

2017

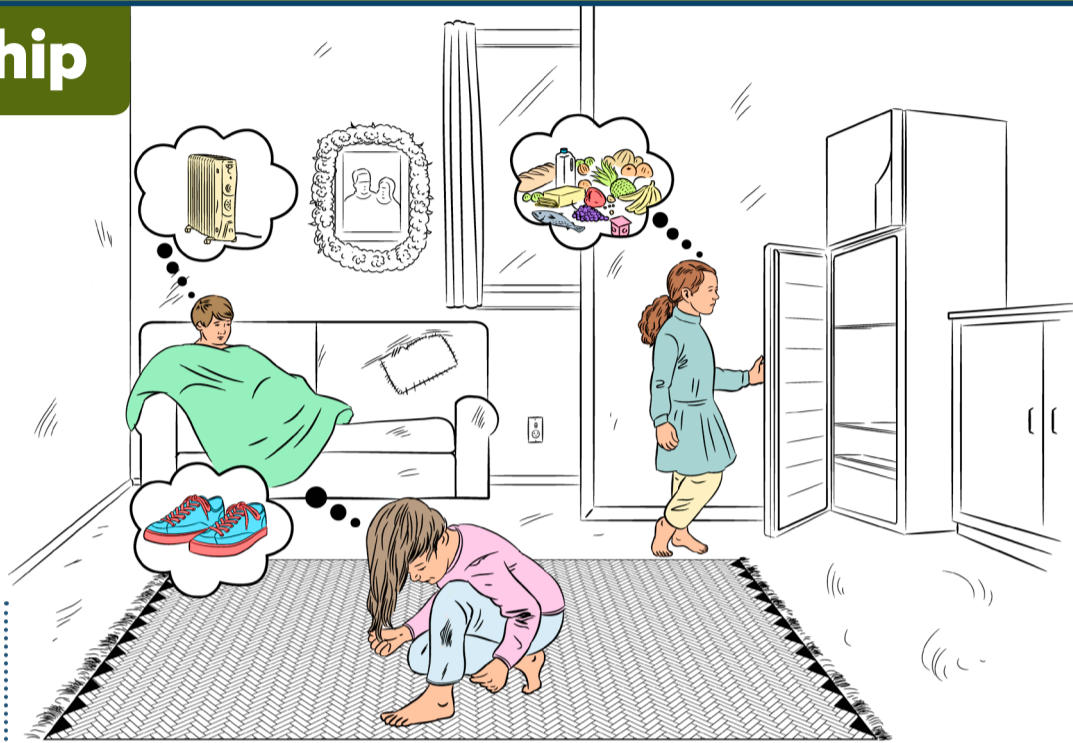
# Child Poverty Monitor

## Four measures of child poverty in New Zealand

### Material Hardship

**135,000**  
**NZ KIDS**  
LIVE IN HOUSEHOLDS  
THAT GO WITHOUT **7**  
OR MORE THINGS  
THEY NEED

**12%**  
OF KIWI KIDS



**70,000**  
**NZ KIDS**  
LIVE IN HOUSEHOLDS  
THAT GO WITHOUT **9**  
OR MORE THINGS  
THEY NEED

**6%**  
OF KIWI KIDS

LESSER  
HARDSHIP

LIST OF 17 THINGS THAT HOUSEHOLDS ARE GOING WITHOUT

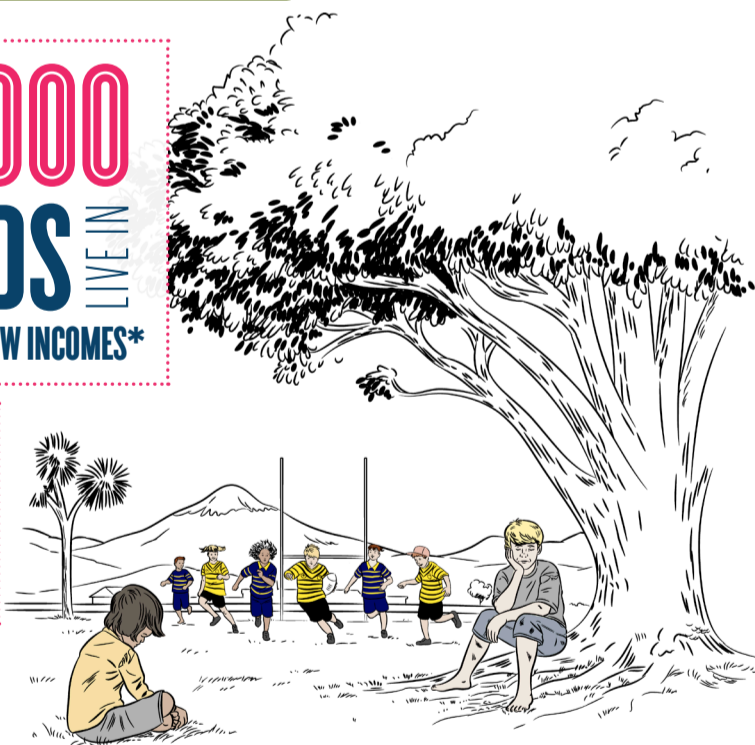
GREATER  
HARDSHIP



### Income Poverty

**290,000**  
**NZ KIDS**  
LIVE IN  
HOUSEHOLDS WITH LOW INCOMES\*

**27%**  
OF KIWI KIDS

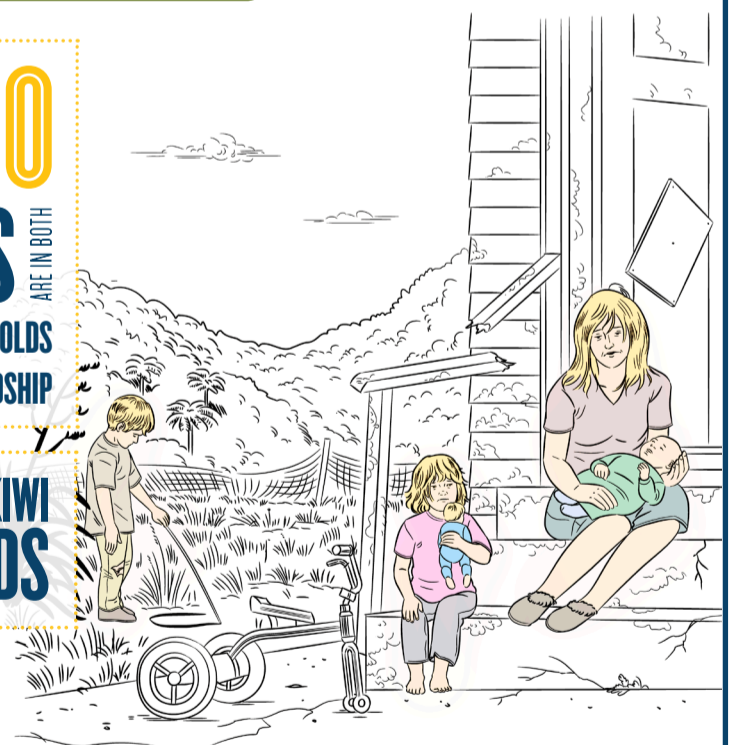


