

Sub-Regional Fuel Poverty in England, 2021 (2020 data)¹

The Low Income Low Energy Efficiency (LILEE) fuel poverty metric was set out in the [Fuel Poverty Sustainable Warmth strategy](#) published in February 2021. The LILEE indicator considers a household to be fuel poor if:

- it is living in a property with an energy efficiency rating of band D, E, F or G as determined by the most up-to-date [Fuel Poverty Energy Efficiency Rating \(FPEER\)](#) Methodology; and
- its disposable income (income after housing costs (AHC) and energy needs) would be below the poverty line.

Summary:

- In 2020, the West Midlands remains the highest for households that are fuel poor at 17.8% (from 17.5% in 2019).
- Since 2019, the total number of households in the Black Country has increased by 0.9% (+4,576) to 497,780 households in 2020. The number of households in fuel poverty has increased by 2.9% (+2,773) to reach a total of 98,872 over this period. In comparison England-wide the number of households increased by 0.9% but the number of households that were in fuel poverty decreased 0.6%.
- This means that in the Black Country area, 19.9% of households were in fuel poverty compared to 13.2% nationally in 2020. All four local authorities within the Black Country were above the national average for the proportion of households in fuel poverty.

In Detail:

Regional

- In 2020, the West Midlands remains the highest for households that are fuel poor at 17.8% (from 17.5% in 2019). Yorkshire and the Humber remains in second place at 17.5% as both regions had median incomes under £23,500. These regions also had the lowest share of overall homes reaching fuel poverty energy efficiency band A-C. The lowest fuel poverty rates are South East (8.6%), South West (11.4%) and London (11.5%) which had median incomes greater than £25,800.
- There were 19 local authorities with a fuel poverty rate above 18% in 2020. Of these, eight had a fuel poverty rate above 20% in 2020 with five in the West Midlands region.

Black Country

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- This means that in the Black Country area, 19.9% of households were in fuel poverty compared to 13.2% nationally in 2020.
- All four local authorities within the Black Country were above the national average for the proportion of households in fuel poverty.

¹ Source: Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy: sub-regional fuel poverty – released April 2022

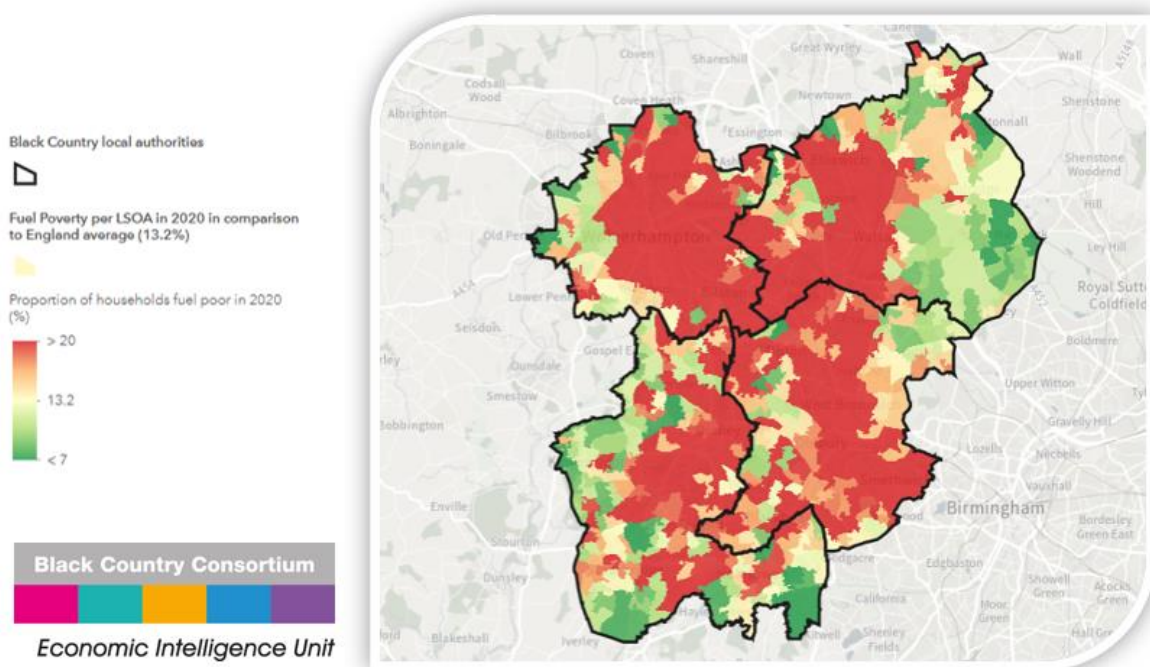
- Within the Black Country, Dudley had the lowest proportion of households in fuel poverty at 17.3% (24,248), an increase of 3.1% (+736) since 2019.
- 20.8% (27,220) of households in Sandwell were in fuel poverty in 2020. The proportion has slightly dropped since 2019 due to the overall number of households increasing as the proportion of households in fuel poverty remains broadly unchanged.
- 19.5% (22,682) of households in Walsall were in fuel poverty in 2020, an increase of 1.7% (+383) since 2019.
- Wolverhampton had the highest levels of households in fuel poverty at 22.4% (24,722) in 2020, an increase of 7.2% (+1,650) since 2019.

The following table shows fuel poverty within the Black Country, the West Midlands region and England wide in 2019 and 2020:

	2019			2020			Num. Change in Fuel Poverty Households	Percentage Change in Fuel Poverty Households
	Number of households	Number of households in fuel poverty	Proportion of households fuel poor	Number of households	Number of households in fuel poverty	Proportion of households fuel poor		
Dudley	138,862	23,512	16.9%	140,168	24,248	17.3%	736	3.1%
Sandwell	129,918	27,216	20.9%	131,117	27,220	20.8%	4	0.01%
Walsall	115,225	22,299	19.4%	116,294	22,682	19.5%	383	1.7%
Wolverhampton	109,199	23,072	21.1%	110,201	24,722	22.4%	1,650	7.2%
Black Country	493,204	96,099	19.5%	497,780	98,872	19.9%	2,773	2.9%
West Midlands	2,454,896	429,730	17.5%	2,477,936	441,693	17.8%	11,963	2.8%
England	23,661,751	3,175,979	13.4%	23,868,877	3,158,206	13.2%	-17,773	-0.6%

Out of the 712 Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) across the Black Country area 534 were above the national proportion (13.2%) of households in fuel poverty.

The following map shows the proportion of households fuel poor by LSOA across the Black Country area in 2020:



The following map shows the change since 2019 in households that were fuel poor by LSOA across the Black Country area:

Legend

Black Country local authorities



Fuel Poverty per LSOA change between 2019-2020

Change in proportion of households fuel poor in 2019-20 (%)

