

Children in Wales

Key Issues from the Child and Family Poverty Survey 2018



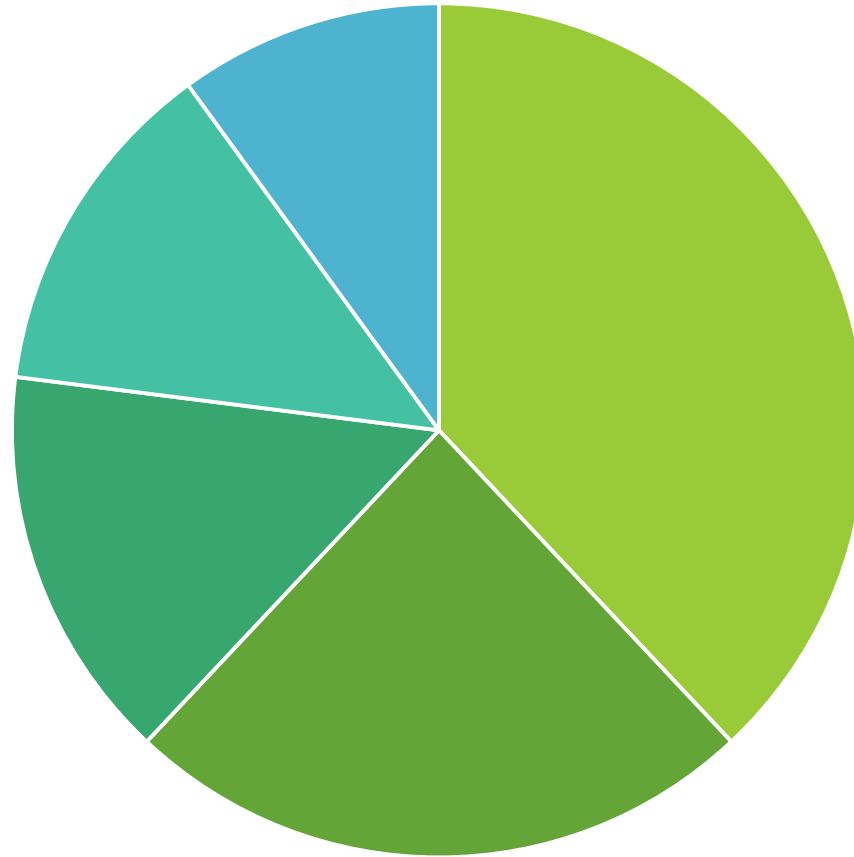
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Please rank in order of importance

- Impact of benefit changes
- Food poverty
- Insecure employment/income
- Debt
- Low Wages
- Fuel poverty
- Housing barriers
- Rising cost of living
- Transport costs/availability
- Rural poverty
- Additional costs of education
- Access to further education
- Childcare costs/availability
- Loss of Services
- Health Barriers

