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1991 Census Statistical Paper No 8

CHINESE PEOPLE AND "OTHER" ETHNIC MINORITIES IN GREAT BRITAIN:
Social and economic circumstances

David Owen

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by

David Owen

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1. Introduction

This Statistical Paper presents information from the 1991 Census on the social and economic circumstances of people living in Britain who are from ethnic groups falling within the very broad category of "Chinese & Other". Three individual ethnic groups are considered; Chinese, Other-Asian and "Other-Other". Here, their social and economic characteristics are analysed and compared with those of the white ethnic group. This is one of a series of Statistical Papers (numbers 6 to 9) which present in-depth analyses of the socio-economic differentials which exist between ethnic groups, drawing on data sources which have recently become available; primarily the OPCS "Country of Birth and Ethnic Group" report and the Samples of Anonymised Records drawn from the 1991 Census¹. These enable a number of topics which the Census Local Base Statistics do not cover (data from which were presented in Statistical Papers 1 to 5) to be analysed. The paper starts by describing the composition of the three ethnic groups, since the meaning of the two "Other" categories is not immediately apparent. It goes on to describe the demographic structure of the "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups, setting the context for analyses of their geographical distribution, household and family structure, housing characteristics, levels of health, participation in the labour market, patterns of employment and unemployment, and educational participation and attainment. Parallel statistical papers in this series are concerned with the "Black" (Statistical Paper 6) and South Asian (Statistical Paper 7) ethnic groupings and with people born in Ireland (Statistical Paper 9).

2. Definitions

Of the three ethnic groups considered in this Statistical Paper, 'Chinese' is the most straightforward to interpret. This was one of the seven 'pre-coded' choices in the ethnic group question on the 1991 Census form, and hence contains those persons whom the form-filler considered to be Chinese. However, the two "Other" categories were constructed during the processing of the Census returns, from the answers written into the "Any other ethnic group" and "Black-Other" boxes. The types of ethnic group these categories contain are thus not immediately obvious from their titles, and Table 1 illustrates the wide variety of ethnic origins involved.

Table 1 Great Britain: Composition of the "Chinese & Other" ethnic category, 1991.

Ethnic group	Population	Percent of G.B.	Share of Chinese&Others	Number providing 'written answers'	
				Black-Other	Any other ethnic group
Chinese & Other	644678	1.2	100.0	36670	451070
Chinese	156938	0.3	24.3	n/a	n/a-
Other-Asian	197534	0.4	30.6	30130	167404
East African Asian/Indo-Caribbean	7381		1.1	1271	6110
Indian sub-continent(nes)	45338		7.0	4005	41333
Other Asian	144815		22.5	24854	119961
Other-Other	290206	0.5	45.0	6540	283666
N African/Arab/Iranian	65191		10.1	6471	58720
Mixed Asian/White	61874		9.6	69	61805
British - ethnic minority indicated	16170		2.5	-	16170
British - no ethnic minority indicated	13971		2.2	-	13971
Other answers	41725		6.5	-	41725
Mixed Black/White	29882		4.6	-	29882
Other mixed	61393		9.5	-	61393

The Census Offices devised a coding framework for allocating any answer written into the 'other' boxes to the ten ethnic groups used for published output, based on the answers obtained from the ethnic group question during the 1989 Census Test. Table 1 shows how this

was used to construct the "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups, distinguishing between answers written into the "Black-Other" and "Any other ethnic group" boxes, which were used to construct the "Other-Asian" and "Other-Other" categories. Clearly, this is much more an "Other" than a "Chinese" ethnic grouping, since the "Other-Other" category accounts for 45 per cent of all "Chinese & Other" people, while less than a quarter are Chinese. The Other-Asian ethnic group is predominantly made up of people described as "Other Asian", presumably meaning with ultimate origins in east and south-east Asia, since a further quarter of the category have origins in the Indian sub-continent, but their detailed origins are nowhere specified. Indo-Caribbeans and East African Asians account for only a small part of this ethnic group (thus indicating that the bulk of people from these ethnic groups would have been described themselves as Black-Caribbean or as a member of one of the main Asian ethnic groups). The "Other-Other" category is highly diverse. It includes a substantial number of Arabs, North Africans and Iranians (unfortunately, grouped together), but the majority of its members have parents from different ethnic groups, amounting to more than 150 thousand people. It also includes a number of people for whom answers were written in which identified them as not being white, but were not specific enough to allocate them to one of the main ethnic groups². The aggregation of all these ethnic groups together is unfortunate, since the individual components are likely to have very different characteristics; for example most Arabs and Iranians will be overseas students or workers, while most people of "mixed" parentage were born in the United Kingdom.

Table 2: Great Britain: National origins of persons from "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups born outside the UK, 1991.

