,442	1,435	16.7%	14.7%	15.2%
Dartford	1,183	1,412	1,184	14.0%	12.8%	13.0%
Dover	1,252	1,567	1,410	22.5%	20.1%	19.1%
Folkestone & Hythe	1,024	1,231	1,199	20.1%	17.7%	18.7%
Gravesham	1,387	1,575	1,404	20.0%	17.5%	18.0%
Maidstone	1,710	1,938	1,687	16.0%	13.3%	14.1%
Sevenoaks	688	893	832	10.6%	9.7%	10.0%
Swale	1,769	1,973	1,755	20.2%	16.3%	17.0%
Thanet	1,729	2,090	1,931	23.9%	21.6%	22.5%
Tonbridge & Malling	819	1,053	960	11.1%	10.1%	10.2%
Tunbridge Wells	707	857	826	11.4%	9.6%	9.4%
Kent	14,717	17,487	15,957	16.9%	14.6%	15.0%
Medway	3,329	3,967	3,363	18.9%	16.7%	16.9%
Kent & Medway	18,046	21,454	19,320	17.2%	14.9%	15.3%
South East	67,572	84,055	79,935	13.7%	12.3%	13.1%
England	589,538	790,669	750,472	19.2%	19.3%	20.9%

Source: DWP Stat Xplore; ONS MYPE

Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Since the previous year the number of children aged 0-4 living in absolute low-income families fell in all Kent local authorities apart from in Maidstone (+3), Gravesham (+6) and Dartford (+17).

The 5-10 and 11-15 age groups saw a fall in children living in absolute low-income families in all Kent local authorities. This can be seen in table 7 overleaf.

Table 7: Change in children in absolute low-income families: Age group

2023/24 – 2024/25	Number change 0 - 4	Number change 5 - 10	Number change 11 - 15	% change 0 - 4	% change 5 - 10	% change 11 - 15
Ashford	-94	-195	-176	-6.8%	-11.8%	-11.7%
Canterbury	-109	-105	-129	-8.6%	-6.8%	-8.2%
Dartford	17	-59	-157	1.5%	-4.0%	-11.7%
Dover	-98	-204	-158	-7.3%	-11.5%	-10.1%
Folkestone & Hythe	-110	-86	-220	-9.7%	-6.5%	-15.5%
Gravesham	6	-122	-85	0.4%	-7.2%	-5.7%
Maidstone	3	-43	-169	0.2%	-2.2%	-9.1%
Sevenoaks	-39	-117	-161	-5.4%	-11.6%	-16.2%
Swale	-77	-181	-92	-4.2%	-8.4%	-5.0%
Thanet	-149	-177	-251	-7.9%	-7.8%	-11.5%
Tonbridge & Malling	-79	-177	-205	-8.8%	-14.4%	-17.6%
Tunbridge Wells	-28	-53	-69	-3.8%	-5.8%	-7.7%
Kent	-757	-1,519	-1,872	-4.9%	-8.0%	-10.5%
Medway	-138	-302	-323	-4.0%	-7.1%	-8.8%
Kent & Medway	-895	-1,821	-2,195	-4.7%	-7.8%	-10.2%
South East	-2,211	-5,856	-6,641	-3.2%	-6.5%	-7.7%
England	-28,252	-53,285	-50,696	-4.6%	-6.3%	-6.3%

Source: DWP Stat Xplore; ONS MYPE

Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

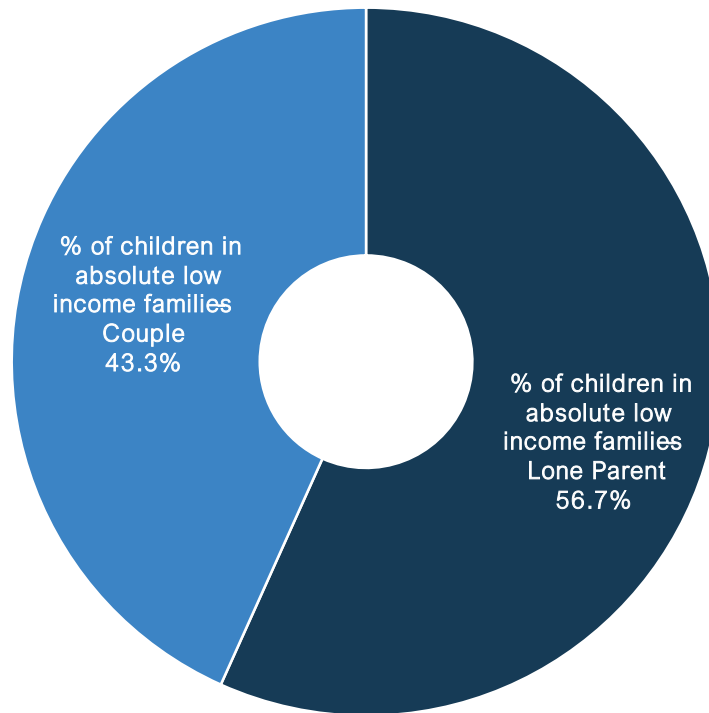
Children in absolute low-income families: Family Characteristics

Children who are living in poverty are more likely to be living in lone parent households.

Chart 3 overleaf shows that in Kent 56.7% of children in absolute low-income families are living in a lone parent household, above the national average of 50.6%.

Chart 3: Children in absolute low-income families in Kent: Family Type

Proportion of children in absolute low income families in Kent by family type, 2024/25



Source: DWP Stat Xplore
Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Table 8 overleaf shows the equivalent statistics for each Kent district.

All Kent districts have a higher percentage in lone parent families than couple families. Swale has the highest number (3,182) and Sevenoaks has the highest proportion (64.0%) living in lone parent families.

Thanet has the highest number of children (2,758) in absolute low-income families living in couple parent families in Kent and equal highest proportion along with Tunbridge Wells (48.0%).

Table 8: Children in absolute low-income families: Family Type

2024/25	Children in absolute low-income families - Lone Parent	Children in absolute low-income families - Couple	% of children in absolute low-income families - Lone Parent	% of children in absolute low-income families - Couple
Ashford	2,299	1,780	56.4%	43.6%
Canterbury	2,131	1,896	52.9%	47.1%
Dartford	2,320	1,457	61.4%	38.5%
Dover	2,339	1,880	55.4%	44.5%
Folkestone & Hythe	1,905	1,548	55.2%	44.9%
Gravesham	2,557	1,801	58.6%	41.3%
Maidstone	3,101	2,230	58.1%	41.8%
Sevenoaks	1,545	867	64.0%	35.9%
Swale	3,182	2,313	57.9%	42.1%
Thanet	2,987	2,758	52.0%	48.0%
Tonbridge & Malling	1,690	1,150	59.5%	40.5%
Tunbridge Wells	1,241	1,145	52.0%	48.0%
Kent	27,297	20,825	56.7%	43.3%
Medway	6,368	4,286	59.8%	40.2%
Kent & Medway	33,665	25,111	57.3%	42.7%
South East	121,816	109,745	52.6%	47.4%
England	1,077,877	1,052,800	50.6%	49.4%

Source: DWP Stat Xplore; ONS MYPE

Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

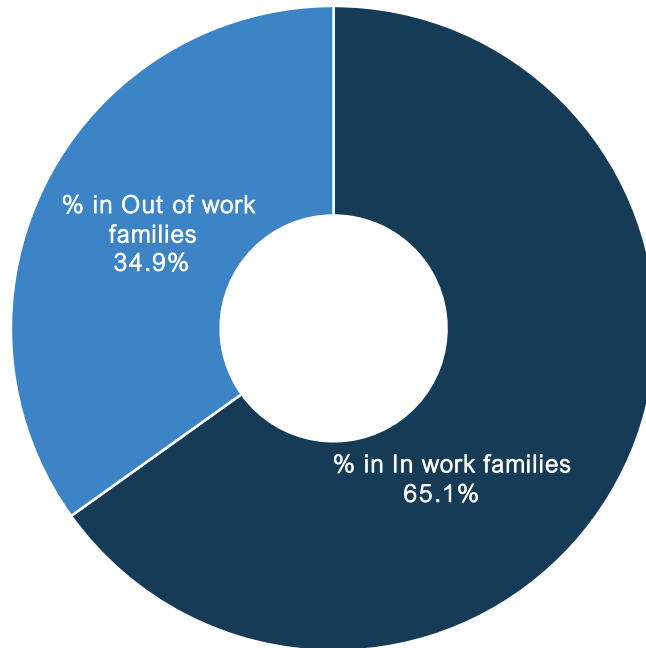
Chart 4 overleaf shows the proportion of children in absolute low-income families by family work status in Kent.

Almost two-thirds (65.1%) of children in Kent in absolute low-income families are living in a family where at least one adult is in work. This is a slightly lower proportion than seen nationally where 67.7% of children in absolute low-income families are in families that are in work.

In all Kent districts, children in absolute low-income families where at least one adult is working make up a higher proportion of children in absolute low-income families. This ranges from 61.9% in Dartford to 70.3% in Tunbridge Wells.

Chart 4: Children in absolute low-income families in Kent: Work status

Proportion of children in absolute low income families in Kent by family work status, 2024/25



Source: DWP Stat Xplore
Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Table 9 shows the proportion of children in absolute low-income families by family work status in Kent local authorities in 2024/25.

Thanet has the highest number of children living in absolute low-income families that are in working families (3,813) while Swale has the highest number in families where no adult is working (1,992).

While Tunbridge Wells has the highest proportion of children living in absolute low-income families where at least one adult is in work (70.3%), Dartford has the highest proportion of children living in absolute low-income families that are out of work (37.9%).

Table 9: Children in absolute low-income families – family work status

2024/25	Children in absolute low income families - In work families	% in In work families	Children in absolute low income families - Out of work families	% in Out of work families
Ashford	2,643	64.8%	1,434	35.2%
Canterbury	2,744	68.1%	1,288	32.0%
Dartford	2,341	61.9%	1,434	37.9%
Dover	2,824	66.9%	1,395	33.0%
Folkestone & Hythe	2,242	65.0%	1,207	35.0%
Gravesham	2,783	63.8%	1,577	36.1%
Maidstone	3,403	63.8%	1,936	36.3%
Sevenoaks	1,505	62.4%	907	37.6%
Swale	3,506	63.8%	1,992	36.3%
Thanet	3,813	66.3%	1,929	33.6%
Tonbridge & Malling	1,855	65.3%	981	34.6%
Tunbridge Wells	1,679	70.3%	704	29.5%
Kent	31,338	65.1%	16,784	34.9%
Medway	6,713	63.0%	3,942	37.0%
Kent & Medway	38,051	64.7%	20,726	35.2%
South East	158,880	68.6%	72,681	31.4%
England	1,441,914	67.7%	688,769	32.3%

Source: DWP Stat Xplore; ONS MYPE

Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

The number of children in absolute low-income families living in working households has fallen in all Kent districts in the last year. The largest number decrease was in Thanet with 429 fewer children than the previous year, equating to a 10.1% decrease. The largest percentage decrease was in Tonbridge & Malling (-16.9%).