\*Income less than 60% of the median contemporary income

### Severe Poverty

**80,000**  
**NZ KIDS**  
ARE IN BOTH  
LOW INCOME HOUSEHOLDS  
and in MATERIAL HARDSHIP

THAT'S MORE THAN  
**7%** OF KIWI KIDS



Data source – Child Poverty Monitor: 2017 Technical Report, based on Ministry of Social Development data.  
The numbers are estimates based on household surveys.

Children are those aged 0–17-years-old.

VISIT [WWW.CHILDPOVERTY.CO.NZ](http://WWW.CHILDPOVERTY.CO.NZ) FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO READ THE FULL REPORT



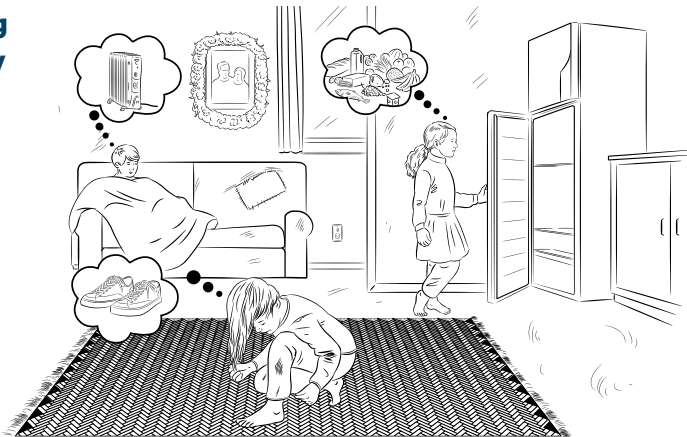
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## Material hardship – 7 up

