# ETHNIC MINORITIES IN GREAT BRITAIN

# INTRODUCTION

# POPULATION

In the 2001 census, 6.7 million people in Great Britain (or 11.8% of the total population) were from ethnic minorities.\* Of these, 4.6 million (or 8.1% of the total population) were from non-White ethnic minorities. This represented an increase of 53% from just over 3 million (or roughly 5.5%) in 1991, when a question about ethnicity was asked as part of the census for the first time (see Table 1).

Some of this increase may be due to the addition of a new category of Mixed ethnic background, but most groups have grown significantly in the last 10 years. The Black African group has more than doubled, the Bangladeshi group grew by 74% and the Pakistani and Chinese groups increased by over 50% each (see Table 2). High birth rates and net international migration – recent research shows that people born abroad accounted for half of the population growth between 1991 and 2001<sup>1</sup> – have been the main reasons for this.

|                               | 1991 population<br>(000s) | 2001 population<br>(000s) | % change |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|----------|
| All ethnic groups             | 54,889                    | 57,104                    | 4.0      |
|                               |                           |                           |          |
| White                         | 51,873                    | 52,481                    | 1.2      |
|                               |                           |                           |          |
| Mixed*                        | -                         | 674                       | -        |
|                               |                           |                           |          |
| Asian, Asian British/Scottish | 1,677                     | 2,329                     | 38.9     |
| Indian                        | 840                       | 1,052                     | 25.2     |
| Pakistani                     | 477                       | 747                       | 56.6     |
| Bangladeshi                   | 163                       | 283                       | 73.6     |
| Other Asian                   | 197                       | 247                       | 25.4     |
|                               |                           |                           |          |
| Black, Black British/Scottish | 890                       | 1,148                     | 29.0     |
| Black Caribbean               | 500                       | 566                       | 13.2     |
| Black African                 | 212                       | 485                       | 128.8    |
| Other Black                   | 178                       | 97                        | -45.5    |
|                               |                           |                           |          |
| Chinese, other ethnic group   | 447                       | 473                       | 5.8      |
| Chinese                       | 157                       | 243                       | 54.8     |
| Any other ethnic group        | 290                       | 229                       | -21.0    |
|                               |                           |                           |          |
| All non-White groups          | 3,014                     | 4,623                     | 53.4%    |

\* Mixed ethnic group categories were not included in 1991 census

Source: 2001 census, Office for National Statistics; 2001 census, General Register Office for Scotland

\*NOTE: In this factfile, which draws on Census and Labour Force Survey data, the term 'ethnic minority' refers to people who chose a category other than White in the 2001 Census. It therefore excludes White ethnic minorities who are normally included in the CRE's use of the term.

#### Table 1 The non-White population of Great Britain, 1951–2001

| Year | Non-white population |
|------|----------------------|
| 1951 | 30,000 (est)         |
| 1961 | 400,000 (est)        |
| 1971 | 1.4 million          |
| 1981 | 2.1 million          |
| 1991 | 3.0 million          |
| 2001 | 4.6 million          |

Source: for 1951 and 1961, Spencer (1997); for 1971, Lomas (1973); for 1981, Amin & Richardson (1992); for 1991 and 2001, respective censuses, Office for National Statistics and General Register Office for Scotland.

# Table 2The population of GreatBritain, by ethnic group,1991 and 2001



Forecasts based on the current population growth rate figures<sup>2</sup> put the non-White ethnic minority population in 2011 at between 6 and 7 million people, representing 11–12% of the projected population of Great Britain. This estimate does not take into account changes in birth rates, levels of migration or the ways in which people might classify themselves.

# **ETHNIC GROUPS**

The 2001 census used five broad categories of ethnic group – White, Mixed ethnic background, Asian or Asian British, Black or Black British and Chinese or Other ethnic background. These were further subdivided into 16 sub-categories in England and Wales (and 15 in Scotland).

Indians made up 1.8% of the total population of Great Britain in 2001 and formed the single largest ethnic minority group. They were followed by Pakistanis (1.3%), White Irish (1.2%) and people from Mixed ethnic backgrounds (1.2%), Black Caribbeans (1%), Black Africans (0.8%) and Bangladeshis (0.5%) (see Table 3).

#### Table 3

The populations of England, Scotland, Wales and Great Britain, by ethnic group, 2001

