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1991 Census Statistical Paper No 1

ETHNIC MINORITIES IN GREAT BRITAIN:
Settlement patterns

David Owen



November 1992

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RACIAL EQUALITY



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by

David Owen

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1. Introduction

In April 1991, the first British Census to collect information on the ethnic composition of the population was taken. The results of this Census of Population will provide the first comprehensive picture of the socio-economic characteristics of the main ethnic groups resident in Great Britain. The 1991 Census data will be of vital importance in identifying patterns of inequality and for planning for the needs of ethnic minorities. It will be an invaluable resource for local, education and health authorities and will provide a benchmark for ethnic monitoring procedures.

This *Statistical Paper* describes the key dimensions of the current geographical pattern of ethnic minority settlement, as revealed by the first results to be published from the Census (taken from tables in the 67 County and Region Monitors). It is the first in a series, covering demographic structure, participation in the labour market, housing conditions and social class.

2. The national picture

The population of Great Britain in 1991 was found by the Census to be nearly 54.9 million¹, of which the total ethnic minority population was just over 3 million (Table 1). Of this total, only 100 thousand live in Wales and Scotland. Nearly half the total was made up by people of South Asian ethnic origin, with Indians comprising the largest individual ethnic minority group identified by the Census. The second largest minority group was the "Black-Caribbean" - people of West Indian origin - which was just larger than the total number of people of Pakistani ethnic origin (See Appendix 1 for the ethnic group definitions).

Table 1: Ethnic group composition of Great Britain, 1991

Ethnic group	(thousands)				
	Great Britain	England & Wales	England	Wales	Scotland
White	51,873.8	46,937.9	44,144.3	2,793.5	4,935.9
Ethnic minorities	3,015.1	2,952.4	2,910.9	41.6	62.6
<i>Black</i>	890.7	884.4	874.9	9.5	6.4
Black-Caribbean	500.0	499.0	495.7	3.3	0.9
Black-African	212.4	209.6	206.9	2.7	2.8
Black-Other	178.4	175.8	172.3	3.5	2.6
<i>South Asian</i>	1,479.6	1,447.3	1,431.3	15.9	32.4
Indian	840.3	830.2	823.8	6.4	10.1
Pakistani	476.6	455.4	449.6	5.7	21.2
Bangladeshi	162.8	161.7	157.9	3.8	1.1
<i>Chinese and others</i>	644.7	620.8	604.6	16.1	23.9
Chinese	156.9	146.5	141.7	4.8	10.5
Other-Asian	197.5	192.9	189.3	3.7	4.6
Other-Other	290.2	281.4	273.7	7.7	8.8
Total population	54,888.8	49,890.3	47,055.2	2,835.1	4,998.6

Table 2 translates the population totals from Table 1 into percentages. Clearly, Britain is still overwhelmingly white in character, with ethnic minorities accounting for 5.5 percent of the population. However, they account for a slightly higher proportion of the population of England, but less than 1.5 per cent of the population of both Wales and Scotland. South Asians represent 2.7 per cent of the British population, with Indians individually accounting for 1.5 per cent and Pakistanis about one percent, a similar percentage to "Black-Caribbeans". It is notable that the "Other" categories also contain substantial numbers of people; nearly 200

thousand "Other-Asians" and 290 thousand in the "Other-other" category, which includes persons of mixed ethnic origin. The largest ethnic minorities are much less strongly represented in Wales and Scotland than in England, with the "Chinese and Others" accounting for a much larger share of the total ethnic minority population (39.8 per cent in Wales and 38.5 per cent in Scotland, compared with 20.8 per cent in England).

Table 2: Ethnic group composition of the population in 1991

Ethnic group	(percentages)				
	Great Britain	England & Wales	England	Wales	Scotland
White	94.5	94.1	93.8	98.5	98.7
Ethnic minorities	5.5	5.9	6.2	1.5	1.3
<i>Black</i>	<i>1.6</i>	<i>1.8</i>	<i>1.9</i>	<i>0.3</i>	<i>0.1</i>
Black-Caribbean	0.9	1.0	1.1	0.1	0.0
Black-African	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.1	0.1
Black-Other	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.1	0.1
<i>South Asian</i>	<i>2.7</i>	<i>2.9</i>	<i>3.0</i>	<i>0.6</i>	<i>0.6</i>
Indian	1.5	1.7	1.8	0.2	0.2
Pakistani	0.9	0.9	1.0	0.2	0.4
Bangladeshi	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.0
<i>Chinese and others</i>	<i>1.2</i>	<i>1.2</i>	<i>1.3</i>	<i>0.6</i>	<i>0.5</i>
Chinese	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2
Other-Asian	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.1	0.1
Other-Other	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.3	0.2
Total population	54,888.8	49,890.3	47,055.2	2,835.1	4,998.6

3. Regional patterns

The tables presented so far suggest that there are considerable variations within Great Britain in the ethnic composition of the population. The ethnic minority population is largely concentrated in England, mainly in the most populous areas. Table 3 shows the marked geographical concentration of ethnic minorities within England; more than half the ethnic minority population of Great Britain lives in South East England. While the South East is the most populous region of Britain, the concentration of ethnic minorities in this region is much greater than for white people, less than a third of whom live in the South East. Furthermore, Greater London alone contains 44.8 per cent of the ethnic minority population of Britain, though it only contains 10.3 per cent of the white population. The other main concentration of ethnic minority population is in the West Midlands, especially the former metropolitan county centred upon Birmingham. This region accounts for more than 14 per cent of the British ethnic minority population, but only 9 per cent of the white population. Elsewhere, the main concentrations of ethnic minorities occur in the more populous regions and metropolitan counties. Of these, West Yorkshire and Greater Manchester display the highest relative concentrations of people from ethnic minorities.

Variations in the ethnic composition of Britain at the regional scale are presented in Table 4. Clearly, the proportion of the total population in each of the three broad ethnic categories is highest in Greater London and the West Midlands metropolitan county (MC). The "Black" groups are most strongly represented in these two counties together with the metropolitan counties of the North West and Yorkshire and Humberside. In contrast, South Asians are much more widely distributed within Britain, with major concentrations in the East Midlands, Yorkshire and Humberside and the North West. They generally represent the

largest category of ethnic minorities, but are outnumbered by the Chinese and Others in Merseyside and Wales.