MATERIAL HARDSHIP MEANS KIDS ARE LIVING IN HOUSEHOLDS WHERE THEY GO WITHOUT MANY OF THE THINGS THEY NEED

**12% NZ KIDS** LIVE IN HOUSEHOLDS **THAT GO WITHOUT 7 OR MORE THINGS THEY NEED FOR THEIR WELLBEING (FROM A LIST OF 17)** THAT'S **135,000 KIWI KIDS**

7 up material hardship is missing out, cutting back or being unable to pay for 7 or more things from a list of 17 everyday essentials and services.



2017

## Material hardship – 9 up

**6% NZ KIDS** LIVE IN HOUSEHOLDS **THAT GO WITHOUT 9 OR MORE THINGS THEY NEED FOR THEIR WELLBEING (FROM A LIST OF 17)** THAT'S **70,000 KIWI KIDS**

9 up material hardship is missing out, cutting back or being unable to pay for 9 or more things from a list of 17 everyday essentials and services.

[www.childpoverty.co.nz](http://www.childpoverty.co.nz)

Data source: Child Poverty Monitor: Technical Report 2017 - based on Ministry of Social Development data in *The material wellbeing of New Zealand households report*.



## Material hardship – list of 17 items in household survey

**MATERIAL HARDSHIP – 7 UP: CHILDREN IN HOUSEHOLDS THAT ARE MISSING 7 OR MORE ITEMS ON THIS LIST**  
**MATERIAL HARDSHIP – 9 UP: CHILDREN IN HOUSEHOLDS THAT ARE MISSING 9 OR MORE ITEMS ON THIS LIST**

### ENFORCED LACK OF ESSENTIALS (FOR RESPONDENT OR HOUSEHOLD AS A WHOLE)

1. meal with meat, fish or chicken (or vegetarian equivalent) at least each 2nd day
2. two pairs of shoes in good repair and suitable for everyday use
3. suitable clothes for important or special occasions
4. presents for family and friends on special occasions
5. home contents insurance

### FINANCIAL STRESS OR VULNERABILITY

6. borrowed money from family or friends more than once in the last 12 months to cover everyday living costs
7. feel 'very limited' by the money available when thinking about purchase of clothes or shoes for self (options were: not at all, a little, quite limited, and very limited)
8. could not pay an unexpected and unavoidable bill of \$500 within a month without borrowing

### ECONOMISED, CUT BACK OR DELAYED PURCHASES 'A LOT'

BECAUSE MONEY WAS NEEDED FOR OTHER ESSENTIALS (NOT JUST TO BE THRIFTY OR TO SAVE FOR A TRIP OR OTHER NON-ESSENTIAL)

9. went without or cut back on fresh fruit and vegetables
10. bought cheaper cuts of meat or bought less than wanted
11. put up with feeling cold to save on heating costs
12. postponed visits to the doctor
13. postponed visits to the dentist
14. did without or cut back on trips to the shops or other local places
15. delayed repairing or replacing broken or damaged appliances

### in ARREARS MORE THAN ONCE IN LAST 12 MONTHS (BECAUSE OF SHORTAGE OF CASH, NOT FORGETTING)

16. rates, electricity, water
17. vehicle registration, insurance or warrant of fitness

2017

# Education and Child Poverty

CHILDREN GROWING UP IN DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES HAVE GREATER RISK OF POOR EDUCATION OUTCOMES\*

**68%** OF STUDENTS FROM THE MOST DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES ACHIEVED **NCEA LEVEL 2**

COMPARED TO **93%** FROM THE MOST ADVANTAGED AREAS

OVERALL **80%** OF STUDENTS ACHIEVED **NCEA LEVEL 2** OR ABOVE IN 2016, UP FROM **68%** IN 2009

There have been improvements in the percentage of students achieving NCEA level 2 or above across all school deciles, and a slight decrease in the achievement gap. But the gap between the most and least disadvantaged continues to be significant.