|                               | Engl             | and       | Wal              | les       | Scot             | land  | Great Britain    |       |  |  |
|-------------------------------|------------------|-----------|------------------|-----------|------------------|-------|------------------|-------|--|--|
|                               | Number<br>(000s) | %         | Number<br>(000s) | %         | Number<br>(000s) | %     | Number<br>(000s) | %     | %<br>non-White<br>ethnic<br>minorities |  |
| All ethnic groups             | 49,139           | 100.0     | 2,903            | 100.0     | 5,062            | 100.0 | 57,104           | 100.0 | -                                      |  |
| NA/1 *1                       | 44,679           | 00.0      | 0.070            | 97.9      | ( 0/0            | 00.0  | F0 (01           | 01.0  |  |  |
| White                         |                  | 90.9      | 2,842<br>2,787   |           | 4,960            | 98.0  | 52,481           | 91.9  | -                                      |  |
| British                       | 42,747           | 87.0<br>* | 2,787<br>*       | 96.0<br>* |                  |       | 50,366           | 88.2  | -                                      |  |
| Scottish                      |                  |           |                  |           | 4,459            | 88.1  | -                | -     | -                                      |  |
| Irish                         | 624              | 1.3       | 18               | 0.6       | 49               | 1.0   | 691              | 1.2   | -                                      |  |
| Other British                 |                  |           |                  |           | 374              | 7.4   | -                | -     | -                                      |  |
| Other White                   | 1,308            | 2.7       | 37               | 1.3       | 78               | 1.5   | 1,423            | 2.5   | -                                      |  |
|                               | ( ( 2            | 1.0       | 10               | 0 (       | 10               |       | (5)              | 1.0   |  |  |
| Mixed                         | 643              | 1.3       | 18               | 0.6       | 13               | 0.3   | 674              | 1.2   | 14.6                                   |  |
| White and Black Caribbean     | 231              | 0.5       | 6                | 0.2       | *                | *     | -                | -     | -                                      |  |
| White and Black African       | 76               | 0.2       | 2                | 0.1       |                  |       | -                | -     | -                                      |  |
| White and Asian               | 184              | 0.4       | 5                | 0.2       | *                | *     | -                | -     | -                                      |  |
| Other Mixed                   | 151              | 0.3       | 4                | 0.1       | *                | *     | -                | -     | -                                      |  |
|                               |                  |           |                  |           |                  |       |                  |       |  |  |
| Asian, Asian British/Scottish | 2,248            | 4.6       | 25               | 0.9       | 55               | 1.1   | 2,329            | 4.1   | 50.4                                   |  |
| Indian                        | 1,029            | 2.1       | 8                | 0.3       | 15               | 0.3   | 1,052            | 1.8   | 22.8                                   |  |
| Pakistani                     | 707              | 1.4       | 8                | 0.3       | 32               | 0.6   | 747              | 1.3   | 16.2                                   |  |
| Bangladeshi                   | 275              | 0.6       | 5                | 0.2       | 2                | <0.1  | 283              | 0.5   | 6.1                                    |  |
| Other Asian                   | 238              | 0.5       | 3                | 0.1       | 6                | 0.1   | 247              | 0.4   | 5.4                                    |  |
|                               |                  |           |                  |           |                  |       |                  |       |  |  |
| Black, Black British/Scottish | 1,133            | 2.3       | 7                | 0.2       | 8                | 0.2   | 1,148            | 2.0   | 24.8                                   |  |
| Black Caribbean               | 561              | 1.1       | 3                | 0.1       | 2                | <0.1  | 566              | 1.0   | 12.2                                   |  |
| Black African                 | 476              | 1.0       | 4                | 0.1       | 5                | 0.1   | 485              | 0.8   | 10.5                                   |  |
| Other Black                   | 95               | 0.2       | 1                | <0.1      | 1                | <0.1  | 97               | 0.2   | 2.1                                    |  |
|                               |                  |           |                  |           |                  |       |                  |       |  |  |
| Chinese, other ethnic group   | 435              | 0.9       | 11               | 0.4       | 26               | 0.5   | 472              | 0.8   | 10.2                                   |  |
| Chinese                       | 221              | 0.4       | 6                | 0.2       | 16               | 0.3   | 243              | 0.4   | 5.3                                    |  |
| Any other ethnic group        | 215              | 0.4       | 5                | 0.2       | 10               | 0.2   | 229              | 0.4   | 5.0                                    |  |
|                               |                  |           |                  |           |                  |       |                  |       |  |  |
|                               |                  |           |                  |           |                  |       |                  |       |  |  |

\* Answer category not provided as a tick-box option in this country.

- signifies not applicable

Sources: 2001 census, Office for National Statistics; 2001 census, General Register Office for Scotland

Around half of Great Britain's non-White population in 2001 described themselves as Asians of Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi or Other Asian origin, and a quarter as being from the Black Caribbean, Black African and Other Black groups.

In Great Britain, in 2001, 674,000 people said they were from a Mixed ethnic background. In England and Wales, the White and Black Caribbean group was the largest Mixed group (237,000 people) and the White and Black African group the smallest (78,000 people). The White and Asian and the Other Mixed groups comprised 189,000 and 155,000 people, respectively. The Other Mixed group comprised many different Mixed ethnic groups, including those with Mixed White ethnicities.<sup>3</sup>

In 2001, people who described themselves as being from the Other White, Other Asian, Other Black or Other ethnic groups made up 4% of the population of England and Wales. By far the largest group was the Other White group, which accounted for 2.5% of the population of England and Wales, and 2.7% of the White majority population. Of the 1.3 million people in the Other White group, four out of five (80%) were born overseas; 34% were born in a west European country other than the UK, 14% in an east European country, 10% in North America, 7% each in Africa and Oceania, 6% in Asia and 2% in South America.<sup>4</sup>

# **COUNTRY OF BIRTH**

In 2001, for the first time, the census asked a question about country of birth, to be answered by ticking one of six boxes: Wales, England, Scotland, Northern Ireland, Republic of Ireland and Elsewhere (with the country being written in).

Of the UK population in 2001, 8.3% (or 4.9 million) were born abroad, almost double the proportion in 1951 (4.2%).<sup>5</sup> Around 53% (2.6 million) of the population born elsewhere were from the White groups. The next largest ethnic groups were Indian (570,000), Pakistani (336,000), Black African (322,000), Black Caribbean (238,000), Chinese (176,000) and Bangladeshi (152,000).

Nearly half of the population who were born elsewhere were UK citizens and two-thirds had been resident in Great Britain before 1990. The trend over the last 30 years has been for migrants to the UK, especially those born in the EU, North America and Oceania, to leave within five years; between half and two-thirds of them emigrated, compared with 15% of migrants from the Indian subcontinent.<sup>6</sup>

The enlargement of the EU in 2004 granted free access to the UK labour market to all 10 of the new member states, including the A8 eastern European countries.<sup>7</sup> Between 1 May 2004 and December 2006, a total of 579,000 eastern European migrants from A8 countries registered on the Worker Registration Scheme.<sup>8</sup> This number reflects both long-term migrants and those who migrate for short periods only.