The number of children in absolute low-income families living in out of work families increased in four districts (Dartford, Gravesham, Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells). The biggest increase in number was in Maidstone (+118 children, equating to +6.5%). The biggest decrease in number and largest 1-year percentage change was in Dover where there are 171 fewer children in out of work families (-10.9%).

Table 10: Change in children in absolute low-income families – family work status

2023/24 - 2024/25	1-year change in children in low-income families in In work families	1-year % change in children in low-income families in In work families	1-year change in children in low-income families in Out of work families	1-year % change in children in low-income families in Out of work families
Ashford	-381	-12.6%	-95	-6.2%
Canterbury	-333	-10.8%	-11	-0.8%
Dartford	-285	-10.9%	91	6.8%
Dover	-299	-9.6%	-171	-10.9%
Folkestone & Hythe	-390	-14.8%	-34	-2.7%
Gravesham	-235	-7.8%	27	1.7%
Maidstone	-330	-8.8%	118	6.5%
Sevenoaks	-250	-14.2%	-68	-7.0%
Swale	-214	-5.8%	-139	-6.5%
Thanet	-429	-10.1%	-155	-7.4%
Tonbridge & Malling	-378	-16.9%	-80	-7.5%
Tunbridge Wells	-163	-8.8%	8	1.1%
Kent	-3,687	-10.5%	-509	-2.9%
Medway	-865	-11.4%	93	2.4%
Kent & Medway	-4,552	-10.7%	-416	-2.0%
South East	-15,723	-9.0%	1,011	1.4%
England	-131,798	-8.4%	-431	-0.1%

Source: DWP Stat Xplore; ONS MYPE

Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Children (aged Under 16) living in relative low-income families

Relative low income is defined as a family in low income before housing costs in the reference year. Due to changes in how DWP calculate their Households Below Average Income estimates and the subsequent change in the reference year for absolute low income, the figures for children in relative and absolute low-income families are identical for the 2024/25 period. The timeseries from 2021/22 has been revised. Data from 2010/2011 to 2020/21 is no longer available.

48,142 children under 16 in Kent are living in relative low-income families in 2024/25, equivalent to 15.3% of the children in the county. While this is below the national level (19.8%) it is higher than the average for the South East Region (13.0%).

In Kent the number of children living in relative low-income families has risen since the previous year by 1.7% (+825 children) while nationally it increased by 3.3%.

Table 11: Children in relative low-income families

2024/25	Total children aged under 16	Number Living in Relative Low-income Families	% Living in Relative Low-income Families	1-year number change	1-year % change
Ashford	27,567	4,078	14.8%	14	0.3%
Canterbury	26,148	4,029	15.4%	70	1.8%
Dartford	28,565	3,781	13.2%	169	4.7%
Dover	20,750	4,223	20.4%	-10	-0.2%
Folkestone & Hythe	18,470	3,451	18.7%	-78	-2.2%
Gravesham	23,717	4,364	18.4%	208	5.0%
Maidstone	37,175	5,336	14.4%	318	6.3%
Sevenoaks	23,960	2,413	10.1%	-64	-2.6%
Swale	31,157	5,494	17.6%	156	2.9%
Thanet	25,458	5,747	22.6%	91	1.6%
Tonbridge & Malling	27,178	2,839	10.4%	-122	-4.1%
Tunbridge Wells	23,913	2,387	10.0%	73	3.2%
Kent	314,058	48,142	15.3%	825	1.7%
Medway	61,298	10,656	17.4%	274	2.6%
Kent & Medway	375,356	58,798	15.7%	1,099	1.9%
South East	1,784,899	231,561	13.0%	9,782	4.4%
England	10,768,248	2,130,679	19.8%	67,104	3.3%

Source: DWP Stat Xplore

Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Thanet district has the highest number and proportion of children living in relative low-income families in Kent (5,747 children, 22.6%).

Tunbridge Wells has the lowest number and proportion of children living in relative low-income families in 2024/25 (2,387, 10.0%).

Eight Kent districts saw an increase in the number of children living in relative low-income families in the last year. The biggest number and percentage increase was in Maidstone with 318 more children in relative low-income families than the previous year, a rise of 6.3%.

Four districts saw a fall in children in relative low-income families. The biggest decrease was in Tonbridge & Malling where 122 fewer children were in relative low-income families compared to the previous year, a fall of 4.1%.

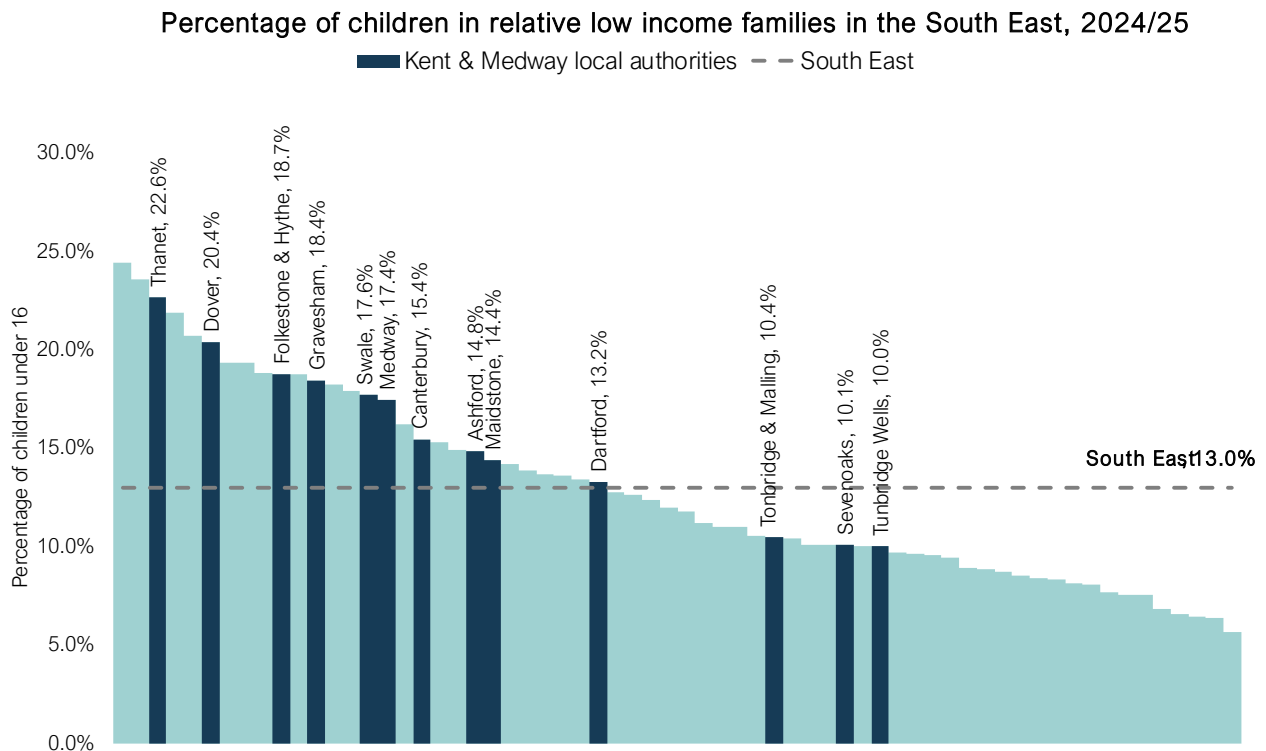
Chart 5 overleaf shows the percentage of children in relative low-income families in Kent districts compared to other authorities in the South East.

Thanet has the third highest proportion of children living in absolute low-income families in the South East. Dover and Folkestone & Hythe have the 6th and 10th highest respectively out of the 64 local authorities in the region.

Overall, the proportion of children living in absolute low-income families in the South East region is 13.0%. Most local authorities in Kent are above the South East rate except for Tonbridge & Malling (10.4%), Sevenoaks (10.1%) and Tunbridge Wells (10.0%).

A table of the number and proportion of children living in relative low-income families in all South East local authorities can be found in table 28 in the Annex at the end of this bulletin.

Chart 5: Children in relative low-income families in local authorities in the South East



Source: DWP Stat Xplore; ONS MYPE
Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Tables 12a and 12b present a time series of the number and proportion of children living in relative low-income families.

Table 12a: Number of children who are in relative low-income families from 2021/22

Area	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Ashford	4,044	4,288	4,064	4,078
Canterbury	3,799	4,161	3,959	4,029
Dartford	3,426	3,683	3,612	3,781
Dover	3,835	4,269	4,233	4,223
Folkestone & Hythe	3,319	3,564	3,529	3,451
Gravesham	4,093	4,267	4,156	4,364
Maidstone	4,738	5,172	5,018	5,336
Sevenoaks	2,560	2,670	2,477	2,413
Swale	5,115	5,506	5,338	5,494
Thanet	5,266	5,887	5,656	5,747
Tonbridge & Malling	2,889	3,073	2,961	2,839
Tunbridge Wells	2,164	2,331	2,314	2,387
Kent	45,248	48,871	47,317	48,142
Medway	9,986	10,448	10,382	10,656
Kent & Medway	55,234	59,319	57,699	58,798
South East	210,530	228,156	221,779	231,561
England	1,947,992	2,109,333	2,063,575	2,130,679

Source: DWP Stat Xplore; ONS MYPE

Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Table 12b: Percentage of children who are in relative low-income families from 2021/22

Area	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Ashford	15.6%	16.0%	14.8%	14.8%
Canterbury	15.4%	16.5%	15.3%	15.4%
Dartford	13.2%	13.7%	13.0%	13.2%
Dover	19.0%	20.8%	20.4%	20.4%
Folkestone & Hythe	18.3%	19.5%	19.2%	18.7%
Gravesham	18.4%	18.9%	17.9%	18.4%
Maidstone	14.0%	14.7%	13.8%	14.4%
Sevenoaks	10.7%	11.1%	10.3%	10.1%
Swale	17.2%	18.1%	17.3%	17.6%
Thanet	21.0%	23.3%	22.3%	22.6%
Tonbridge & Malling	10.9%	11.4%	10.9%	10.4%
Tunbridge Wells	9.5%	10.0%	9.8%	10.0%
Kent	15.1%	16.0%	15.2%	15.3%
Medway	17.5%	18.0%	17.3%	17.4%
Kent & Medway	15.5%	16.3%	15.6%	15.7%
South East	12.2%	13.1%	12.5%	13.0%
England	18.6%	19.9%	19.3%	19.8%