Table 3: Ethnic minorities in Great Britain by region, 1991

Regions and metropolitan counties	Total Population (000s)	White			Ethnic minorities		
		(000s)	(%)	% of GB	(000s)	(%)	% of GB
South East	17,208.3	15,512.9	90.1	29.9	1,695.4	9.9	56.2
<i>Greater London</i>	6,679.7	5,333.6	79.8	10.3	1,346.1	20.2	44.6
East Anglia	2,027.0	1,983.6	97.9	3.8	43.4	2.1	1.4
South West	4,609.4	4,546.8	98.6	8.8	62.6	1.4	2.1
West Midlands	5,150.2	4,725.8	91.8	9.1	424.4	8.2	14.1
<i>West Midlands MC</i>	2,551.7	2,178.1	85.4	4.2	373.5	14.6	12.4
East Midlands	3,953.4	3,765.4	95.2	7.3	188.0	4.8	6.2
Yorks & Humberside	4,836.5	4,622.5	95.6	8.9	214.0	4.4	7.1
<i>South Yorkshire</i>	1,262.6	1,226.5	97.1	2.4	36.2	2.9	1.2
<i>West Yorkshire</i>	2,013.7	1,849.6	91.8	3.6	164.1	8.2	5.4
North West	6,243.7	5,999.1	96.1	11.6	244.6	3.9	8.1
<i>Greater Manchester</i>	2,499.4	2,351.2	94.1	4.5	148.2	5.9	4.9
<i>Merseyside</i>	1,403.6	1,377.7	98.2	2.7	25.9	1.8	0.9
North	3,026.7	2,988.2	98.7	5.8	38.5	1.3	1.3
<i>Tyne & Wear</i>	1,095.2	1,075.3	98.2	2.1	19.9	1.8	0.7
Wales	2,835.1	2,793.5	98.5	5.4	41.6	1.5	1.4
Scotland	4,998.6	4,935.9	98.7	9.5	62.6	1.3	2.1
Great Britain	54,888.8	51,873.8	94.5	100.0	3,015.1	5.5	100.0

This third category is rather heterogeneous, combining Chinese people with a miscellany of other ethnic groups and mixed ethnic origins (Appendix 1). In part its regional distribution reflects the concentrations of Chinese people in London, Manchester and Liverpool, together with South Wales and central Scotland. However, its high incidence in the South East (and to a lesser extent the West Midlands) is more a consequence of the regional concentration of people of mixed race. In less populous areas, the proportion of the population in this category remains fairly constant.

Table 5 presents the detailed ethnic group breakdown of the population in each region and metropolitan county. There are clearly substantial variations both between regions and within the three broad ethnic minority categories. The percentage of "Black-Africans" exceeds the national average only in Greater London; for "Black-Caribbeans" this occurs only in Greater London and the West Midlands MC. The percentage of "Black-Others" is highest in these two counties and the North West, declining to the British average in other urbanised regions and reaching its minimum in the least populated parts of Britain. Indians account for more than 5 per cent of the population of Greater London and the West Midlands MC and are also strongly represented in the East Midlands. In contrast, Pakistanis exhibit a much weaker representation in London, with their major concentrations in West Yorkshire, Greater Manchester and the West Midlands MC. They are also the largest South Asian ethnic group in Scotland. Bangladeshis are strongly concentrated in London, Birmingham and Greater Manchester. The three ethnic groups making up the "Chinese and other" category all account for their largest percentages of the population in the South East. This category is most significant in Wales and the less populous English regions; for example, "Other-other" is the largest single ethnic group in Merseyside and Wales, reflecting the high incidence of persons of mixed ethnic origin in areas of long settlement such as Liverpool and Cardiff.

In Table 6 the population in each of the 9 ethnic minority categories is expressed as a percentage of the Great Britain total for each region and metropolitan county. The regional population share for each ethnic group is compared with the region's share of the total national population (population totals are in Appendix 2). The "Black" groups are clearly heavily concentrated in the South-East and West Midlands; nearly 80 per cent of "Black-Africans" and nearly 60 per cent of "Black-Caribbeans" live in Greater London. However, "Black-Others" are more widely distributed in Britain, with a substantial representation in the North West and a stronger presence in the less populous parts of Britain than the other two "Black" ethnic groups. The differences in South Asian settlement patterns between Indians, Pakistanis and Bangladeshis are highlighted. More than half of all Bangladeshis and two-fifths of Indians live in Greater London, compared to only a fifth of Pakistanis. The latter display a more even distribution with strong concentrations in the North West and West Yorkshire together with a substantial presence in Scotland. This table also picks out the relative concentrations of Bangladeshis in West Yorkshire, Greater Manchester and Tyne & Wear. In the "Other" category, "Other-Asians" are even more highly concentrated in London and the South East. This contrasts with the relatively even spatial distribution of Chinese, for whom the main concentrations outside London are in the North West. "Other-others" have a broadly similar distribution, but display a stronger presence in the West Midlands.

Table 4: Main ethnic minority groups by region, 1991

Regions and metropolitan counties	Black		South Asian		Chinese & others	
	(000s)	(%)	(000s)	(%)	(000s)	(%)
South East	609.7	3.5	691.0	4.0	394.6	2.3
<i>Greater London</i>	535.2	8.0	520.6	7.8	290.3	4.3
East Anglia	14.5	0.7	13.9	0.7	15.0	0.7
South West	21.8	0.5	17.1	0.4	23.6	0.5
West Midlands	102.2	2.0	276.8	5.4	45.4	0.9
<i>West Midlands MC</i>	92.0	3.6	247.7	9.7	33.8	1.3
East Midlands	38.6	1.0	120.4	3.0	29.0	0.7
Yorks & Humberside	36.6	0.8	143.9	3.0	33.5	0.7
<i>South Yorkshire</i>	9.9	0.8	17.9	1.4	8.3	0.7
<i>West Yorkshire</i>	23.9	1.2	121.4	6.0	18.9	0.9
North West	47.0	0.8	147.5	2.4	50.1	0.8
<i>Greater Manchester</i>	31.5	1.3	90.6	3.6	26.1	1.0
<i>Merseyside</i>	9.4	0.7	4.2	0.3	12.3	0.9
North	4.5	0.1	20.6	0.7	13.4	0.4
<i>Tyne & Wear</i>	2.2	0.2	10.7	1.0	7.0	0.6
Wales	9.5	0.3	15.9	0.6	16.1	0.6
Scotland	6.4	0.1	32.4	0.6	23.9	0.5
Great Britain	890.7	1.6	1,479.6	2.7	644.7	1.2