**67%** OF MAORI STUDENTS ACHIEVED **NCEA LEVEL 2** IN 2016, UP FROM 46% IN 2009  
**75%** OF PACIFIC STUDENTS' ACHIEVED **NCEA LEVEL 2** IN 2016, UP FROM 56% IN 2009  
**83%** OF MELAA\*\* STUDENTS ACHIEVED **NCEA LEVEL 2** IN 2016, UP FROM 70% IN 2009

\* compared to those in the least disadvantaged communities \*\* Middle Eastern/Latin American/African

2017

# Income Poverty\*

MEASURING INCOME POVERTY ALLOWS US TO MONITOR, OVER TIME, HOW MUCH MONEY FAMILIES HAVE TO LIVE ON.

290,000 KIWI KIDS  
LIVE IN LOW INCOME  
HOUSEHOLDS



THAT'S  
MORE THAN 1 IN 4  
CHILDREN OR  
27%\*

THESE ARE CHILDREN IN FAMILIES WHOSE INCOME IS LESS THAN 60% OF NZ'S median HOUSEHOLD INCOME  
ADJUSTED AFTER TAX AND FOR FAMILY SIZE AND TYPE.  
Income is after housing costs as this is a significant and fixed portion of household spending. It shows what is left for other costs.



\*This is based on defining income poverty as <60% contemporary median threshold.

[www.childpoverty.co.nz](http://www.childpoverty.co.nz)

Data source: Child Poverty Monitor: Technical Report 2017  
– based on Ministry of Social Development data in the Household Incomes in New Zealand report  
Children are those 0–17 years old



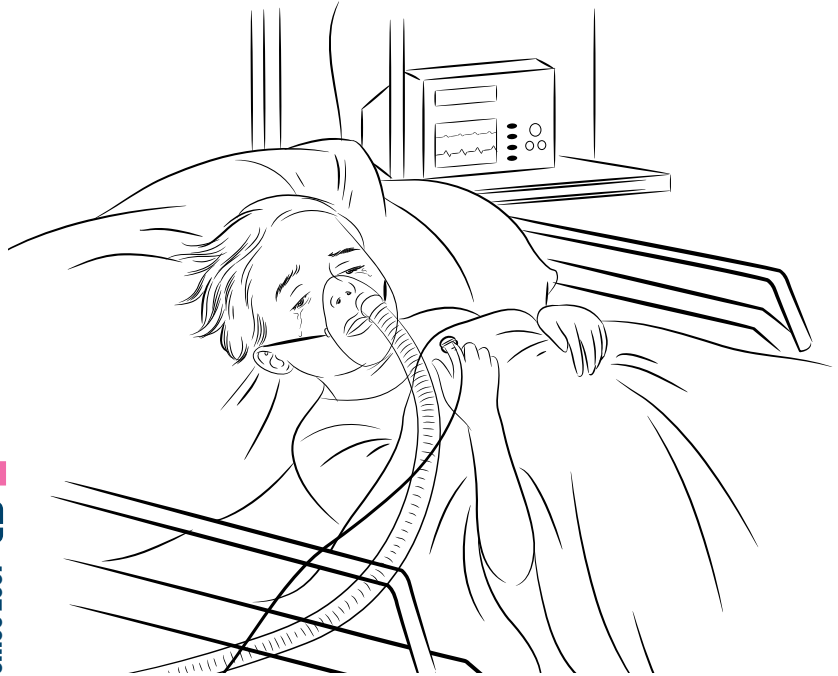
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## Poor Health and Child Poverty

CHILDREN\* GROWING UP IN POVERTY HAVE GREATER HEALTH RISKS

CHILDREN IN THE MOST DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES ARE NEARLY **3 TIMES** MORE LIKELY TO END UP IN HOSPITAL FOR COMMON RESPIRATORY AND INFECTIOUS CONDITIONS ASSOCIATED WITH POVERTY\*\*

THE NUMBER OF TIMES  
**CHILDREN**  
GO TO **HOSPITAL**  
WITH CONDITIONS RELATED TO DISADVANTAGE  
**HAS INCREASED** SINCE 2007



\*Children aged 0 -14 years \*\*Compared to those living in the least disadvantaged communities.

