

Understanding Equality and Diversity Ethnicity Digest

Produced by the Corporate Research Team, Borough of Poole.



Purpose of this Paper

This paper has been designed to help inform and service and policy planning, and aid focus and prioritisation of services. A series of 7 guides provide available research and statistical evidence relating to the varying needs, experiences and outcomes of different equalities strands in Poole. It provides a top-level view of this specific subject area and identifies contacts and resources for people who would like more detailed information. National information is highlighted in grey throughout.

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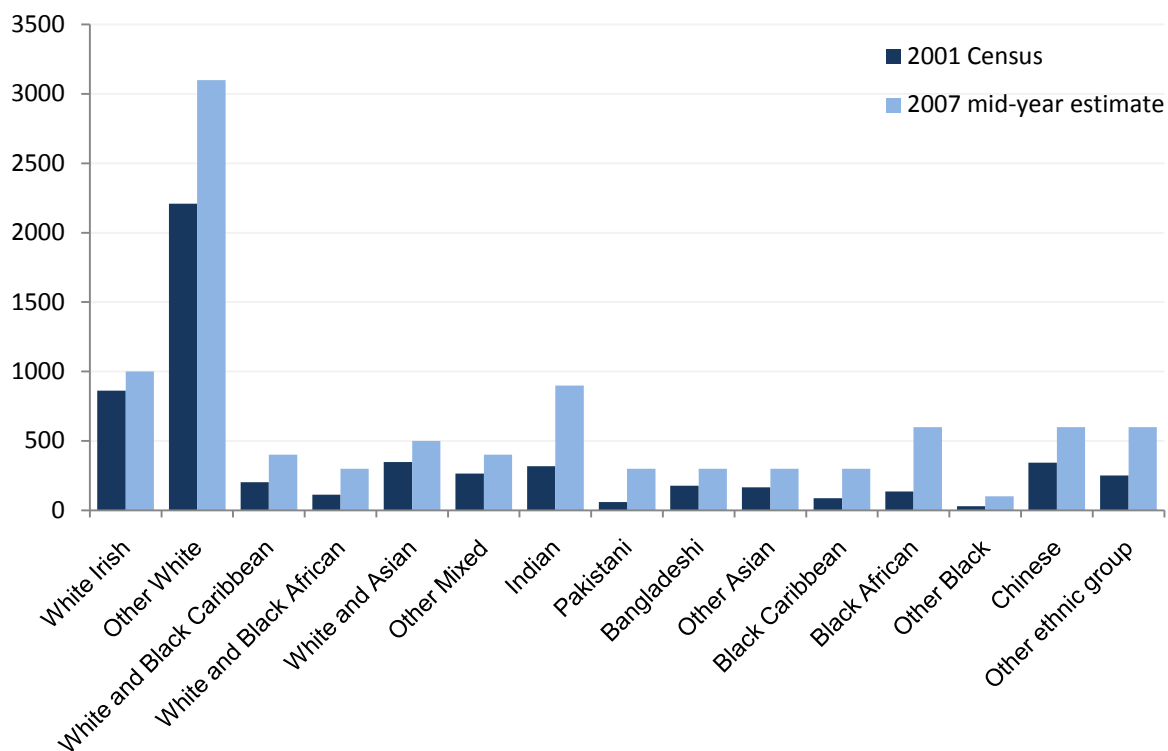
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The Population of Interest

The main source of information providing the ethnic origin of residents in Poole is the 2001 Census. However this data is now considered dated and some BME groups may not be accurately represented.

In 2001, 5565 residents in Poole were from black and ethnic minority groups, comprising 4% of the total population in Poole. This is a lower proportion than the national population data collected in the census, where 7.9% belonged to other ethnic groups (*Neighbourhood Statistics*).

In 2007, the Office for National Statistics produced experimental mid-year estimates for ethnic populations in Poole. These figures are shown in the chart and table below. *The data is rounded to the nearest hundred*, so only provides indications of the population in Poole, but suggests that the BME population has more than doubled, in percentage terms, since 2001.



