

'Is Britain Fairer?': Key facts and findings on ethnicity

'Is Britain Fairer?' (2015) is the Equality and Human Rights Commission's five-yearly review of equality and human rights in Britain. This factsheet captures some of our key findings for different ethnic groups.

Race is a protected characteristic under the Equality Act 2010. The Act prohibits unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation; protects individuals from unfair treatment; and promotes a fair and more equal society. It protects all ethnic groups from discrimination in a variety of fields, including employment, education, the exercise of public functions and the provision of services. Figures from the Office of National Statistics and National Records of Scotland indicate that there were **54.6 million** White people and **8.3 million** people from an ethnic minority living in Britain in 2011 (**1.3 million** people of Mixed race; **1.5 million** Indians; **1.7 million** Pakistani/Bangladeshi; **1.9 million** African/Black/Caribbean; and **1.9 million** people of 'Other' race).



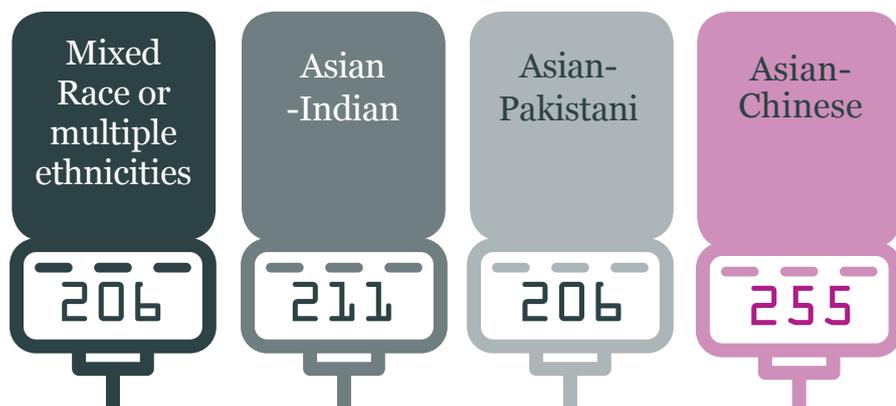
Asian and Mixed race pupils are outperforming White pupils in education, while African, Black and Caribbean children are falling behind



In England in 2012/13, more White pupils achieved at least 5 GCSE grades A*-C (**60.2%**) than Pakistani/Bangladeshi pupils (**58.1%**) and African/Caribbean/Black pupils (also **58.1%**). However, Indian pupils (**75.7%**), Mixed race pupils (**62.5%**) and 'Other' pupils (**64%**) performed better than their White counterparts.

In Wales in 2011-13, **51.6%** of White pupils achieved at least 5 GCSE grades A*-C. This was similar to Pakistani/Bangladeshi (**51.2%**) and Mixed race pupils (**53.6%**) but higher than African/Caribbean/Black pupils (**41.4%**). Indian pupils (**60.0%**) and 'Other' pupils (**56.4%**) performed better than their White counterparts.

In Scotland, the average tariff score for White-Scottish pupils was 191 points in 2012/13:



pupils had higher average tariff scores, compared with White-Scottish pupils.



In England, the exclusion rate in schools for African/Caribbean/Black pupils

(51.9 per 1,000 pupils) was higher than for White pupils (42.2) in 2012/13. However, in Scotland White children had the highest exclusion rate of all the ethnic groups (**33.5** exclusions per 1,000 pupils); African/Caribbean/Black pupils had the second highest exclusion rate (**27.8**).



In Wales, the exclusion rate decreased for all ethnicities between 2008/09 and 2012/13, particularly for Black pupils.

In 2012/13 there were no statistically significant differences in the exclusion rate between most ethnic groups. The only exception was Asian children who had an exclusion rate (**13.9** per 1,000) that was lower than for White children (**39.2**).

In Britain, the proportions of young people who were Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) did not differ between White people and those from ethnic minorities in 2013.

In Britain, 26.8% of White people had a degree-level qualification in 2013. This was lower than for African/Caribbean/Black (**34.7%**), Indian (**49.5%**), Mixed race (**36.6%**) and 'Other' (**40.2%**) people. No difference was found between White and Pakistani/Bangladeshi people in 2013.