Chinese	Percent of non-UK born	Other-Asian	Percent of non-UK born	Other-Other	Percent of non-UK born
Hong Kong	47.6	Sri Lanka	19.1	Iran	12.6
China	16.5	Japan	15.9	India	12.5
Malaysia	13.5	Philippines	11.4	Iraq	6.8
Vietnam	8.4	Mauritius	7.4	Egypt	4.4
Singapore	4.3	Malaysia	6.2	Morocco	3.3
Taiwan	1.5	Vietnam	6.2	United States	3.0
Mauritius	1.3	Kenya	4.0	Pakistan	2.4
Thailand	0.6	India	3.9	Lebanon	2.0
Guyana	0.4	Thailand	3.2	Guyana	2.0
India	0.4	Pakistan	2.1	Malaysia	1.8

Source: Derived from 1 per cent Sample of Anonymised Records.

The countries of birth of persons falling into these three ethnic groups can provide further insight into the more detailed ethnic composition of each category (though it must be recognised that a majority of Other-Other people were born in the UK; Table 3). Table 2 lists the ten individual countries with the largest shares of all persons born outside the UK in each ethnic group. About half of all foreign-born people in the Chinese ethnic group came from Hong Kong, with the People's Republic of China the most common other origin. The bulk of the remainder came from other Commonwealth countries in south-east Asia, and Vietnam. The table illustrates just how diverse the Other-Asian category is: Sri Lanka accounts for nearly a fifth of those born outside the UK, and is clearly the most common of the South Asian origins in this ethnic group. While it may be surprising that Japan and the Philippines are the most common south-east Asian origins, and that Malaysians are as numerous as Vietnamese, this probably reflects the increasing inward investment of Japanese multinational manufacturing and finance companies, and the growth in numbers of south-east Asian students recruited by British higher education institutions. In the Other-Other ethnic group, the foreign-born form a much smaller share of the population total, but the table illustrates the range of Middle Eastern and North African ethnic groups represented within the total. The largest single national group are Iranians, many of whom are students and political refugees. The relatively large number of

persons born in India and Pakistani amongst those born overseas may be children of mixed parentage, or "Anglo-Indians" born in India during the colonial period.

3. Demographic patterns

The age and gender structure of the Chinese and the two "Other" ethnic groups is summarised in the population pyramid in Figure 1. This pyramid indicates a relatively youthful population, since the pyramid has a relatively broad base and narrow apex. However, there is also a marked "bulge" in the 20-44 age range, the prime economically active age range. The numbers in each 5-year age group from 45 upwards decline steadily, and there are few people of pensionable age from these three ethnic groups. The 'bulge' in the younger economically active ages is particularly noticeable for the Chinese and Other-Asian ethnic groups, for each of whom younger adults outnumber children. For Other-Asians, women form the majority of the population aged 20-44. In contrast, the Other-Other ethnic group has a much more youthful population structure, with a relatively large proportion of children and the number of persons in each successively older 5-year age group decreasing (though this ethnic group also exhibits relatively larger numbers in the 25-40 age range).

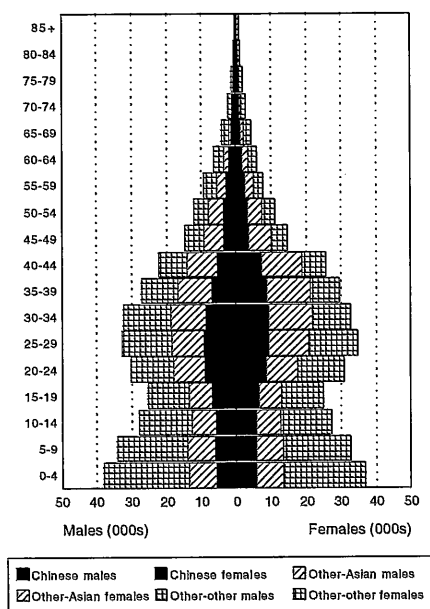


Figure 1: Age and gender pyramid for "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups, 1991

Further details of the population structure of the three "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups and a comparison with white people are presented in Table 3. The age structures of the Chinese and Other-Asian ethnic groups are fairly similar, both having median ages in the late twenties or early thirties, while the Other-Other ethnic group has a more distinctive and youthful age distribution. The relative concentration of both males and females into the younger working age range for the Chinese and Other-Asian ethnic groups is highlighted, since in both at least 10 per cent more of the population are aged 25-44 than in the white ethnic group. This differential is even greater for women than for men. In common with other minority ethnic groups, the share of the population in the older age groups is well below that for white people, particularly for those of pensionable age. In common with white people, men are in the majority amongst the middle aged while the majority of pensioners are women. Both the Chinese and the Other-Asian ethnic groups have a slightly larger percentage of children and young adults than white people, with the differential greater for school-age children and young adults than for pre-school age children. In contrast, the share of pre-school age children in the Other-Other population is more than 2.5 times that for the white ethnic group, and about 40 per cent of the population had not yet reached school-leaving age in 1991, resulting in median ages of 21.6 years for males and

20.5 years for females. While the share of younger adults in the population is smaller than for the Chinese and Other-Asian ethnic groups and similar to white people, people aged 25-44 form about 30 per cent of the population. Older people are much less common in this ethnic group, with men again in the majority for those aged from 45 to retirement age and women forming the bulk of the population of pensionable age.