Table 5: Regional variations in ethnic composition, 1991

Region or metropolitan county	All ethnic minorities	Caribbean	Percentage of resident population							Oth. Asian	Other
			Black African	Oth-er	Ind-ian	Paki-stani	Bangla-des-hi	Chin-ese			
South East	9.9	1.9	1.0	0.6	2.6	0.8	0.6	0.5	0.8	1.0	
<i>Greater London</i>	<i>20.2</i>	<i>4.4</i>	<i>2.4</i>	<i>1.2</i>	<i>5.2</i>	<i>1.3</i>	<i>1.3</i>	<i>0.8</i>	<i>1.7</i>	<i>1.8</i>	
East Anglia	2.1	0.2	0.1	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.4	
South West	1.4	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.3	
West Midlands	8.2	1.5	0.1	0.4	3.1	1.9	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.5	
<i>West Midlands MC</i>	<i>14.6</i>	<i>2.8</i>	<i>0.2</i>	<i>0.6</i>	<i>5.5</i>	<i>3.5</i>	<i>0.7</i>	<i>0.2</i>	<i>0.3</i>	<i>0.7</i>	
East Midlands	4.8	0.6	0.1	0.3	2.5	0.4	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.4	
Yorks & Humberside	4.4	0.4	0.1	0.2	0.8	2.0	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.4	
<i>South Yorkshire</i>	<i>2.9</i>	<i>0.5</i>	<i>0.1</i>	<i>0.2</i>	<i>0.3</i>	<i>1.0</i>	<i>0.1</i>	<i>0.2</i>	<i>0.1</i>	<i>0.4</i>	
<i>West Yorkshire</i>	<i>8.2</i>	<i>0.7</i>	<i>0.1</i>	<i>0.3</i>	<i>1.7</i>	<i>4.0</i>	<i>0.3</i>	<i>0.2</i>	<i>0.2</i>	<i>0.5</i>	
North West	3.9	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.9	1.2	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.4	
<i>Greater Manchester</i>	<i>5.9</i>	<i>0.7</i>	<i>0.2</i>	<i>0.4</i>	<i>1.2</i>	<i>2.0</i>	<i>0.5</i>	<i>0.3</i>	<i>0.2</i>	<i>0.5</i>	
<i>Merseyside</i>	<i>1.8</i>	<i>0.2</i>	<i>0.2</i>	<i>0.3</i>	<i>0.2</i>	<i>0.1</i>	<i>0.1</i>	<i>0.4</i>	<i>0.1</i>	<i>0.4</i>	
North	1.3	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	
<i>Tyne & Wear</i>	<i>1.8</i>	<i>0.0</i>	<i>0.1</i>	<i>0.1</i>	<i>0.4</i>	<i>0.3</i>	<i>0.3</i>	<i>0.3</i>	<i>0.1</i>	<i>0.2</i>	
Wales	1.5	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.3	
Scotland	1.3	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.2	
Great Britain	5.5	0.9	0.4	0.3	1.5	0.9	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.5	

Table 6: Regional distribution of all ethnic groups, 1991

Region or metropolitan county	Entire population	Caribbean	Percentage of resident population							Oth. Asian	Other
			Black African	Oth-er	Ind-ian	Paki-stani	Bangla-des-hi	Chin-ese			
South East	31.4	66.3	83.5	56.6	52.9	29.9	63.6	53.3	72.4	57.9	
<i>Greater London</i>	<i>12.2</i>	<i>58.2</i>	<i>77.1</i>	<i>45.2</i>	<i>41.3</i>	<i>18.4</i>	<i>52.7</i>	<i>36.1</i>	<i>57.1</i>	<i>41.7</i>	
East Anglia	3.7	1.0	1.1	4.0	0.8	1.2	1.0	2.4	1.9	2.6	
South West	8.4	2.5	1.3	3.7	1.3	0.8	1.4	4.3	2.3	4.3	
West Midlands	9.4	15.6	2.5	10.5	18.9	20.7	11.9	6.1	5.8	8.4	
<i>West Midlands MC</i>	<i>4.6</i>	<i>14.4</i>	<i>1.9</i>	<i>8.8</i>	<i>16.8</i>	<i>18.5</i>	<i>11.1</i>	3.9	4.5	6.5	
East Midlands	7.2	4.9	1.6	6.0	11.8	3.7	2.6	4.8	3.7	4.9	
Yorks & Humberside	8.8	4.3	2.3	5.7	4.8	19.9	5.1	5.2	3.7	6.2	
<i>South Yorkshire</i>	<i>2.3</i>	<i>1.2</i>	<i>0.6</i>	<i>1.4</i>	<i>0.4</i>	<i>2.8</i>	<i>0.7</i>	<i>1.4</i>	<i>0.7</i>	<i>1.6</i>	
<i>West Yorkshire</i>	<i>3.7</i>	<i>3.0</i>	<i>1.2</i>	<i>3.7</i>	<i>4.1</i>	<i>16.9</i>	<i>3.7</i>	2.5	2.3	3.6	
North West	11.4	4.3	4.4	9.0	6.6	16.2	9.1	11.1	4.5	8.2	
<i>Greater Manchester</i>	<i>4.6</i>	<i>3.4</i>	<i>2.5</i>	<i>5.2</i>	<i>3.5</i>	<i>10.4</i>	<i>7.0</i>	<i>5.3</i>	<i>2.5</i>	<i>4.4</i>	
<i>Merseyside</i>	<i>2.6</i>	<i>0.4</i>	<i>1.4</i>	<i>2.4</i>	<i>0.3</i>	<i>0.2</i>	<i>0.4</i>	<i>3.6</i>	<i>0.6</i>	<i>1.9</i>	
North	5.5	0.2	0.7	1.1	0.9	2.0	2.2	3.2	1.6	1.8	
<i>Tyne & Wear</i>	<i>2.0</i>	<i>0.1</i>	<i>0.4</i>	<i>0.5</i>	<i>0.5</i>	<i>0.8</i>	<i>1.7</i>	<i>1.8</i>	<i>0.8</i>	<i>0.9</i>	
Wales	5.2	0.7	1.3	1.9	0.8	1.2	2.3	3.1	1.9	2.6	
Scotland	9.1	0.2	1.3	1.5	1.2	4.4	0.7	6.7	2.3	3.0	

4. Geographical variations in ethnic composition of the population

The analyses above have indicated the spatial concentration location of ethnic minorities in Britain. There is even greater variation at the local scale than is revealed in the study of regional patterns. This can be seen if the percentage of the population from ethnic minority groups is mapped for the scale of the 459 local authority districts in Great Britain (Figure 1). While ethnic minority groups are present in nearly all local authority districts (the exception is the Scilly Isles), the concentration of settlement in the most urbanised parts of Britain is clearly apparent. The percentage of the population in ethnic minority groups is highest in Greater London and adjacent counties, the West Midlands former metropolitan county, Greater Manchester, West Yorkshire, the East Midlands and Lancashire.