Among the population born elsewhere, country of birth did not always correspond closely with ethnicity. For example, 38% of people born in Africa were Black, 31% were White and 20% were Indian. Similarly, the countries and continents of birth of White people born elsewhere included mainland Europe (where 41% were born), the Republic of Ireland (21%), North and South America (11%), Asia (11%), Africa (10%) and Oceania (6%).<sup>9</sup>

The 23 local authorities in England and Wales with the largest 'born elsewhere' populations were all in London, with the borough of Brent highest at 47%. In another seven local authorities, residents born elsewhere made up more than 20% of their populations.<sup>10</sup>

In the 35-44 age group, 67% of Black Caribbeans and 49% of White Irish were born in Great Britain compared with only 13%, 10% and 5% of Indians, Pakistanis and Bangladeshis, respectively. This reflects the fact that Black Caribbeans and Irish were the earliest post-war migrants to Great Britain.<sup>11</sup> Since 1945, the size and diversity of the population born elsewhere have increased, with groups such as Somalis, Turks, South Americans and eastern Europeans more numerous in Great Britain today (see Figure 1).

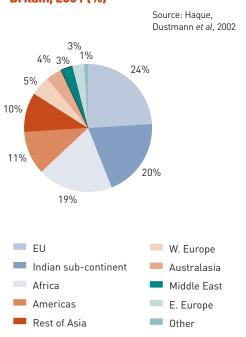
Four-fifths of people of Mixed ethnic backgrounds (79%) were born in the UK; those

### Table 4 People living in Great Britain who were born in the UK, by ethnic group and age, 2001 (%)

from the White and Black Caribbean Mixed group were most likely to have been born in the UK (94%), compared with 76% of the Mixed White and Asian group and 67% of the White and Black African and Other Mixed groups.<sup>12</sup>

#### Figure 1

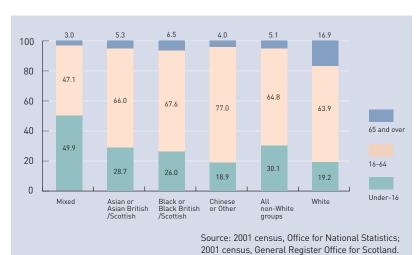
The country of origin of people living in Great Britain, 2001 (%)



|                               | Under-16 | 16-64 | 65+   | All ages |  |
|-------------------------------|----------|-------|-------|----------|--|
| All ethnic groups             | 96.58    | 89.76 | 92.40 | 91.55    |  |
|                               |          |       |       |          |  |
| White                         | 97.99    | 94.54 | 94.62 | 95.21    |  |
| British/Scottish              | 99.01    | 98.06 | 97.55 | 98.16    |  |
| Irish                         | 79.47    | 36.40 | 17.50 | 34.24    |  |
| Other White                   | 50.66    | 15.84 | 14.98 | 20.56    |  |
|                               |          |       |       |          |  |
| Mixed                         | 92.83    | 66.98 | 44.74 | 79.22    |  |
| White and Black Caribbean     | 98.68    | *     | 48.78 | *        |  |
| White and Black African       | 84.62    | *     | 53.10 | *        |  |
| White and Asian               | 90.82    | *     | 23.67 | *        |  |
| Other Mixed                   | 87.34    | *     | 43.94 | *        |  |
|                               |          |       |       |          |  |
| Asian, Asian British/Scottish | 89.36    | 32.33 | 5.33  | 47.28    |  |
| Indian                        | 92.40    | 34.89 | 2.50  | 45.92    |  |
| Pakistani                     | 90.85    | 37.53 | 9.72  | 54.98    |  |
| Bangladeshi                   | 87.35    | 21.73 | 6.94  | 46.44    |  |
| Other Asian                   | 73.92    | 18.11 | 8.88  | 30.81    |  |
|                               |          |       |       |          |  |
| Black, Black British/Scottish | 79.49    | 42.05 | 6.62  | 49.47    |  |
| Black Caribbean               | 92.44    | 56.08 | 3.10  | 57.86    |  |
| Black African                 | 65.70    | 20.00 | 19.20 | 33.74    |  |
| Other Black                   | 93.66    | 72.53 | 28.69 | 79.10    |  |
|                               |          |       |       |          |  |
| Chinese, other ethnic group   | 63.32    | 13.09 | 6.38  | 22.34    |  |
| Chinese                       | 77.47    | 18.46 | 5.15  | 28.73    |  |
| Any other ethnic group        | 48.95    | 7.50  | 8.68  | 15.56    |  |
|                               |          |       |       |          |  |
| All non-White groups          | 86.41    | 36.18 | 9.15  | 49.93    |  |

#### \* Data not available

Sources: 2001 census, Office for National Statistics; 2001 census, General Register Office for Scotland. (See www.statistics.gov.uk/cci/nugget.asp?id=456)



#### Figure 2 Age distribution, by ethnic group, Great Britain, 2001

# AGE

The non-White population of Great Britain tends to be younger than its White population, reflecting past immigration and high birth rates (see Figure 2). For example, 50% of people in the Mixed group, 38% of Bangladeshis, 38% of people in the Other Black group, and 35% of Pakistanis were under 16 years of age in 2001, compared with less than 20% in the White British group.<sup>13</sup>

In the Mixed group, the Mixed White and Black Caribbean population were the youngest, with 58% under 16 years of age. They were followed by 48% from the White and Asian group, 45% from the White and African group and 44% from the Other Mixed group.<sup>14</sup>

As the earliest post-war migrants to Great Britain, the White Irish (25%) and Black Caribbean (11%) groups had the largest proportions of people aged 65 and over in 2001.<sup>15</sup>

# SEX

Women outnumbered men in the population as a whole in 2001 by a ratio of 51% to 49%. This was true for all ethnic groups except Asians, and all ages except the under-16s, where there were more boys than girls in all ethnic groups. The reverse was true in the older age groups, reflecting higher mortality rates among men. For example, in the White group, 58% of those aged over 65 were women, in the Mixed group 55%, and in the Chinese group 54%. The only exceptions were among Bangladeshis (where only 34% of those aged over 65 were women), Pakistanis (45%) and Other Asians (48%), reflecting their different migration patterns (see Table 5).