Percentage of the total population in each ethnic group in Poole: 2001 and 2007

Ethnic Group	2001 (%)	2007 (%)
White British	96	93
All whites	98	97
All BME	4	7
Non-white BME	2	4

Source: ONS, Mid-year estimates, 2007

Gypsies and Travellers

There is no official count of the Gypsy and Traveller population in the UK, however, the Council of Europe estimated that there were around 300,000 gypsy and travellers living in the UK in 2002 (200,000 housed and 100,000 caravans). A recent report evidences high levels of disadvantage for this group including:

- Low educational attainment and very low rates of participation in secondary education
- Lack of access to pre-school, out-of-school and leisure services for children & young people
- Low employment and high poverty rates
- Reported repeated brutal evictions and hostility from the wider population
- Worse health and higher mortality rates than the rest of the population

(An anatomy of economic inequality in the UK, 2010)

Poole has 1 residential site with 15 pitches and 32 people living there (2010). Settled or resident Gypsies and Travellers are resident throughout Poole, mostly in Alderney and Turlin Moor, however there is no hard data on their actual number or characteristics (*Equality and Diversity, 2005*).

Migrant Workers

There is recognition nationally that there are difficulties in calculating accurately the numbers of international migrants.

Migrants from A8 countries have traditionally been recorded as part of the BME minority population, in the ethnic category of 'White other'. However, since EU accession in 2004 migrants from Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia, Hungary, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia and the Czech Republic have been required to register with a Workers Registration Scheme. This data shows that over 2,900 migrants have

worked in the Borough since May 2004, many of whom will have settled in the area. Over 80% of these workers originate from Poland. (*A8 Nationals in the Borough of Poole – 2008*).

Key Issues for this Strand

Health and Longevity e.g. mortality, access to healthcare

In England and Wales, 2001, BME groups generally reported poorer health than White British people. In particular Pakistani (13% men, 17% women) and Bangladeshi men (14%) and women (15%) had the highest rates of self-reported 'not good' health. These rates were around double those of their White British counterparts. Reporting poor health was found to be strongly associated with use of health services (i.e. higher GP contact rates) and mortality (*Neighbourhood Statistics*).

It is reported that Gypsy and Traveller women live 12 years less than women in the general population and Gypsy and Traveller men live 10 years less than men in the general population. Gypsy and Travellers have also been found to be nearly 3 times more likely to be anxious than others, and twice as likely to be depressed. Gypsy and Travellers in housing often experience hostility from neighbours and constant exposure to discrimination can have a negative impact on mental health (*An Anatomy of Economic Inequality in the UK, 2010*).

In Poole, the White Irish group had the largest proportion of their population with a limiting long-term illness at 23.9% whereas none (0%) of the White and Black African and Other Black groups reported an LLTI (*Census Bulletin – Ethnicity, 2001*).

Physical and Legal Security e.g. freedom from violence and discrimination

Generally adults from BME groups are more likely than White British adults to be victims of crime. People from minority ethnic groups were also much more likely than White British people to report that they were very worried about crime. In particular, data shows that adults from BME groups are more likely to be victims of violent crime (3.5% compared to 3.1% White British) (*British Crime Survey 2007/08*). All ethnic groups report racist victimisation, particularly where families are isolated and removed from familiar networks (*JRF – Research on Race Neighbourhoods and Housing 2004*).

The number of hate crimes reported to the police between April & December 2009 fell by 26%, compared to the previous year, to 97. 27 prejudice incidents were reported to BoP, a reduction of 33% compared to the previous year. Of these, 24 were race related (*Strategic Assessment 2010*).

In Poole Opinion Panel, Autumn 2009, residents were asked about Community Safety and Involvement. Non White British respondents were more likely to think that domestic violence is a problem in Poole (46% thought this was a problem compared to 33% all respondents). Non White British respondents were also more likely to feel that violent assaults were a problem (44% compared to 31% average).

Education e.g. attainment, access to life-long training and learning

There are greater differences in educational achievement amongst minority ethnic groups than between BME people and the White majority group. Black African, Indian and Chinese people generally obtain the highest educational qualifications; whereas Black Caribbean, Pakistani and Bangladeshi people tend to be the least qualified (*Equality & Human rights commission – Inequalities in Education, Employment and Earnings, 2008*).

