

More than half of UK households to be in fuel poverty by the new year, according to new report

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More than half of households in the U.K., or 15 million people, will have been pushed into fuel poverty by January 2023, according to a new

report authored by York academics.

The [report](#) predicts that, even with the £400 fuel rebate being offered by the [government](#), 58.5% of households will be plunged into fuel poverty in Yorkshire and the Humber, 47.5% in London and 71.7% in Northern Ireland.

Struggling

People living in the poorest and coldest regions of the U.K. will be the worst affected along with those who are already most likely to be struggling with the cost of living. More than 80% of large families, lone parents and pensioner couples will be in fuel poverty, the authors of the report calculate.

Fuel poverty is defined as having to spend over 10% of net income on fuel. The report estimates that [households](#) living in [fuel poverty](#) will be spending on average £37.51 above this 10% threshold per month.

Co-lead author of the report Professor Jonathan Bradshaw from the Social Policy research unit at the University of York said: "This should be the main preoccupation of the Conservative leadership candidates. A new package of mitigations is urgently needed."

Increases

The electricity and gas price cap will rise again in October 2022 and again in January 2023. The size of the increase has not yet been announced but it is expected to take average [electricity](#) and gas bills to £64.59 per week or £3359 per year. It is also expected that the January increase will take weekly bills to £69.53 or £3615.75 per year, with some sources predicting even larger increases.

The report highlights how the £400 rebate being offered by the government will reduce these bills by only £15.38 per week between October 2022 and April 2023.

More information: Fuel poverty: estimates for the UK.
[cpag.org.uk/news-blogs/news-li ... poverty-estimates-uk](https://cpag.org.uk/news-blogs/news-li...poverty-estimates-uk)

Provided by University of York

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