The percentage of single people amongst those aged 16 and over is far higher for all three "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups than for white people. This is partly due to the greater youth of these ethnic groups, as demonstrated by the highest figure (over two-fifths) being experienced by the Other-Other group (though the percentage of Chinese men who are single is almost as high). The percentage of men who are married is higher than those for women in the white and Other-Other ethnic groups, mainly because of the larger magnitude of alternative marital states for women in these ethnic groups (nearly all "Chinese & Other" men are either single or married). The percentage married is relatively low for men in the Chinese and Other-Other ethnic groups, though the percentage of women in these ethnic groups who are married is relatively high. The percentage of women who are widows is about three times higher for the white ethnic group (because of the larger number of older women in this ethnic group) than for any of the "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups, and the condition of being widowed is far more common for women than for men in all four ethnic groups. The percentage divorced is also higher for women than men in the four ethnic groups presented. Divorce rates are lower than those of the white ethnic group for Chinese and Other-Asian people, and about the same as for white people for Other-Other people.

Table 3 Summary demographic characteristics of the "Chinese & Other" and white ethnic groups in Great Britain, 1991

Age group, marital category, birthplace, migrants	White People		Chinese People		Other-Asian People		Other-Other People	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Population (000s)	25,066.4	26,807.4	77.7	79.3	93.6	103.9	150.1	140.1
% aged 0-4	6.7	6.0	7.3	6.8	8.4	7.6	16.3	16.6
% aged 5-15	13.8	12.2	17.0	15.5	17.6	15.3	24.9	25.8
% aged 16-24	13.0	12.1	18.7	17.0	15.6	14.0	14.4	16.0
% aged 25-44	29.8	28.2	39.2	43.1	40.6	46.1	30.7	28.3
% aged 45-59/64	22.8	16.6	14.9	11.4	15.7	12.8	10.9	7.9
% of pensionable age	13.9	24.8	2.9	6.0	2.1	4.2	2.8	5.3
Median age in years	35.8	38.9	27.9	29.6	29.2	30.9	21.6	20.5
Percent aged 16 and over								
single	29.5	22.6	40.5	31.4	34.7	27.0	43.3	40.9
married	61.0	56.1	56.5	60.5	62.0	64.4	50.2	47.1
widowed	3.9	14.5	0.9	4.8	0.8	4.4	1.0	5.1
divorced	5.5	6.8	2.0	3.3	2.6	4.2	5.4	6.9
% born in the UK	96.0	95.7	29.5	27.5	23.0	20.9	57.5	62.3
% living outside UK one year before Census	0.5	0.5	5.2	5.1	9.3	9.1	4.0	3.9

Sources: 1991 Census Local Base Statistics (ESRC purchase); Crown Copyright. OPCS/GRO(Scotland) (1994) Country of Birth and Ethnic Group report (HMSO).

There is a marked contrast between the two Asian ethnic groups and the Other-Other ethnic group in the percentage of the population born in the UK (Table 3). While the majority of

Other-Other people were born in the UK (with a slightly smaller percentage of males than females UK-born), just under 30 per cent of Chinese people and between a fifth and a quarter of Other-Asian people were born in the UK. These differences reflect the large percentage of British-born people with parents from different ethnic groups in the Other-Other category, the fact that migration of Chinese people occurred later (on the whole) than for most minority ethnic groups, and the more recent in-migration of many students and professional workers from the Other-Asian ethnic group. This latter factor is responsible for the relatively high percentage (over 9 per cent for both males and females) of Other-Asian people who had been living outside the UK one year before the Census was taken. Though this percentage is much lower for Chinese people, it is still higher than for all other minority ethnic groups except Black-Africans (see NEMDA 1991 Census Statistical Paper 6). The percentage living outside the UK one year before the Census is also high for the Other-Other ethnic group, given the large percentage born within the UK. This indicates the relatively large number of overseas students among the larger foreign-born components of this ethnic group (e.g. Iranians and other Middle Eastern people).

4. Geographical distribution of the "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups within Great Britain

The broad regional distribution of the three "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups is presented in Table 4³. As is the case for most other minority ethnic groups, the great majority (61 per cent) of people from these three ethnic groups live in the South-East of England, mainly in Greater London (which alone contains 45 per cent of all people from these ethnic groups). The share of "Chinese & Other" people in the population as a whole is only 1.2 per cent on average, rising to 4.3 per cent in Greater London; the greatest local concentrations of these ethnic groups elsewhere are found in the West Midlands, Greater Manchester, Merseyside and West Yorkshire metropolitan counties.