Table 5 Sex distribution of people living in Great Britain, by ethnic group and age, 2001 (%)

|                               | Unde  | er 16   | 16-   | -64     | 65 and over |         | All a | iges    |
|-------------------------------|-------|---------|-------|---------|-------------|---------|-------|---------|
|                               | Males | Females | Males | Females | Males       | Females | Males | Females |
| All ethnic groups             | 51.22 | 48.78   | 49.47 | 50.53   | 41.89       | 58.11   | 48.61 | 51.39   |
|                               |       |         |       |         |             |         |       |         |
| White                         | 51.27 | 48.73   | 49.58 | 50.42   | 41.65       | 58.35   | 48.56 | 51.44   |
| British/Scottish              | 51.27 | 48.73   | 49.71 | 50.29   | 41.61       | 58.39   | 48.64 | 51.36   |
| Irish                         | 51.26 | 48.74   | 48.67 | 51.33   | 41.97       | 58.03   | 47.16 | 52.84   |
| Other White                   | 51.26 | 48.74   | 46.12 | 53.88   | 43.79       | 56.21   | 46.59 | 53.41   |
| Mixed                         | 50.76 | 49.24   | 47.74 | 52.26   | 45.34       | 54.66   | 49.17 | 50.83   |
| Mixeu                         | 50.70 | 47.24   | 47.74 | J2.20   | 45.54       | 54.00   | 47.17 | 50.65   |
| Asian, Asian British/Scottish | 51.09 | 48.91   | 50.35 | 49.65   | 52.67       | 47.33   | 50.68 | 49.32   |
| Indian                        | 51.12 | 48.88   | 49.32 | 50.68   | 49.75       | 50.25   | 49.76 | 50.24   |
| Pakistani                     | 51.05 | 48.95   | 50.17 | 49.83   | 55.30       | 44.70   | 50.69 | 49.31   |
| Bangladeshi                   | 50.89 | 49.11   | 49.39 | 50.61   | 66.25       | 33.75   | 50.51 | 49.49   |
| Other Asian                   | 51.58 | 48.42   | 56.03 | 43.97   | 52.39       | 47.61   | 54.79 | 45.21   |
|                               |       |         |       |         |             |         |       |         |
| Black, Black British/Scottish | 50.35 | 49.65   | 45.68 | 54.32   | 51.26       | 48.74   | 47.25 | 52.75   |
| Black Caribbean               | 50.12 | 49.88   | 44.49 | 55.51   | 51.26       | 48.74   | 46.36 | 53.64   |
| Black African                 | 50.39 | 49.61   | 47.15 | 52.85   | 51.97       | 48.03   | 48.23 | 51.77   |
| Other Black                   | 50.94 | 49.06   | 45.34 | 54.66   | 48.91       | 51.09   | 47.57 | 52.43   |
| Chinese, other ethnic group   | 51.27 | 48.73   | 45.36 | 54.64   | 45.27       | 54.73   | 46.48 | 53.52   |
| Chinese                       | 50.76 | 40.73   | 45.56 | 52.34   | 45.27       | 53.52   | 48.40 | 51.83   |
| Any other ethnic group        | 50.78 | 49.24   | 47.00 | 57.03   | 40.48       | 53.52   | 48.17 | 55.32   |
| ,                             |       |         | ,     |         |             |         |       |         |
| All non-White groups          | 50.39 | 49.61   | 48.26 | 51.74   | 51.01       | 48.99   | 49.18 | 50.82   |

Sources: 2001 census, Office for National Statistics; 2001 census, General Register Office for Scotland

# LANGUAGE

While the 2001 census did not include a question about language, the answers to the question on country of birth showed that around three million people living in Great Britain in 2001 were born in countries where English is not the first language.

The census team in 2001 consulted local authorities about the languages that forms and information leaflets should be translated into. The languages they identified were Albanian/Kosovan, Arabic, Bengali, Chinese, Croatian, Farsi/Persian, French, German, Greek, Gujarati, Hindi, Italian, Japanese, Polish, Portuguese, Punjabi, Russian, Serbian, Somali, Spanish, Swahili, Turkish, Urdu and Vietnamese.<sup>16</sup> In 2001, schoolchildren in London spoke roughly 300 languages between them; Table 6 shows the 10 most widely spoken languages, other than English. Data from the 1999 Health Survey of England showed that 99% of Black Caribbeans reported English as their main language, compared with 20% of Bangladeshis.<sup>17</sup>

A survey of language proficiency among ethnic minorities in England and Wales published in 1996 showed that, in general, young people, men, and those who had received education were more likely to be competent in English.<sup>18</sup> Excluding those born in the UK, and Asian groups for whom English was the main spoken language, the survey found that a large number of respondents were unable to read a school timetable or phone directory; only 14% of Bengalis, 29% of Gujaratis, 26% of Punjabis, 41% of Chinese and 32% of refugees reached what the survey termed a 'survival level of competence'.

Although the 2001 census in England and Scotland did not include a question on language, the census in Wales was able to establish that 20.8% of people living in Wales were able to speak Welsh. One in ten of these came from non-White groups, of which 2,910 were of Mixed ethnic backgrounds, 1,548 were Asian or Asian British, 443 were Black or Black British and 535 were Chinese or from any other ethnic group.<sup>19</sup>

#### RELIGION

For the first time in 2001, the census included a voluntary question on religion. As Table 7 shows, over four million people (nearly 8% of the population of Great Britain) did not answer the question and just over 8.5 million (15%) said they had 'no religion'. Chinese people (53%) and people from Mixed ethnic backgrounds (23%) were most likely to say they had no religion. Asian, Black African and White Irish people were least likely to have no religious affiliation; only 0.56% of Pakistanis and 0.45% Bangladeshis said they had no religion (see Table 8). Nearly 72% of the population of Great Britain said their religion was 'Christian', while around 5% opted for another religion.<sup>20</sup>

More than half of all non-Christian believers were Muslims (52%), followed by Hindus (18%), Sikhs (11%), Jews (9%) and Buddhists (5%) (see Table 7). Other non-Christian believers included 25–30,000 Jains, 6,000 Baha'i and 5–10,000 Zoroastrians.