Gypsy and Traveller children remain highly disadvantaged in terms of access, inclusion and achievement in schools. In 2008, only 17% of Traveller of Irish heritage and 16% of Roma Gypsy pupils obtained 5 or more GCSE A*-C passes, compared to 55-65% of the rest of children. Irish

Traveller pupils are 2.7 times more likely than White British pupils to be categorised as having Special Educational Needs. Data from 2006-2006 show that Irish Traveller and Gypsy/Roma along with Black Caribbean and Mixed White/Black Caribbean pupils are three times as likely to be permanently excluded from school as White pupils (*An Anatomy of Economic Inequality in the UK, 2010*).

In Poole in 2001, 34.3% of the local population had 'no' or an 'unknown' level of qualifications, 48.8% had lower level qualifications (GCSE/A Level/NVQ) and 16.9% had higher-level qualifications. Amongst BME groups, Asian or Asian British: Indian had the greatest levels of higher-level qualifications at 59.3%. Asian or Asian British: Bangladeshi people had the highest levels of no or unknown qualifications (55.4%), followed by the White Irish group (*2001 Census Bulletin – Ethnicity*).

Standard of Living e.g. housing, transport, independence

In regards to poverty, of all the BME groups, Pakistani and Bangladeshi people are the most deprived with around 60% classed as poor – around four times the poverty rate of White British people at a national level. Many BME groups feel that mainstream services are inappropriate for their needs, and that they would like more information about services and entitlements available to them. (*JRF – Neighbourhoods and Housing, 2004*).

More than half of Pakistani women and nearly half of Bangladeshi women have individual net incomes below £100 per week and are in the poorest fifth overall. More than a tenth of Pakistani women and of Bangladeshi men have no reported income in their own right (*An anatomy of economic inequality in the UK, 2010*).

Gypsy and Travellers are often excluded from accessing bank accounts and reasonably priced credit, frequently leading people in poverty to incur debt to unregulated loan companies, and also makes it harder to secure receipt of benefits. Another inequality that the Gypsy and Traveller community faces is a lack of suitable and secure accommodation – currently around 1 in 4 Gypsy and Travellers living in caravans do not have a legal place on which to park their home. Gypsy and Travellers also incur relatively higher costs for their accommodation due to high levels of rent for residents on site and the resale of electricity and other utilities (*An Anatomy of Economic Inequality in the UK, 2010*).

In Poole, there are smaller proportions of those owning their property outright from the Black African group (7%) and the White and Black African group (5.9%) compared to the proportion for all people (28.3%). More people from the White and Black Caribbean (5.1%), Pakistani (4.8%) and the Black Caribbean (6.2%) groups had shared ownership properties than amongst the general population (0.8%).

People from the White and Black Caribbean group (23.69%), the White and Black African group (30.3%) and the Black African group (39.8%) were most likely to be living in the private rented sector (all people 7.8%). Bangladeshi people were most likely to live in social rented accommodation at 25% compared to 3.5% of all people (*2001 Census Bulletin – Ethnicity*).

Productive and Valued Activities e.g. employment, workplace experience

Differences between ethnic groups in employment are larger for women than for men of working age. Around 80% of White British, Other White and Indian men are in paid work (both full time, part time and self employed), but for other groups the proportion in paid work is between 60% and 70%. Unemployment is particularly high for Black African, Black Caribbean and Other Black men (between 10% and 16%). 44% of Pakistani women and 49% of Bangladeshi women are economically inactive, looking after the family or home (20% for most other groups) and only around a quarter of both ethnic groups are in paid work (*An anatomy of Economic Inequality in the UK, 2010*).

Among the Gypsy and Traveller community self-employment among men is common. A high percentage of women do not work outside the home, or work only until they are married/their children are born. In some areas, it is not seen as the cultural norm for women to have paid work. There is evidence across the UK that Gypsy and Travellers face many barriers when it comes to applying for paid work, including, literacy and numeracy problems, lack of qualifications or references and inability to provide evidence of former addresses (*An Anatomy of Economic Inequality in the UK, 2010*).

In Poole (2001), of all the ethnic groups (including White British), the White and Black African ethnic group had the highest proportion of people aged 16-74 who were economically active (94.6%). For comparison, the proportion of White British people who were economically active was around 68%. The ethnic group with the lowest proportion of 16-74 year olds who are economically active was Bangladeshi (43.4%).