Source: DWP Stat Xplore; ONS MYPE

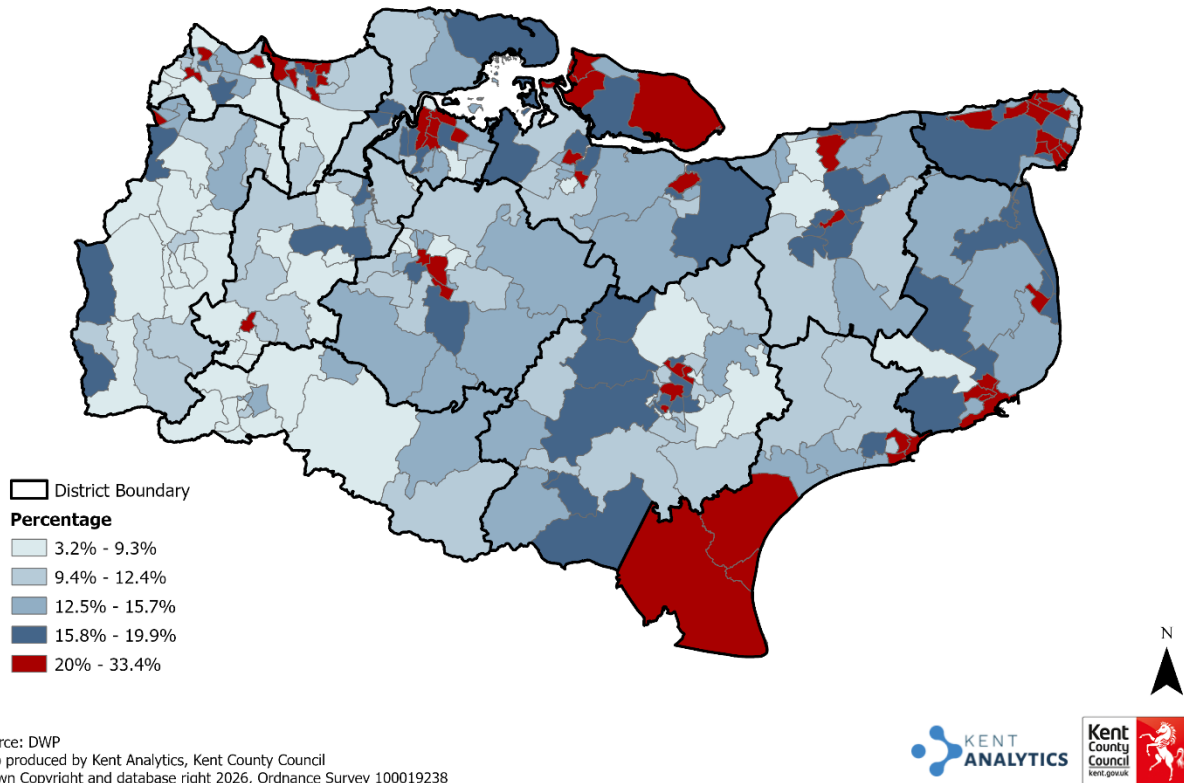
Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Children in relative low-income families data is also available at ward level.

Map 2 shows the proportion of children aged under 16 in relative low-income families in Kent wards.

Map 2: Percentage of children aged under 16 living in relative low-income families

**Percentage of children in relative low-income families
2024/25**



The highest proportions of children living in relative low-income families tend to be in the east and north of the county, however all local authorities except Tunbridge Wells have some areas with the high proportions of children living in relative low-income families.

More than half (52.2%) of the wards in Thanet are within the 20% of wards in Kent with the highest proportion of children in relative low-income families (those where 19.9% or more children are in relative low-income families). Tunbridge Wells is the only district that has no wards within the highest 20%.

Half the wards in Tunbridge Wells, and just under half in Sevenoaks and Tonbridge & Malling and are within the 20% in Kent with the smallest proportion of children in relative low-income families (9.1% or less).

Table 13 shows the number of wards in each district within each Kent quintile.

Table 13: Number of wards within Kent quintiles in each district

2023/24	20% lowest children in relative low income families			20% highest children in relative low income families		Total number of wards
	20-40%	40-60%	60-80%			
Ashford	7	11	5	12	4	39
Canterbury	3	2	6	7	3	21
Dartford	7	4	4	2	3	20
Dover	0	1	4	6	6	17
Folkestone & Hythe	0	3	3	1	6	13
Gravesham	2	5	2	2	6	17
Maidstone	3	6	8	2	3	22
Sevenoaks	12	6	3	4	1	26
Swale	1	3	7	7	6	24
Thanet	0	2	4	5	12	23
Tonbridge & Malling	9	6	1	2	1	19
Tunbridge Wells	7	2	4	1	0	14
Kent Total	51	51	51	51	51	255

Source: DWP Stat Xplore

Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

The top ten wards in Kent with the highest proportion of children aged under 16 living in relative low-income families are shown in table 4 overleaf. Dane Valley ward in Thanet has the highest proportion of children living in low-income families (33.4%). Nine of the top ten wards are within coastal districts.

The top ten wards in Kent with highest number of children living in relative low-income families are shown in table 5 overleaf. Sheerness ward in Swale has the highest number of children living in relative low-income families (968).

Table 14: Top ten wards in Kent with highest percentage children in relative low-income families, 2024/25

Ward Name	District	Number	%
Dane Valley	Thanet	590	33.4%
Newington	Thanet	468	32.1%
Town & Castle	Dover	487	32.1%
Tower Hamlets	Dover	320	30.9%
St Radigunds	Dover	482	30.4%
Northwood	Thanet	344	30.3%
Stanhope	Ashford	282	29.7%
Sheerness	Swale	968	29.3%
Walland & Denge Marsh	Folkestone & Hythe	370	29.0%
Cliftonville West	Thanet	631	29.0%

Source: DWP Stat Xplore; ONS MYPE

Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Table 15: Top ten wards in Kent with the highest number of children in relative low-income families, 2024/25

Ward Name	District	Number	%
Sheerness	Swale	968	29.3%
Northfleet & Springhead	Gravesham	653	25.8%
Park Wood & Mangravet	Maidstone	632	27.0%
Cliftonville West	Thanet	631	29.0%
East Folkestone	Folkestone & Hythe	605	24.5%
Dane Valley	Thanet	590	33.4%
Temple Hill	Dartford	577	24.3%
Shepway	Maidstone	557	22.3%
High Street	Maidstone	524	22.4%
Coldharbour & Perry Street	Gravesham	509	21.1%

Source: DWP Stat Xplore; ONS MYPE

Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Children in relative low-income families by age

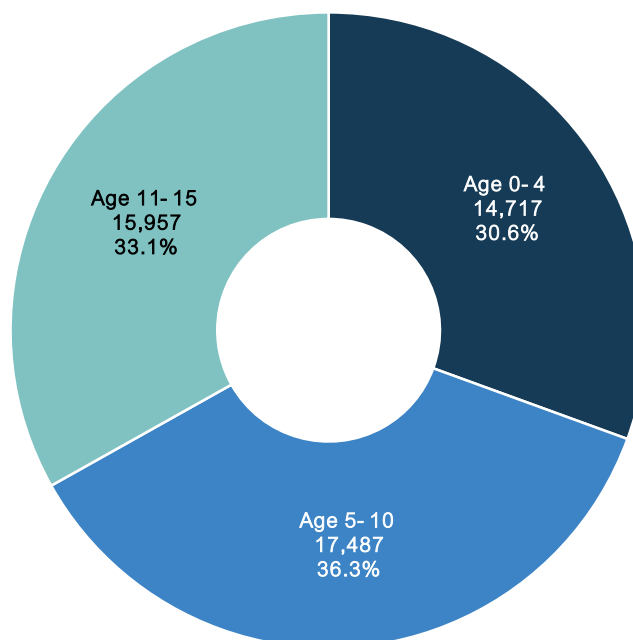
It is possible to look at children in relative low-income families by age group.

14.6% of children in Kent aged 5-10 are living in absolute low-income families. They account for the biggest proportion of children living in absolute low-income families (36.3%).

Chart 6 shows the proportion of children living in relative low-income families in Kent by age group.

Chart 6: Children living in relative low-income families: Age Group

Proportion of children in relative low income families in Kent by age group, 2024/25



Source: DWP Stat Xplore; ONS MYPE
Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Thanet has the highest number of children aged 5-10 and 11-15 living in relative low-income families, whilst Swale had the highest number aged 0-4. Thanet had the highest proportion of children living in relative low-income households in all age groups.

Sevenoaks has the lowest number and proportion of children in relative low-income families ages 0-4. Tunbridge Wells has the lowest number and proportion of children ages 5-10 and 11-15.

Table 16 shows the proportion of children living in relative low-income families in Kent local authorities by age group.

Table 16: Children in relative low-income families: Age group

2024/25	0 - 4	5 - 10	11 - 15	% of all children aged 0 - 4	% of all children aged 5 - 10	% of all children aged 11 - 15
Ashford	1,292	1,456	1,334	16.9%	13.8%	14.3%
Canterbury	1,157	1,442	1,435	16.7%	14.7%	15.2%
Dartford	1,183	1,412	1,184	14.0%	12.8%	13.0%
Dover	1,252	1,567	1,410	22.5%	20.1%	19.1%
Folkestone & Hythe	1,024	1,231	1,199	20.1%	17.7%	18.7%
Gravesham	1,387	1,575	1,404	20.0%	17.5%	18.0%
Maidstone	1,710	1,938	1,687	16.0%	13.3%	14.1%
Sevenoaks	688	893	832	10.6%	9.7%	10.0%
Swale	1,769	1,973	1,755	20.2%	16.3%	17.0%
Thanet	1,729	2,090	1,931	23.9%	21.6%	22.5%
Tonbridge and Malling	819	1,053	960	11.1%	10.1%	10.2%
Tunbridge Wells	707	857	826	11.4%	9.6%	9.4%
Kent	14,717	17,487	15,957	16.9%	14.6%	15.0%
Medway	3,329	3,967	3,363	18.9%	16.7%	16.9%
Kent & Medway	18,046	21,454	19,320	17.2%	14.9%	15.3%
South East	67,572	84,055	79,935	13.7%	12.3%	13.1%
England	589,538	790,669	750,472	19.2%	19.3%	20.9%

Source: DWP Stat Xplore

Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Since the previous year the number of children aged 0-4 living in relative low-income families fell in all Kent local authorities apart from Dartford (+8), Gravesham (+83), Maidstone (+17), and Tunbridge Wells (+40).

5-10 year olds in relative low-income families increased in Dartford (+88), Folkestone & Hythe (+54), Maidstone (+69), Thanet (+25), and Tunbridge Wells (+13).

11-15 year olds in relative low-income families increased in all Kent districts except Ashford, Folkestone & Hythe, Sevenoaks, Thanet and Tonbridge & Malling.

Ashford, Sevenoaks and Tonbridge & Malling saw a decrease in children in relative low-income families in all age groups, while Dartford, Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells saw an increase in all age groups.

This can be seen in table 17 overleaf.