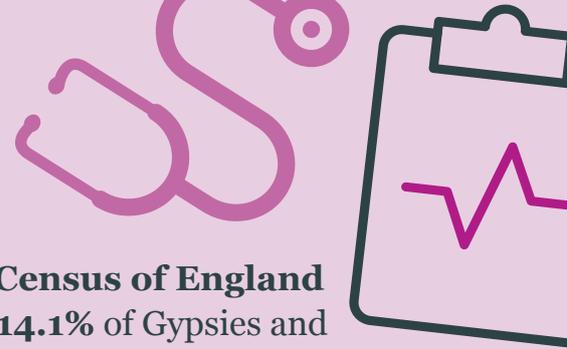
People from an ethnic minority have poorer employment prospects than White people

In Britain, an individual from an ethnic minority was over twice as likely to be unemployed than a White person in 2013. Black people experienced some of the largest increases in unemployment between 2008 and 2013, and young Muslim men and young Hindu women in Outer London had the highest unemployment rates in 2013.

People from ethnic minorities made up 5% of FTSE 100 board members in 2014. In the public sector, ethnic minorities represented 7% of employees in Senior Civil Service grades. In contrast, 11% of the population are from an ethnic minority.



Average hourly earnings of employees declined (in real terms) between 2008 and 2013. On average (median hourly earnings of employees) in 2013, people were paid roughly 65 pence per hour less than they were in 2008. However, people from ethnic minorities were particularly affected. African/Caribbean/Black people were paid £1.20 per hour less in 2013 compared with 2008, while people of Mixed ethnicity earned 90 pence less per hour.



Some ethnic minorities have poor health outcomes

In England and Wales, infant mortality was substantially higher for African/Caribbean (**4.4 deaths per 1,000 births**), Pakistani/Bangladeshi (**6.5**) and Indian (**4.5**) infants, in comparison with White infants (**3.4**) in 2012. **In Scotland**, South Asians represented 4.9% of overall foetal and infant deaths in 2012.



In the 2011 Census of England and Wales, **14.1%** of Gypsies and Irish Travellers rated their health as bad or very bad. The group with the second poorest self-rated health was White Irish (**9.2%**), followed by Black Caribbean (**6.7%**), White British (**5.9%**), 'Other' ethnicity (**5.7%**), Bangladeshi (**5.6%**) and Pakistani (**5.5%**). **In Scotland**, a greater proportion of Gypsy/Travellers rated their health as bad or very bad (**15%**) compared with the average for Scotland.

In England, the percentage of people who were at risk of poor mental health was higher among Pakistani/Bangladeshi and African/Caribbean/Black people (**22.9%** and **19.9%** respectively) than among White people (**14.6%**) in 2012. There are no data available for Wales.

Adults and children from an ethnic minority are more likely to live in poverty

In Britain, adults from an ethnic minority had a higher poverty rate than those who are White (**17.5%**) in 2012/13. **Poverty rates:**

43.8%	Pakistani/ Bangladeshi
39.4%	African/Caribbean/Black and 'Other' ethnic minorities
26.9%	'Mixed' race
24.6%	Indian people

In Britain, poverty rates were higher for children living in a household headed by someone from an ethnic minority (**41.9%**) compared with someone from the White group (**24.5%**) in 2012/13. The poverty rate was particularly high for children living in a household headed by Pakistani/Bangladeshi, Black or 'Other' people (between **43.2%** and **49.3%**) whereas the poverty rate for children in a family headed by an Indian person was the same as that for the White group.



Some people from ethnic minorities in England felt less safe than White people



In England, the percentage of White respondents (**29.2%**) who felt unsafe being alone at home at night or walking in their local area after dark was lower compared with Black (**37.4%**) and Asian or 'Other' (**37.4%**) respondents in 2012/13. In Scotland, there was no difference between the proportion of White and ethnic minority respondents.

There are no data available for Wales for 2012/13.

In England/Wales and Scotland, race-motivated hate crime remains the most commonly recorded by the police. In England and Wales, **37,484** race-motivated hate crimes were recorded by the police in 2013/14. In Scotland, **4,148** charges were reported to the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service in 2013/14.



In England, the percentage of people who worried about being the subject of a physical attack because of their skin colour, ethnic origin or religion decreased between 2008/09 (**4.4%**) and 2012/13 (**3.4%**). In Wales, **2.5%** of respondents worried about being subject to a physical attack because of their skin colour in 2012/13. This was not a significant change compared to 2008/09 (**2.8%**).

There are no data available for Scotland.



White people are more likely than most people from ethnic minorities to vote in general elections

In Britain, a higher percentage of White people (**93%**) said they had voted in the 2015 UK elections than people from the Black (**84.3%**), Pakistani/Bangladeshi (**86.4%**), Mixed (**84.8%**) and 'Other' ethnic groups (**83%**).

The percentage of ethnic minority MPs increased from 4.2% to 6.3% after the 2015 General Election.