The ethnic group with the largest proportion of economically active but unemployed 16-74 year olds was the Black Caribbean group (10.8%) whilst the group with the smallest proportion of unemployed was the Chinese group (*Census Bulletin – Ethnicity*).

Of those people in employment in Poole, Indian people were more likely to work in professional occupations (27%) than the general population (7%). 40% of Other Black or Black British people worked in Associate Professional and Technical Occupations compared to 9% of all people (*2001 Census Bulletin – Ethnicity*).

Individual, Family and Social Life e.g. independence, equality in relationships

Nationally, Asian households are larger than those of any other ethnic group. Those households headed by a Bangladeshi person are the largest of all with an average size of 4.5 people (2001) followed by Pakistani (4.1 people) and Indian households (3.3 people). The smallest households are those headed by White Irish (2.1 people), with the second smallest being Black Caribbean and White British both with an average of 2.3 people (*Neighbourhood Statistics*).

A qualitative study in London found a range of attitudes, experiences and values influenced family life for people in minority ethnic groups. Pakistani and Bangladeshi families tend to be traditional in structure and beliefs with a strong sense of religious identification and family commitment. People of Asian ethnicity tend to live in the same neighbourhoods or close by to their parents and grandparents, and prefer multi-generational households. In contrast, African-Caribbean people emphasize individualism, independence and physical and emotional space (*Ethnic Diversity, Neighbourhoods and Housing, Joseph Rowntree Foundation, 2000*).

In Poole, the 2006 Community Involvement survey revealed that 55% of people from a BME background felt that people from different backgrounds could get on well together in the Borough – only 1% less than the reported figure for the population as a whole.

Participation, Influence and Voice e.g. Participation in Decision Making

Ethnic minority groups are not as involved or active in mainstream local groups as the White majority (*JRF – Neighbourhoods and Housing, 2004*). Formal volunteering is significantly lower among all ethnic minority groups compared to White British; yet Civic participation is only lower amongst black people (*Home Office – Diversity, Trust & Community Participation Research, 2005*).

People from a non-White British background living in Poole are generally more satisfied with their neighbourhood as a place to live than their White British neighbours (87%, compared to 76% respectively.) (*Community Involvement Survey 2006*)

The Place Survey 2008 found that respondents from BME groups were less likely to feel informed about the standard of service they should expect from local public services (21% feel informed, compared to 45% of White British respondents).

'Fair Say' was a consultation event in 2009, asking residents of Poole how their quality of life could be improved for those who experience barriers. Residents who took part in talks on ethnicity stated that it was important that information should be more accessible, that it could be problematic to access interpreters and that this can lead to people feeling isolated as they don't understand.

Identity, Expression and Self Respect e.g. Religion, Belief

In the 2001 Census, 67% of the population described themselves as White British and Christian, the largest ethno-religious group in Great Britain. The largest non-white ethno-religious group consists of Pakistani Muslims, with a population of 686,000 people in 2001 (1.2% of the population). Bangladeshis have a similar religious profile with 92% being classified as Muslim and 6% as no stated religion. Both Black Caribbean and Black African populations in Great Britain are predominantly Christian. The Indian population is religiously diverse and includes Hindus, Sikhs, Muslims and Christians (*ONS – Focus on Ethnicity and Religion, 2006*)

No information in Poole

Sources of Information Regarding Ethnicity:

The following section provides links to local reports and datasets that offer further insight into the diverse nature of the varying age groups in Poole. However, it should be noted that due to population sizes and inconsistent data monitoring, the information available at local level is often limited. For more robust, national sources of equalities information, please refer to the Improvement and Development Agency 'Equality Evidence Base', and the Equalities and Human Rights Commission 'Review of Equality Statistics'.

Reports Providing Specific Information on Ethnicity

A8 Nationals in the Borough of Poole, 2008 – series of reports providing insight into recent migration to Poole from EU accession countries. Available [here](#).

Black and Minority Ethnic Groups in Poole – A Briefing Paper - Looks at what can be learnt about Poole's Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) communities through population statistics, and also covers consultation and engagement undertaken with BME Groups in Dorset. Available [here](#).

Census Bulletin - Ethnicity - provides a summary of 2001 Census data covering the ethnic population of Poole. Available [here](#).

Dorset BME Housing Study, 2010 – A study of the housing requirements of BME households in Dorset and Poole. Available [here](#).

