

CHILD POVERTY IN SWEDEN • 2000



Summary of the study

”Barns ekonomiska utsatthet – 2000”

by Tapio Salonen



Save the Children

Sweden

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Child Poverty in Sweden – 2000 is a summary of the study **Barns ekonomiska utsatthet – 2000**, carried out by Tapio Salonen at the request of Save the Children Sweden. **Barns ekonomiska utsatthet – 2000** can be downloaded free of charge from Save the Children Sweden's website, www.rb.se/assets/pdf-filer/barnfattigdom_2000.pdf

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Preface

There were strong reactions when Save the Children Sweden presented *Barnfattigdomen i Sverige* in March 2002 on the vulnerable financial situation of children in the 1990s. Many people were surprised, upset and sad. Surprised because they had not associated Sweden with child poverty. Upset since over 345 000 children lived in poor families in 1999, and sad about the descriptions of how this affected children's everyday life.

This report is also based on a study by Professor Tapio Salonen, *Barns ekonomiska utsatthet – 2000*. It is a follow-up of the previous study and shows how children's financial conditions have changed between 1999 and 2000. The studies on child poverty are a first step towards a child index, which would annually reflect changes in various aspects of children's welfare at the municipal level.

We can note that the positive trend which started in 1997 has continued in 2000 – the proportion of children in poor families has fallen to just over 15 per cent. However, there were still 296 000 children in poverty in 2000, 14 000 more than in 1991. The differences between municipalities persist.

Behind these figures are children. Happy children and sad children. Freckled, fair, dark, big and small children. How are they affected by growing up in conditions of scant financial resources? In the large number of interviews with children and their families in the media, following on from our previous report, it was clear that poverty affects children's everyday situation. It means having to refrain from taking part in school excursions and open-air sports days because they don't have the bus fare or money for the necessary equipment. Young people who cannot accompany their friends for a snack or go to the pictures, younger children who are not invited to children's parties because they cannot afford to reciprocate. An older girl described the anger she felt towards adults around her who did not understand or who questioned the truth of what she told them about the family's financial situation.

Poverty is being reduced overall but there are still groups that lag behind. The difference between children in the poorest and richest families is increasing. An in-depth analysis of child poverty also shows that the differences have increased between children with a Swedish and a foreign background respectively. In 2000, the risk of living in poverty was four times as great for children with a foreign background than for children with a Swedish background. More than half of the children who arrived in Sweden at the beginning of the 1990s were still poor in 2000 – after almost ten years in their new country!

What signals does this send to these children? Ten years is long enough to have passed through the whole of compulsory school. Many of them experience year after year the feeling of being excluded while their Swedish-born schoolmates of the same age have quite different opportunities. Child poverty creates a distance and exclusion that can both hinder democratic development and integration between refugees and those born in Sweden.

This report concludes Save the Children Sweden's campaign *Räkna med mig* (Count me in). The campaign has lasted for over a year and has drawn attention to discrimination of children in Sweden. According to Article 27 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, every child has the right to an adequate standard of living. Children are not to be discriminated against because of their parents' financial situation. In the 2002 election campaign, we asked the political parties what they intended to do about child poverty. Save the Children Sweden hopes that the new Swedish government will act energetically and state in the declaration of government policy how and when child poverty is to be eliminated.

Annika Åhnberg
Chairperson

Background

It is no exaggeration to say that more attention has been focused on the conditions for children in society in recent years. This is the case in Sweden and in the other EU Member States and globally. It is often about basic needs such as the right to a dignified life and secure development. The UN adopted the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Child Convention) in 1989 and it was ratified by Sweden the following year. Article 27 of the Convention establishes the right of children to an adequate standard of living.

Many modern welfare states have been forced to note that substantial components of the issue of poverty remain unsolved, despite long-term economic development and an increase in prosperity since the Second World War. Today's poverty is very different in many ways in its character and form of expression from the blatant misery of earlier epochs, although the negative features and consequences remain the same. It is in this light that modern child poverty is to be understood.

There are a number of different reasons for specifically studying children's right to an adequate living standard, although the foremost reason is probably that the financial dimension of children's welfare is of key importance. The financial and material dimension is strongly linked, in principle, to all other dimensions of the family's welfare, such as educational level, entry into the labour market, physical and mental health¹. It is quite simply not possible to exclude the financial dimension in analyses of the development of welfare. However, this is not to say that it is sufficient to describe the child's welfare situation only on the basis of the financial standard of living.

In the United States, child poverty has been one of the most central and sensitive domestic policy issues since the middle of the previous century. Despite this, American child poverty remained at the same level at the end of the 1990s as when the major social reform programmes were introduced in the mid-1960s². In recent years, many EU Member States have adopted goals and plans at the highest political level to reduce child poverty. In Ireland, the government adopted concrete goals in 1997 for combating poverty, which are to be met within a decade, and in the United Kingdom, Prime Minister Tony Blair

¹ See, for instance, Erikson, Robert & Mikael Tählin 1984 ? Samgång mellan välfärdsproblem', in Eriksson R & R. Åberg (ed) *Välfärd i förändring*. Stockholm. Prisma, Fritzell, Johan & Olle Lundberg, 2000. *Välfärd, ofärd och ojämlikhet*. SOU 2000:41. Report of the Välfärdsbokslut (Welfare Balance Sheet Commission), Stockholm: Ministry of Health and Social Affairs.

² Danziger, Sheldon 2001. *After welfare reform and an economic boom: why is child poverty still so much higher in the U.S. than in Europe?* Paper at 8th International Studies on Social Security, June 2001, Sigtuna, Sweden.

formulated an “historic duty” in 1999 to eliminate child poverty by 2020. In Belgium, it has been officially declared that poverty is to be halved by 2007³. A large part of the European efforts to reduce poverty are now included in the EU’s planning for combating social exclusion and promoting integration. Every EU Member State must annually produce a report on its strategies for reducing poverty.

In Sweden, the issue of poverty largely disappeared from public agenda in the fast construction of welfare during the 1950s and 1960s. The ambitious building programme was intended to eradicate the old Poverty Sweden permanently. It was only in the 1990s when the development of welfare encountered the first longer deep downturn that the issues of poverty and exclusion returned to the Swedish national agenda. This was, of course, a reaction to the threats to welfare that were perceived in these difficult years.

In conjunction with the Spring Budget Bill in 2001, the Swedish government formulated for the first time in the post-war period a concrete goal for combating poverty in Sweden: “...the number of those dependent on social assistance is to be halved between 1999 and 2004”⁴. This report is to be seen in the light of this kind of social policy formulations and endeavours.

It is a first follow-up of a major study which Save the Children Sweden presented in early 2002⁵ intended to reflect the development of child poverty in Sweden during the 1990s. This report follows up its results and reports how child poverty has changed at the national and municipal level during 2000. It also makes an in-depth financial analysis focusing on children with a foreign background, on the poorest families and on poverty among children of different ages.

³ Vleminckz, Koen & Timothy M. Smeeding (eds.) 2001. *Child well-being, Child Poverty and Child Poverty in Modern Nations*. Bristol: Policy Press.

⁴ Government Bill 2000/01:100 2001 Spring Budget Bill, p.16

⁵ Salonen, Tapio, 2000. *Barns ekonomiska utsatthet under 1900-talet. Bidrag till ett kommunalt barnindex*. Stockholm: Save the Children Sweden.

How to measure children's material standard of living?

This report is based on the principal, methodological foundations adopted in the previous study on the development of child poverty between 1991 and 1999⁶. The reader who is interested in methodology should consult chapters 3 and 4 of this study. The following text contains a brief summary of the approach adopted. We also take up some relevant points of view raised in connection with the first study. Moreover, the report compares the definition of poverty with the definition that the Swedish government has opted to use.

Choice of measure

The foundation in the choice of definition of poverty was described in the following way in the previous study.

“There is no clear accepted way of measuring the material standard of living of households. All attempts to define a limit – a poverty threshold – between the poor and the not-poor are based on contemporary norms and valuations and on the empirical opportunities that are available to measure this. It is therefore of key importance in this research to give a careful account of the normative considerations and concrete method options that serve as the basis for measuring the financial dimension of changes in household welfare in various ways.” (Salonen 2002, p. 23).