Table 4 **Regional variations in ethnic composition, 1991**

Standard Region or <i>metropolitan</i> <i>county</i>	Total Population (000s)	Chinese and Others (000s)	(%)	Chinese People (000s)	(%)	Other-Asian People (000s)	(%)	Other-Other People (000s)	(%)
South East	17208.3	394.6	2.3	83.6	0.5	142.9	0.8	168.1	1.0
<i>Greater London</i>	<i>6679.7</i>	<i>290.3</i>	<i>4.3</i>	<i>56.6</i>	<i>0.8</i>	<i>112.8</i>	<i>1.7</i>	<i>120.9</i>	<i>1.8</i>
East Anglia	2027.0	15.0	0.7	3.7	0.2	3.8	0.2	7.5	0.4
South West	4609.4	23.6	0.5	6.7	0.1	4.5	0.1	12.4	0.3
West Midlands	5150.2	45.4	0.9	9.6	0.2	11.5	0.2	24.3	0.5
<i>West Midlands MC</i>	<i>2551.7</i>	<i>33.8</i>	<i>1.3</i>	<i>6.1</i>	<i>0.2</i>	<i>8.9</i>	<i>0.3</i>	<i>18.8</i>	<i>0.7</i>
East Midlands	3953.4	29.0	0.7	7.6	0.2	7.2	0.2	14.2	0.4
Yorks & Humberside	4836.5	33.5	0.7	8.2	0.2	7.3	0.2	18.0	0.4
<i>S Yorkshire MC</i>	<i>1262.6</i>	<i>8.3</i>	<i>0.7</i>	<i>2.2</i>	<i>0.2</i>	<i>1.4</i>	<i>0.1</i>	<i>4.8</i>	<i>0.4</i>
<i>W Yorkshire MC</i>	<i>2013.7</i>	<i>18.9</i>	<i>0.9</i>	<i>3.9</i>	<i>0.2</i>	<i>4.6</i>	<i>0.2</i>	<i>10.4</i>	<i>0.5</i>
North West	6243.7	50.1	0.8	17.4	0.3	8.9	0.1	23.8	0.4
<i>Greater Manchester</i>	<i>2499.4</i>	<i>26.1</i>	<i>1.0</i>	<i>8.3</i>	<i>0.3</i>	<i>4.9</i>	<i>0.2</i>	<i>12.9</i>	<i>0.5</i>
<i>Merseyside</i>	<i>1403.6</i>	<i>12.3</i>	<i>0.9</i>	<i>5.6</i>	<i>0.4</i>	<i>1.3</i>	<i>0.1</i>	<i>5.4</i>	<i>0.4</i>
North	3026.7	13.4	0.4	5.0	0.2	3.1	0.1	5.3	0.2
<i>Tyne & Wear</i>	<i>1095.2</i>	<i>7.0</i>	<i>0.6</i>	<i>2.8</i>	<i>0.3</i>	<i>1.6</i>	<i>0.1</i>	<i>2.6</i>	<i>0.2</i>
Wales	2835.1	16.1	0.6	4.8	0.2	3.7	0.1	7.7	0.3
Scotland	4998.6	23.9	0.5	10.5	0.2	4.6	0.1	8.8	0.2
Great Britain	54,888.8	644.7	1.2	156.9	0.3	197.5	0.4	290.2	0.5

Source: 1991 Census Local Base Statistics (ESRC purchase); Crown Copyright.

There is relatively little regional variation in the percentage of the resident population from the Chinese ethnic group, which is highest in Greater London, Merseyside, Greater Manchester and Tyne & Wear. Over 10 thousand Chinese people, or 6.7 per cent of the ethnic group (compared with 2.7 per cent for the other two ethnic groups added together), live in Scotland, illustrating the widespread geographical distribution of this ethnic group. In contrast, 57 per cent of Other-Asian people live in Greater London, and this group's share of the resident population is much higher in Greater London than elsewhere, the metropolitan counties with the largest concentrations of this ethnic group being the West Midlands, Greater Manchester and West Yorkshire. While 41.7 per cent of Other-Other people also live in Greater London (where they just outnumber the Other-Asian ethnic group), this ethnic group is relatively strongly represented in the major conurbations, in most of which it is about twice as numerous as the other two ethnic groups. The largest numbers of people from this ethnic group are found in the West Midlands metropolitan county, the East Midlands, Greater Manchester, West Yorkshire and the South-West.

The local variations underlying these broad regional averages are revealed in Figures 2 to 5, which map those areas in which the percentage of the population from "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups is greater than the national average, with the strongest local concentrations being given the darkest shading⁴. Figure 2 reveals the greatest local concentrations of "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups to be in Greater London and surrounding districts, in the larger cities, in ports such as Liverpool, Cardiff Bristol and Southampton, and in southern 'freestanding'⁵ cities such as Peterborough, Cambridge and Ipswich. The share of the resident population from these three ethnic groups is greatest in a neighbouring group of boroughs in north-west London.