While almost all Sikhs were from the Asian or Asian British group, and almost all Jews from the White group, Muslims were present in all ethnic groups, particularly the Pakistani and Bangladeshi groups (where nine out of ten people were Muslims), the Black African group (20%) and the Other ethnic group, where over a quarter were Muslims (see Table 8). Nearly three-quarters (74%) of Black Caribbeans, 69% of Black Africans and 52% of people in the Mixed group said they were Christian. The ethnic groups with the greatest religious diversity were Indian, with 45% saying they were Hindu, 29% Sikh, and 13% Muslim; and Other Asian, where 37% said they were Muslim, 26% Hindu, 13% Christian and 6% Sikh.

|   | % of<br>non-Christian<br>religious |        |            |
|---|------------------------------------|--------|------------|
|   | Number (000)                       | %      | population |
| Christian                               | 41,015                             | 71.82  | -          |
| Muslim                                  | 1,589                              | 2.78   | 51.94      |
| Hindu                                   | 558                                | 0.98   | 18.25      |
| Sikh                                    | 336                                | 0.59   | 10.99      |
| Jewish                                  | 267                                | 0.47   | 8.74       |
| Buddhist                                | 149                                | 0.26   | 4.88       |
| Any other religion                      | 159                                | 0.28   | 5.20       |
| All non-Christian religious population* | 3,059                              | 5.36   | 100.00     |
|   |                                    |        |            |
| No religion                             | 8,596                              | 15.05  |            |
| Religion not stated                     | 4,434                              | 7.76   |            |
| All population                          | 57,104                             | 100.00 |            |
|   |                                    |        |            |

#### \*Excludes Christians, people who had no religion and those who did not state their religion. Source: 2001 census, Office for National Statistics; 2001 census, General Register Office for Scotland. (See www.statistics.gov.uk/cci/nugget.asp?ID=954&pos+2&colrank=28=224)

#### Table 6 Top 10 languages spoken by London pupils, other than English, 2001

| Language              | No. of pupils |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| Bengali and Sylheti   | 40,400        |
| Punjabi               | 29,800        |
| Gujarati              | 28,600        |
| Hindi/Urdu            | 26,000        |
| Turkish               | 15,600        |
| Arabic                | 11,000        |
| English-based creoles | 10,700        |
| Yoruba (Nigeria)      | 10,400        |
| Somali                | 8,300         |
| Cantonese             | 6,900         |

Source: National Centre for Languages (CiLT) - information on languages spoken in the UK population

(see www.cilt.org.uk/faqs/langspoken.htm)

Table 7 The population of Great Britain, by religion, 2001

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|                               | Christian | Buddhist | Hindu | Jewish | Muslim | Sikh  | Any<br>other<br>religion | No<br>religion | Not<br>stated | Total  |
|-------------------------------|-----------|----------|-------|--------|--------|-------|--------------------------|----------------|---------------|--------|
| All ethnic groups             | 71.82     | 0.26     | 0.98  | 0.47   | 2.78   | 0.59  | 0.28                     | 15.05          | 7.76          | 100.00 |
| Au cunic groups               | 71.02     | 0.20     | 0.70  | 0.47   | 2.70   | 0.07  | 0.20                     | 10.00          | 7.70          | 100.00 |
| White                         | 75.50     | 0.11     | 0.01  | 0.49   | 0.35   | 0.01  | 0.24                     | 15.54          | 7.73          | 100.00 |
| British/Scottish              | 75.72     | 0.10     | 0.01  | 0.45   | 0.13   | 0.01  | 0.23                     | 15.66          | 7.69          | 100.00 |
| Irish                         | 85.68     | 0.17     | 0.02  | 0.17   | 0.13   | 0.02  | 0.26                     | 6.16           | 7.39          | 100.00 |
| Other White                   | 62.93     | 0.32     | 0.09  | 2.33   | 8.27   | 0.04  | 0.58                     | 16.06          | 9.39          | 100.00 |
|                               |           |          |       |        |        |       |                          |                |               |        |
| Mixed                         | 52.33     | 0.71     | 0.86  | 0.47   | 9.73   | 0.42  | 0.59                     | 23.34          | 11.55         | 100.00 |
|                               |           |          |       |        |        |       |                          |                |               |        |
| Asian, Asian British/Scottish | 4.09      | 0.61     | 23.14 | 0.08   | 50.37  | 13.86 | 0.90                     | 1.42           | 5.53          | 100.00 |
| Indian                        | 4.96      | 0.18     | 44.82 | 0.06   | 12.60  | 29.20 | 1.73                     | 1.79           | 4.65          | 100.00 |
| Pakistani                     | 1.12      | 0.03     | 0.08  | 0.05   | 91.90  | 0.05  | 0.05                     | 0.56           | 6.17          | 100.00 |
| Bangladeshi                   | 0.52      | 0.06     | 0.61  | 0.04   | 92.42  | 0.04  | 0.01                     | 0.45           | 5.84          | 100.00 |
| Other Asian                   | 13.46     | 4.83     | 26.34 | 0.30   | 37.48  | 6.16  | 0.95                     | 3.55           | 6.92          | 100.00 |
|                               |           |          |       |        |        |       |                          |                |               |        |
| Black, Black British/Scottish | 71.04     | 0.13     | 0.26  | 0.08   | 9.36   | 0.06  | 0.44                     | 7.58           | 11.06         | 100.00 |
| Black Caribbean               | 73.73     | 0.17     | 0.29  | 0.10   | 0.79   | 0.03  | 0.59                     | 11.25          | 13.04         | 100.00 |
| Black African                 | 68.80     | 0.07     | 0.21  | 0.05   | 20.03  | 0.09  | 0.22                     | 2.37           | 8.17          | 100.00 |
| Other Black                   | 66.48     | 0.20     | 0.36  | 0.14   | 6.00   | 0.07  | 0.65                     | 12.15          | 13.95         | 100.00 |
|                               |           |          |       |        |        |       |                          |                |               |        |
| Chinese, other ethnic group   | 26.79     | 15.22    | 0.67  | 0.54   | 12.79  | 0.51  | 0.70                     | 34.09          | 8.68          | 100.00 |
| Chinese                       | 21.12     | 15.13    | 0.07  | 0.05   | 0.33   | 0.04  | 0.51                     | 53.00          | 9.75          | 100.00 |
| Any other ethnic group        | 32.81     | 15.32    | 1.31  | 1.06   | 26.02  | 1.00  | 0.91                     | 14.02          | 7.54          | 100.00 |
|                               |           |          |       |        |        |       |                          |                |               |        |
| All non-White groups          | 30.07     | 2.00     | 11.91 | 0.18   | 30.42  | 7.11  | 0.72                     | 9.49           | 8.10          | 100.00 |