Two separate measures were proposed with a view to using credible durable data, which show children's and family's financial conditions over time at the municipal level:

- ? Low-income standard
- ? Social assistance

Both measures can be monitored annually for all households in the country through different agency registers. The advantages of using these two independent measures in a combined index is that they give an in-depth opportunity of consistently monitoring deficiencies in children's basic financial security. The one measure – low-income standard – directly reflects household finances while the other – social assistance – is affected by various social policy measures.

Expenditure for households with a low-income standard is based on a lowest acceptable level of expenditure based on the social assistance norm set in the mid-1980s (with annual upward adjustments for inflation) and a norm for

⁶ Salonen 2002

housing expenditure. If income is less than the norm for this expenditure (income standard under 1.0) it is defined as “low-income standard”. The measure has been developed by SCB (Statistics Sweden) and is used to distinguish inter alia families’ financial situation in the annual report “Barn och deras familjer”⁷.

Households who have been granted social assistance have a situation that is under the threshold for what is considered by society to be the lowest acceptable standard of living. The definition of social assistance is relatively easy to study, although there are also disadvantages. The social assistance norm is based on political decisions which really say more about society’s wish to help people in need than about the actual needs for assistance of the vulnerable. A definition of poverty based on political decisions can be changed apace with the business cycle and current values of society. This was also the case in the difficult years in the 1990s when the social assistance rules were made more stringent⁸, and the real value of grants was reduced⁹.

The foremost reason for the choice of two indicators to monitor the article of the Child Convention’s on the right of all children to an adequate standard of living is the experiences from previous research, which have shown a relatively low agreement between different definitions of poverty (see the section on overlapping). Different definitions partly capture different segments of the population and measure different kinds of financial vulnerability among households.

It must be a long-term goal in Sweden that no child should have to live in a financially vulnerable situation. Article 27 of the Child Convention on children’s right to an adequate standard of living is interpreted in this report as:

Children should not have to grow up in a family which has a low-income standard or which is forced to live on social assistance.

Low-income standard and social assistance

The proportion of children with a low-income standard increased greatly between 1991 and 1997. This was partly due to deterioration of the child allowance, maintenance allowance and housing allowance. There was a general improvement in the economy, however, in the late 1990s and the beginning of the twenty-first century. How has the economic upswing affected the number of children living in situations with scant financial resources?

⁷ SCB (Statistics Sweden) 1999, 2000 and 2001. *Barn och deras familjer. Demografiska rapporter*, Stockholm: SCB.

⁸ Bergmark, Åke 2000. ‘Socialbidrag under 1990-talet’ in Bergmark Å (ed) *Ofärd i valfärden*. SOU 2001:54.

Anthology from the *Välfärdsbokslut [Welfare Balance Sheet] Commission*. Stockholm: Ministry of Health and Social Affairs. SOU 2001:79. *Välfärdsbokslut för 1990-talet. Final report from the Välfärdsbokslut Commission*.

⁹ *Salonen 2002*

Figure 1. Proportion of children living in households with a low-income standard and social assistance respectively, 1991-2000.

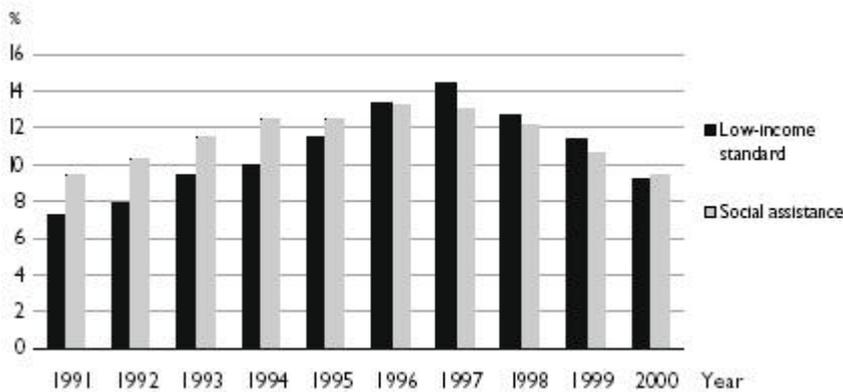


Figure 1 shows how both these measures, low-income standard and social assistance developed between 1991 and 2000. The proportion of children in families with social assistance had recovered by 2000 to the 1991 level – approximately nine per cent - while the proportion of children in families with a low-income standard was still a couple of percentage points over the 1991 level (+ 40 000 children).

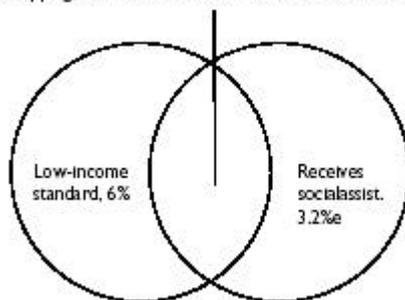
The figures for 2000 compared with 1999 show that both measures (the number of children in the respective group) continued to decline. The proportion of children who lived in families with a low-income standard fell by almost two percentage points (-42 000 children) while the proportion of children in families with social assistance fell by over one percentage point (-27 000 children).

Overlapping

The two measures – low-income standard and social assistance – consisted of approximately the same number of children in 2000. The key question is thus how the nature of the correlation between them at the level of the family. How many children and their families comply with both poverty criteria? What is the overlapping like?

Figure 2. Proportion of children in Sweden according to the incidence of low-income standard or social assistance in 2000

Overlapping, both low-income standard and social assistance, 3.2%



Of the children who lived in a family with a low-income standard or with social assistance in 2000, over 62 000 had both a low-income standard and received social assistance at least for some period of the year. This group among the financially vulnerable children accounted for 3.2 per cent of all children in Sweden in 2000 (Figure 2). In addition, 6.2 per cent (119 000 children) lived in families which did not have a low income but which received social assistance during the year. And, conversely, 6 per cent (115 000 children) lived in families with a low-income standard but which did not receive social assistance in 2000. Thus, altogether over fifteen per cent (296 000 children) lived in poor families in 2000.

Over a third of all children who lived in families with a low-income standard in 2000 also received social assistance during the year. The level of overlapping, i.e. 35 per cent, has been stable since 1997. There is a big difference between children with a Swedish and a foreign background. The overlap was three times as large for children in households with a foreign background. This indicates that families with a foreign background must rely on social assistance to a far greater extent while Swedish families to a greater extent have others around them to turn to at times when they are short of money.

The level of overlapping of low income and social assistance varies greatly between municipalities in the country from 0 to 64 per cent. Municipalities with a relatively high proportion of children in poor families had the greatest overlapping, while municipalities with few poor families and a low incidence of social assistance also had marginal overlapping. This does not mean that it is variations in the degree of overlapping that primarily affects the spread of child poverty among municipalities.

Comparison with other definitions of poverty

In an annex to the Spring Budget Bill in 2002, the government applied a narrow definition based on EU's official definition of poverty. This definition was based on a minimum threshold which corresponds to at most half of the median income in the country in the year in question. With this calculation, child poverty was under four per cent in 1999, while it was almost five times as high, eighteen per cent, with the definition of poverty used in this report. In order to evaluate the differences, a comparison is required of the threshold values for the different definitions (Table 1), i.e. which is the lowest reasonable financial standard which children and their families can get by on? When is a family poor?

Table 1. Comparison between EU's definition of poverty, low-income standard and social assistance level in 2000. Monthly income which constitutes the poverty threshold.

Type family	EU-def	Low-income standard	Social assistance	EU/low - income	Difference EU/Social assistance
1 adult, 1 child	6 457 SKR	9 461 SKR	8 270 SKR	- 3 004 SKR	- 1 813 SKR
2 adults, 2 children	13 211 SKR	14 631 SKR	13 539 SKR	- 1 420 SKR	- 319 SKR

1. Based on the national norm for financial assistance and average housing costs for the respective type of household. (IoF) Source: Salonen 2002.

The difference between the two definitions is considerably greater for one-parent families with children than for couples with children, which can mainly be explained by the low levels of income in sole-provider families. According to the EU's definition of poverty, a lone parent with a child is considered to be poor only when income is SEK 1 800 below the national norm for social assistance and SEK 3 000 under Statistics Sweden's definition of low-income standard (Table 1).

The definition of low-income standard used in this report is based on the Swedish Consumer Agency's and Statistics Sweden's calculations of the essential base consumption and lowest acceptable housing costs. The comparison shows that the EU definition, based on half the median income, is clearly under this minimum level. For a lone parent with one child, the EU definition is about a third lower and for a couple with children it has been approximately 20 per cent lower during the 1990s although it has successively approached the level for low-income standard in recent years.