Local concentrations of Chinese people are less marked than for the three ethnic groups taken together, and are more spatially widespread (Figure 3). While their geographical distribution is similar to Figure 2, there are some very notable differences; in particular the local concentrations of Chinese people around Glasgow and in Edinburgh, in the Loughborough area, and their more widespread presence around Liverpool and Manchester. Figure 4 confirms the more geographically restricted distribution of the Other-Asian ethnic group in comparison with Chinese people. Their main concentrations are in boroughs on the western side of London, stretching westwards into Berkshire and Hampshire, south into Surrey, with lesser concentrations on the eastern and northern sides of London. Like the Chinese and Other-Other ethnic groups, they are found in Cardiff, Leicester and southern cities such as Cambridge and Ipswich, but a local concentration is also found in Blackburn. The geographical distribution of the Other-Other ethnic group largely follows the axis of greatest urbanisation within Britain, running from London to Leeds (Figure 5). The greatest local concentrations of this ethnic group occur in a group of London Boroughs just north of the centre of the city. Other local concentrations occur in the major Midlands cities (Birmingham, Coventry, Leicester, Nottingham and Derby), the major cities of the North-West and West and South Yorkshire, Cardiff and Newport in Wales and Bristol, Bath and Gloucester in the South West.

Table 5 presents an alternative perspective upon the geographical distribution of the three "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups, focusing upon those administrative and political areas in which people from these ethnic groups are most prominent in the local population. The three types of area reported are local authority districts, parliamentary constituencies and local education authorities. For the first two entities, the ten areas in which the percentage of all residents from each of the three ethnic groups is largest are presented. Local Education Authority areas are ranked in terms of the percentage of all persons aged 5-15 (i.e. of school age) from the "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups.