Table 17: Change in children in relative low-income families: Age group

2023/24 – 2024/25	Number change 0 - 4	Number change 5 - 10	Number change 11 - 15	% change 0 - 4	% change 5 - 10	% change 11 - 15
Ashford	-62	-36	-112	-4.6%	-2.4%	-7.7%
Canterbury	-115	-42	28	-9.0%	-2.8%	2.0%
Dartford	8	88	4	0.7%	6.6%	0.3%
Dover	-70	-49	73	-5.3%	-3.0%	5.5%
Folkestone & Hythe	-76	54	-90	-6.9%	4.6%	-7.0%
Gravesham	83	-25	42	6.4%	-1.6%	3.1%
Maidstone	17	69	75	1.0%	3.7%	4.7%
Sevenoaks	-42	-91	-124	-5.8%	-9.2%	-13.0%
Swale	-32	-13	36	-1.8%	-0.7%	2.1%
Thanet	-135	25	-23	-7.2%	1.2%	-1.2%
Tonbridge & Malling	-91	-61	-86	-10.0%	-5.5%	-8.2%
Tunbridge Wells	40	13	5	6.0%	1.5%	0.6%
Kent	-475	-68	-172	-3.1%	-0.4%	-1.1%
Medway	-13	68	152	-0.4%	1.7%	4.7%
Kent & Medway	-488	0	-20	-2.6%	0.0%	-0.1%
South East	-236	1,364	2,276	-0.3%	1.6%	2.9%
England	-21,802	12,005	31,139	-3.6%	1.5%	4.3%

Source: DWP Stat Xplore; ONS MYPE

Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

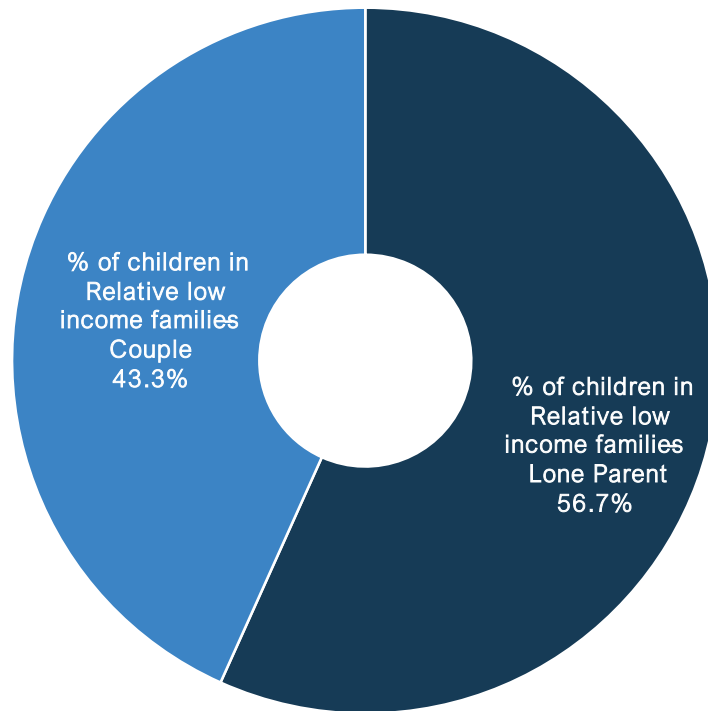
Children in relative low-income families: Family Characteristics

Children who are living in poverty are more likely to be living in lone parent households.

Chart 7 overleaf shows that in Kent 56.7% of children in relative low-income families are living in a lone parent household, above the national average of 50.6%.

Chart 7: Children in relative low-income families in Kent: Family Type

Proportion of children in relative low income families in Kent by family type, 2024/25



Source: DWP Stat Xplore
Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Table 18 overleaf shows the equivalent statistics for each Kent district.

All Kent districts have a higher percentage in lone parent families than couple families. Swale has the highest number (3,182) and Sevenoaks has the highest proportion (64.0%) living in lone parent families.

Thanet has the highest number of children (2,758) in relative low-income families living in couple parent families in Kent and equal highest proportion along with Tunbridge Wells (48.0%).

Table 18: Children in relative low-income families: Family Type

2024/25	Children in relative low-income families - Lone Parent	Children in relative low-income families - Couple	% of children in relative low-income families - Lone Parent	% of children in relative low-income families - Couple
Ashford	2,299	1,780	56.4%	43.6%
Canterbury	2,131	1,896	52.9%	47.1%
Dartford	2,320	1,457	61.4%	38.5%
Dover	2,339	1,880	55.4%	44.5%
Folkestone & Hythe	1,905	1,548	55.2%	44.9%
Gravesham	2,557	1,801	58.6%	41.3%
Maidstone	3,101	2,230	58.1%	41.8%
Sevenoaks	1,545	867	64.0%	35.9%
Swale	3,182	2,313	57.9%	42.1%
Thanet	2,987	2,758	52.0%	48.0%
Tonbridge and Malling	1,690	1,150	59.5%	40.5%
Tunbridge Wells	1,241	1,145	52.0%	48.0%
Kent	27,297	20,825	56.7%	43.3%
Medway	6,368	4,286	59.8%	40.2%
Kent & Medway	33,665	25,111	57.3%	42.7%
South East	121,816	109,745	52.6%	47.4%
England	1,077,877	1,052,800	50.6%	49.4%

Source: DWP Stat Xplore

Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

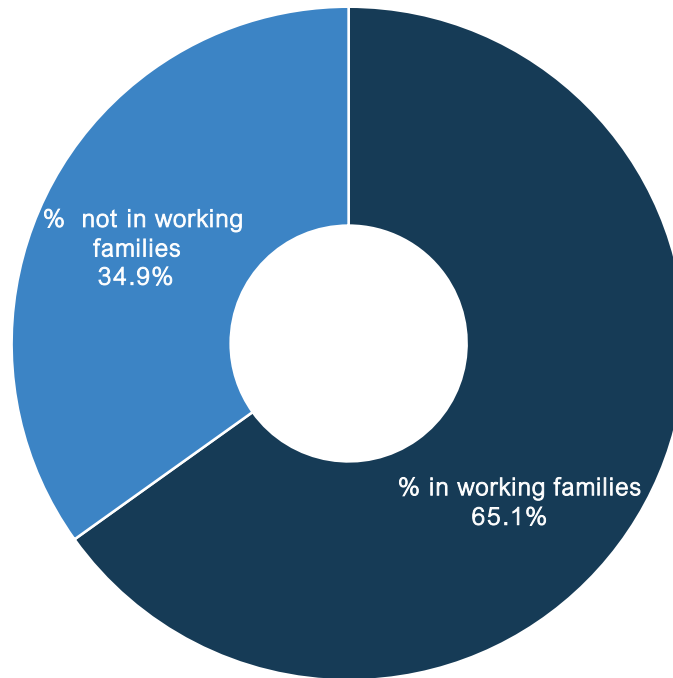
Chart 8 overleaf shows the proportion of children in relative low-income families by family work status in Kent.

Almost two-thirds (65.1%) of children in Kent in relative low-income families are living in a family where at least one adult is in work. This is a slightly lower proportion than seen nationally where 67.7% of children in relative low-income families are in families that are in work.

In all Kent districts, children in relative low-income families where at least one adult is working make up a higher proportion of children in relative low-income families. This ranges from 61.9% in Dartford to 70.3% in Tunbridge Wells.

Chart 8: Children in relative low-income families in Kent: Family work status

Proportion of children in relative low income families in Kent by family work status, 2024/25



Source: DWP Stat Xplore
Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Table 19 overleaf shows the proportion of children in relative low-income families by family work status in Kent local authorities.

Thanet has the highest number of children living in relative low-income families that are in working families (3,813) while Swale has the highest number in families where no adult is working (1,992).

While Tunbridge Wells has the highest proportion of children living in relative low-income families where at least one adult is in work (70.3%), Dartford has the highest proportion of children living in relative low-income families that are out of work (37.9%).

Table 19: Children in relative low-income families – family work status

2024/25	Children in relative low-income families -		Children in relative low-income families -	
	In work families	% in In work families	Out of work families	% in Out of work families
Ashford	2,643	64.8%	1,434	35.2%
Canterbury	2,744	68.1%	1,288	32.0%
Dartford	2,341	61.9%	1,434	37.9%
Dover	2,824	66.9%	1,395	33.0%
Folkestone & Hythe	2,242	65.0%	1,207	35.0%
Gravesham	2,783	63.8%	1,577	36.1%
Maidstone	3,403	63.8%	1,936	36.3%
Sevenoaks	1,505	62.4%	907	37.6%
Swale	3,506	63.8%	1,992	36.3%
Thanet	3,813	66.3%	1,929	33.6%
Tonbridge and Malling	1,855	65.3%	981	34.6%
Tunbridge Wells	1,679	70.3%	704	29.5%
Kent	31,338	65.1%	16,784	34.9%
Medway	6,713	63.0%	3,942	37.0%
Kent & Medway	38,051	64.7%	20,726	35.2%
South East	158,880	68.6%	72,681	31.4%
England	1,441,914	67.7%	688,769	32.3%

Source: DWP Stat Xplore

Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

The number of children in relative low-income families living in working households has increased in all districts except Maidstone, Sevenoaks, and Tonbridge & Malling.

The largest increase was in Swale with 232 more children in relative low-income families living in working households than the previous year, equating to a 7.1% increase.

The number of children in relative low-income families living in out of work families increased in six districts. The biggest increase was in Gravesham (+187 children, +10.7%). The biggest decrease was in Dover where there are 105 fewer children in out of work families, a fall of 7.0%.

Table 20: Change in children in relative low-income families – family work status

2023/24 - 2024/25	1-year change in children in low-income families in In work families	1-year % change in children in low-income families in In work families	1-year change in children in low-income families in Out of work families	1-year % change in children in low-income families in Out of work families
Ashford	34	1.3%	-16	-1.1%
Canterbury	63	2.3%	7	0.5%
Dartford	24	1.0%	143	11.1%
Dover	89	3.3%	-105	-7.0%
Folkestone & Hythe	102	3.8%	101	6.8%
Gravesham	131	4.0%	187	10.7%
Maidstone	-57	-3.6%	-9	-1.0%
Sevenoaks	-85	-3.7%	2	0.2%
Swale	232	7.1%	-75	-3.6%
Thanet	149	4.1%	-62	-3.1%
Tonbridge & Malling	-80	-4.1%	-44	-4.3%
Tunbridge Wells	49	3.0%	23	3.4%
Kent	651	2.1%	152	0.9%
Medway	-52	-0.8%	321	8.9%
Kent & Medway	599	1.6%	473	2.3%
South East	5,721	3.7%	4,063	5.9%
England	42,136	3.0%	24,967	3.8%

Source: DWP Stat Xplore

Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Workless Households with dependent children

Data from the Annual Population Survey shows the number of households with dependent children where no adult is in work. Due to the survey sample size, figures for districts are statistically unreliable. Figures at county level and above are, for the most part, generally more reliable.

It is estimated that in 2023, 4.8% of households with dependent children in Kent have no adult in work, which is equal to the proportion the year before. When compared to the South East region (4.7%) and England (8.5%) in 2023 a slightly higher proportion of households in Kent are workless with children than regionally, though a lower proportion than nationally. This is shown in table 21.

