

## COUNTRY FACT SHEET ON RBs: UNITED KINGDOM

UNITED KINGDOM				
	1990	1994	1997	2008
Name	FBU modest but adequate budget	Loughborough consensual budget standards	FBU low costs budget	A Minimum Income Standard for the United Kingdom
Year of first construction	1990	1994	1997	2008
State of use	Not in use	Not in use	Not in use	In use
Key moments	1985: Group of social scientists form the family budget unit. 1987: Papers published 1989-1990: Joseph Rowntree Foundation funded research project at the University of York on budget standards, results published. 1993: Final Report.	1987: The consensual budget standards (CBS) method developed in the 1990s at CRSP took a similar approach to the FBU, but, instead of panels of professional experts, ordinary people representing different family or household types were brought together to form budget standards committees considering minimum needs.	1998: Hermione Parker begins to publish a series of low costs budgets based on funding from Trade Union UNISON and voluntary body Age Concern as follows	2006: The Joseph Rowntree Foundation decided to support a joint project by the FBU in York and CRSP to bring together the approaches of RB2 and RB3. The first results published in 2008. From 2009 onwards, JRF has supported CRSP to update the budgets annually, with regular reviews and rebases of the content of the budgets, every two years from 2010.
Geographical focus	- Entire country	- Entire country	- Entire country	Initially GB (not including Northern Ireland), subsequently whole of UK. Separate studies for rural England and for remote rural Scotland plus MIS London updated regularly since 2015.
Data used	- Household budget data - (Inter) national or regional guidelines - Focus group decisions - Expert knowledge - Breadline Britain surveys - Market research survey	- Focus group decisions	- Household budget data - (Inter) national or regional guidelines - Focus group decisions - Expert knowledge - Breadline Britain surveys - Market research survey	- Decisions made by focus groups - Expert knowledge (nutritionist, domestic fuel expert, motoring expert) used to inform key aspects of budgets, subject to approval from focus groups
Household types				Single & partnered pensioners, single & partnered working age adults without children.

				Partnered parents with 1-4 children, lone parent families with 1-3 children. There are budgets for 4 different ages of children: 0-23 months, 2-4 years, 5-11 years and 12-18 years. The budgets for individuals can be combined into over 100 different configurations to take account of numbers and ages of children living with lone or partnered parents. Further work in 2018 on household budgets for non-dependent children aged 20-30 living at home with working age parents. Future work planned to look at household costs for non-resident parents who have part-time residential care of children.
Institutions involved				CRSP at Loughborough University
Key publications				See below
Updates				Every July
Last update	1993	n/a	1998 [since 2011 intellectual property of the FBU was transferred to CRSP at University of Loughborough]	July 2020

Reference: EU Platform on Reference Budgets (2021). Country fact sheet on reference budgets in United Kingdom, April 2021, Antwerp: EPRB.

### All available publications about RBs in the United Kingdom

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