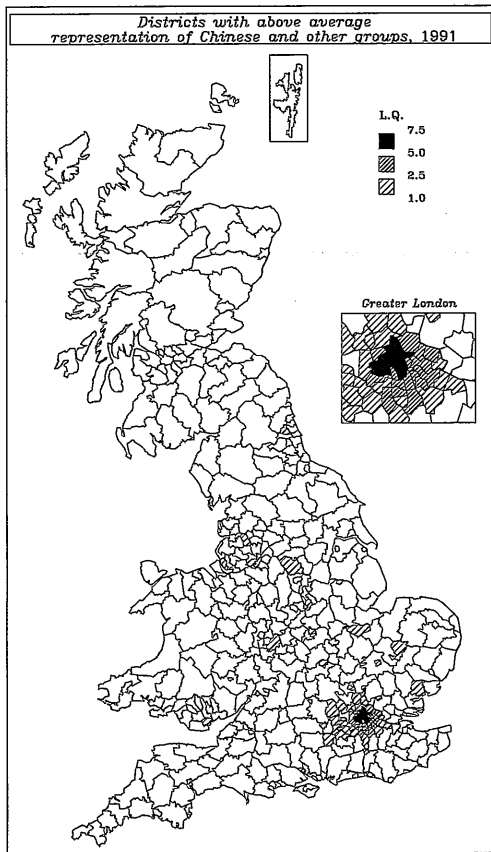


Figure 2

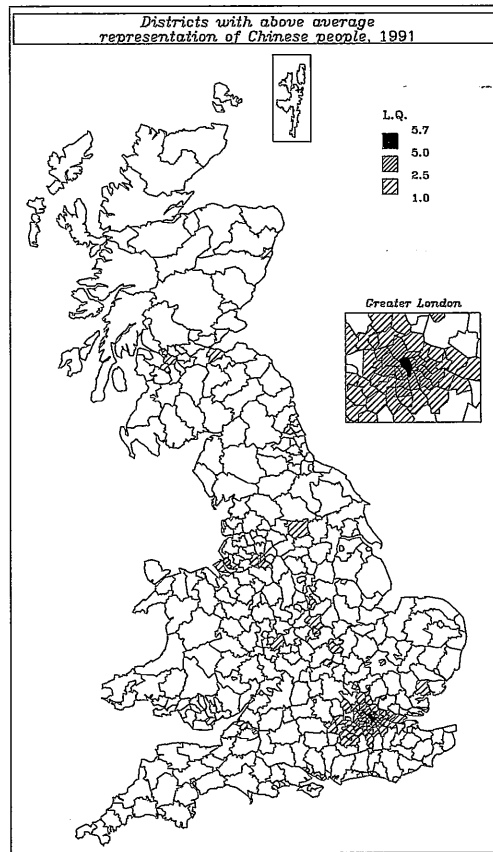


Figure 3

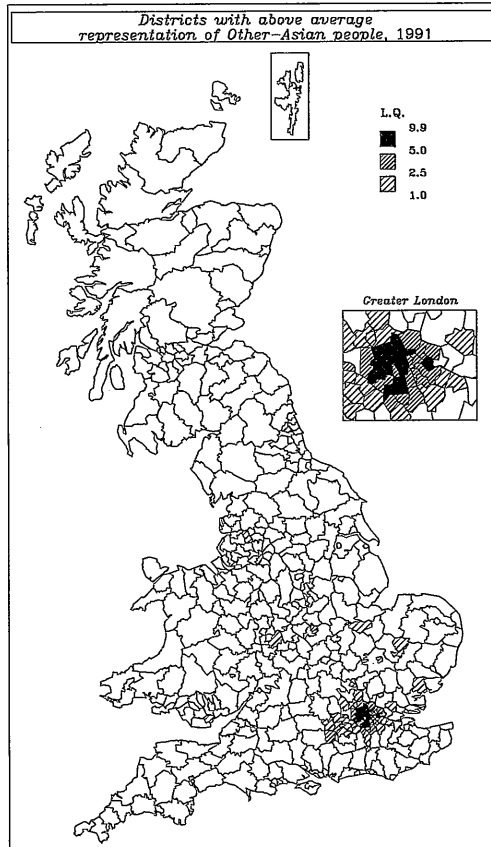


Figure 4

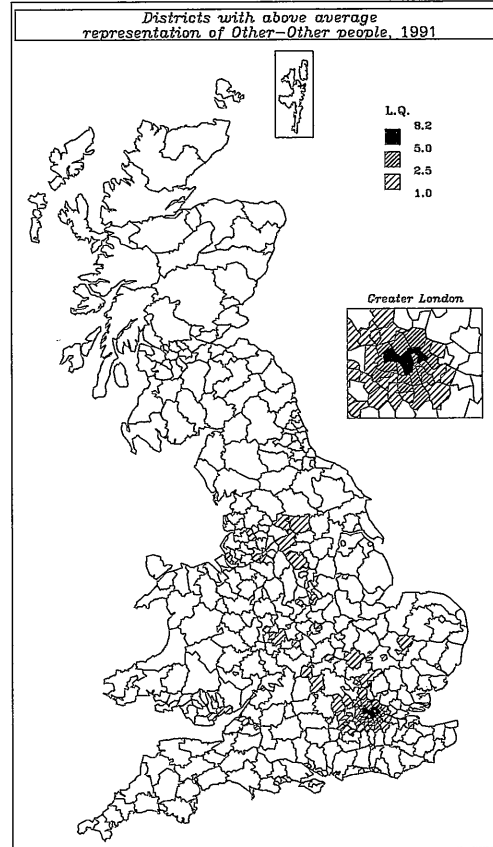


Figure 5

The rankings of local authority districts with largest percentages of each of the "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups reflect the concentrations of these ethnic groups within Greater London revealed in Figures 2 to 5. For Chinese people, the ten districts in which their share of the local population is largest (i.e. those in which the proportion exceeds 1.1 per cent) are predominantly located in central London, mainly north of the River Thames. The share of Other-Asian people in the local population is higher, exceeding 3 per cent, in Brent and Newham. As well as Boroughs in central London, some more suburban Boroughs such as Kingston-upon-Thames and Harrow are found in the top ten. The percentage of Other-Other people amongst the resident population is highest in a belt of central London Boroughs, stretching east-west across the city.

Turning to parliamentary constituencies, a slightly different pattern emerges. While areas within Greater London continue to dominate the rankings, the occasional constituency from another part of the country is also included. Indeed, the constituency in which the share of the local population from the Chinese ethnic group is highest is Liverpool Riverside. However, the nine next largest percentages all occur in constituencies located in London, consisting of a group in central London and Hendon, in north London. For Other-Asians, the largest shares of constituency populations are mainly located in north central and south-western London. For the Other-Other ethnic group, the largest shares of constituency populations once again all occur in London, mainly to the north of the central areas of the city.

The pattern for Local Education Authorities is slightly different again; these are the same geographical areas as boroughs in London, but a different pattern of highest population shares is revealed, resulting from geographical differences in age distribution. The share of Chinese children in the school age population is greatest in central London LEAs, amongst which it is highest for those located south of the River Thames. For Other-Asians, their share of school-age children is greatest in suburban LEAs in the south and east of the city (but there are still large percentages in central LEAs). The Other-Other ethnic group contrasts strongly with the other two in having much larger shares of the school age population, rising to a maximum of 9.4 per cent in Westminster. Again, most of the top ten LEAs are located in central London.

5. Households, family structure and housing characteristics

In the Census of Population, one person is requested to complete the form on behalf of all members of the household. A household may contain more than one family (for example, where a married couple live with one set of parents). Though families may be of more relevance in terms of social organisation, most of the information on housing characteristics and material deprivation in the Census is presented on the basis of households. Table 6 presents some key characteristics of households headed by persons from the white and "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups living in Britain. Chinese, Other-Asian and Other-Other households are slightly larger on average than white-headed households, with Other-Asian headed households being the largest across the four ethnic groups presented (but average household sizes for all four ethnic groups are well below those for South Asian ethnic groups). Households from these ethnic groups probably contain more adults on average than white-headed households, since there is little difference in the average number of dependent children per household. There is a marked difference between the white ethnic group and the three "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups in the percentage of households which contain pensioners. This is over 25 per cent for white households, reflecting the large number of elderly white people, but (despite the relative youth of the ethnic group) is higher for the Other-Other ethnic group than for the Chinese or Other-Asian ethnic groups. A possible explanation is that this percentage reflects the inclusion of elderly "Anglo-Indians" born in the Indian sub-continent within the Other-Other ethnic group.