Table 21: Workless households with dependent children

Workless households with dependent children	Kent	South East	England	Kent %	South East %	England%
2004	16,200	82,000	827,200	9.6%	8.3%	13.5%
2005	15,700	83,200	818,100	9.2%	8.4%	13.2%
2006	19,500	87,300	829,700	11.5%	8.8%	13.4%
2007	17,800	79,600	809,300	10.7%	7.9%	13.1%
2008	18,500	89,900	836,600	10.8%	8.8%	13.4%
2009	18,200	95,700	888,400	10.7%	9.2%	14.0%
2010	21,500	98,000	890,200	12.5%	9.3%	14.0%
2011	16,900	94,200	876,900	9.6%	8.9%	13.7%
2012	21,600	97,700	846,800	11.6%	9.1%	12.9%
2013	16,300	86,600	831,300	9.2%	8.0%	12.5%
2014	16,200	79,100	753,200	9.3%	7.3%	11.3%
2015	17,400	77,000	687,400	9.5%	7.0%	10.3%
2016	12,200	63,300	645,100	6.8%	5.8%	9.6%
2017	9,500	58,300	592,400	4.8%	5.3%	8.8%
2018	12,500	60,600	594,900	6.4%	5.4%	8.8%
2019	9,100	50,000	550,200	4.6%	4.4%	8.1%
2020	11,400	54,800	549,400	5.7%	4.8%	8.1%
2021	20,100	68,300	588,400	10.6%	6.0%	8.5%
2022	10,000	69,600	601,300	4.8%	6.0%	8.7%
2023	9,900	54,500	591,100	4.8%	4.7%	8.5%

Source: ONS Annual Population Survey: Households with dependent children and type
Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

An estimated 14,000 children are living in workless households in Kent in 2023. This equates to 4.0% of all children.

When compared to the South East region (4.6%) and England (9.5%) a lower proportion of children in Kent are living in workless households. This is shown in table 22 overleaf.

Table 22: Dependent children in workless households

Children in workless households	Kent	South East	England	Kent %	South East %	England %
2004	32,300	159,300	1,619,900	10.6%	9.0%	14.7%
2005	28,800	160,000	1,612,600	9.5%	9.0%	14.6%
2006	35,700	168,500	1,622,800	12.0%	9.5%	14.7%
2007	34,700	159,700	1,611,700	11.5%	8.9%	14.6%
2008	36,900	179,900	1,673,700	12.0%	9.8%	15.0%
2009	34,400	184,700	1,743,200	11.5%	10.0%	15.6%
2010	43,300	189,100	1,766,600	14.0%	10.2%	15.7%
2011	30,900	177,400	1,709,300	10.1%	9.7%	15.2%
2012	38,100	190,400	1,654,100	11.8%	10.1%	14.3%
2013	32,700	168,600	1,613,600	10.4%	8.8%	13.7%
2014	36,900	156,200	1,488,200	11.5%	8.2%	12.6%
2015	32,900	145,600	1,353,300	10.1%	7.6%	11.3%
2016	29,000	135,100	1,292,600	8.9%	7.1%	10.7%
2017	24,600	121,800	1,212,900	6.8%	6.3%	10.0%
2018	26,300	115,400	1,186,600	7.3%	5.8%	9.8%
2019	21,500	100,600	1,113,100	6.1%	5.0%	9.1%
2020	23,000	104,500	1,139,400	6.4%	5.2%	9.2%
2021	38,300	124,200	1,214,100	12.1%	6.2%	9.7%
2022	20,500	140,800	1,230,200	5.9%	7.0%	9.9%
2023	14,000	93,200	1,178,000	4.0%	4.6%	9.5%

Source: ONS Annual Population Survey: Households with dependent children and type
Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

English Indices of Deprivation 2025

The English Indices of Deprivation, published by the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG), combines information from seven domain indices (which measure different types or dimensions of deprivation) to produce an overall relative measure of deprivation. The domain indices can be used on their own to focus on specific aspects of deprivation.

The Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index

In addition to the seven domain indices The English Indices of Deprivation also contain supplementary indices concerned with income deprivation among children (IDACI).

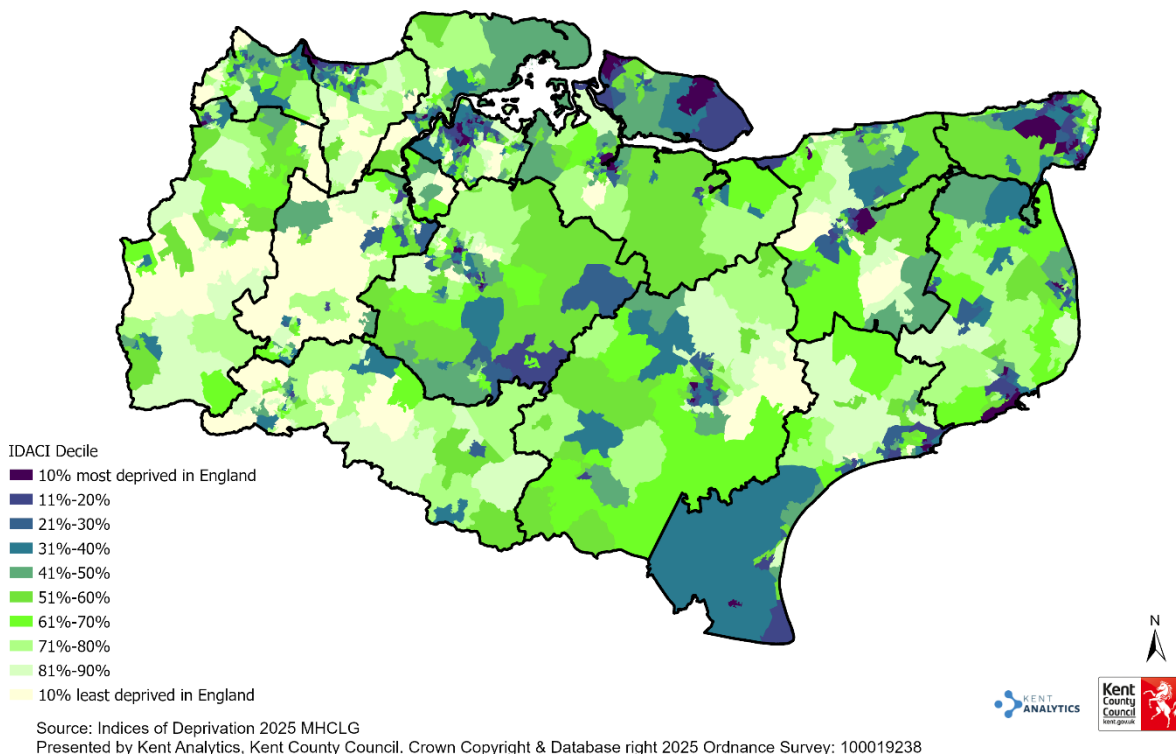
The IDACI measures the proportion of all children aged 0 to 15 living in income deprived families. It is a subset of the Income Deprivation Domain which measures the proportion of the population in an area experiencing deprivation relating to low income. The definition of low income used includes both those people that are out-of-work, and those that are in work but who have low earnings (and who satisfy the respective means tests).

The Index shows the proportion of children in each Lower-layer Super Output Area (LSOA) that live in families that are income deprived; those that are in receipt of Income Support, income-based Jobseeker’s Allowance, Pension Credit Guarantee or Child Tax Credit below a given threshold.

Each LSOA is given a score and that score is then ranked against all 33,755 LSOAs nationally. The national rank of Kent LSOAs for the IDACI is presented in map 3.

Map 3: IDACI (ID 2025): National rank of Kent & Medway LSOAs

Indices of Deprivation 2025 (IoD2025):
Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI) national rank of LSOAs in Kent & Medway



The IDACI scores are rates so can be interpreted as the proportion of the relevant population that is ‘income deprived’. For example, a score of 0.24 on the Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index would mean that 24% of children in the area live in income-deprived families.

Table 23 shows the top twenty most deprived areas within the Kent County Council area according to the IDACI. Many are within coastal areas, particularly in Swale, Thanet, Folkestone & Hythe and Dover, as well as some non-coastal areas in Maidstone, Canterbury and Gravesham, and all are within the top 10% most deprived in the country.

The most deprived area in Kent according to the IDACI is within High Street ward in Maidstone with a score of 0.987 which equates to 98.7% of children in that area living in income deprived families.

Table 23: IDACI (ID2025): top 20 most deprived areas in Kent

Lower Super output Area (2021)	2024 Ward	Local Authority	IDACI Score	National Rank out of 33,755 LSOAs	Within top 10% most deprived in England	IDACI Kent rank (out of 938 LSOAs)
Maidstone 004H	High Street	Maidstone	0.987	85	Yes	1
Thanet 006D	Dane Valley	Thanet	0.959	138	Yes	2
Swale 001A	Sheerness	Swale	0.886	324	Yes	3
Maidstone 013I	Park Wood & Mangravet	Maidstone	0.878	361	Yes	4
Thanet 016D	Eastcliff	Thanet	0.835	610	Yes	5
Thanet 001A	Cliftonville West	Thanet	0.822	701	Yes	6
Ashford 007F	Beaver	Ashford	0.801	877	Yes	7
Thanet 001F	Margate Central	Thanet	0.78	1,072	Yes	8
Gravesham 002E	Town	Gravesham	0.779	1082	Yes	9
Swale 010C	Murston	Swale	0.778	1090	Yes	10
Canterbury 007B	Gorrell	Canterbury	0.771	1180	Yes	11
Swale 002C	Sheerness	Swale	0.762	1305	Yes	12
Thanet 013B	Newington	Thanet	0.761	1,312	Yes	13
Canterbury 014C	Northgate	Canterbury	0.758	1362	Yes	14
Thanet 013E	Northwood	Thanet	0.753	1,408	Yes	15
Dover 013A	Town & Castle	Dover	0.736	1681	Yes	16
Thanet 006E	Dane Valley	Thanet	0.736	1,683	Yes	16
Dover 013E	Town & Castle	Dover	0.726	1851	Yes	18
Folkestone & Hythe 014A	Folkestone Harbour	Folkestone & Hythe	0.725	1862	Yes	19
Swale 001B	Sheerness	Swale	0.721	1952	Yes	20

Source: English Indices of Deprivation 2025, MHCLG
Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

The MHCLG does not publish ward level figures as an additional output. Lower-layer Super Output Areas are a more suitable small area geography than wards for measuring relative deprivation. Wards are much larger than Lower-layer Super Output Areas, vary greatly in size and are prone to regular boundary changes, making them unsuitable as a unit of analysis or for identifying pockets of deprivation. It is, however, possible to calculate ward scores by following MHCLG guidance.

To create an average score for each ward the IMD score is first multiplied by the LSOA population for each LSOA within the ward. These totals are summed and then divided by the population of the ward to create the average score for that ward. The scores are then ranked against all 255 wards in Kent.

The top 10 most deprived wards in Kent according to the IDACI are presented in table 24.