All children, who are defined as poor according to the EU's definition in 2000 also lived in a family with a low-income standard. However, almost every sixth family with a low-income standard could also be regarded as poor according to the EU definition.

These comparisons underline that the poverty level is to a considerable extent a result of the measures and definitions that it is decided to apply¹⁰. The measures social assistance and low-income standard are based on detailed calculations of the scope for consumption for different types of households – the actual income required to reach a lowest acceptable standard of living. The EU definition, however, does not take into consideration necessary, actual consumption level. It may be a relevant measure in international comparisons between countries, but it can hardly meet the detailed requirements for the actual necessary level of consumption, which the other definitions are based on.

¹⁰ See, for instance, Halleröd Björn 'Socialbidragstagande och fattigdom' in Puide A, (ed) *Socialbidrag i forskning och praktik*. Stockholm: Gothia

Child poverty in Sweden in 2000

The first study¹¹ developed an analytical method based on two independent measures: children with a low-income standard and children in households receiving social assistance. The method monitors the development in the municipalities and provides an in-depth opportunity to understand the deficits in the child's financial basic security. Both measures can be monitored in the agency register that covers the whole population. There are a number of reasons for constructing a combined indicator for child poverty based on these two measures. The foremost reason is perhaps the low concordance between different definitions of poverty. The conclusion of previous research is that different measures partly capture different parts of the population and partially measure different kinds of financial vulnerability among households¹².

The analysis in the following chapters reflects how well central government and the municipalities comply with the goals of article 27 of the Child Convention on every child's right to an adequate standard of living, through a combined measure consisting of "the proportion of children who neither live in households with a low-income standard or households who receive social assistance". Goal fulfilment is reported on a scale between 0 and 100 per cent. 100 per cent means that no child lives in poverty. The results have been reported from 1991 to 2000.

Child poverty at the national level¹³

The development of child poverty in Sweden between 1991 and 2000 can be divided into two periods. The first period was dominated by the general economic downturn in the early and mid-1990s. Between 1991 and 1997, child poverty in Sweden increased successively to peak at 22 per cent in 1997. In the last two years of the 1990s, the negative trend reversed and the finances of families with children started to improve. The level of poverty among families with children was, however, notably higher than in the early 1990s.

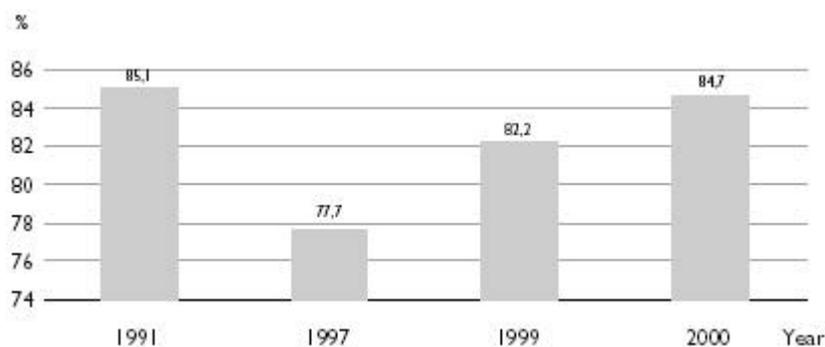
Goal fulfilment – the proportion of children who neither live in a family with a low-income standard nor in a family with social assistance – increased to 84.7 per cent in 2000 (Figure 3). This means that over 15 per cent of children in Sweden, 296 000 children, lived in poor families. Compared with 1999, child poverty fell by almost 50 000 children. Despite child poverty continuing to fall in 2000, there were, however, still 14 000 more poor children in 2000 than in 1991.

¹¹ Salonen 2002

¹² Halleröd 2000, Salonen 2002.

¹³ The concept goal fulfilment is used in this section, i.e. the proportion of children who do not live in families with a low-income standard and/or receive social assistance. In the following sections, the concept of child poverty is used, i.e. the proportion of children who live in families with a low-income standard and/or social assistance. If goal fulfilment is, for instance, 85, then this means that 15 per cent of all children live in poverty and vice-versa.

Figure 3. The proportion of children in Sweden who lived in households which neither had a low-income standard nor receive social assistance, 1991, 1997, 1999 and 2000.



The lower goal fulfilment in 2000 compared with 1991 is mainly explained by the higher proportion of children in homes with a low-income standard. In 2000, 177 000 children lived in a family with a low-income standard compared with 146 000 in 1991. The level of the second part measure – social assistance – was, however, approximately the same in 1991 and 2000.

Many children and their families thus still have a difficult financial situation, despite the general improvements in recent years for Swedish households.

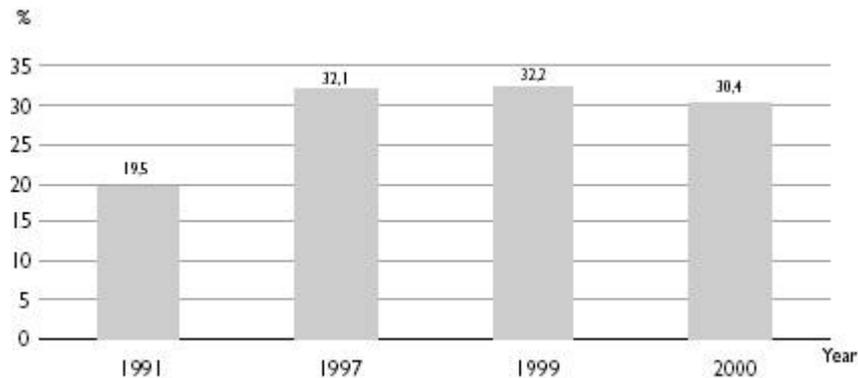
Child poverty at the municipal level

In the 1990s, there were great differences in child poverty and different development trends among the country's municipalities, which underlined the need of carefully monitoring the development of individual municipalities as regards children's financial vulnerability. (See also the enclosed municipal appendix which shows the development in each individual municipality).

As expected, the proportion of children in poor families fell in most municipalities in 2000. At the national level, the reduction was 2.5 percentage points. In just under half of the municipalities (120 municipalities or 42 per cent), child poverty fell by two to three percentage points, while it increased in only three municipalities. In some ten municipalities, it fell by at least five percentage points in 2000.

The great spread in child poverty among the country's municipalities was largely maintained in 2000. There are over 30 percentage points between municipalities with the lowest and highest child poverty: 5 and 35 per cent respectively (Figure 4). Four of five municipalities had a level of child poverty of between eleven and twenty per cent. Almost 50 municipalities had a level of child poverty under 10 per cent in 2000 compared with only 17 municipalities the preceding year.

Figure 4. The difference in percentage points between municipalities with the highest and lowest child poverty, 1991, 1997, 1999 and 2000.



The country's three largest cities had a considerably higher level of child poverty compared with other types of municipalities. Over fourteen per cent of all children in Sweden live in the three big city municipalities. Of these on average more than one in four children lived in a poor family in 2000. During 2000, child poverty was reduced most, on average by three percentage points, in the country's rural municipalities. The lowest child poverty, on average around ten per cent, was to be found in the suburban municipalities, which is less surprising bearing in mind that many of the country's high-income areas are in the suburbs of the big city regions.

When development between 1991 and 2000 is compared, it appears that the spread of child poverty increased between types of municipalities. In 2000, the big cities were still almost five percentage points above the 1991 level (26 per cent in 2000 compared with 21 per cent in 1991), while, for instance, suburban municipalities were two percentage points above the 1991 level. The difference is related to the large socio-geographic changes that have taken place in Sweden during the past decade and continued increased social pressure on the big city regions.

Besides the spread of child poverty between the municipalities, it is worth noting the development in particular municipalities. On the one hand, there has been no or very modest changes (under one percentage point) in some twenty municipalities in the past year. On the other hand, a dozen municipalities show noticeable changes (at least five percentage points).