[www.childpoverty.co.nz](http://www.childpoverty.co.nz)

Data source: Child Poverty Monitor: Technical Report 2017

- based on government data in the *Household Incomes in New Zealand* report



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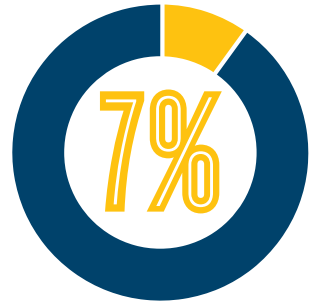
# Severe Poverty\*

CHILDREN IN SEVERE POVERTY ARE LIVING IN HOUSEHOLDS WITH BOTH LOW INCOMES AND MATERIAL HARDSHIP

THESE CHILDREN ARE  
**GOING WITHOUT**  
A NUMBER OF THINGS **THEY NEED\*\*** AND  
THEIR **LOW FAMILY INCOME**  
MEANS THEY HAVE LITTLE  
**OPPORTUNITY TO CHANGE THIS**

\*this data is from 2017  
\*\* 7 up material hardship

ABOUT



**OF CHILDREN  
ARE LIVING  
IN SEVERE  
POVERTY**

WHILE NEARLY



**4%** OF NZ'S TOTAL POPULATION  
ARE LIVING IN  
**SEVERE POVERTY**

[www.childpoverty.co.nz](http://www.childpoverty.co.nz)

Data source: Child Poverty Monitor: Technical Report 2017  
- based on Ministry of Social Development data in the Household Incomes in New Zealand report