Table 24: IDACI: Calculated ward ranks for 2024 wards in Kent (excluding Medway)

2024 Ward Name	Local Authority	KCC Rank (out of 255 wards)
Newington	Thanet	1
Sheerness	Swale	2
Town & Castle	Dover	3
Cliftonville West	Thanet	4
Dane Valley	Thanet	5
Northgate	Canterbury	6
Stanhope	Ashford	7
Margate Central	Thanet	8
St Radigunds	Dover	9
Northwood	Thanet	10

Source: Based on the English Indices of Deprivation 2025, MHCLG but calculated by Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Education, Skills, and Training Deprivation

Within the main English Indices of Deprivation one of the seven domains is The Education, Skills, and Training Deprivation Domain. This measures the extent of educational deprivation, including lack of qualifications and poor attainment.

The indicator falls into two sub-domains: one relating to children and young people and one relating to adult skills. These two sub-domains are designed to reflect the ‘flow’ and ‘stock’ of educational disadvantage within an area respectively. That is, the ‘children and young people’ sub-domain measures the attainment of qualifications and associated measures (‘flow’), while the ‘skills’ sub-domain measures the lack of qualifications in the resident working age adult population (‘stock’).

The children and young people sub-domain creates a score based upon:

- **Key Stage 2 attainment:** The average points score of pupils taking reading, writing and mathematics Key Stage 2 exams¹²
- **Key Stage 4 attainment:** The average capped points score of pupils taking Key Stage 4

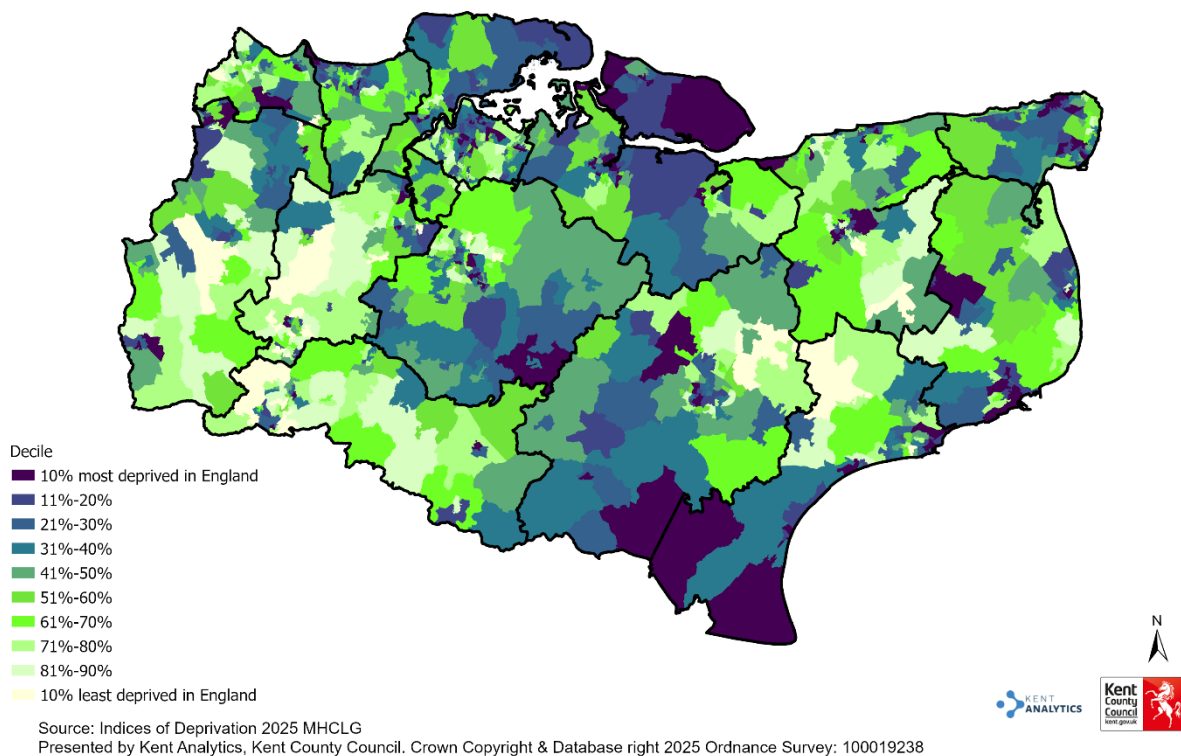
- **Secondary school absence:** The proportion of authorised and unauthorised absences from secondary school
- **Post-16 education/training:** The proportion of young people not staying on in school, non-advanced education or training after the age of 16
- **Entry to higher education:** A measure of young people aged under 21 not entering higher education.

Each LSOA is given a score and that score is then ranked against all 33,755 LSOAs nationally.

The national rank of Kent LSOAs for the children and young people sub-domain of education, skills and training is presented in map 4.

Map 4: Children & young people sub-domain: National rank of Kent & Medway LSOAs

Indices of Deprivation 2025 (IoD2025):
Children & Young People Sub-domain national rank of LSOAs in Kent & Medway



15 of the top 20 most deprived areas in Kent, according to the children and young people sub-domain of education, skills, and training, are in coastal areas of the county.

The most deprived area in Kent according to this sub-domain is in Cliftonville West ward in Thanet. Nationally it is ranked as the 4th most deprived area in the country.

Table 25 shows the top twenty most deprived areas in Kent based upon the children and young people sub-domain of education, skills, and training.

Table 25: Children & young people sub-domain of Education, Skills & Training: top 20 most deprived areas in Kent

Lower Super output Area (2021)	2024 Ward	Local Authority	Children and Young People Sub-domain Score	National Rank out of 33,755 LSOAs	Kent rank out of 938 LSOAs
Thanet 001A	Cliftonville West	Thanet	3.201	4	1
Swale 006A	Sheppey East	Swale	2.745	16	2
Folkestone & Hythe 014A	Folkestone Harbour	Folkestone & Hythe	2.687	20	3
Swale 015D	Priory	Swale	2.364	82	4
Swale 006B	Sheppey East	Swale	2.359	84	5
Ashford 008C	Stanhope	Ashford	2.356	88	6
Swale 001C	Sheerness	Swale	2.344	97	7
Swale 001B	Sheerness	Swale	2.272	127	8
Folkestone & Hythe 014C	Folkestone Central	Folkestone & Hythe	2.249	134	9
Swale 004E	Sheppey Central	Swale	2.231	142	10
Canterbury 014C	Northgate	Canterbury	2.226	145	11
Thanet 001B	Cliftonville West	Thanet	2.19	168	12
Thanet 003A	Margate Central	Thanet	2.165	194	13
Canterbury 019A	Wincheap	Canterbury	2.127	226	14
Dover 013B	Town & Castle	Dover	2.125	229	15
Thanet 006D	Dane Valley	Thanet	2.111	243	16
Canterbury 011A	Northgate	Canterbury	2.106	249	17
Dover 011F	St Radigunds	Dover	2.106	250	17
Swale 002B	Sheerness	Swale	2.101	254	19
Swale 002C	Sheerness	Swale	2.101	257	19

Source: English Indices of Deprivation 2025, MHCLG

Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Shepway local authority changed name to Folkestone & Hythe in 2018 but the LSOAs are still named Shepway

As with the IDACI it is possible to calculate ward level deprivation for the children & young people sub-domain following the DCLG guidelines.

The top 10 most deprived wards in Kent according to the children & young people sub domain are presented in table 26.

Table 26: Children & young people sub-domain of Education, Skills & Training: Calculated 2011 Census Ward ranks in Kent (excluding Medway)

2024 Ward Name	Local Authority	KCC Rank (out of 255 wards)
Cliftonville West	Thanet	1
Sheppey East	Swale	2
Stanhope	Ashford	3
Sheerness	Swale	4
Margate Central	Thanet	5
Northgate	Canterbury	6
Town & Castle	Dover	7
Newington	Thanet	8
Folkestone Harbour	Folkestone and Hythe	9
St Radigunds	Dover	10

Source: Based on the English Indices of Deprivation 2025, MHCLG but calculated by Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Annex

Table 27: Number and proportion of children living in absolute low income families in South East local authorities in 2024/25

District	Number of children living in absolute low income families	% living in absolute low income families
Hastings	3,861	24.4%
Isle of Wight	4,796	23.5%
Thanet	5,747	22.6%
Southampton	9,883	21.8%
Portsmouth	7,911	20.7%
Dover	4,223	20.4%
Eastbourne	3,313	19.3%
Slough	7,998	19.3%
Crawley	4,947	18.8%
Folkestone & Hythe	3,451	18.7%
Havant	4,076	18.7%
Gravesham	4,364	18.4%
Gosport	2,618	18.2%
Rother	2,509	17.8%
Swale	5,494	17.6%
Medway	10,656	17.4%
Arun	4,178	16.2%
Canterbury	4,029	15.4%
Milton Keynes	10,112	15.3%
Reading	5,144	14.9%
Ashford	4,078	14.8%
Maidstone	5,336	14.4%
Oxford	3,646	14.2%
Brighton and Hove	5,578	13.8%
Worthing	2,533	13.6%
Adur	1,556	13.6%
Chichester	2,672	13.3%
Dartford	3,781	13.2%
Lewes	2,113	12.7%
New Forest	3,307	12.6%
Wealden	3,414	12.4%
Rushmoor	2,393	12.0%
Cherwell	3,813	11.7%
Spelthorne	2,305	11.2%
Woking	2,290	11.0%
Buckinghamshire	12,636	11.0%
Runnymede	1,689	10.5%
Tonbridge & Malling	2,839	10.4%
Eastleigh	2,813	10.4%

District	Number of children living in absolute low income families	% living in absolute low income families
Basingstoke and Deane	3,692	10.1%
Test Valley	2,471	10.1%
Sevenoaks	2,413	10.1%
East Hampshire	2,238	10.0%
Tunbridge Wells	2,387	10.0%
Fareham	1,797	9.7%
Tandridge	1,643	9.6%
West Berkshire	2,951	9.6%
Vale of White Horse	2,750	9.4%
Winchester	2,174	8.9%
West Oxfordshire	1,897	8.8%
Horsham	2,362	8.7%
Bracknell Forest	2,199	8.5%
Reigate and Banstead	2,650	8.4%
Surrey Heath	1,430	8.3%
Guildford	2,100	8.1%
Mole Valley	1,230	8.1%
Windsor and Maidenhead	2,306	7.7%
South Oxfordshire	2,150	7.5%
Mid Sussex	2,358	7.5%
Hart	1,304	6.8%
Epsom and Ewell	1,107	6.6%
Wokingham	2,534	6.4%
Waverley	1,624	6.4%
Elmbridge	1,683	5.6%

Source: DWP Stat Xplore, ONS MYPE

Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Table 28: Number and proportion of children living in relative low income families in South East local authorities in 2024/25