Child poverty related to foreign background

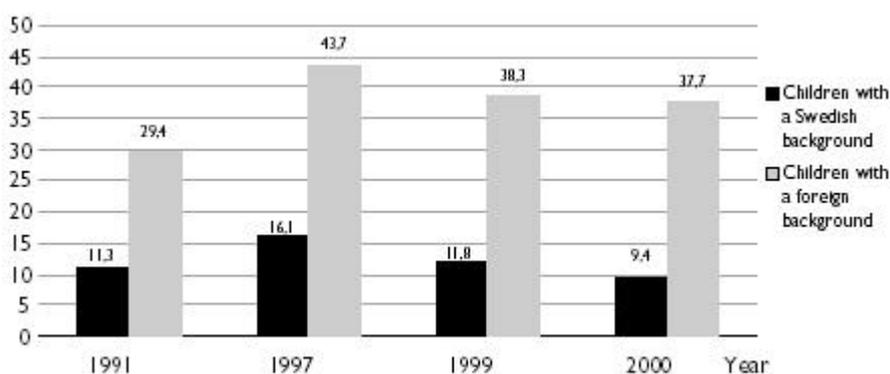
There are big differences in child poverty between children with Swedish-born parents and children with one or both parents born abroad, or who are themselves born in another country than Sweden. Almost a quarter of all children have a foreign background¹⁴ and it has become increasingly common that children are born in Sweden with one or two immigrant parents. In 2000, approximately 110 000 children aged between 0 and 10 were born abroad, while

¹⁴ SCB 2002a *Barn och deras familjer 2000. Demografiska rapporter 2002:2 Stockholm: SCB.*

160 000 children had parents who were both born in another country than Sweden. Just under 200 000 children had a parent born abroad. The children have this concept “foreign background” in common although it is far from being a homogeneous group. A more detailed account of the risk of living in a poor family on the basis of the children’s period of residence in Sweden and the parents’ background is shown on page 23-24.

Between 1999 and 2000, child poverty fell by 2.4 percentage points among children with a Swedish background. There were fewer poor children with a Swedish background in 2000 than in the early 1990s. Child poverty also fell for children with a foreign background between 1999 and 2000, although at a considerably lower level, minus 0.6 per cent. In 2000, almost 38 per cent of all children in foreign families lived in poverty.

Figure 5. The proportion of children who lived in poverty, 1991, 1997, 1999 and 2000. By Swedish and foreign background.



The differences between children with a Swedish and foreign background respectively in 1991, 1997, 1999 and 2000 are compared in Figure 5. The columns show that the economic differences between the groups have been reinforced since the economic upturn began in 1997. In 2000, almost four times as many children with a foreign background (factor 3.99) lived in poverty compared with children with a Swedish background.

This can be compared with a factor of 2.61 for 1991. During the strong cyclical downturn in 1991-1997, the difference between both children’s groups was relatively stable, while it has accentuated in the past few years. This indicates that children in households with a foreign background have not shared in the positive effects of the cyclical upswing to the same extent as children with a Swedish background.

Focus 2000 - the financial vulnerability of different groups of children

The income development of families with children has generally been positive between 1999 and 2000 although not all groups of children have experienced the positive development to the same extent.

This report makes therefore an in-depth analysis of household finances focusing on children with a foreign background, on the poorest families with children and on poverty among children of all ages.

A large number of reports and studies have described the development of Swedish welfare in recent years from different starting points¹⁵.

The general picture is that Swedish welfare was under strain in the early and mid-1990s which meant a strong reduction of the number of salaried employees and reductions in public commitments. This took place at the same time as many refugees came to Sweden from war-torn countries.

The structural changes in society – a working life increased subject to change and the design of public services – increased the financial vulnerability of many Swedish households. With some time perspective, it can, however, be noted that far from all households were affected by the “welfare crisis” of the 1990s. It was above all those who already had a weak economy, for instance, families with children and recently arrived immigrants that felt the changes most¹⁶.

That families with children in general had a better situation should be viewed in the light of certain groups being left outside the general development in prosperity in society.

Children with a foreign background

This section analyses the financial vulnerability of children with a foreign background, related to their period of residence in Sweden and the background of their parents.

When children's financial vulnerability is regarded from the point of view of ethnic background in 2000, it can be seen that just under very tenth child with a Swedish background lived in poverty. This is to be compared with almost four of ten children with a foreign background. In 2000, children with some form of foreign background ran almost four times the risk then of living in a financially vulnerable household.

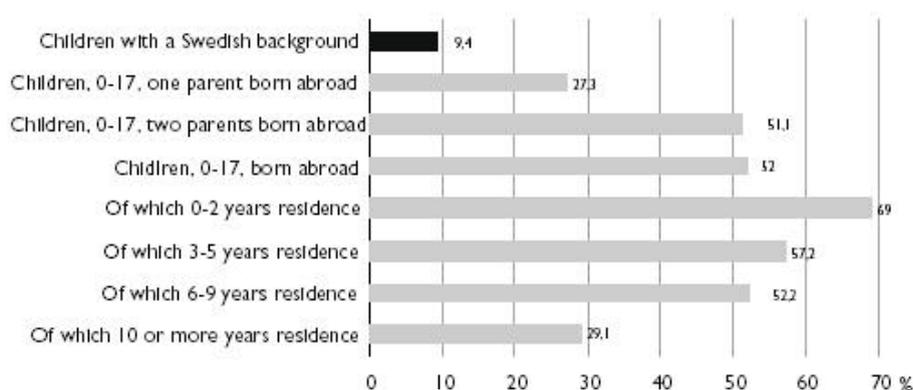
¹⁵ See, for instance, SOU 2001:79. *Välfärdsbokslut för 1990-talet. Final report from the Välfärdsbokslut (Welfare Balance Sheet) Commission.*

¹⁶ National Board of Health and Welfare, SOU 2001:79.

Financial vulnerability varies greatly, however, due to whether one or both parents is born abroad; 27 and 51 per cent respectively. The risk is in other words almost double as high for children with both parents born abroad (Figure 5). The risk is largest for children who are themselves born abroad, almost half of these, approximately 110 000 children lived in poverty in 2000.

This is, of course, due to newly-arrived families having an insecure financial situation while they become established in Sweden. What is disturbing is that the financial vulnerability is still so high for children who have been in the country six to nine years, including the children who arrived in the first half of the 1990s. In 2000, over half of these children still lived in poverty. Moreover, almost thirty per cent of the children who had been in Sweden ten years or longer lived in poverty.

Figure 6. The proportion of children with a foreign background who lived in poverty in 2000. By period of residence in Sweden.



It is also important to note the remaining financial vulnerability among immigrant families who in most cases were refugees in the 1990s, in relation to the forms of financing between central government and the municipalities. In the present central government system of compensation, a standard amount is paid to municipalities for refugee reception. This payment is based on a maximum period of compensation for the year of arrival and the next three years. However, this report shows that many children and their parents who arrived in the early 1990s, have received social assistance from the municipalities for considerably more years.

The results show that the financial vulnerability in Sweden of children born abroad peaked in 1997. However, at the same time, the financial pressure fell relatively slowly between 1991 and 2000 on the basis of the child's period of residence. Poverty among children born abroad was still considerably higher in 2000 than at the beginning of the 1990s. There are then strong reasons to continue to pay attention to the financial situation of immigrant children, in particular all the families with children who have arrived in Sweden in recent years.

The poorest families with children

Statistics Sweden's most recent income distribution study¹⁷ shows that the finances of families with children have in general recovered after the decline during the mid-1990s. In 2000, both lone parents and couples with children increased their disposable income and passed the 1991 level for the first time. The greatest improvement was for couples with children whose finances improved by seven to eight per cent between 1999 and 2000. The corresponding increase for lone parents with children was just under three per cent. Compared with 1991, the latter family type remained at the same level, while households generally and families with children with two adults increased their actual income levels.

At the same time as families with children generally improved their situation, income differences increased. The income standard for the poorest decile of the country's families with children deteriorated by over six per cent between 1991 and 2000, while the country's richest decile increased its share by over seven per cent. Financial conditions were largely unchanged for families with children in the middle layer.

The income difference has not been so large since SCB started its measurements in the mid-1970s¹⁸. In an international perspective, the income differences are relatively low, although they have increased in the past ten to fifteen years, especially after the crisis years in the 1990s¹⁹. The income differences increase in financial upswings, which is related to it being above all people who are already well-established and well-situated who receive a share of real income increases and other income improvements.