#### Table 8 The population of Great Britain, by ethnic group and religion, 2001 (%)

Source: 2001 census, Office for National Statistics; 2001 census, General Register Office for Scotland

# **REGIONS OF RESIDENCE**

At the 2001 census, most of the non-White population of Great Britain (96%) lived in England. They were largely urban, with two-thirds inhabiting the four largest English conurbations, including London, which claimed 45% of the non-White population (see Table 9). By comparison, only 10% of White Britons lived in the capital.

All local authorities in Great Britain, except one (Suffolk Coastal), saw their non-White ethnic minority populations grow. The largest growth took place in urban areas, but non-White ethnic minority populations also increased in suburban and rural areas. Table 10 shows the 10 local authorities in Great Britain with the smallest non-White ethnic minority populations.

| Metropolitan<br>Area | Total<br>population<br>(000s) | Non-White<br>population<br>(000s ) | Non-White<br>population<br>(%) | Non-White<br>population of area as<br>% of GB total * |
|----------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| London               | 7,172                         | 2,069                              | 28.85                          | 44.75   |
| West Midlands        | 2,043                         | 512                                | 25.06                          | 11.08   |
| West Yorkshire       | 1,843                         | 236                                | 12.81                          | 5.10  |
| Greater Manchester   | 2,261                         | 222                                | 9.82                           | 4.80  |
| TOTAL                | 13,319                        | 3,039                              | 22.82                          | 65.74   |

#### Table 9

The ethnic minority population of selected metropolitan areas in Great Britain, 2001

\* Percentage of Great British non-White population. See Table 2 for GB figure. Source: 2001 Census, Office for National Statistics

| Local authority    | No. from<br>non-White groups 1991 | No. from<br>non-White groups 2001 |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Tynedale           | 196                               | 399                               |
| Orkney Islands     | 67                                | 86                                |
| Allerdale          | 320                               | 572                               |
| Selby              | 205                               | 516                               |
| Scottish Borders   | 301                               | 589                               |
| Ryedale            | 132                               | 320                               |
| Berwick-upon-Tweed | 71                                | 103                               |
| Eden               | 113                               | 212                               |
| Alnwick            | 57                                | 123                               |
| Isles of Scilly    | 1                                 | 6                                 |

Table 10The 10 local authorities inGreat Britain with the smallestnon-White populations,1991 and 2001

Source: Lupton & Power, 2004

# England

Non-white ethnic minorities made up less than 3% of the total population in nearly half of all constituencies in England (244 out of 529). After London, the second largest proportion of the non-White ethnic minority population lived in the West Midlands, followed by the South East, the North West and Yorkshire and Humber. Across England, the regions containing the smallest population of non-White ethnic minority populations with only 2% of each region's total population were the North East and the South West (see Table 12).

# London

Nearly 29% of Londoners were from non-White ethnic minorities in 2001 (up from 20% in 1991)<sup>21</sup>. This figure increases to 40% when White ethnic minorities, such as Turks and the Irish, one third of whom live in the capital, are taken into account. At the 2001 census, 61% of Black Caribbeans, 78% of Black Africans, 62% of Other Black, 54% of Bangladeshis, 54% of Other Asian and 42% of Indians lived in London (see Table 12). Two boroughs – Newham (61%) and Brent (55%) – had more non-White than White residents, and only one of London's 33 boroughs had less than the 8% average for non-White ethnic minority residents; in 17 boroughs, the average was above 15% (see Table 11).

# Scotland

Around 2% of the population of Scotland were from non-White ethnic minorities in 2001. Pakistanis, who made up 31% of the total non-White population, were the largest single group, and lived mostly in urban areas, particularly Glasgow.

# Wales

A similar proportion (2%) of the population of Wales were from non-White ethnic minorities in 2001. Pakistanis and Indians were the largest groups there, roughly equal in size, followed by the Chinese and White and Black Caribbean Mixed groups. Nearly 30% of Wales' non-White population were from a Mixed ethnic background.