Equality and Diversity, 2005 – an overview of the population in Poole highlighting differences across age, disability, gender, race, faith, and sexual orientation. Available [here](#).

'Fair Say' Consultation 2009 – Consultation with residents that focused on how quality of life could be improved from those people who may experience barriers. This fed into the Fairness for All scheme. Available [here](#).

Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment – provides insight into the accommodation requirements of the Gypsy and Traveller communities in Bournemouth and Poole. Available [here](#).

Race Equality Scheme Review – provides an outline of local demographic information and differences in outcomes for ethnic minority groups in Poole. Available [here](#).

Reports Which Contain Analysis of Information By Ethnicity

Active People Survey 2008 – identifies how participation in sport varies from place to place and between different groups in the population. The survey also measures; the proportion of the adult population that volunteer in sport on a weekly basis, club membership, involvement in organised sport/competition, receipt of tuition or coaching, and overall satisfaction with levels of sporting provision in the local community. Available [here](#)

Census Bulletin – District People 2001– provides a summary of Census 2001 data at a district level. Available [here](#).

Childcare Sufficiency Survey 2007 – aimed to gain a greater understanding of parents' experiences and views of childcare provision, in order to identify parents' concerns and needs for childcare. Available [here](#)

Community Involvement Survey 2006 – covers voluntary activities Poole residents get involved in and the extent to which they feel they can influence decisions in their local area. Available from the Corporate Research Team.

New Builds Evaluation 2008 -summarises the findings of the 2007 New Builds Evaluation, looking at new build housing occupied in the Borough of Poole between 2004-2007. Available [here](#).

Place Survey 2008 - statutory consultation exercise to find out about what people think about living in Poole and what needs improving. Available [here](#).

Poole Health Profiles (annual) – give a snapshot of the health of Poole's population. The profiles are designed to support action by local government and primary care trusts to tackle health inequalities and improve people's health. Available [here](#).

Poole Opinion Panel Survey (biannual) - Surveys residents in Poole covering topical issues that may affect the town and services. Available [here](#).

Strategic Assessment 2010 – identifies and explores current and emerging threats and gaps that affect Poole in respect of crime, disorder and substance abuse. Available [here](#).

Reports on Ethnicity Related Services

Dorset Mind - Knowledge and Perceptions of the use of Compulsory Powers in Mental Health among BME Groups, 2007 – research report on the BME community perceptions of mental health services, with particular focus upon the use of compulsory powers in treating people with mental health problems. Available [here](#).

Needs Not Numbers – Mental Health Services for BME Groups – report on the perceptions and experiences of mental health services in East Dorset for the local BME population. Available [here](#).

The BigWord Monitoring Report – Provides a breakdown of TheBigWord translation service usage by Service Unit and Language. Available from the Corporate Research Team.

Ethnicity Information Sources

How Fair is Britain? Equalities and Human Rights commission – The first review that examines how far what happens in people's real lives matches up to the ideals of equality in Britain. The report brings together a range of sources including Census data, surveys and research. Report and supporting evidence available [here](#).

Joseph Rowntree Foundation - Independent development and social research charity, supporting a wide programme of research and development projects in housing, social care and social issues. <http://www.jrf.org.uk/>

Knowledge Base, Equality South West Data Tool - collates and disaggregates (where possible), by local area and by equality strand and socio-economic status, existing data from a wide range of reliable and widely used national data sets, and is capable of detailed interrogation and analysis for a range of local equality purposes. Available [here](#).

Neighbourhood Statistics – Allows you to find detailed statistics within specific geographic areas e.g. Local Authority, Ward, Super Output Area. <http://www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/dissemination/>

Nomisweb.co.uk - service provided by the Office for National Statistics providing detailed and up-to-date UK labour market statistics. <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/>

Office for National Statistics - The Office for National Statistics produces independent information to improve our understanding of the UK's economy and society. <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/default.asp>

Runnymede Trust – Charity producing research on race equality. <http://www.runnymedetrust.org/>

This paper is one in a series of seven profiling the Equalities Strands produced by the Corporate Research Team, in line with I&DEA guidance on measuring equality at a local level. You can view the papers on age, disability, faith, gender, social inequalities and sexual orientation [here](#).

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