

POVERTY

The 2001 Census revealed that 175,000 young people (aged 5-17) in the UK provided care on an informal basis for relatives and friends. Of these, 30,000 were providing care for 20+ hours per week, a substantial undertaking given that almost all of these children were also in full-time education.

There were around 1.3 million families with dependent children where no parent was in employment. Areas with the highest percentages of young people providing care also tend to have high proportions of families where no parent is in paid work.