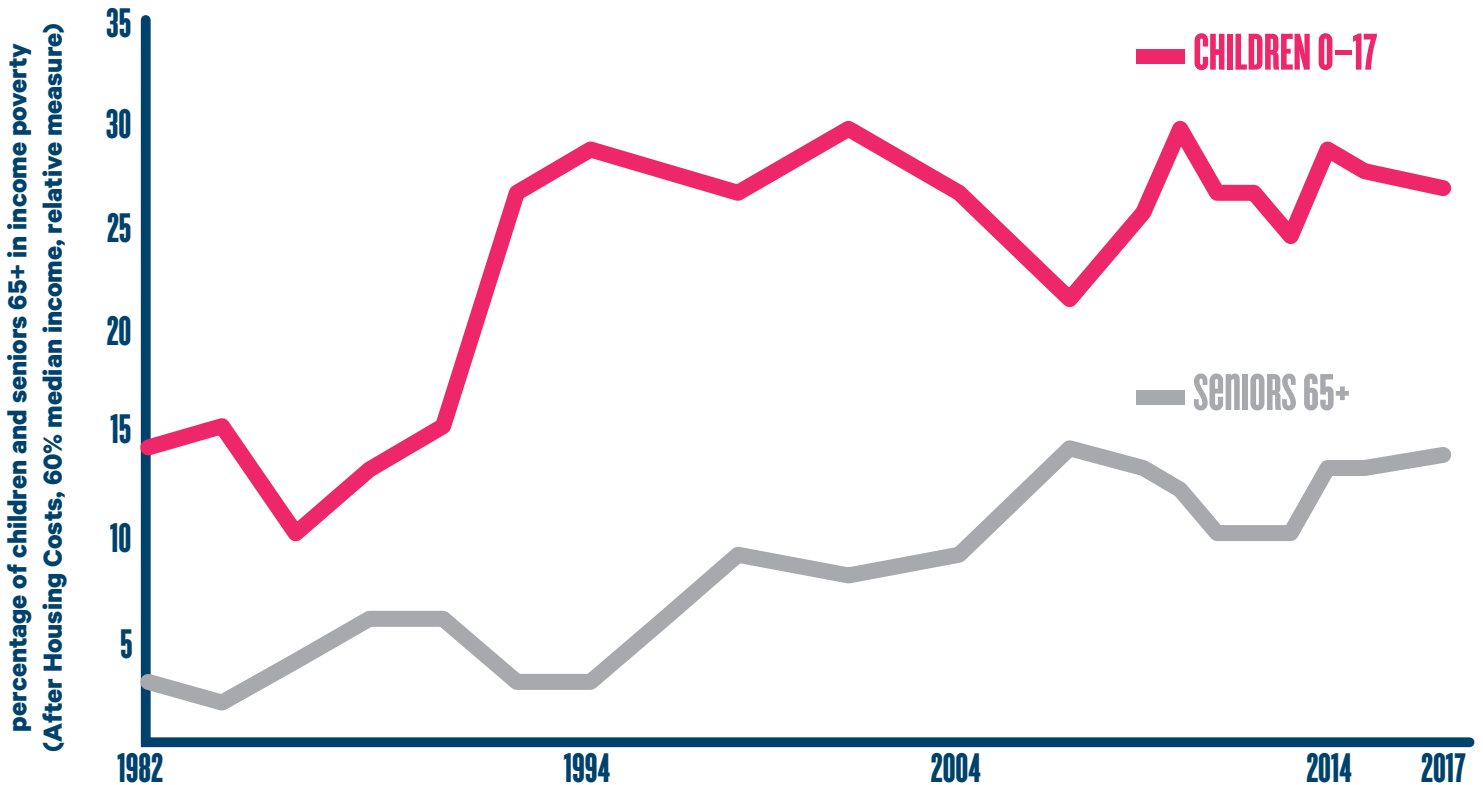


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# Child Poverty Trends Over Time