Table 7: Counties with largest proportions of the population from ethnic minorities, 1991

Counties and Scottish regions	Total Population (000s)	All ethnic minorities (000s)	(%)	Black (%)	SouthChinese & Asian (%)	others (%)
Inner London	2,504.5	642.2	25.6	13.4	7.0	5.3
Outer London	4,175.2	703.9	16.9	4.8	8.3	3.8
West Midlands MC	2,551.7	373.5	14.6	3.6	9.7	1.3
Leicestershire	867.5	96.4	11.1	1.0	8.9	1.2
Bedfordshire	524.1	51.9	9.9	2.5	6.1	1.2
West Yorkshire	2,013.7	164.1	8.2	1.2	6.0	0.9
Berkshire	734.2	56.1	7.6	1.6	4.6	1.4
Greater Manchester	2,499.4	148.2	5.9	1.3	3.6	1.0
<i>Great Britain</i>	<i>54,888.8</i>	<i>3,015.1</i>	<i>5.5</i>	<i>1.6</i>	<i>2.7</i>	<i>1.2</i>
Buckinghamshire	632.5	33.3	5.3	1.4	2.6	1.2
South Glamorgan	392.8	18.7	4.8	1.4	1.9	1.4
Lancashire	1,384.0	61.1	4.4	0.3	3.6	0.5
Nottinghamshire	993.9	39.4	4.0	1.6	1.7	0.8
Hertfordshire	975.8	39.5	4.0	0.9	1.9	1.3
Cambridgeshire	645.1	22.9	3.5	0.8	1.6	1.1
Northamptonshire	578.8	20.3	3.5	1.2	1.5	0.8
Warwickshire	484.2	16.5	3.4	0.5	2.3	0.6
Oxfordshire	547.6	18.2	3.3	1.0	1.2	1.2
Derbyshire	928.6	27.5	3.0	0.7	1.8	0.5
South Yorkshire	1,262.6	36.2	2.9	0.8	1.4	0.7
Avon	932.7	25.7	2.8	1.2	0.8	0.8
Surrey	1,018.0	28.8	2.8	0.4	1.2	1.3
Kent	1,508.9	34.7	2.3	0.4	1.2	0.7
Suffolk	636.3	13.9	2.2	1.2	0.3	0.7
W Sussex	702.3	14.0	2.0	0.3	1.0	0.7
Essex	1,528.6	29.0	1.9	0.4	0.7	0.8

The proportion of the population accounted for by white people increases with distance away from this axis of urbanisation, and is generally lowest in the less urbanised parts of Wales and Scotland and the most rural and isolated areas of peripheral England. However, there is also an urban-rural contrast. In the more populous regions, the suburban and more rural areas surrounding the cities display much lower proportions of their populations from ethnic minorities. In the less densely populated regions of England, together with Wales and Scotland, urban areas again display proportionately higher non-white populations than the

surrounding hinterland. Districts containing large educational establishments (such as Arfon and Norwich) also tend to have relatively larger ethnic minority populations.

These results are underlined by the ranking of counties in descending order of the proportion of their resident population from ethnic minority groups (Table 7). The concentration of ethnic minorities in Greater London and the West Midlands is again emphasised, but this table also reveals the huge variations between counties in the ethnic minority share of the population. In Inner London, ethnic minorities make up more than a quarter of the population, while only eight counties have more than the national average proportion of ethnic minorities (together accounting for 74.2 per cent of the national total). This table reveals that some shire counties have large representations of ethnic minorities; 11.1 per cent in Leicestershire and 9.8 per cent in Bedfordshire. Most of the shire counties listed are in South east England and the East and West Midlands, though counties in areas of rapid economic growth such as Cambridgeshire and areas of long-established ethnic minority settlement such as Avon and South Glamorgan also appear.

Table 8: Districts with largest ethnic minority percentages

District	Ethnic minorities (%)	(000s)	% of Largest GB ethnic minority	% of total population
Brent	44.8	108.9	3.61 Indian	17.2
Newham	42.3	89.8	2.98 Indian	13.0
Tower Hamlets	35.6	57.3	1.90 Bangladeshi	22.9
Hackney	33.6	60.8	2.02 Black-Caribbean	11.2
Ealing	32.3	88.9	2.95 Indian	16.1
Lambeth	30.3	74.1	2.46 Black-Caribbean	12.6
Haringey	29.0	58.7	1.95 Black-Caribbean	9.3
Leicester	28.5	77.0	2.55 Indian	22.3
Slough	27.7	28.0	0.93 Indian	12.5
Harrow	26.2	52.4	1.74 Indian	16.1
Waltham Forest	25.6	54.2	1.80 Black-Caribbean	6.8
Southwark	24.4	53.4	1.77 Black-Caribbean	8.3
Hounslow	24.4	49.9	1.66 Indian	14.3
Lewisham	22.0	50.7	1.68 Black-Caribbean	10.1
Birmingham	21.5	206.8	6.86 Pakistani	6.9
Westminster, City of	21.4	37.4	1.24 Other-Other	4.3
Redbridge	21.4	48.4	1.61 Indian	10.2
Wandsworth	20.0	50.6	1.68 Black-Caribbean	6.1
Luton	19.8	34.0	1.13 Pakistani	6.2
Islington	18.9	31.1	1.03 Black-Caribbean	5.1
Wolverhampton	18.6	45.0	1.49 Indian	11.4
Barnet	18.4	54.0	1.79 Indian	7.3
Camden	17.8	30.4	1.01 Bangladeshi	3.5
Croydon	17.6	55.1	1.83 Black-Caribbean	4.9
Hammersmith and Fulh	17.5	26.0	0.86 Black-Caribbean	5.9
Merton	16.3	27.4	0.91 Indian	3.4
Bradford	15.6	71.3	2.37 Pakistani	9.9
Kensington and Chels	15.6	21.6	0.72 Other-Other	3.6
Blackburn	15.4	21.0	0.70 Indian	7.7
Total		1,664.2	55.23	

5. The local authority district scale of settlement

The highly concentrated nature of the ethnic minority settlement pattern and the substantial geographical variations in ethnic composition are further highlighted if the spatial scale of analysis is further reduced to that of local authority districts.