Statistics Sweden's study shows that the proportion of households with an extremely low disposable income increased in 2000, despite the general increase in income among households²⁰. The result indicates that far from all households, in particular not certain households with children, shared the marked increase in income, which took place at the beginning of the twenty-first century. Instead, the proportion of households with very low or very high incomes respectively increased and thus inequality in income in general.

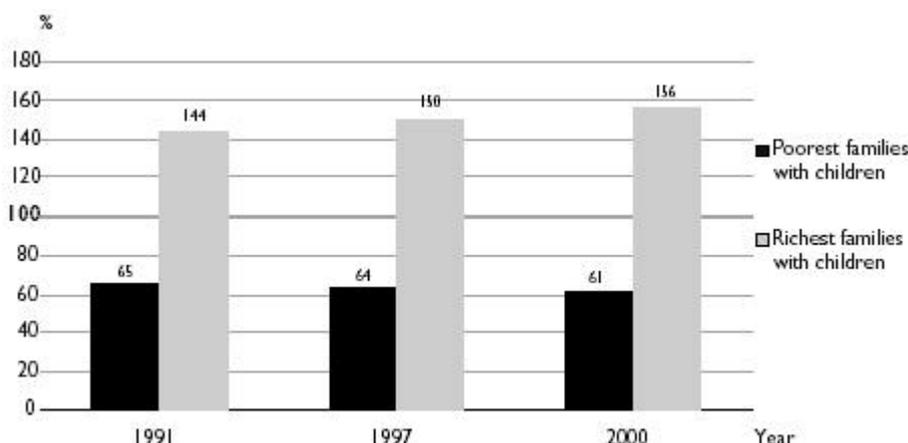
¹⁷ SCB 2002b. *Inkomstfördelningsundersökningen 2000. Statistiska meddelanden. HE 21 SM 0201-Stockholm, Statistiska centralbyrån.*

¹⁸ SCB 2002b

¹⁹ Fritzell 2001

²⁰ SCB 2002b

Figure 7. The income standard of the poorest and richest decile of families with children, as a percentage of the median household's income standard, 1991, 1997 and 2000.



In 2000, the income standard of the poorest decile was over 60 per cent of the median household, i.e. the 100-line indicated in Fig. 7 which corresponds to a reduction of four percentage points from 1991 (Figure 7). During the same period, the richest decile of the families with children increased their income standard in relation to median income by twelve percentage points.

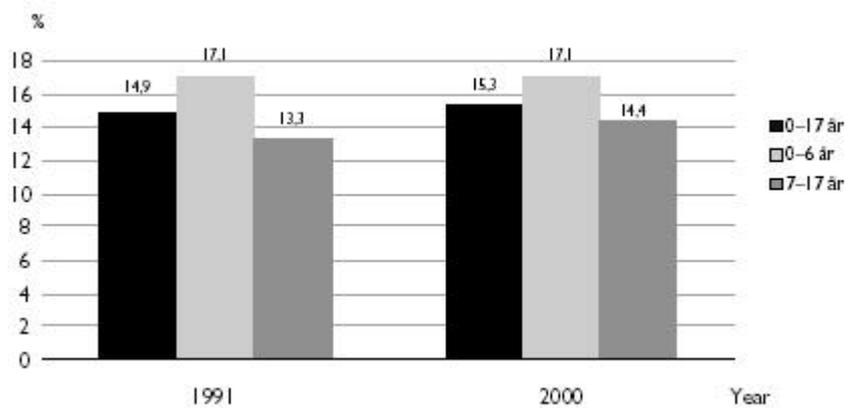
The increased gaps in income standard are marked most by the richest decile improving their financial situation considerably more than other groups. In 1991, the richest decile had 2.63 times as high an income standard as the poorest decile which had increased to 3.00 in 2000. This means that the richest decile's income standard is exactly three times as high as the normed minimum level and would be sufficient to provide for three families of the same size.

Pre-school children and schoolchildren

As expected, financial vulnerability was greater among pre-school children than schoolchildren in 2000. The establishment of parents in working life usually means successively improved family finances as children grow up. However, many other factors play a role of course for the long-term financial development of the family with children such as families separating, illness and unemployment.

The financial vulnerability of pre-school children and their families was at the same level in 2000 as in 1991: 17.1 per cent (Fig. 8). Despite this, the number of pre-school children in poor households was over 20 000 fewer in 2000 due to variations in the size of the child cohort. In 2000, the number of pre-school children was extremely low in Sweden. The birth rate from 1996 to 2000 was well under 100 000 children per year, while the annual cohorts in the 1980s amounted in some cases to approximately 125 000 children. Among schoolchildren, poverty was, however, somewhat more widespread than in the early 1990s; 14.4 per cent compared with 13.3 per cent in 1991.

Figure 8. Proportion of children who lived in poverty, 1991 and 2000. By age.



Summary

This report shows how children's financial conditions changed between 1999 and 2000. It is also a follow-up to the study "Barns ekonomiska utsatthet under 1990-talet" and is part of a long-term project aimed at preparing a municipal child index. The report produces a picture of how Sweden lives up to Article 27 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child – the right to an adequate standard of living. Studies of child poverty are a first part, where the ambition is to reflect changes annually in an index of different parts of children's welfare at the municipal level, in future also in areas such as health and education.

The analysis of child poverty in Sweden is based on a combined measure, which consists of the proportion of children who live in families with a low-income standard or in families that receive social assistance. This year's report shows changes between 1999 and 2000 but also contains an in-depth analysis of the financial vulnerability of different groups of children. It focuses on children with foreign background, the poorest children with families, and poor children in different age groups.

The main findings of the report

- Child poverty fell between 1999 and 2000, although there were still more poor children in 2000 than in the early 1990s. Goal fulfilment was just under 85 per cent, which means that over fifteen per cent of all children lived in financially vulnerable families. The number of children in poor families fell by almost 50 000 to 296 000 children. The positive trend that was started in 1997, has thus continued, although compared with 1991, there were 14 000 more children in poor families in 2000.
- The differences in financial vulnerability increased between children with Swedish and foreign background. In 2000, children with a foreign background ran almost four times as high a risk of living in a poor family compared with children with a Swedish background. The proportion of children who lacked financial basic security fell overall although the reduction was not as great for children with a foreign background as for children with a Swedish background.
- More than half of the children who came to Sweden in the early 1990s were still poor in 2000. Children with both parents born abroad and children who had arrived in Sweden in the 1990s ran the greatest risk of living in a poor family. More than half of these children were poor in 2000. Among children with Swedish background over nine per cent were poor.
- Differences between poor and rich families with children increased. The very richest increased their income standard further while the poorest fell behind. The income standard of the poorest decile of the country's families with children fell by over six per cent between 1991 and 2000 while the richest decile of the

country improved their financial situation by over seven per cent. The financial conditions for families with children in the middle layer were largely unchanged.

- Pre-school children were more financially vulnerable than schoolchildren. In 2000, 17 per cent of pre-school children were poor, compared with over 14 per cent of schoolchildren. The difference between pre-school and schoolchildren has reduced since 1991.
- The proportion of children varied a lot between the different municipalities, from 35 per cent poor children to around five per cent. The largest proportion of poor children were in the country's big city regions. See also the municipal table on page 32.

Table of municipalities

The proportion of households who are neither financially poor nor have social assistance, 1991, 1997, 1999 and 2000²¹. All municipalities in alphabetical order.