## INCOME-RELATED CHILD POVERTY RATES ARE MUCH HIGHER NOW THAN IN THE 1980S

# KIWI CHILDREN LIVING IN HOUSEHOLDS EXPERIENCING **INCOME POVERTY** OVER THE **LAST THREE DECADES** COMPARED TO SENIORS



**CHILDREN'S LEVEL OF INCOME POVERTY**  
**In 1982 = 14%** → **CHILDREN'S LEVEL OF INCOME POVERTY**  
**TODAY = 27%**

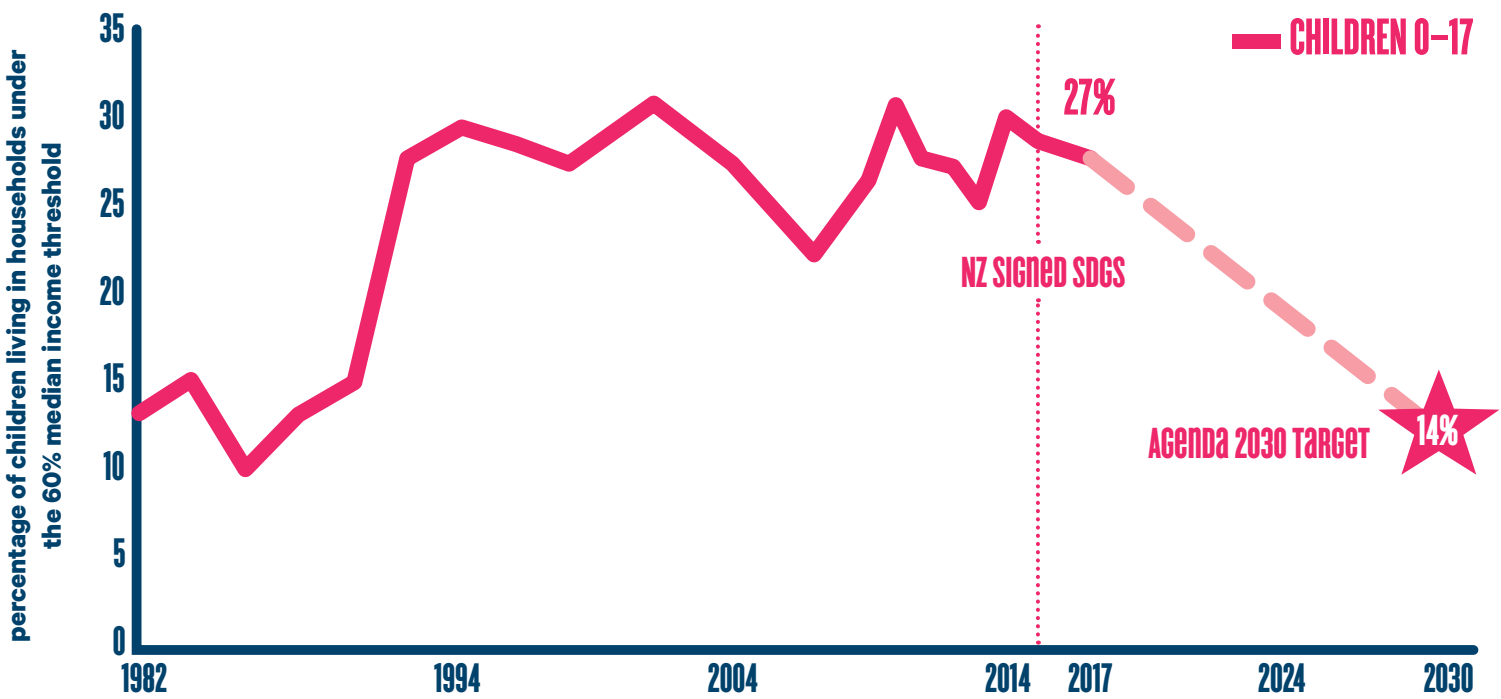


# Reaching Sustainable Development Goals

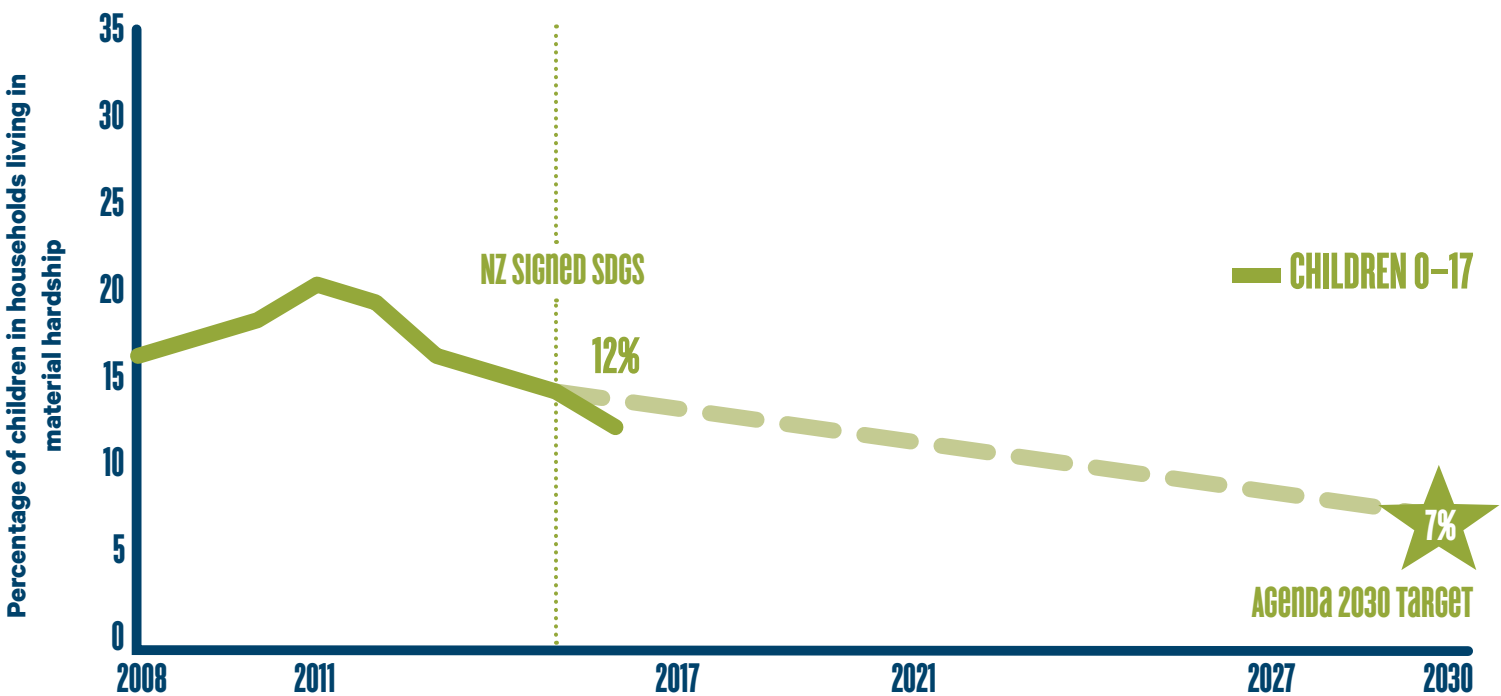
NEW ZEALAND SIGNED UP TO THE UN'S 'AGENDA 2030' SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS. ONE OF THE GOALS IS: "By 2030, reduce at least by half the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions."

