

Table 119 Escaping the housing benefit poverty trap: Gross weekly earnings levels at which housing benefit entitlement ceases

£ per week

Household type	Housing benefit allowances	Earnings disregards	Rent levels:						
			£40	£50	£60	£70	£80	£90	£100
Gross earnings levels at which housing benefit entitlement ceases									
Single person >25	56.20	5.00	130.39	152.71	171.41	220.27	243.24	266.20	289.16
Couple >25	88.15	10.00	184.90	207.86	192.61	243.89	295.17	321.35	344.31
Lone parent + 1 child <19	122.28	25.00	81.20	97.28	131.40	187.79	239.07	290.36	341.64
Lone parent + 2 children <19	166.16	25.00	81.27	97.37	131.57	188.02	239.31	290.59	341.87
Couple + 1 child <19	148.13	10.00	99.26	135.59	193.01	244.29	295.57	346.86	392.86
Couple + 2 children <19	192.01	10.00	99.35	135.83	193.24	244.52	295.81	347.09	398.37
Couple + 3 children <19	235.89	10.00	99.44	136.06	193.48	244.76	296.04	347.32	398.60
Couple + 4 children <19	279.77	10.00	99.53	136.29	193.71	244.99	296.27	347.56	398.84

Notes: All figures based on standard income support and housing benefit rates as they apply from April 2005. The figures for lone parent households are for post April 1998 claimants. Figures are for cases without child care costs eligible for assistance under the working families tax credit scheme. The housing benefit allowances and earnings disregards are set against net earnings (and child benefit and tax credits). For consistency all figures assume an adult working 30 or more hours per week, even though in some cases this implies earnings below the level of the minimum wage. The cases based on an adult working less than 30 hours per week are shown in italics. For single people and childless couples working less than 30 hours it means that they do not qualify for working tax credit, and this has a significant impact on the earnings level at which they cease to qualify for housing benefit.