Municipality	Rank no 1991	Per cent 1991	Rank no 1997	Per cent 1997	Rank no 1999	Per cent 1999	Rank no 2000	Per cent 2000
Ale	100	87,1	151	79,0	175	83,0	192	85,4
Alingsås	85	87,5	81	81,5	84	86,2	70	89,1
Alvesta	18	90,1	65	82,3	71	86,7	78	88,8
Aneby	243	82,7	267	72,6	263	79,0	258	82,8
Arboga	143	86,0	167	78,4	177	82,9	170	86,1
Arjeplog	77	87,8	179	77,9	236	81,0	109	88,0
Arvidsjaur	19	90,0	169	78,4	70	86,8	162	86,4
Arvika	249	82,3	153	79,0	227	81,2	201	85,0
Askersund	128	86,4	142	79,1	77	86,5	47	89,9
Avesta	164	85,6	42	83,7	72	86,7	59	89,6
Bengtstors	79	87,8	94	81,0	42	88,0	101	88,3
Berg	229	83,3	242	74,5	222	81,6	253	83,1
Bjurholm	169	85,5	191	77,4	219	81,6	56	89,7
Bjuv	95	87,2	194	77,3	206	82,2	131	87,4
Boden	30	89,4	31	84,4	38	88,1	51	89,8
Bollebygd	.	-	8	87,2	23	89,0	16	91,8
Bollnäs	172	85,4	181	77,8	193	82,5	222	84,3
Borgholm	282	77,3	286	67,5	276	77,1	256	82,9
Borlänge	108	86,9	222	75,7	244	80,3	257	82,9
Borås	35	89,2	156	78,8	188	82,7	191	85,4
Botkyrka	285	75,4	288	60,3	288	65,7	288	70,4
Boxholm	240	82,8	82	81,4	64	87,1	135	87,1
Bromölla	15	90,3	44	83,4	24	88,9	69	89,2
Bräcke	226	83,4	272	72,1	248	80,1	242	83,6
Burö	220	83,7	244	74,5	261	79,3	272	81,6
Bästad	166	85,6	225	75,6	247	80,2	248	83,4
Dals-Ed	280	77,9	238	74,7	254	79,5	241	83,6
Danderyd	16	90,2	1	92,4	5	92,4	5	93,6
Degerfors	96	87,2	64	82,3	90	86,0	88	88,5
Dorotea	254	81,8	277	71,4	274	77,4	285	77,6
Eda	259	81,7	269	72,6	282	76,0	281	79,2
Ekerö	39	89,0	27	84,9	15	90,0	23	91,3
Eksjö	81	87,8	97	80,9	125	85,1	63	89,4
Emmaboda	136	86,2	28	84,7	48	87,7	55	89,7
Enköping	75	87,9	145	79,0	116	85,4	116	87,8
Eskilstuna	267	80,9	263	72,8	281	76,0	282	78,8
Eslöv	198	84,5	216	75,9	208	82,1	218	84,6
Essunga	271	80,2	210	76,2	185	82,8	194	85,3
Fagersta	173	85,4	87	81,2	81	86,3	81	88,6
Falkenberg	78	87,8	217	75,9	226	81,4	216	84,6
Falköping	74	88,0	171	78,3	119	85,3	122	87,6
Falun	47	88,8	88	81,2	145	84,3	161	86,4

²¹ The figures for 1999 on the number of children have been adjusted for Jokkmokk, Kiruna and Övertorneå (average for the year before and the year after). This means that the municipal ranking number for 1999 has been slightly affected in relation to the first report (Salonen 2002).

Municipality	Rank no. 1991	Per cent 1991	Rank no. 1997	Per cent 1997	Rank no. 1999	Per cent 1999	Rank no. 2000	Per cent 2000
Filipstad	196	84,7	192	77,4	198	82,4	174	85,9
Finspång	141	86,1	71	82,1	128	85,0	99	88,4
Flen	207	84,2	236	74,8	267	78,5	249	83,3
Forshaga	102	87,1	45	83,3	51	87,6	66	89,4
Färgelanda	237	82,9	172	78,1	88	86,1	114	87,9
Gagnef	27	89,5	148	79,0	139	84,6	75	89,0
Gislaved	149	85,9	158	78,8	163	83,5	180	85,8
Gnesta	195	84,8	219	75,8	211	82,0	175	85,9
Gnosjö	63	88,3	96	80,9	63	87,1	48	89,9
Gotland	268	80,7	274	71,6	270	78,1	270	81,7
Grums	235	83,0	207	76,4	194	82,5	231	84,1
Grästorp	73	88,0	55	82,9	56	87,4	67	89,2
Gullspång	269	80,5	264	72,7	273	77,5	279	79,7
Gällivare	32	89,3	22	85,1	33	88,4	34	90,7
Gävle	92	87,3	32	84,4	96	85,9	119	87,7
Göteborg	275	79,6	285	67,9	286	72,1	286	74,3
Götene	28	89,5	53	82,9	39	88,0	21	91,4
Habo	40	89,0	16	85,9	8	91,0	2	94,1
Hägfors	154	85,8	170	78,3	154	84,0	163	86,4
Hallsberg	135	86,2	49	83,0	31	88,6	20	91,5
Hallstahammar	157	85,7	58	82,6	47	87,7	97	88,4
Halmstad	61	88,3	189	77,5	221	81,6	214	84,7
Hammarö	6	91,4	7	87,2	19	89,3	12	92,2
Haninge	234	83,0	270	72,3	257	79,4	260	82,7
Haparanda	210	84,1	227	75,5	200	82,3	226	84,2
Heby	255	81,8	256	73,3	182	82,8	149	86,7
Hedemora	66	88,2	150	79,0	111	85,5	91	88,5
Helsingborg	162	85,6	255	73,4	280	76,6	277	79,9
Hemljunga	155	85,7	183	77,8	158	83,7	117	87,8
Hjo	152	85,8	212	76,0	153	84,0	125	87,4
Hofors	107	86,9	95	81,0	102	85,8	146	86,9
Huddinge	242	82,7	243	74,5	245	80,3	259	82,8
Hudiksvall	193	84,8	218	75,8	249	80,1	265	82,1
Hultsfred	177	85,3	155	78,9	118	85,4	167	86,3
Hylte	148	85,9	102	80,8	159	83,7	171	86,1
Häbo	49	88,8	69	82,2	105	85,7	80	88,7
Hällefors	188	84,9	159	78,8	147	84,3	199	85,2
Härjedalen	228	83,4	226	75,5	228	81,2	227	84,2
Härnösand	82	87,7	99	80,8	165	83,4	197	85,2
Härryda	25	89,7	9	87,0	14	90,1	14	92,0
Hässleholm	178	85,3	178	77,9	191	82,5	187	85,5
Höganäs	58	88,4	41	83,7	17	89,5	29	90,9
Högsby	132	86,3	220	75,7	178	82,9	235	83,9
Hörby	194	84,8	233	75,2	268	78,4	244	83,6
Hoör	260	81,6	258	73,2	251	80,0	261	82,5
Jokkmokk	204	84,3	232	75,3	224	81,5	181	85,8
Järfälla	121	86,6	203	76,7	230	81,2	205	85,0
Jönköping	117	86,6	130	79,9	141	84,5	152	86,6
Kalix	23	89,8	119	80,2	99	85,8	118	87,7
Kalmar	89	87,4	66	82,2	79	86,3	95	88,4
Karlsborg	33	89,3	136	79,6	120	85,3	115	87,8
Karlshamn	76	87,8	15	86,1	13	90,2	28	90,9
Karlskoga	171	85,4	80	81,6	74	86,6	105	88,1
Karlskrona	62	88,3	70	82,1	69	86,9	72	89,1
Karlstad	179	85,2	110	80,6	160	83,7	179	85,8
Katrineholm	176	85,3	143	79,1	203	82,3	200	85,1
Kil	174	85,3	154	78,9	173	83,3	215	84,7
Kinda	119	86,6	149	79,0	157	83,8	166	86,3
Kiruna	29	89,5	23	85,1	29	88,7	19	91,6