Turning to housing tenure, while two-thirds of white households live in owner-occupied housing, a slightly smaller percentage of Chinese households and just over half of Other-Asian and Other-Other households live in owner-occupied accommodation. Renting outside the public sector is more common among "Chinese & Other" than white-headed households. Nearly a quarter of Other-Asian headed households live in privately-rented accommodation, a figure 3.5 times higher than for white households, and substantially larger than for the Chinese and Other-

Other ethnic groups. The percentages renting from Housing Associations are more similar across the four ethnic groups, but are highest for the Other-Other ethnic group. Public sector renting (local authorities, New Towns and Scottish Homes) is more common for white-headed households than for any of the "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups, amongst whom this percentage is highest for the Other-Other ethnic group, at nearly a fifth of all households.

Table 5 Largest local concentrations of "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups within Great Britain, 1991

Area	Chinese		Other-Asian		Other-Other	
	Percent	Area	Percent	Area	Percent	Area
Local Authority Districts (all ages)						
Westminster, City of	1.6	Brent	3.6	Westminster, City of	4.3	
Camden	1.5	Newham	3.0	Kensington and Chelsea	3.6	
City Of London	1.4	Barnet	2.9	Brent	3.2	
Barnet	1.3	Westminster, City of	2.9	Hackney	2.9	
Islington	1.3	Kensington and Chelsea	2.8	Camden	2.8	
Southwark	1.3	Merton	2.7	Haringey	2.7	
Lambeth	1.3	Ealing	2.7	Ealing	2.6	
Tower Hamlets	1.1	Kingston upon Thames	2.5	Hammersmith and Fulham	2.5	
Haringey	1.1	Camden	2.3	Lambeth	2.3	
Kensington and Chelsea	1.1	Harrow	2.3	Islington	2.1	
Parliamentary Constituencies (all ages)						
Liverpool, Riverside	2.0	Brent North	4.4	Westminster North	4.6	
Peckham	2.0	Newham North East	4.2	Kensington	4.4	
Lewisham, Deptford	1.8	Hendon South	3.7	City of London & Westminster, S	3.9	
Vauxhall	1.8	Finchley	3.6	Hackney, N & Stoke Newington	3.5	
Westminster North	1.7	Brent South	3.6	Brent East	3.4	
Holborn and St. Pancras	1.7	Ealing, Acton	3.2	Hendon South	3.2	
Hendon South	1.7	Westminster North	3.2	Brent South	3.2	
Bow and Poplar	1.6	Kingston upon Thames	3.1	Ealing, Acton	3.1	
Hendon North	1.5	Wimbledon	3.0	Hampstead and Highgate	3.1	
Hampstead and Highgate	1.5	Chelsea	2.9	Tottenham	2.9	
Local Education Authorities (5-15 year olds)						
Southwark	2.1	Kingston-upon-Thames	4.4	Westminster	9.4	
Lambeth	2.1	Brent	3.9	Kensington and Chelsea	7.1	
Lewisham	1.7	Ealing	3.7	Brent	5.6	
Islington	1.6	Barnet	3.5	Hammersmith	5.1	
Camden	1.5	Merton	3.4	Hackney	5.0	
Hackney	1.4	Westminster	3.2	Camden	4.9	
Westminster	1.4	Newham	3.0	Lambeth	4.7	
Barnet	1.3	Harrow	3.0	Haringey	4.7	
City of London	1.3	Haringey	2.8	Ealing	4.7	
Haringey	1.3	Kensington and Chelsea	2.8	Islington	4.2	

Source: 1991 Census Local Base Statistics (ESRC purchase); Crown Copyright.

Table 6 also contains a number of measures derived from the Census which have commonly been used as indicators of physical housing deprivation and material need; overcrowding, lacking or sharing a bathroom or WC and ownership of a car. The greater prevalence of private renting among "Chinese & Other" than white households may be responsible for the higher incidence of overcrowding (measured as the percentage of households with more than 1 person per room) experienced by households from the three "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups, despite their similarity in size to white households. The percentage of households lacking amenities is similar in the three "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups, and 2.5 times higher than for white-headed households. This may be a reflection of lower income levels leaving these ethnic groups able to afford only smaller and poorer privately-rented accommodation, and this is probably particularly characteristic of students from these ethnic groups. However, it could also reflect the use of accommodation attached to retail premises, such as restaurants, which may be rented to workers and which may be less well-appointed than other accommodation in the rented sector. The percentage of households who do not have a car reveals little difference in income between the white and "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups. Chinese households are more likely than white households to have a car (but less so than Indian households; see Statistical Paper 7), and only for Other-Others is this percentage substantially higher than for white households⁶.