District	Number of children living in relative low income families	% living in relative low income families
Hastings	3,861	24.4%
Isle of Wight	4,796	23.5%
Thanet	5,747	22.6%
Southampton	9,883	21.8%
Portsmouth	7,911	20.7%
Dover	4,223	20.4%
Eastbourne	3,313	19.3%
Slough	7,998	19.3%
Crawley	4,947	18.8%
Folkestone & Hythe	3,451	18.7%
Havant	4,076	18.7%
Gravesham	4,364	18.4%
Gosport	2,618	18.2%
Rother	2,509	17.8%
Swale	5,494	17.6%
Medway	10,656	17.4%
Arun	4,178	16.2%
Canterbury	4,029	15.4%
Milton Keynes	10,112	15.3%
Reading	5,144	14.9%
Ashford	4,078	14.8%
Maidstone	5,336	14.4%
Oxford	3,646	14.2%
Brighton and Hove	5,578	13.8%
Worthing	2,533	13.6%
Adur	1,556	13.6%
Chichester	2,672	13.3%
Dartford	3,781	13.2%
Lewes	2,113	12.7%
New Forest	3,307	12.6%
Wealden	3,414	12.4%
Rushmoor	2,393	12.0%
Cherwell	3,813	11.7%
Spelthorne	2,305	11.2%
Woking	2,290	11.0%
Buckinghamshire	12,636	11.0%
Runnymede	1,689	10.5%
Tonbridge & Malling	2,839	10.4%
Eastleigh	2,813	10.4%
Basingstoke and Deane	3,692	10.1%

District	Number of children living in relative low income families	% living in relative low income families
Test Valley	2,471	10.1%
Sevenoaks	2,413	10.1%
East Hampshire	2,238	10.0%
Tunbridge Wells	2,387	10.0%
Fareham	1,797	9.7%
Tandridge	1,643	9.6%
West Berkshire	2,951	9.6%
Vale of White Horse	2,750	9.4%
Winchester	2,174	8.9%
West Oxfordshire	1,897	8.8%
Horsham	2,362	8.7%
Bracknell Forest	2,199	8.5%
Reigate and Banstead	2,650	8.4%
Surrey Heath	1,430	8.3%
Guildford	2,100	8.1%
Mole Valley	1,230	8.1%
Windsor and Maidenhead	2,306	7.7%
South Oxfordshire	2,150	7.5%
Mid Sussex	2,358	7.5%
Hart	1,304	6.8%
Epsom and Ewell	1,107	6.6%
Wokingham	2,534	6.4%
Waverley	1,624	6.4%
Elmbridge	1,683	5.6%

Source: DWP Stat Xplore, ONS MYPE

Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Table 29: Number and proportion of children living in relative low income families in Kent wards in 2024/25

Ward Name	District	Children in absolute low income families	% Children in absolute low income families	Children in Relative low income families	% Children in Relative low income families
Aylesford & East Stour	Ashford	294	19.0%	294	19.0%
Beaver	Ashford	343	19.8%	343	19.8%
Biddenden	Ashford	69	13.0%	69	13.0%
Bircholt	Ashford	35	7.7%	35	7.7%
Bockhanger	Ashford	130	23.6%	130	23.6%
Bybrook	Ashford	149	20.2%	149	20.2%
Charing	Ashford	68	16.0%	68	16.0%
Conningbrook & Little Burton Farm	Ashford	24	4.6%	24	4.6%
Downs North	Ashford	50	10.9%	50	10.9%
Downs West	Ashford	28	5.8%	28	5.8%
Furley	Ashford	190	15.9%	190	15.9%
Goat Lees	Ashford	117	18.1%	117	18.1%
Godinton	Ashford	59	10.9%	59	10.9%
Highfield	Ashford	29	5.9%	29	5.9%
Isle of Oxney	Ashford	66	15.9%	66	15.9%
Kennington	Ashford	32	9.6%	32	9.6%
Kingsnorth Village & Bridgefield	Ashford	93	10.0%	93	10.0%
Mersham, Sevington South with Finberry	Ashford	72	8.2%	72	8.2%
Norman	Ashford	123	18.5%	123	18.5%
Park Farm North	Ashford	60	10.4%	60	10.4%
Park Farm South	Ashford	87	14.8%	87	14.8%
Repton	Ashford	149	12.0%	149	12.0%
Rolvenden & Tenterden West	Ashford	52	15.2%	52	15.2%
Roman	Ashford	75	8.9%	75	8.9%
Saxon Shore	Ashford	43	9.5%	43	9.5%
Singleton East	Ashford	63	13.8%	63	13.8%
Singleton West	Ashford	60	8.0%	60	8.0%
Stanhope	Ashford	282	29.7%	282	29.7%
Tenterden North	Ashford	40	18.0%	40	18.0%
Tenterden South	Ashford	86	18.1%	86	18.1%
Tenterden St Michael's	Ashford	42	11.2%	42	11.2%
Upper Weald	Ashford	87	19.2%	87	19.2%
Victoria	Ashford	349	21.1%	349	21.1%
Washford	Ashford	99	16.2%	99	16.2%

Ward Name	District	Children in absolute low income families	% Children in absolute low income families	Children in Relative low income families	% Children in Relative low income families
Weald Central	Ashford	139	16.1%	139	16.1%
Weald North	Ashford	42	10.4%	42	10.4%
Weald South	Ashford	108	12.1%	108	12.1%
Willesborough	Ashford	165	11.6%	165	11.6%
Wye with Hinxhill	Ashford	68	15.3%	68	15.3%
Barton	Canterbury	505	18.6%	505	18.6%
Beltinge	Canterbury	146	16.0%	146	16.0%
Blean Forest	Canterbury	82	6.8%	82	6.8%
Chartham & Stone Street	Canterbury	154	10.7%	154	10.7%
Chestfield	Canterbury	96	9.0%	96	9.0%
Gorrell	Canterbury	259	14.9%	259	14.9%
Greenhill	Canterbury	146	20.8%	146	20.8%
Herne & Broomfield	Canterbury	229	12.7%	229	12.7%
Heron	Canterbury	418	19.0%	418	19.0%
Little Stour & Adisham	Canterbury	73	9.4%	73	9.4%
Nailbourne	Canterbury	76	13.2%	76	13.2%
Northgate	Canterbury	278	22.9%	278	22.9%
Reculver	Canterbury	94	14.2%	94	14.2%
Seasalter	Canterbury	149	12.9%	149	12.9%
St Stephen's	Canterbury	266	15.9%	266	15.9%
Sturry	Canterbury	297	17.9%	297	17.9%
Swalecliffe	Canterbury	59	13.3%	59	13.3%
Tankerton	Canterbury	22	4.7%	22	4.7%
West Bay	Canterbury	125	19.9%	125	19.9%
Westgate	Canterbury	228	18.5%	228	18.5%
Wincheap	Canterbury	322	17.1%	322	17.1%
Bean & Village Park	Dartford	81	14.1%	81	14.1%
Brent	Dartford	126	9.4%	126	9.4%
Bridge	Dartford	98	6.4%	98	6.4%
Burnham	Dartford	128	14.3%	128	14.3%
Darenth	Dartford	131	19.5%	131	19.5%
Ebbsfleet	Dartford	229	8.7%	229	8.7%
Greenhithe & Knockhall	Dartford	183	11.0%	183	11.0%
Heath	Dartford	91	8.4%	91	8.4%
Joyden's Wood	Dartford	69	8.5%	69	8.5%
Longfield, New Barn & Southfleet	Dartford	104	9.1%	104	9.1%
Maypole & Leyton Cross	Dartford	44	6.6%	44	6.6%
Newtown	Dartford	265	18.2%	265	18.2%

Ward Name	District	Children in absolute low income families	% Children in absolute low income families	Children in Relative low income families	% Children in Relative low income families
Princes	Dartford	298	20.5%	298	20.5%
Stone Castle	Dartford	253	13.2%	253	13.2%
Stone House	Dartford	207	13.5%	207	13.5%
Swanscombe	Dartford	396	23.2%	396	23.2%
Temple Hill	Dartford	577	24.3%	577	24.3%
Town	Dartford	165	9.4%	165	9.4%
West Hill	Dartford	218	11.6%	218	11.6%
Wilmington, Sutton-at-Hone & Hawley	Dartford	131	8.8%	131	8.8%
Alkham & Capel-le-Ferne	Dover	60	16.2%	60	16.2%
Aylesham, Eythorne & Shepherdswell	Dover	472	17.5%	472	17.5%
Buckland	Dover	443	28.6%	443	28.6%
Dover Downs & River	Dover	96	9.3%	96	9.3%
Eastry Rural	Dover	128	13.4%	128	13.4%
Guston, Kingsdown & St Margaret's-at-Cliffe	Dover	185	13.1%	185	13.1%
Little Stour & Ashstone	Dover	150	13.6%	150	13.6%
Maxton & Elms Vale	Dover	105	14.9%	105	14.9%
Middle Deal	Dover	300	19.9%	300	19.9%
Mill Hill	Dover	331	23.3%	331	23.3%
North Deal	Dover	131	17.3%	131	17.3%
Sandwich	Dover	167	18.5%	167	18.5%
St Radigunds	Dover	482	30.4%	482	30.4%
Tower Hamlets	Dover	320	30.9%	320	30.9%
Town & Castle	Dover	487	32.1%	487	32.1%
Walmer	Dover	144	17.2%	144	17.2%
Whitfield	Dover	216	15.8%	216	15.8%
Broadmead	Folkestone & Hythe	79	10.6%	79	10.6%
Cheriton	Folkestone & Hythe	450	16.3%	450	16.3%
East Folkestone	Folkestone & Hythe	605	24.5%	605	24.5%
Folkestone Central	Folkestone & Hythe	348	23.7%	348	23.7%
Folkestone Harbour	Folkestone & Hythe	366	25.5%	366	25.5%
Hythe	Folkestone & Hythe	183	13.7%	183	13.7%
Hythe Rural	Folkestone & Hythe	146	14.6%	146	14.6%
New Romney	Folkestone & Hythe	207	20.7%	207	20.7%
North Downs East	Folkestone & Hythe	240	11.6%	240	11.6%
North Downs West	Folkestone & Hythe	134	12.2%	134	12.2%
Romney Marsh	Folkestone & Hythe	180	23.0%	180	23.0%