Municipality	Rank no	Per cent						
	1991	1991	1997	1997	1999	1999	2000	2000
Klippan	248	82,4	261	73,1	235	81,0	193	85,3
Kramfors	167	85,5	209	76,2	181	82,8	204	85,0
Kristianstad	93	87,2	134	79,8	180	82,9	195	85,2
Kristinehamn	189	84,9	204	76,6	189	82,6	178	85,8
Krokoms	137	86,2	116	80,4	103	85,8	100	88,4
Kumla	60	88,4	14	86,2	9	91,0	13	92,2
Kungsbacka	12	90,5	20	85,2	26	88,9	15	92,0
Kungsör	161	85,7	37	83,9	40	88,0	31	90,8
Kungälv	55	88,5	75	81,9	60	87,2	54	89,7
Kavlinge	88	87,4	5	88,3	3	92,5	9	93,2
Köping	125	86,4	195	77,3	215	81,8	229	84,2
Laholm	165	85,6	182	77,8	209	82,1	190	85,4
Landskrona	246	82,5	284	68,0	287	71,3	287	72,1
Laxå	200	84,4	21	85,2	44	87,9	121	87,6
Lekeberg	–	–	245	74,3	225	81,5	186	85,6
Leksand	98	87,1	160	78,8	135	84,8	212	84,8
Lerum	37	89,1	34	84,0	36	88,2	42	90,1
Lessebo	94	87,2	100	80,8	67	87,0	90	88,5
Lidingö	13	90,4	6	87,8	11	90,6	7	93,3
Lidköping	56	88,5	46	83,1	55	87,4	62	89,4
Lilla Edet	224	83,5	230	75,3	197	82,4	129	87,4
Lindesberg	112	86,8	83	81,4	100	85,8	142	86,9
Linköping	110	86,9	115	80,4	136	84,8	140	87,0
Ljungby	54	88,5	48	83,0	54	87,5	60	89,5
Ljusdal	147	86,0	164	78,6	166	83,4	225	84,3
Ljusnarsberg	281	77,7	241	74,5	266	78,6	274	80,9
Lomma	2	93,7	4	89,1	4	92,5	3	94,0
Ludvika	138	86,2	125	80,1	124	85,2	155	86,6
Luleå	46	88,9	18	85,4	43	87,9	40	90,2
Lund	51	88,6	51	83,0	83	86,2	103	88,1
Lycksele	118	86,6	62	82,4	97	85,9	143	86,9
Lysekil	225	83,5	229	75,4	192	82,5	183	85,7
Malmö	286	74,7	287	60,7	289	62,3	289	64,6
Malung	266	81,0	251	74,0	250	80,1	255	83,0
Malå	36	89,1	43	83,6	237	80,9	130	87,4
Marlestad	71	88,1	61	82,5	45	87,9	27	90,9
Mark	52	88,6	92	81,0	107	85,6	102	88,2
Markaryd	183	85,1	259	73,2	169	83,4	169	86,2
Mellerud	273	80,0	257	73,2	262	79,0	263	82,4
Mjölby	104	87,1	152	79,0	146	84,3	144	86,9
Mora	133	86,3	60	82,5	46	87,8	64	89,4
Motala	190	84,9	201	76,8	210	82,1	185	85,7
Mullsjö	216	83,8	166	78,5	156	83,9	165	86,4
Munkedal	175	85,3	215	75,9	223	81,5	251	83,2
Munkfors	261	81,5	54	82,9	172	83,3	206	85,0
Mölnådal	53	88,5	57	82,7	76	86,5	112	88,0
Monsterås	70	88,1	137	79,6	61	87,2	41	90,1
Mörbylånga	120	86,6	124	80,1	112	85,5	104	88,1
Nacka	151	85,8	90	81,1	133	84,8	128	87,4
Nora	80	87,8	73	82,1	110	85,5	134	87,1
Norberg	270	80,3	76	81,8	73	86,6	58	89,6
Nordanstig	274	80,0	254	73,5	229	81,2	224	84,3
Nordmaling	129	86,4	188	77,5	216	81,7	219	84,5
Norrköping	218	83,7	276	71,5	278	76,8	273	80,9
Norrålsjö	144	86,0	176	78,0	144	84,4	113	87,9
Norsjö	38	89,1	112	80,5	151	84,1	107	88,0
Nybro	113	86,7	162	78,7	138	84,6	126	87,4
Nykvarn	–	–	–	–	1	94,5	1	95,0
Nyköping	206	84,2	186	77,7	218	81,6	220	84,4

Municipality	Rank no. 1991	Per cent 1991	Rank no. 1997	Per cent 1997	Rank no. 1999	Per cent 1999	Rank no. 2000	Per cent 2000
Nynashamn	127	86,4	121	80,1	86	86,1	92	88,5
Nassjö	83	87,6	74	81,9	89	86,0	76	89,0
Ockelbo	221	83,6	123	80,1	150	84,1	221	84,3
Olofström	45	88,9	111	80,6	106	85,6	68	89,2
Orsa	252	82,1	282	70,7	271	78,0	264	82,1
Orust	180	85,2	224	75,6	196	82,4	124	87,5
Osby	68	88,2	184	77,7	57	87,4	33	90,8
Oskarshamn	42	89,0	36	83,9	88,3	88,3	22	91,4
Ovanåker	158	85,7	190	77,5	195	82,4	207	84,9
Oxelösund	150	85,8	129	80,0	122	85,3	137	87,1
Pajala	214	83,9	280	71,0	241	80,5	247	83,4
Partille	105	87,0	59	82,5	109	85,6	85	88,6
Perstorp	277	78,7	131	79,9	121	85,3	108	88,0
Piteå	7	91,0	11	86,9	12	90,4	10	92,6
Ragunda	227	83,4	271	72,3	240	80,6	211	84,8
Robertsfors	34	89,2	187	77,6	132	84,9	74	89,0
Ronneby	115	86,7	185	77,7	162	83,6	159	86,5
Rättvik	197	84,7	250	74,0	252	79,9	209	84,9
Sala	212	84,0	231	75,3	186	82,7	184	85,7
Salem	223	83,6	163	78,7	82	86,3	77	88,9
Sandviken	146	86,0	105	80,7	85	86,2	120	87,6
Sigtuna	238	82,9	196	77,2	233	81,1	240	83,6
Simrishamn	182	85,1	234	75,0	232	81,1	232	84,0
Sjöbo	247	82,4	239	74,6	256	79,5	267	82,0
Skara	64	88,3	39	83,8	30	88,7	44	90,1
Skellefteå	21	89,9	13	86,7	10	90,6	18	91,7
Skinnkatteber	278	77,9	139	79,3	114	85,5	73	89,0
Skurup	222	83,6	221	75,7	214	81,9	210	84,9
Skövde	91	87,3	24	85,1	50	87,6	43	90,1
Smedjebacken	59	88,4	114	80,4	117	85,4	87	88,5
Sollefteå	170	85,4	161	78,7	152	84,0	160	86,4
Sollentuna	159	85,7	40	83,8	59	87,3	71	89,1
Solna	283	76,8	228	75,4	242	80,5	252	83,2
Sorsele	134	86,2	265	72,7	176	83,0	228	84,2
Sotenäs	202	84,3	12	86,7	174	83,1	182	85,8
Staffanstorps	4	92,2	19	85,2	22	89,1	26	91,2
Stenungsund	160	85,7	120	80,2	140	84,5	84	88,6
Stockholm	276	79,0	279	71,2	283	75,4	283	78,0
Storfors	122	86,5	223	75,7	258	79,3	254	83,0
Storuman	90	87,4	138	79,4	187	82,7	238	83,7
Strängnäs	205	84,3	193	77,3	213	81,9	202	85,0
Strömstad	264	81,2	283	69,1	277	77,0	280	79,6
Strömsund	256	81,8	275	71,6	279	76,8	275	80,4
Sundbyberg	279	77,9	240	74,5	253	79,7	262	82,5
Sundsvall	101	87,1	128	80,0	168	83,4	189	85,5
Sunne	186	85,0	89	81,2	179	82,9	176	85,9
Surahammar	201	84,4	113	80,4	32	88,4	82	88,6
Svalöv	156	85,7	246	74,3	239	80,7	223	84,3
Svedala	8	91,0	10	86,9	7	91,7	8	93,2
Svenljunga	253	81,8	211	76,1	127	85,1	93	88,5
Säffle	191	84,8	135	79,8	130	85,0	123	87,6
Säter	145	86,0	56	82,8	35	88,3	52	89,8
Sävsjö	219	83,7	165	78,5	53	87,5	38	90,3
Söderhamn	131	86,4	101	80,8	148	84,2	150	86,7
Söderköping	97	87,2	47	83,0	68	87,0	89	88,5
Södertälje	284	75,9	281	70,8	284	75,3	284	77,9
Sölvesborg	139	86,1	106	80,7	94	85,9	61	89,5
Tanum	239	82,9	253	73,6	217	81,7	236	83,9
Tibro	87	87,4	109	80,7	49	87,7	57	89,7