# Asian groups

Pakistanis were relatively evenly distributed between the four regions of the North West (16%), Yorkshire and Humber (20%), the West Midlands (21%) and London (19%). Bangladeshis were disproportionately concentrated in London (54%), with 11% in the West Midlands, and 9% in the North West. Four out of ten Indians lived in London, but there were also substantial populations in the West Midlands (17%) and East Midlands (12%). More than half of the Other Asian population (54%) lived in London, with roughly 10% in the South East and 9% in West Midlands (see Table 12).

| Borough               | Non-White groups<br>as a % of total<br>population 1991 | Non-White groups<br>as a % of total<br>population 2001 | % increase<br>1991–2001 |
|-----------------------|--|--|-------------------------|
| Newham                | 42.9   | 60.6   | 41                      |
| Brent                 | 45.2   | 54.7   | 21                      |
| Tower Hamlets         | 36.1   | 48.6   | 35                      |
| Harrow                | 26.6   | 41.2   | 55                      |
| Lambeth               | 30.6   | 37.6   | 23                      |
| Redbridge             | 21.6   | 36.5   | 69                      |
| Waltham Forest        | 25.9   | 35.5   | 37                      |
| Hounslow              | 24.7   | 35.1   | 42                      |
| Haringey              | 29.4   | 34.4   | 17                      |
| Croydon               | 17.8   | 29.8   | 67                      |
| Camden                | 17.7   | 26.8   | 51                      |
| Islington             | 18.9   | 24.6   | 30                      |
| Enfield               | 14.3   | 22.9   | 60                      |
| Wandsworth            | 20.3   | 22.0   | 8                       |
| Kensington & Chelsea  | 15.4   | 21.4   | 39                      |
| Hillingdon            | 12.4   | 20.9   | 68                      |
| Kingston upon Thames  | 8.7  | 15.5   | 78                      |
| Barking & Dagenham    | 6.8  | 14.8   | 118                     |
| Sutton                | 5.5  | 10.8   | 96                      |
| Bromley               | 4.7  | 8.4  | 79                      |
| Havering              | 3.2  | 4.8  | 50                      |
| LONDON (all boroughs) | 20.4   | 28.9   | 42                      |

Table 11 Non-White populations in selected London boroughs, 1991 and 2001

Sources: 2001 census, Office for National Statistics; Peloe & Rees, 1999

# Black groups

All three Black ethnic groups were disproportionately located in London, with nearly 80% of Black Africans, 61% of Black Caribbeans and 62% of the Black Other population living there in 2001 (see Table 12).

# Mixed

One-third of the population of the Mixed group lived in London and a further 13% in the South East. Around 11% lived in the West Midlands, 9% in the North West and 7% in Yorkshire and Humber (see Table 12).

# Chinese and Other

The Chinese were more evenly spread out across Great Britain. Roughly one-third lived in London, 14% in the South East, 11% in the North West, and between 5 and 10% in every other region except the North East and Wales (both 2.5%). Nearly half (49%) of the population from the Other group lived in London. A further 13% lived in the South East. (See Table 12.)

# Eastern European A8 Countries

Prior to the expansion of the EU in 2004, nearly three-quarters of eastern European migrants had lived in London and the South East.<sup>22</sup> However, following accession in May 2004, the number of migrants from A8 countries moving to other parts of the UK has been increasing.

The proportion of A8 migrants registering in London decreased from 17% at the end of 2004 to 10% at the end of 2006.<sup>23</sup> Between May 2004 and December 2006, of the total number of A8 migrants who joined the Worker Registration Scheme, 15% registered in Anglia, followed by 13% in London and 13% in the Midlands regions. Northern Ireland and Wales have received the fewest registrations with 4% and 3% of the total respectively.

| Great<br>Britain           | 57,104            |       | 50,366            | 691   | 1,423       | 674   | 2.329                         | 1,052  | 747       | 283         |
|----------------------------|-------------------|-------|-------------------|-------|-------------|-------|-------------------------------|--------|-----------|-------------|
| Scotland                   | 5,062             |       | 4,833             | 49    | 78          | 13    | 55                            | 15     | 32        | 2           |
| England<br>& Wales         | 52,042            |       | 45,534            | 642   | 1,345       | 661   | 2,274                         | 1,037  | 715       | 281         |
| Wales                      | 2,903             |       | 2,787             | 18    | 37          | 18    | 25                            | 8      | 8         | £           |
| England                    | 49,139            |       | 42,747            | 624   | 1,308       | 643   | 2,010                         | 1,029  | 707       | 275         |
| South<br>West              | 4,928             |       | 4,702             | 32    | 81          | 37    | 33                            | 16     | 7         | Ð           |
| South<br>East              | 8,001             |       | 7,305             | 82    | 222         | 86    | 187                           | 89     | 29        | 15          |
| London                     | 7,172             |       | 4,288             | 220   | 595         | 226   | 867                           | 437    | 143       | 154         |
| East                       | 5,388             |       | 4,927             | 61    | 136         | 58    | 122                           | 51     | 39        | 19          |
| West<br>Midlands           | 5,267             |       | 4,538             | 73    | 63          | 73    | 386                           | 179    | 155       | 31          |
| East<br>Midlands           | 4,172             |       | 3,808             | 35    | 57          | 43    | 169                           | 122    | 28        | 7           |
| Yorkshire<br>and<br>Humber | 4,965             |       | 4,551             | 33    | 57          | 45    | 222                           | 51     | 146       | 12          |
| North<br>West              | 6,730             |       | 6,203             | 77    | 75          | 63    | 230                           | 72     | 117       | 26          |
| North<br>East              | 2,515             |       | 2,426             | 6     | 21          | 12    | 34                            | 10     | 14        | 9           |
|                            | All ethnic groups | White | British /Scottish | Irish | Other White | Mixed | Asian, Asian British/Scottish | Indian | Pakistani | Bangladeshi |

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Chinese, other ethnic groups

Chinese

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All non-White groups

\* \* There were 427 people from the Other Black group in the North East. Source: 2001 census, Office for National Statistics; 2001 census, General Register Office for Scotland \* All numbers are rounded to the nearest thousand.