Table 8 demonstrates the detailed contrast between areas by listing the local authority districts in which ethnic minorities account for more than 15 per cent of the total resident population. These 29 districts contain 55 per cent of the ethnic minority population of Britain. The strong representation of London Boroughs, particularly those from inner London, is particularly notable. In Brent, approaching half the population is from the ethnic minority groups, with Indians making up more than a sixth of the population. Another notable feature is the very high concentration of Bangladeshis in Tower Hamlets, where they represent nearly a quarter of the population. The table highlights the localised concentrations of Indians in Leicester and Slough and Pakistanis in Bradford and Luton. Birmingham contains the largest absolute number of people from ethnic minorities, with over 206 thousand, or nearly 7 per cent of the national total.

Table 9: Variations in ethnic composition by local authority district type

OPCS classification	Population (000s)	Ethnic minor ities(%)	Black (%)	SouthChinese & Asian (%)	others (%)
Established high status	7796.2	6.6	1.6	3.1	1.9
Higher status growth	4958.1	1.9	0.5	0.7	0.7
More rural areas	6863.2	0.7	0.2	0.1	0.4
Resort and retirement	2829.2	1.1	0.2	0.3	0.6
Mixed town and country, some industry	12307.5	2.0	0.4	1.1	0.5
Traditional manufacturing	5184.8	16.1	3.4	11.2	1.5
Service centres and cities	7461.9	4.6	1.4	1.9	1.3
Areas with much local authority housing	4504.5	2.8	0.5	1.7	0.6
Parts of Inner London	2318.6	28.3	13.7	9.5	5.1
Central London	636.2	18.2	7.2	4.1	6.9

Additional insights into the pattern of settlement of individual ethnic groups can be gained by using the classification of local authority districts devised for OPCS by Craig². He applied cluster analysis to a range of socio-economic indicators for each of the 459 districts, yielding 10 broad 'families' of districts with similar social and economic characteristics. The district-level data has been aggregated into these groups and is presented in Tables 9 and 10.

Table 9 demonstrates the variations in the ethnic composition of different types of locality. The contrast between London and the rest of Britain is again clearly demonstrated, though the 'traditional manufacturing' class also displays relatively high proportion of ethnic minorities. In London, the Black groups represent the bulk of the ethnic minorities, while in 'traditional manufacturing' areas, mainly located in the Midlands and the urbanised parts of northern England, South Asians account for most of the ethnic minority population. 'Established high status areas' have the highest social class structure, low unemployment rates and are mainly located in the South East; this is the only other class with greater than the national average proportion of ethnic minorities and again the South Asians are the largest ethnic minority group. The 'service centres and cities', including many northern cities, have just below the national average proportion of ethnic minorities, split between Blacks and South

Asians. The more rural and resort areas contain much smaller proportions of their populations from ethnic minority groups, with the Chinese and others more prominent.

Table 10: Distribution of ethnic groups by local authority district type

OPCS classification	White (%)	Ethnic minorities (%)	Black (%)	South Asian (%)	Chinese & others (%)
Established high status	14.0	17.1	14.1	16.6	22.5
Higher status growth	9.4	3.1	2.8	2.3	5.4
More rural areas	13.1	1.6	1.4	0.6	4.1
Resort and retirement	5.4	1.1	0.8	0.6	2.5
Mixed town and country, some industry	23.3	8.3	5.7	9.3	9.5
Traditional manufacturing	8.4	27.8	20.0	39.2	12.4
Service centres and cities	13.7	11.3	12.1	9.5	14.5
Areas with much local authority housing	8.4	4.2	2.5	5.2	4.4
Parts of Inner London	3.2	21.8	35.8	14.9	18.4
Central London	1.0	3.8	5.2	1.8	6.8

Table 10 demonstrates the contrast in spatial distribution between white people and ethnic minorities. Nearly a quarter of the white population lives in 'mixed town and country' areas, but these contain only 8.3 per cent of the ethnic minority population. The position is almost completely reversed for districts classified as 'parts of Inner London' or 'traditional manufacturing areas'. However, the share of total population is similar for all ethnic groups in the 'established high status' areas. Over a third of people in the Black groups live in Inner London, while nearly two-fifths of South Asians live in 'traditional manufacturing' areas. The Chinese and Others are more evenly distributed throughout Britain and are more strongly represented in the higher status areas.

6. Population change, 1971-91

Though it is not possible to directly measure intercensal change in the ethnic composition of the population, it is possible to compare the population from ethnic minorities in 1991 with the number of people who had a family connection with the New Commonwealth (and Pakistan) in the 1971 and 1981 Censuses. The figure for 1971 is the percentage of the population with a parent born in the New Commonwealth; that for 1981 is the percentage of the population living in a household headed by a person born in the New Commonwealth and Pakistan (the latter could not be calculated for Scotland, as the question was not included in the 1981 Scottish Census).

This comparison is presented for the regional scale in Table 11. All nations and regions of Britain display an increase in the proportion of their populations from ethnic minority backgrounds over this twenty year period, during which time the total population grew by nearly 5 per cent. The geographical distribution has remained fairly constant; the highest proportions of the population coming from ethnic minorities have been in London and the West Midlands throughout the period. However, the increase in this proportion has been greatest in London, indicating a tendency for the growing ethnic minority population of Britain to be increasingly spatially concentrated. This is partly a consequence of the increasing relative shift of total population from the larger cities and towns to smaller towns and rural areas. As a result, the increase in the share of the population from ethnic minority

groups has been slowest in the areas of greatest population growth (in the less urbanised parts of Britain) over the last two decades, while both Greater London and the West Midlands lost over 7 per cent of their 1971 population total by 1991.

