

LIVING HERE IS ALL ABOUT SURVIVAL, YOU WORRY ABOUT WHETHER YOU  
HAVE ENOUGH UNTIL THE END OF THE WEEK.



WHEN YOU SEE THE REPORTS ABOUT HOW DEPRIVED IT IS,  
IT'S HURTFUL. PEOPLE DO ACTUALLY FEEL HURT BY IT.

Residents identified poverty and inequality as a key issue in Oldham. Between 2004 and 2015, Oldham fell eleven places from 43rd to 34th in the English Indices of Multiple Deprivation. A report in 2016 by the Office for National Statistics declared Oldham the town with the highest proportion of deprived areas in the country. Low-wage has been a significant driver of this. Figures recently released by the Department for Work and Pensions show that nearly 40% of universal credit claimants in Oldham are in paid work.

Residents felt that conditions had worsened in the town in the context of austerity.

Between April 2017 and March 2018, the Trussell Trust foodbank in Oldham provided 7,435 emergency food supplies to people in crisis. 10.7% of households in the town are in fuel poverty (i.e. where fuel costs are either above the national average or where household spending on fuel would leave a household with an income below the poverty line). Research conducted by the End Child Poverty coalition also shows that the Coldhurst ward has the worst rate of child deprivation in Britain. The 2011 Census shows that just over 60% of the population in Coldhurst come from a Bangladeshi background.

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