

Freedom of Information request 2013-2740

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Information request

Please can you tell me, according to DWP figures:

1 How many disabled people were in relative poverty in: i) 2010-11 ii) 2011-12

2 How many disabled people were in absolute poverty in i) 2010-11 ii) 2011-12

3 What proportion of disabled people were in relative poverty in: i) 2010-11 ii) 2011-12

4 What proportion of disabled people were in absolute poverty in: i) 2010-11 ii) 2011-12

NB By 'disabled people in poverty', I mean: individuals living in low income (less than 60 per cent of average income) in families where at least one member was disabled

DWP response

In response to your questions the information requested is given in the table below.

Number¹ and proportion² of disabled people in relative and absolute poverty³ in the United Kingdom: 2010 to 2012

Year	Relative Poverty		Absolute Poverty	
	Number of disabled people (millions)	Proportion of disabled people (%)	Number of disabled people (millions)	Proportion of disabled people (%)
2010/2011	3.6	20	3.6	20
2011/2012	3.4	19	3.7	20

Source: Households Below Average Income (HBAI) 2011/12.

Notes:

1. Figures are rounded to the nearest 100,000.
2. Percentages are rounded to the nearest whole number.

3. 'Disabled people in poverty' means 'individuals living in low income (below 60% of median income) in families where at least one member is disabled, on a before housing costs basis'.

The latest Households Below Average Income (HBAI) publication can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/first-release-households-below-average-income-hbai-statistics-june-2013>

As you can see the statistics for relative poverty – the most commonly used poverty line – show that disability poverty fell by 100,000 over the past year.

The number of disabled people in absolute poverty has increased. This was due to incomes not increasing as fast as inflation which was very high and is now coming down. The recent change of the absolute measurement has also had an effect on the proportion and number of people identified as in absolute low income.