Table 11: Regional distribution of ethnic minorities, 1971-91

Region or metropolitan county	Population		New Commonwealth population		Ethnic minorities 1991	
	1991 (000s)	%change 1971-91	1971 (%)	1981 (%)	(%)	(000s)
South East	17,208.3	5.5	4.3	7.4	9.9	1,695.4
<i>Greater London</i>	6,679.7	-7.4	7.9	14.3	20.2	1,346.1
East Anglia	2,027.0	26.1	0.7	1.5	2.1	43.4
South West	4,609.4	18.2	0.8	1.5	1.3	62.6
West Midlands	5,150.2	3.0	4.1	6.4	8.2	424.4
<i>West Midlands MC</i>	2,551.7	-7.1	6.8	10.9	14.6	373.5
East Midlands	3,953.4	11.4	2.0	3.7	4.8	188.0
Yorkshire&Humbs	4,836.5	1.4	1.9	3.2	4.5	214.0
<i>South Yorkshire</i>	1,262.6	-3.0	1.1	1.9	2.9	36.2
<i>West Yorkshire</i>	2,013.7	-0.5	3.4	5.9	8.2	164.1
North West	6,243.7	-3.1	1.3	2.7	3.9	244.6
<i>Greater Manchester</i>	2,499.4	-6.9	2.1	3.9	5.9	148.2
<i>Merseyside</i>	1,403.6	-13.2	0.5	1.0	1.8	25.9
North	3,026.7	-1.4	0.4	0.9	1.3	38.5
<i>Tyne & Wear</i>	1,095.2	-8.0	0.4	1.0	1.8	19.9
Wales	2,835.1	6.6	0.4	0.9	1.5	41.6
Scotland	4,998.6	-1.1	0.4	-	1.2	62.6
Great Britain	54,888.8	4.8	2.4	4.2	5.5	3,015.1

7. Conclusions

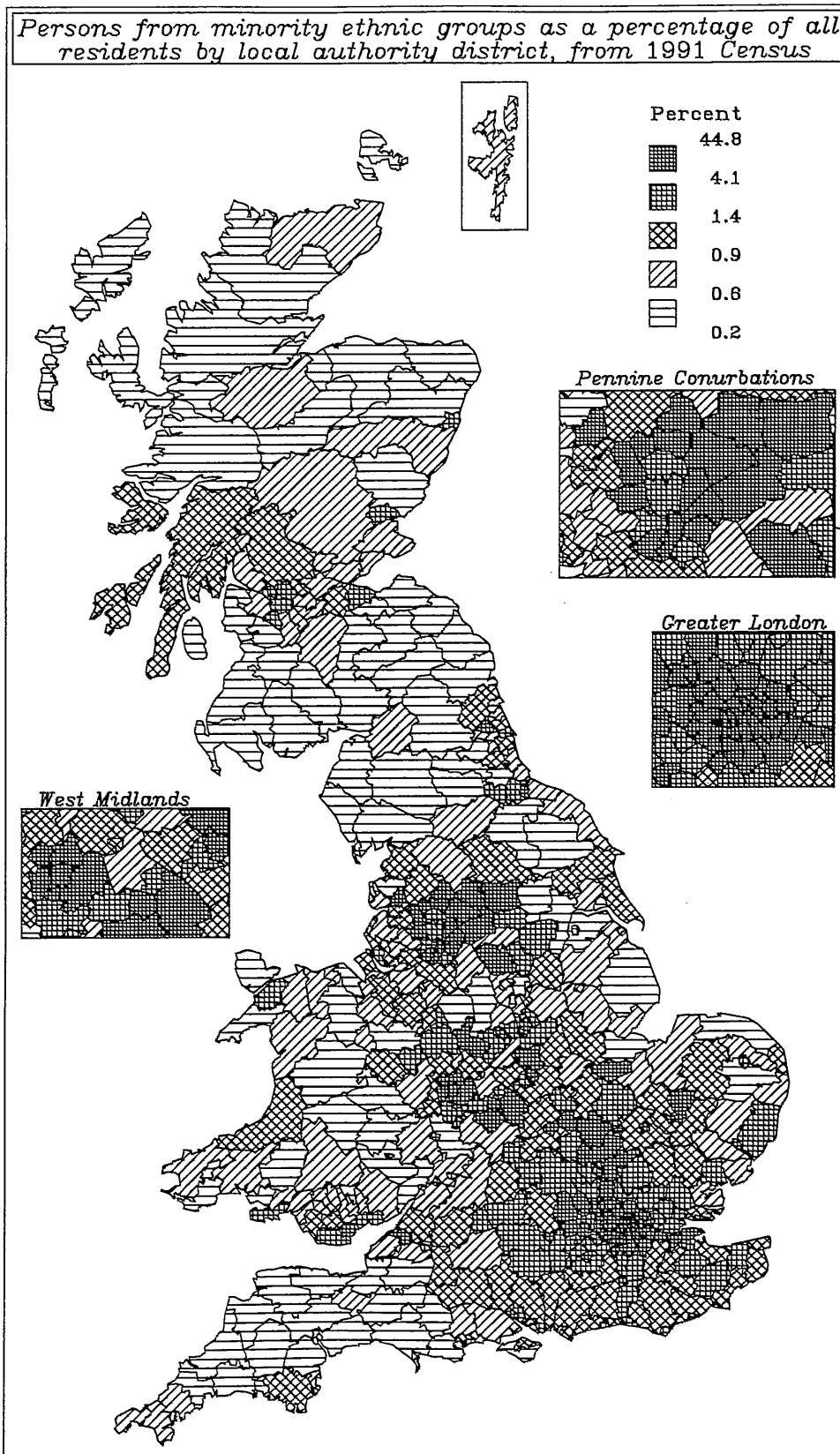
This report has provided a preliminary analysis of the location of the ethnic minority population of Great Britain in 1991. Though only district total population data is available, it is possible to identify a number of features;

- There are now 3 million people from ethnic minority groups living in Great Britain;
- This section of the population tends to be concentrated in the most urbanised parts of Britain;
- However, people from ethnic minorities live in all parts of the country;
- The bulk of the ethnic minority population lives in Greater London and the West Midlands;
- The highest relative concentrations of people from ethnic minorities are found in London;
- Indians are the single largest ethnic minority group;
- "Blacks" tend to be most concentrated in the larger cities;
- "Chinese and others" have the most dispersed pattern of settlement;
- Ethnic minorities are least well represented in the higher status growing areas and the more rural parts of Britain;
- There is a tendency towards increasing concentration of the ethnic minority population in the larger urban settlements of Britain.