Ward Name	District	Children in absolute low income families	% Children in absolute low income families	Children in Relative low income families	% Children in Relative low income families
Sandgate & West Folkestone	Folkestone & Hythe	146	14.1%	146	14.1%
Walland & Denge Marsh	Folkestone & Hythe	370	29.0%	370	29.0%
Chalk	Gravesham	57	10.1%	57	10.1%
Coldharbour & Perry Street	Gravesham	509	21.1%	509	21.1%
Denton	Gravesham	368	23.9%	368	23.9%
Higham & Shorne	Gravesham	108	10.4%	108	10.4%
Istead Rise, Cobham & Luddesdown	Gravesham	58	7.0%	58	7.0%
Meopham North	Gravesham	45	7.6%	45	7.6%
Meopham South & Vigo	Gravesham	106	11.1%	106	11.1%
Northfleet & Springhead	Gravesham	653	25.8%	653	25.8%
Painters Ash	Gravesham	133	13.6%	133	13.6%
Pelham	Gravesham	209	17.1%	209	17.1%
Riverview Park	Gravesham	114	11.5%	114	11.5%
Rosherville	Gravesham	204	14.7%	204	14.7%
Singlewell	Gravesham	384	23.7%	384	23.7%
Town	Gravesham	501	28.0%	501	28.0%
Westcourt	Gravesham	432	28.3%	432	28.3%
Whitehill & Windmill Hill	Gravesham	271	16.1%	271	16.1%
Woodlands	Gravesham	214	10.5%	214	10.5%
Allington & Bridge	Maidstone	125	9.1%	125	9.1%
Barming Heath & Teston	Maidstone	163	10.2%	163	10.2%
Bearsted & Downswood	Maidstone	104	5.7%	104	5.7%
Boughton Monchelsea & Chart Sutton	Maidstone	149	18.3%	149	18.3%
Boxley Downs	Maidstone	142	9.9%	142	9.9%
Coxheath & Farleigh	Maidstone	159	11.0%	159	11.0%
Fant & Oakwood	Maidstone	391	14.4%	391	14.4%
Grove Green & Vinters Park	Maidstone	164	8.0%	164	8.0%
Harrietsham, Lenham & North Downs	Maidstone	251	14.3%	251	14.3%
Headcorn & Sutton Valence	Maidstone	204	12.6%	204	12.6%
High Street	Maidstone	524	22.4%	524	22.4%
Leeds & Langley	Maidstone	151	11.6%	151	11.6%
Loose & Linton	Maidstone	154	10.1%	154	10.1%
Marden & Yalding	Maidstone	306	15.1%	306	15.1%
Palace Wood	Maidstone	74	5.1%	74	5.1%
Park Wood & Mangravet	Maidstone	632	27.0%	632	27.0%
Penenden Heath	Maidstone	288	13.8%	288	13.8%

Ward Name	District	Children in absolute low income families	% Children in absolute low income families	Children in Relative low income families	% Children in Relative low income families
Ringlestone	Maidstone	87	13.4%	87	13.4%
Senacre	Maidstone	165	14.9%	165	14.9%
Shepway	Maidstone	557	22.3%	557	22.3%
Staplehurst	Maidstone	223	15.0%	223	15.0%
Tovil	Maidstone	321	18.4%	321	18.4%
Ash and New Ash Green	Sevenoaks	153	12.1%	153	12.1%
Brasted, Chevening and Sundridge	Sevenoaks	78	5.7%	78	5.7%
Cowden and Hever	Sevenoaks	18	5.7%	18	5.7%
Crockenhill and Well Hill	Sevenoaks	65	18.4%	65	18.4%
Dunton Green and Riverhead	Sevenoaks	57	4.2%	57	4.2%
Edenbridge North and East	Sevenoaks	132	10.4%	132	10.4%
Edenbridge South and West	Sevenoaks	152	17.1%	152	17.1%
Eynsford	Sevenoaks	11	3.8%	11	3.8%
Farningham, Horton Kirby and South Darenth	Sevenoaks	107	12.0%	107	12.0%
Fawkham and West Kingsdown	Sevenoaks	148	15.1%	148	15.1%
Halstead, Knockholt and Badgers Mount	Sevenoaks	35	5.2%	35	5.2%
Hartley and Hodsoll Street	Sevenoaks	45	5.2%	45	5.2%
Hextable	Sevenoaks	107	15.1%	107	15.1%
Kemsing	Sevenoaks	79	8.9%	79	8.9%
Leigh and Chiddingstone Causeway	Sevenoaks	57	11.1%	57	11.1%
Otford and Shoreham	Sevenoaks	70	8.2%	70	8.2%
Penshurst, Fordcombe and Chiddingstone	Sevenoaks	40	9.5%	40	9.5%
Seal and Weald	Sevenoaks	63	7.3%	63	7.3%
Sevenoaks Eastern	Sevenoaks	56	5.9%	56	5.9%
Sevenoaks Kippington	Sevenoaks	32	3.2%	32	3.2%
Sevenoaks Northern	Sevenoaks	108	10.0%	108	10.0%
Sevenoaks Town and St John's	Sevenoaks	48	3.2%	48	3.2%
Swanley Christchurch and Swanley Village	Sevenoaks	166	12.6%	166	12.6%
Swanley St Mary's	Sevenoaks	254	22.0%	254	22.0%
Swanley White Oak	Sevenoaks	220	15.5%	220	15.5%
Westerham and Crockham Hill	Sevenoaks	127	16.7%	127	16.7%
Abbey	Swale	116	13.3%	116	13.3%
Bobbing, Iwade and Lower	Swale	152	10.5%	152	10.5%

Ward Name	District	Children in absolute low income families	% Children in absolute low income families	Children in Relative low income families	% Children in Relative low income families
Halstow					
Borden and Grove Park	Swale	135	12.0%	135	12.0%
Boughton and Courtenay	Swale	156	16.4%	156	16.4%
Chalkwell	Swale	138	14.2%	138	14.2%
East Downs	Swale	50	12.8%	50	12.8%
Hartlip, Newington and Upchurch	Swale	208	16.0%	208	16.0%
Homewood	Swale	160	13.5%	160	13.5%
Kemsley	Swale	229	16.3%	229	16.3%
Milton Regis	Swale	288	20.9%	288	20.9%
Minster Cliffs	Swale	195	15.7%	195	15.7%
Murston	Swale	303	17.9%	303	17.9%
Priory	Swale	188	26.0%	188	26.0%
Queenborough and Halfway	Swale	365	20.8%	365	20.8%
Roman	Swale	351	23.6%	351	23.6%
Sheerness	Swale	968	29.3%	968	29.3%
Sheppey Central	Swale	313	16.2%	313	16.2%
Sheppey East	Swale	316	29.0%	316	29.0%
St Ann's	Swale	152	16.7%	152	16.7%
Teynham and Lynsted	Swale	197	13.8%	197	13.8%
The Meads	Swale	162	14.6%	162	14.6%
Watling	Swale	216	12.4%	216	12.4%
West Downs	Swale	67	10.5%	67	10.5%
Woodstock	Swale	71	6.7%	71	6.7%
Beacon Road	Thanet	206	22.9%	206	22.9%
Birchington North	Thanet	51	12.4%	51	12.4%
Birchington South	Thanet	185	20.7%	185	20.7%
Bradstowe	Thanet	46	10.3%	46	10.3%
Central Harbour	Thanet	335	22.5%	335	22.5%
Cliffsend and Pegwell	Thanet	110	13.2%	110	13.2%
Cliftonville East	Thanet	166	17.7%	166	17.7%
Cliftonville West	Thanet	631	29.0%	631	29.0%
Dane Valley	Thanet	590	33.4%	590	33.4%
Eastcliff	Thanet	475	26.7%	475	26.7%
Garlinge	Thanet	197	20.6%	197	20.6%
Kingsgate	Thanet	25	10.1%	25	10.1%
Margate Central	Thanet	314	24.5%	314	24.5%
Nethercourt	Thanet	138	16.5%	138	16.5%
Newington	Thanet	468	32.1%	468	32.1%
Northwood	Thanet	344	30.3%	344	30.3%

Ward Name	District	Children in absolute low income families	% Children in absolute low income families	Children in Relative low income families	% Children in Relative low income families
Salmestone	Thanet	253	22.0%	253	22.0%
Sir Moses Montefiore	Thanet	224	22.9%	224	22.9%
St Peters	Thanet	225	18.3%	225	18.3%
Thanet Villages	Thanet	289	18.1%	289	18.1%
Viking	Thanet	142	13.3%	142	13.3%
Westbrook	Thanet	100	13.5%	100	13.5%
Westgate-on-Sea	Thanet	228	19.8%	228	19.8%
Aylesford North & North Downs	Tonbridge & Malling	215	10.8%	215	10.8%
Aylesford South & Ditton	Tonbridge & Malling	186	9.7%	186	9.7%
Birling, Leybourne & Ryarsh	Tonbridge & Malling	120	8.5%	120	8.5%
Borough Green & Platt	Tonbridge & Malling	112	8.9%	112	8.9%
Bourne	Tonbridge & Malling	117	12.3%	117	12.3%
Cage Green & Angel	Tonbridge & Malling	109	6.3%	109	6.3%
East Malling, West Malling & Offham	Tonbridge & Malling	313	17.7%	313	17.7%
East and West Peckham, Mereworth & Wateringbury	Tonbridge & Malling	82	8.2%	82	8.2%
Higham	Tonbridge & Malling	123	11.1%	123	11.1%
Hildenborough	Tonbridge & Malling	38	3.6%	38	3.6%
Judd	Tonbridge & Malling	96	6.4%	96	6.4%
Kings Hill	Tonbridge & Malling	135	5.5%	135	5.5%
Larkfield	Tonbridge & Malling	239	13.3%	239	13.3%
Pilgrims with Ightham	Tonbridge & Malling	111	10.3%	111	10.3%
Snodland East & Ham Hill	Tonbridge & Malling	227	18.8%	227	18.8%
Snodland West & Holborough	Tonbridge & Malling				
Lakes	Tonbridge & Malling	166	12.0%	166	12.0%
Trench	Tonbridge & Malling	247	21.1%	247	21.1%
Vauxhall	Tonbridge & Malling	163	8.6%	163	8.6%
Walderslade	Tonbridge & Malling	27	5.1%	27	5.1%
Cranbrook, Sissinghurst & Frittenden	Tunbridge Wells	230	15.4%	230	15.4%
Culverden	Tunbridge Wells	102	7.7%	102	7.7%
Hawkhurst, Sandhurst & Benenden	Tunbridge Wells	217	12.4%	217	12.4%
High Brooms	Tunbridge Wells	125	14.9%	125	14.9%
Paddock Wood	Tunbridge Wells	240	12.6%	240	12.6%
Pantiles	Tunbridge Wells	146	8.6%	146	8.6%
Park	Tunbridge Wells	86	4.5%	86	4.5%
Pembury & Capel	Tunbridge Wells	129	8.9%	129	8.9%

Ward Name	District	Children in absolute low income families	% Children in absolute low income families	Children in Relative low income families	% Children in Relative low income families
Rural Tunbridge Wells	Tunbridge Wells	178	9.0%	178	9.0%
Rusthall & Speldhurst	Tunbridge Wells	155	7.7%	155	7.7%
Sherwood	Tunbridge Wells	327	14.0%	327	14.0%
Southborough & Bidborough	Tunbridge Wells	175	9.1%	175	9.1%
St James'	Tunbridge Wells	187	10.3%	187	10.3%
St John's	Tunbridge Wells	93	6.3%	93	6.3%

Source: DWP Stat Xplore, ONS MYPE

Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Related documents

The [Indices of Deprivation report](#) looks at how Kent's levels of deprivation (and areas within Kent) compared to other parts of England. Information from the 2025 Indices of Deprivation (IoD 2025) is presented for each of the 12 Kent local authorities and Medway Unitary Authority on our [Deprivation and Poverty webpages](#).

The [Financial Hardship Toolkit](#) presents range of data relating to poverty, deprivation and financial hardship for districts within Kent. Data from a range of official sources is presented in four themed pages looking at unemployment and benefits, families, older people, and households.