Municipality	Rank no. 1991	Per cent 1991	Rank no. 1997	Per cent 1997	Rank no. 1999	Per cent 1999	Rank no. 2000	Per cent 2000
Tidaholm	140	86,1	247	74,3	201	82,3	198	85,2
Tierp	262	81,3	208	76,4	171	83,3	177	85,8
Timrå	69	88,2	127	80,1	184	82,8	173	85,9
Tingsryd	199	84,5	86	81,2	108	85,6	39	90,3
Tjörn	50	88,8	98	80,9	131	84,9	111	88,0
Tomellilla	215	83,8	260	73,1	255	79,5	250	83,3
Torsby	217	83,7	214	76,0	259	79,3	266	82,1
Torsås	211	84,0	200	76,9	161	83,6	164	86,4
Tranemo	126	86,4	33	84,0	25	88,9	106	88,1
Tranås	106	87,0	198	77,0	183	82,8	145	86,9
Trelleborg	41	89,0	141	79,1	234	81,1	246	83,4
Trollhättan	203	84,3	157	78,8	199	82,4	217	84,6
Trosa	114	86,7	144	79,1	87	86,1	96	88,4
Tyresö	168	85,5	91	81,1	65	87,1	36	90,4
Täby	5	91,8	2	89,8	2	92,9	4	93,6
Töreboda	245	82,5	252	73,7	246	80,3	196	85,2
Uddevalla	209	84,1	206	76,5	212	81,9	237	83,8
Ulricehamn	9	90,7	17	85,6	18	89,3	17	91,7
Umeå	22	89,9	77	81,8	115	85,4	133	87,2
Upplands-Bro	232	83,2	248	74,2	264	78,8	245	83,5
Upplands-Väsby	124	86,5	132	79,8	170	83,4	148	86,7
Uppsala	185	85,0	199	76,9	231	81,2	230	84,2
Uppvidinge	236	83,0	168	78,4	123	85,2	94	88,5
Vadstena	116	86,7	122	80,1	93	86,0	136	87,1
Vaggeryd	109	86,9	35	83,9	28	88,8	35	90,6
Valdemarsvik	250	82,3	268	72,6	265	78,7	243	83,6
Vallentuna	84	87,6	68	82,2	62	87,2	37	90,3
Vansbro	192	84,8	118	80,2	167	83,4	172	86,0
Vara	258	81,7	175	78,0	142	84,4	157	86,5
Varberg	65	88,3	104	80,8	137	84,6	147	86,8
Vaxholm	31	89,4	147	79,0	205	82,2	188	85,5
Vellinge	1	94,2	3	89,2	6	92,0	6	93,5
Vetlanda	14	90,3	117	80,3	75	86,5	25	91,2
Vilhelmina	257	81,7	237	74,8	190	82,6	86	88,6
Vimmerby	111	86,8	177	77,9	149	84,2	151	86,6
Vindeln	48	88,8	103	80,8	129	85,0	168	86,2
Vingåker	153	85,8	146	79,0	155	83,9	141	87,0
Vångårda	26	89,7	63	82,4	58	87,4	53	89,7
Vänersborg	44	88,9	26	84,9	37	88,1	32	90,8
Vännäs	10	90,5	67	82,2	21	89,2	50	89,8
Värmdö	181	85,2	93	81,0	78	86,5	46	90,0
Värnamo	17	90,2	52	82,9	41	88,0	45	90,0
Västervik	241	82,8	202	76,8	202	82,3	233	84,0
Västerås	184	85,1	174	78,0	220	81,6	239	83,7
Växjö	99	87,1	72	82,1	92	86,0	127	87,4
Ydre	130	86,4	266	72,6	238	80,7	203	85,0
Ystad	67	88,2	85	81,3	80	86,3	98	88,4
Ämål	103	87,1	126	80,1	101	85,8	132	87,3
Änge	251	82,2	140	79,3	104	85,7	156	86,5
Äre	263	81,3	205	76,5	204	82,3	213	84,8
Ärjäng	265	81,2	213	76,0	272	77,7	276	80,2
Äsele	230	83,2	249	74,0	260	79,3	271	81,7
Ästorp	213	84,0	235	74,9	269	78,4	269	81,9
Ätvidaberg	20	90,0	173	78,1	126	85,1	153	86,6
Älmhult	163	85,6	30	84,6	16	90,0	11	92,3
Älvdalen	142	86,1	278	71,2	243	80,4	234	84,0
Älvkarleby	233	83,1	84	81,4	164	83,5	208	84,9
Älvsbyn	11	90,5	108	80,7	113	85,5	83	88,6
Ängelholm	57	88,4	79	81,6	98	85,8	79	88,7

Municipality	Rank no. 1991	Per cent 1991	Rank no. 1997	Per cent 1997	Rank no. 1999	Per cent 1999	Rank no. 2000	Per cent 2000
Öckerö	3	93,0	29	84,7	27	88,8	30	90,9
Odeshög	272	80,0	273	72,0	285	75,2	268	81,9
Örebro	244	82,7	262	72,9	275	77,2	278	79,9
Örkelljunga	231	83,2	197	77,1	207	82,2	158	86,5
Örnsköldsvik	43	89,0	25	85,0	52	87,6	65	89,4
Östersund	72	88,1	78	81,8	95	85,9	110	88,0
Österåker	123	86,5	38	83,8	20	89,2	24	91,3
Östhammar	187	85,0	50	83,0	87,1	87,1	49	89,9
Östra Göinge	86	87,4	107	80,7	143	84,4	138	87,1
Överkalix	208	84,2	133	79,8	91	86,0	139	87,1
Övertorneå	24	89,7	180	77,8	134	84,8	154	86,6

Proportion of children in households which are neither financially poor nor with social assistance, 1991, 1997, 1999 and 2000. The 20 municipalities with the highest and lowest ranking number in 2000.

Municipality	Rank no. 1991	Per cent 1991	Rank no. 1997	Per cent 1997	Rank no. 1999	Per cent 1999	Rank no. 2000	Per cent 2000
Nykvarn	–	–	–	–	1	94,5	1	95,0
Habo	40	89,0	16	85,9	8	91,0	2	94,1
Loimma	2	93,7	4	89,1	4	92,5	3	94,0
Täby	5	91,8	2	89,8	2	92,9	4	93,6
Danderyd	16	90,2	1	92,4	5	92,4	5	93,6
Vellinge	1	94,2	3	89,2	6	92,0	6	93,5
Lidingö	13	90,4	6	87,8	11	90,6	7	93,3
Svedala	8	91,0	10	86,9	7	91,7	8	93,2
Kavlinge	88	87,4	5	88,3	3	92,5	9	93,2
Piteå	7	91,0	11	86,9	12	90,4	10	92,6
Ålmhult	163	85,6	30	84,6	16	90,0	11	92,3
Hammarö	6	91,4	7	87,2	19	89,3	12	92,2
Kumla	60	88,4	14	86,2	9	91,0	13	92,2
Harryda	25	89,7	9	87,0	14	90,1	14	92,0
Kungsbacka	12	90,5	20	85,2	26	88,9	15	92,0
Bollebygd	–	–	8	87,2	23	89,0	16	91,8
Ulricehamn	9	90,7	17	85,6	18	89,3	17	91,7
Skellefteå	21	89,9	13	86,7	10	90,6	18	91,7
Kiruna	29	89,5	23	85,1	29	88,7	19	91,6
Hallsberg	135	86,2	49	83,0	31	88,6	20	91,5
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Gotland	268	80,7	274	71,6	270	78,1	270	81,7
Åsele	230	83,2	249	74,0	260	79,3	271	81,7
Burlov	220	83,7	244	74,5	261	79,3	272	81,6
Norrköping	218	83,7	276	71,5	278	76,8	273	80,9
Ljusnarsberg	281	77,7	241	74,5	266	78,6	274	80,9
Strömsund	256	81,8	275	71,6	279	76,8	275	80,4
Årjäng	265	81,2	213	76,0	272	77,7	276	80,2
Helsingborg	162	85,6	255	73,4	280	76,6	277	79,9
Örebro	244	82,7	262	72,9	275	77,2	278	79,9
Gullspång	269	80,5	264	72,7	273	77,5	279	79,7
Strömstad	264	81,2	283	69,1	277	77,0	280	79,6
Eda	259	81,7	269	72,6	282	76,0	281	79,2
Eskilstuna	267	80,9	263	72,8	281	76,0	282	78,8
Stockholm	276	79,0	279	71,2	283	75,4	283	78,0
Södertälje	284	75,9	281	70,8	284	75,3	284	77,9
Dorotea	254	81,8	277	71,4	274	77,4	285	77,6
Göteborg	275	79,6	285	67,9	286	72,1	286	74,3
Landskrona	246	82,5	284	68,0	287	71,3	287	72,1
Botkyrka	285	75,4	288	60,3	288	65,7	288	70,4
Malmö	286	74,7	287	60,7	289	62,3	289	64,6