As the full range of data from the Census becomes available, it will be possible to study a wider range of socio-economic phenomena affecting ethnic minorities and to study location patterns in greater spatial detail. These analyses will be presented in subsequent reports in this series.

Figure 1

Pattern of ethnic minority settlement, 1991



Notes

- 1 This was the first modern Census to encounter significant non-cooperation, resulting in an undercount of 965 thousand. The undercount was a result of misclassification of dwellings, underestimates of the number of residents at an address and the failure of respondents to return a Census form. It has been speculated that these factors resulted from attempts to avoid registration for the Poll Tax, indicated by an undercount of men aged 20-29. The influence of these factors upon the estimates of the ethnic minority population has not yet been quantified by the Census Offices.
- 2 Craig, J. (1985) 'A 1981 socio-economic classification of local and health authorities of Great Britain', Studies on Medical and Population Subjects No. 48, OPCS (HMSO: London).

APPENDIX 1

The 1991 Census of Population ethnic classification

4-fold classification	10-fold classification	Full listing
White	White	White Irish Greek/Greek Cypriot Turkish/Turkish Cypriot Mixed White
Black groups	Black Caribbean	Black - Caribbean Caribbean Island West Indies Guyana
	Black African	Black - African Africa south of the Sahara
	Black other	Black - other Black - British Black - Mixed Black/White Black - Mixed Other
Indian/Pakistani/ Bangladeshi	Indian Pakistani Bangladeshi	Indian Pakistani Bangladeshi
Chinese & Others	Chinese Other - Asian	Chinese E. African Asian Indo-Caribbean Black-Indian sub-continent Black-other Asian
	Other - other	North Africa/Arab/Iranian Mixed Asian/White British ethnic minority (other) British (no indication) Other Mixed Black/White Other Mixed Asian/White Other Mixed - Other

The Census Ethnic Group Classification

It had been intended to include a question on ethnic status in the 1981 Census, but public opposition to the Census Tests carried out in 1979 forced this to be abandoned. However, such a question was introduced into the government's major social surveys (the Labour Force Survey [LFS] and General Household Survey [GHS]) in the early 1980s and by 1989, when the Test for the 1991 Census was carried out, opposition had diminished to the point where such a question could be included without significantly harming the level of response. Less than 0.5% of households refused to take part in the Census Test on the grounds of the inclusion of a question on ethnic group.

The Census Offices (the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys [OPCS] for England and Wales and the General Register Office, Scotland) devised 35 ethnic group descriptions based on the responses to the Census Test. These were then grouped into a ten-

fold and a four-fold ethnic group classification to be used for the publication of Census data on ethnic groups (Table 1). The more detailed classification is used for the majority of tables in the printed *County/Region Reports* and the *Local Base Statistics* released in computer-readable form (termed 'Abstracts' by the Census Offices) for further analysis by local authorities and researchers in the public and private sectors. The four-fold classification is used in the *Small Area Statistics*, a computerised data set which details the characteristics of the population for the 145 thousand Enumeration Districts and Output Areas in Great Britain. These are the smallest areas for which Census data is released, each containing on average about 200 households.

Population of ethnic groups in Great Britain by County and Scottish Region, from the 1991 Census (continued)