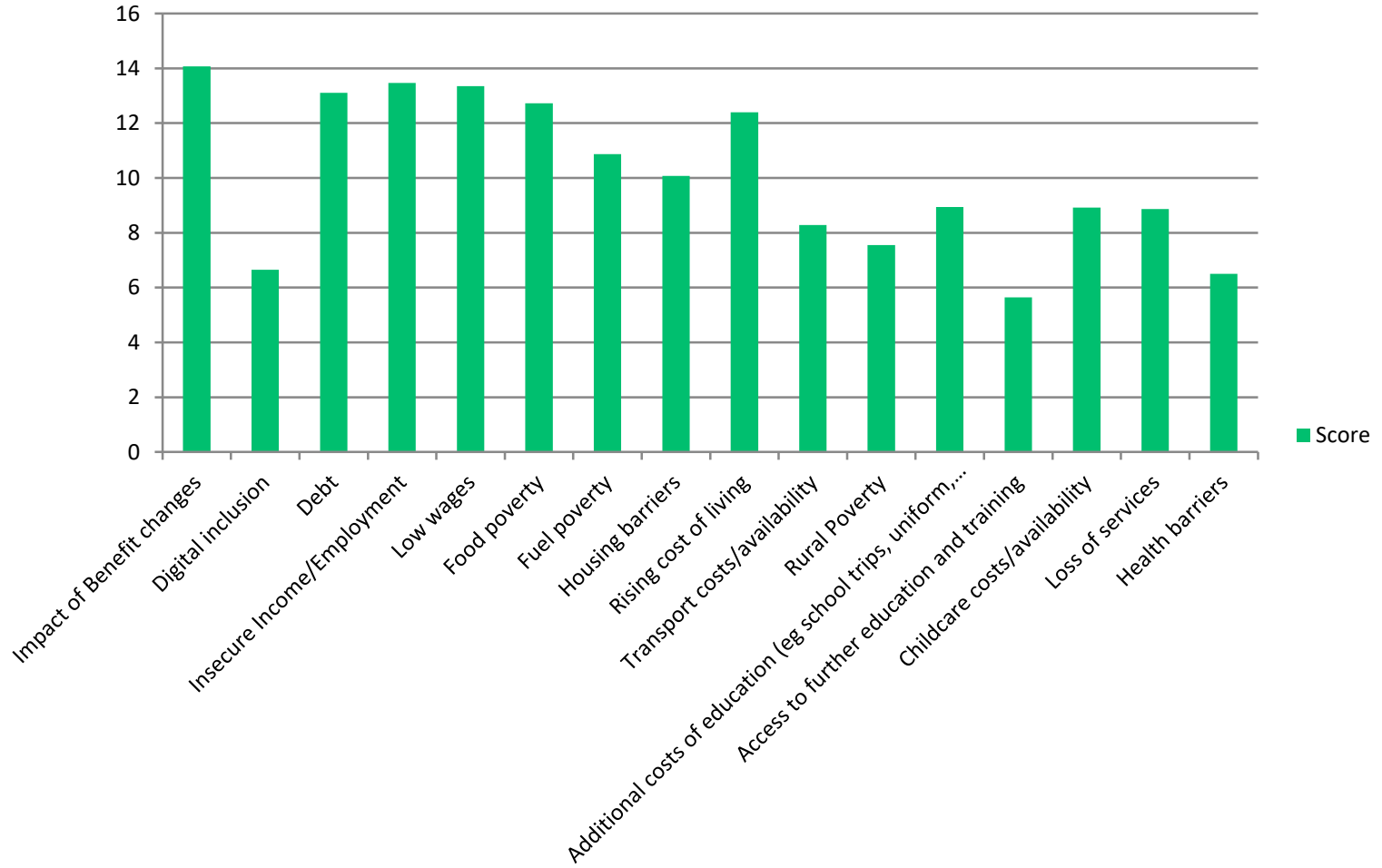


Top 5 Poverty Issues



■ Impact of Benefit changes ■ Insecure employment/income ■ Low wages ■ Debt ■ Food Poverty

All poverty related issues



What respondents told us about their choices

- Material deprivation
- Services
- Zero Hour Contracts
- Social Poverty
- Eligibility for Free School Meals
- Crime
- Welfare Reform
- Mental Health
- Poverty of opportunity
- Early Intervention



In-Work Poverty

“Balancing finances has become harder. Often needing to 'rob peter to pay paul!', as the weeks and months pass and just when you think you've got your head above water, along comes something else, new shoes, coat, birthday or the winter fuel bills”

“If parents struggle to feed and clothes their children, then the education of them falls lower down the scale. School trips, books, extra activities for example. Wages are low and jobs are few, benefits are essential. I work and struggle.”



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In a nutshell

“Low wages, benefit changes and the rising costs of living is impacting on living standards making it harder for families to either afford to purchase food, once all utility bills are paid or purchase nutrition rich foods, meaning families are more reliant on processed foods which in turn are increasing the likelihood of them incurring health problems which in turn is placing a strain on our health system..

Children are our future we should be supporting every child to reach their full potential with the hopes of them creating a better future.”



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Young People's Survey

Top Issues

Money

- Not having enough money for the things your families needs eg food, bill etc.
- Worrying about money all the time

Housing

- Living in a house that is cold and damp
- Not feeling safe where you live

School

- Not being able to afford to do activities after school and at weekends, eg play football and after school activities
- Not having the right uniform or games kit



What our respondents think Welsh Government should do

- Invest in local communities
- Greater investment in schools and services for young people
- Financial support for food/fuel banks
- Improve access/funding for early child care
- Make zero hours contracts illegal



What Welsh Government should do (cont.)

- Challenge the UK Government on issues raised by Universal Credit
- Visibly tackle the ideology of austerity
- Free school meals for working parents on low incomes
- Promote entrepreneurship amongst young people