## HALVING CHILD POVERTY WOULD SEE RATES RETURN TO LEVELS SEEN IN THE 1980S

### HALVING POVERTY BY 2030 – CHILDREN IN LOW INCOME HOUSEHOLDS



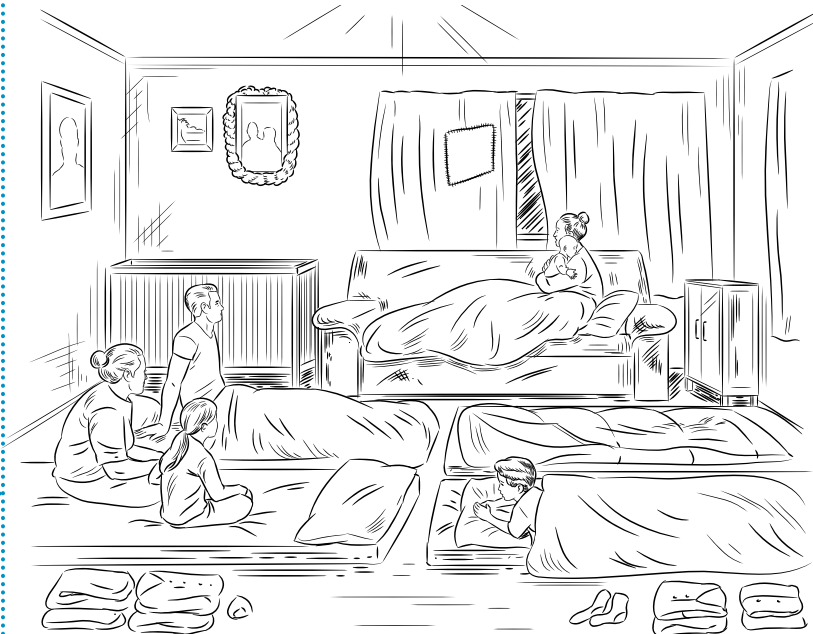
### HALVING POVERTY BY 2030 – CHILDREN IN MATERIAL HARDSHIP\*



\* Material hardship – missing 7 things from list of 17

**CHILDREN IN LOW INCOME HOUSEHOLDS ARE MORE LIKELY TO LIVE IN CROWDED HOUSING\***

**38%** OF CHILDREN  
LIVE IN HOUSEHOLDS  
THAT SPEND  
**MORE THAN 30%**  
OF THEIR INCOME ON HOUSING\*



CHILDREN IN COLD, DAMP AND MOULDY HOUSING  
ARE MORE LIKELY TO BECOME SICK

CHILDREN LIVING IN <sup>are</sup> PRIVATE RENTALS **3X**  
MORE LIKELY TO BE IN HOUSES WITH  
**MAJOR DAMPNESS**  
**MOULD PROBLEMS**  
THAN THOSE IN OWNER-OCCUPIED HOMES

**40%** OF CHILDREN IN HOUSEHOLDS  
THAT LIVE IN 'SOCIAL HOUSING' HAVE A MAJOR PROBLEM  
**HEATING THEIR HOME IN WINTER**

**86%** of children who regularly  
experience being cold are  
from households with high  
levels of hardship

AT LEAST **13%** OF **KIWI KIDS** LIVE IN **CROWDED HOMES**

Children are considered to live in crowded homes when one or more additional bedrooms are needed for the number of people living in the house and taking into account gender, age and relationships

2017

## Persistent Poverty

CHILDREN IN PERSISTENT POVERTY ARE IN FAMILIES WITH LOW INCOMES OVER LONG PERIODS OF TIME

**3 OF 5** OF CHILDREN ARE LIKELY TO LIVE THIS WAY FOR **many years\***  
**IN POVERTY**

CHILDREN IN FAMILIES  
WHOSE AVERAGE INCOME  
**OVER 7 YEARS**  
**IS BELOW THE**  
**INCOME POVERTY LINE**



Spending long periods  
of time in poverty from  
a young age makes it  
difficult for children to  
do well later in life

\*This is based on the latest available government data from 2008. See the Technical Report for more information

[www.childpoverty.co.nz](http://www.childpoverty.co.nz)

Data source – Child Poverty Monitor: Technical Report 2017

– based on government data in the *Household Incomes in New Zealand* report