County or Scottish Region	Resident population in ethnic category										Total non- white
	White	Car -ibbean	Black Afri- can	Oth- -er	Ind- ian	Paki- -stani	Bangla- -deshi	Chin -ese	Othr Asian	Other Other	
South-East	15513.8	330.9	178.1	99.6	444.5	143.1	103.4	83.7	141.7	165.9	1690.9
Bedfordshire	472.2	9.4	1.0	2.6	14.2	12.1	5.8	1.6	1.6	3.1	51.4
Berkshire	678.4	7.3	2.2	2.9	19.1	13.9	0.7	2.2	3.7	4.4	56.4
Buckinghamshire	599.0	6.3	1.3	1.9	6.3	9.5	0.6	1.9	1.9	3.8	33.5
East Sussex	677.3	0.7	0.7	0.7	2.1	0.7	0.7	1.4	1.4	3.5	11.9
Essex	1499.8	3.1	1.5	1.5	7.6	1.5	1.5	4.6	3.1	6.1	30.5
Greater London	5332.9	290.5	164.5	79.3	346.5	88.5	86.8	56.8	111.9	120.2	1345.0
<i>Inner London</i>	<i>1863.3</i>	<i>177.8</i>	<i>110.2</i>	<i>50.1</i>	<i>75.1</i>	<i>30.1</i>	<i>70.1</i>	<i>27.5</i>	<i>45.1</i>	<i>57.6</i>	<i>643.6</i>
<i>Outer London</i>	<i>3469.6</i>	<i>112.7</i>	<i>54.3</i>	<i>29.2</i>	<i>271.4</i>	<i>58.5</i>	<i>16.7</i>	<i>29.2</i>	<i>66.8</i>	<i>62.6</i>	<i>701.4</i>
Hampshire	1512.3	3.1	1.5	3.1	7.7	1.5	1.5	3.1	3.1	4.6	29.2
Hertfordshire	936.8	4.9	1.0	2.0	11.7	4.9	2.0	2.9	3.9	4.9	38.2
Isle of Wight	123.7	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.7
Kent	1474.2	1.5	1.5	1.5	15.1	1.5	1.5	3.0	3.0	4.5	33.1
Oxfordshire	529.5	2.2	1.1	2.2	2.7	2.7	0.5	1.6	1.6	3.3	17.9
Surrey	989.5	1.0	1.0	1.0	7.1	4.1	1.0	3.1	5.1	5.1	28.5
West Sussex	688.3	0.7	0.7	0.7	4.2	2.1	0.7	1.4	1.4	2.1	14.0
East Anglia	1983.7	5.2	2.7	6.5	6.5	5.2	1.3	4.0	3.3	7.3	42.0
Cambridgeshire	622.5	1.9	0.6	1.9	4.5	5.2	0.6	1.9	1.9	3.2	21.7
Norfolk	738.9	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.7	1.5	5.7
Suffolk	622.3	2.5	1.3	3.8	1.3	0.0	0.6	1.3	0.6	2.5	13.9
South West	4546.9	11.9	2.7	7.6	10.7	3.4	2.7	6.1	4.2	12.8	62.1
Avon	906.6	7.5	0.9	2.8	3.7	2.8	0.9	1.9	0.9	3.7	25.1
Cornwall&Scillies	466.1	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.9	1.9
Devon	1002.9	0.0	0.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	1.0	2.0	6.0
Dorset	639.4	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.0	0.6	0.6	0.6	1.9	6.1
Gloucestershire	518.9	2.1	0.5	1.1	2.6	0.0	0.5	0.5	0.5	1.6	9.4
Somerset	458.1	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.9	2.4
Wiltshire	554.9	1.7	0.6	1.1	2.3	0.6	0.6	1.1	1.1	1.7	10.8
West Midlands	4727.2	77.1	5.1	17.9	157.5	99.9	19.6	8.6	10.7	23.5	419.9
Hereford&Worcs	667.9	1.4	0.0	0.7	1.4	2.0	0.7	0.7	0.7	1.4	9.0
Shropshire	399.9	0.8	0.0	0.4	2.0	0.8	0.0	0.8	0.8	0.8	6.4
Staffordshire	1012.5	2.1	0.0	1.0	3.1	7.2	1.0	1.0	1.0	2.1	18.5
Warwickshire	467.7	1.5	0.0	0.5	10.7	0.5	0.0	1.0	0.5	1.5	16.2
W Midlands	2179.2	71.4	5.1	15.3	140.3	89.3	17.9	5.1	7.7	17.9	370.0
East Midlands	3764.5	25.1	2.4	10.8	98.6	16.7	2.9	6.4	7.1	14.5	184.5
Derbyshire	900.7	3.7	0.0	1.9	10.2	5.6	0.0	0.9	0.9	1.9	25.1
Leicestershire	771.2	5.2	0.9	2.6	72.9	2.6	1.7	1.7	3.5	5.2	96.3
Lincolnshire	579.8	0.6	0.0	0.6	1.2	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.6	1.2	4.8
Northamptonshire	558.5	4.6	0.6	1.7	6.4	0.6	1.2	1.2	1.2	2.3	19.8
Nottinghamshire	954.1	10.9	1.0	4.0	8.0	8.0	0.0	2.0	1.0	4.0	38.9
Yorks&Humbsde	4621.2	20.4	4.1	10.1	40.4	94.7	8.2	8.1	6.9	18.2	211.1
Humberside	849.4	0.0	0.9	0.9	1.7	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	1.7	8.8
North Yorkshire	697.2	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.7	0.7	1.4	4.9
S Yorkshire	1226.0	6.3	1.3	2.5	3.8	12.6	1.3	2.5	1.3	5.1	36.7
W Yorkshire	1848.6	14.1	2.0	6.0	34.2	80.5	6.0	4.0	4.0	10.1	160.9

Note: zeros indicate a total for an ethnic group comprising less than 50 or based on less than 0.05 per cent of the overall population of an area.

Population of ethnic groups in Great Britain by County and Scottish Region, from the 1991 Census (continued)

County or Scottish Region	Resident population in ethnic category										Total non- white
	White	Car -ibbean	Black Afri- can	Oth -er	Ind- ian	Paki -stani	Bangla- deshi	Chin -ese	Othr Asian	Other	
North West	6000.4	22.6	9.2	16.5	55.5	78.6	16.7	16.4	8.7	24.2	248.4
Cheshire	947.0	1.0	0.0	1.0	1.9	1.0	0.0	1.9	1.0	1.9	9.7
Gtr Manchester	2351.9	17.5	5.0	10.0	30.0	50.0	12.5	7.5	5.0	12.5	150.0
Lancashire	1323.1	1.4	1.4	1.4	20.8	26.3	2.8	1.4	1.4	4.2	61.1
Merseyside	1378.3	2.8	2.8	4.2	2.8	1.4	1.4	5.6	1.4	5.6	28.0
North	2989.0	0.0	1.6	2.1	8.0	8.2	3.3	5.2	2.5	4.7	35.6
Cleveland	539.8	0.0	0.6	0.6	1.7	5.0	0.0	0.6	0.6	1.1	10.2
Cumbria	481.3	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.5	2.0
Durham	589.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.2	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.6	0.6	3.0
Northumberland	303.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.3	0.3	1.2
Tyne & Wear	1075.5	0.0	1.1	1.1	4.4	3.3	3.3	3.3	1.1	2.2	19.8
Wales	2773.9	2.7	2.6	4.0	6.4	5.6	3.1	4.7	3.6	7.4	40.1
Clwyd	405.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.4	0.4	1.6
Dyfed	341.1	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.3	0.7	1.9
Gwent	415.9	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.8	1.7	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.8	5.7
Gwynedd	233.6	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.5	0.2	0.5	2.0
Mid Glamorgan	529.8	0.0	0.0	0.5	1.1	0.5	0.0	1.1	0.5	0.5	4.2
Powys	116.8	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.5
South Glamorgan	373.9	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.7	2.7	1.6	1.2	1.2	3.1	18.5
West Glamorgan	357.1	0.4	0.0	0.4	0.7	0.4	1.1	0.7	0.4	1.1	5.2
Scotland	4934.5	0.0	3.5	3.6	10.2	22.2	0.0	9.5	5.4	9.8	64.2
Borders	103.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.2
Central	265.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.8	0.0	0.3	0.3	0.3	2.0
Dumfries&Gall.	147.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.4
Fife	338.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.7	0.0	0.3	0.3	0.3	1.9
Grampian	499.4	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.5	1.0	3.5
Highland	203.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.4	1.0
Lothian	713.7	0.0	0.7	0.7	1.5	3.6	0.0	2.2	1.5	2.2	12.4
Strathclyde	2212.7	0.0	2.2	2.2	6.7	15.7	0.0	4.5	2.2	4.5	38.0
Tayside	379.2	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.8	1.2	0.0	0.8	0.4	0.8	4.4
Orkney Isles	19.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Shetland Isles	22.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Western Isles	29.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1

Note: zeros indicate a total for an ethnic group comprising less than 50 or based on less than 0.05 per cent of the overall population of an area.

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