Table 12 The population of Great Britain, by ethnic group and region, 2001 (000s)\*

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Winder, R. 2004. Bloody Foreigners. London: Little, Brown

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- Office for National Statistics (for 2001 census data) www.statistics.gov.uk/census [all pages accessed 22 January 2007]
  - Census nuggets comprise:
    - population by ethnic group www.statistics.gov.uk/statbase/expodata/spreadsheets/D6588.xls www.nomisweb.co.uk/output/dn87000/I4I03I8437.xls www.statistics.gov.uk/cci/nugget.asp?id=263 country of origin www.statistics.gov.uk/cci/nugget.asp?id=1312 www.statistics.gov.uk/cci/nugget.asp?id=459 www.statistics.gov.uk/cci/nugget.asp?id=459 www.statistics.gov.uk/cci/nugget.asp?id=459 www.statistics.gov.uk/cci/nugget.asp?id=456 religion and ethnicity www.statistics.gov.uk/cci/nugget.asp?id=456 religion and ethnicity www.statistics.gov.uk/cci/nugget.asp?id=460 www.statistics.gov.uk/cci/nugget.asp?id=460
- National Centre for Languages (CiLT) information on languages spoken in the UK population www.cilt.org.uk/faqs/langspoken.htm [accessed 22 January 2007]

#### Notes

- See Institute for Public Policy Research (ippr) research, summarised on the BBC website, 'Born Abroad' (http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/shared/spl/hi/uk/o5/born\_abroad/html/overview.stm) [accessed 22 January 2007].
- 2. Population growth in Britain has been 0.3% to 0.4% for the last 10 years. If this growth rate continues, Britain's population will surpass 60 million by 2011. If the current non-White ethnic minority population of 4.6 million doubles by 2011, in line with decennial growth increases of 50% since 1971 (see Table 1), then forecasts for 2011 would predict nearly 7 million non-White Britons, 11–12% of Great Britain's projected population of approximately 60 million.
- 3. See B Bradford, Who are the 'mixed' ethnic group? (London: Office for National Statistics, 2006).
- 4. See D Gardener and H Connolly, Who are the 'other' mixed group? (London: Office for National Statistics, 2005).
- See Office for National Statistics, 'Focus on People and Migration: Foreign born: 1 in 12 born overseas' (2005) (www.statistics.gov.uk/cci/nugget.asp?id=1312) [accessed 22 January 2007].
- 6. See Office for National Statistics, Focus on People and Migration' (2004) (www.statistics.gov.uk/focuson) [accessed 22 January 2007].

- 7. Workers from Malta and Cyprus were given unrestricted EU wide freedom of movement and the remaining eight, referred to as A8, were given restricted access. Each member state made unilateral arrangements for access to the labour market. The A8 countries are Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia.
- See Home Office, Department for Work and Pensions, HM Revenue & Customs and Department for Communities and Local Government, *Accession Monitoring Report May 2004 – December 2006* (2007) (www.ind.homeoffice.gov.uk/aboutus/reports/accession\_monitoring\_report) [accessed 6 March 2007].
- See Office for National Statistics, 2001 census Table 'Ethnic Group by Religion' (www.statistics.gov.uk/statbase/expodata/spreadsheets/D7547.xls) [accessed 22 January 2007].
- 10. See Office for National Statisics, 2001 census (www.statistics.gov.uk) [accessed 22 January 2007].
- II. For overview see Office for National Statistics, 'Focus on Ethnicity and Identity: Identity: 9 in 10 of Mixed group identify as British' (2006) (www.statistics.gov.uk/CCI/nugget.asp?ID=459&Pos=1&ColRank=2&Rank=1000) [accessed 22 January 2007].
- 12. See B Bradford, Who are the 'mixed' ethnic group? (London: Office for National Statistics, 2006).
- See 'Focus on Ethnicity and Identity: Age/Sex Distribution: Non-White groups are younger' (2006) (www.statistics.gov.uk/cci/nugget.asp?id=456) [accessed 22 January 2007].
- 14. See B Bradford, Who are the 'mixed' ethnic group? (London: Office for National Statistics, 2006).
- See 'Focus on Ethnicity and Identity: Age/Sex Distribution: Non-White groups are younger' (2006) (www.statistics.gov.uk/cci/nugget.asp?id=456) [accessed 22 January 2007].
- 16. See National Centre for Languages, 'Languages spoken in the UK population' (www.cilt.org.uk/faqs/langspoken.htm) [accessed 22 January 2007]. The next 10 languages were Greek (6,300), Akan (Ashanti) (6,000), Portuguese (6,000), French (5,600), Spanish (5,500), Tamil (Sri Lanka) (3,700), Farsi (Persian) (3,300), Italian (2,500), Vietnamese (2,400), and Igbo (Nigeria) (1,900).
- See Department of Health, 'Health Survey for England The Health of Minority Ethnic Groups '99: Main spoken language by minority ethnic group' (1999) (www.archive.officialdocuments.co.uk/document/doh/survey99/hse99-t14-27.htm) [accessed 22 January 2007].
- 18. See R Carhill, *Lost Opportunities: The language skills of linguistic minorities in England and Wales* (London: Basic Skills Agency, 1996).
- See Welsh Language Board, 'More FAQs' (www.bwrdd-yriaith.org.uk/cynnwys.php?pID=more&langID=2&mID=2&type=Faqs&cpID=90) [accessed 22 January 2007].
- 20. See 'Focus on Ethnicity and Identity: Religion: 7 in 10 identify as White Christian' (2005) (www.statistics.gov.uk/cci/nugget.asp?id=460) [accessed 22 January 2007].
- See R Lupton and A Power, *Minority Ethnic Groups in Britain*, Case Brookings Census Briefs No. 2 (London: LSE, 2004) (http://sticerd.lse.ac.uk/dps/case/CBCB/census2\_part1.pdf) [accessed 22 January 2007].
- 22. See N Gilpin, M Hentry, S Lemos, J Portes and C Bullen, C, 'The impact of free movement of workers from Central and Eastern Europe on the UK labour market', Working Paper No 29 (London: Department for Work and Pensions, 2006).
- 23. See Home Office, Department for Work and Pensions, HM Revenue & Customs and Department for Communities and Local Government, Accession Monitoring Report May 2004 – December 2006 (2007) (www.ind.homeoffice.gov.uk/aboutus/reports/accession monitoring report) [accessed 6 March 2007].

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