Table 6 Household and family composition, housing tenure and housing amenities for "Chinese & Other" and white ethnic groups in Great Britain, 1991

Household characteristics or family type	White	Chinese and Others	Chinese	Other Asian	Other Other
All Households (100%)	21,026,565	185,482	48,619	58,955	77,908
Mean household size	2.4	3.0	3.1	3.2	2.7
Mean no. of dependent children	1.8	2.0	2.0	1.9	2.0
Percent pensioner households	25.7	4.4	3.7	2.6	6.2
% households owner-occupied	66.6	56.1	62.2	53.9	54.0
% renting from private sector	7.0	19.9	17.0	24.5	18.2
% renting from Housing Associations	3.0	4.9	3.5	4.4	6.2
% renting from public sector	21.4	15.9	13.1	13.6	19.3
% with 1+ person per room	1.8	9.4	10.6	11.0	7.4
% lacking/sharing bathroom/WC	1.2	3.0	3.2	3.0	3.0
% without a car	33.0	34.2	29.4	32.4	38.6
All families (10% sample)	1,462,155	13,002	3,462	4,456	5,084
<i>Married couple families (%)</i>	<i>79.2</i>	<i>78.4</i>	<i>84.8</i>	<i>82.7</i>	<i>70.2</i>
With no dependent children	35.6	20.2	21.8	19.3	19.9
With 1 or more dependent children	25.0	51.4	55.8	56.8	43.7
With non-dependent children	12.5	6.8	7.3	6.6	6.6
<i>Cohabiting couple families (%)</i>	<i>7.7</i>	<i>5.4</i>	<i>3.4</i>	<i>3.4</i>	<i>8.6</i>
With no dependent children	4.9	3.6	2.5	2.2	5.6
With 1 or more dependent children	2.5	1.7	0.8	1.1	2.8
With non-dependent children	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2
<i>Lone parent families (%)</i>	<i>13.1</i>	<i>16.2</i>	<i>11.8</i>	<i>13.8</i>	<i>21.2</i>
With 1 or more dependent children	7.8	12.2	8.1	10.0	17.0
With non-dependent children	5.4	3.9	3.7	3.8	4.2

Sources: 1991 Census Local Base Statistics (ESRC purchase); Crown Copyright. OPCS/GRO(Scotland) (1994) Country of Birth and Ethnic Group report (HMSO).

Table 6 also presents the percentage of all families falling into the categories married couple, cohabiting couple and lone parents, each of which is further disaggregated according to whether or not they have dependent children, or whether their children are no longer dependent. Marriage is more common among Chinese and Other-Asian families than for white families, but married couples represent a much smaller percentage of all families in the Other-Other ethnic group than for the white or other two "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups. While only a quarter of white married couples have dependent children, more than half of married couples from the Chinese and Other-Asian ethnic groups have dependent children, and the lower percentage for Other-Other couples still comfortably exceeds the white percentage. As a concomitant, only about a fifth of married couples in the "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups do not have children, compared to more than a third of white couples. The older average age of the white ethnic group is responsible for white married couples having a much higher percentage of non-dependent children, since these will be children still living with their parents who are no longer economically dependent, having reached adulthood.

While the percentage of all families who are cohabiting couples is only about half as high in the Chinese and Other-Asian ethnic groups as in the white ethnic group, the percentage of cohabiting couples amongst Other-Other families is higher than that for white families. Cohabiting is more common among younger people and is hence more prevalent in the youthful "Other-Other" ethnic group. The relative youth of cohabittees is indicated by the small percentage of cohabiting families with non-dependent children in all four ethnic groups in Table 6. Cohabiting couples from the Chinese ethnic group are less likely than those from the other three ethnic groups to have dependent children (about a quarter of all cohabiting couples, compared to a third).

While around an eighth of white, Chinese and Other-Asian families are lone-parent families, lone parents account for more than a fifth of all families from the Other-Other ethnic group. Once again, this probably reflects changing social trends and hence has greater impact upon the most youthful ethnic group. This state also includes people who have experienced partnership break-up, divorce or widowhood. Indeed, a large proportion of white lone parent families contain no dependent children, possibly resulting from the higher incidence of widowhood among white women (see Table 2), and this percentage is much smaller for the "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups. In these ethnic groups, lone parent families are much more likely to have dependent children than in the white ethnic group, since 68.6 per cent of Chinese, 72.5 per cent of Other-Asian and 80.2 per cent of Other-Other lone-parent families have dependent children.

6. Differentials in health between white and "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups

The 1991 Census included for the first time a question intended to yield information on the incidence of long-term illness and disability within the population. The wording of this question was *"Does the person have any long-term illness, health problem or handicap which limits his/her daily activities or the work he/she can do?"*. The responses to the question can be regarded as quite a good indicator of the general level of health of the population, but the usefulness of the information yielded by the question for the study of illness is limited by the fact that all types of health problem are treated as being of equal severity. The Census enables the proportions of males and females suffering a long-term health problem to be calculated for each ethnic group. Table 7 presents the incidence of long-term limiting illness for the "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups compared with the white ethnic group.

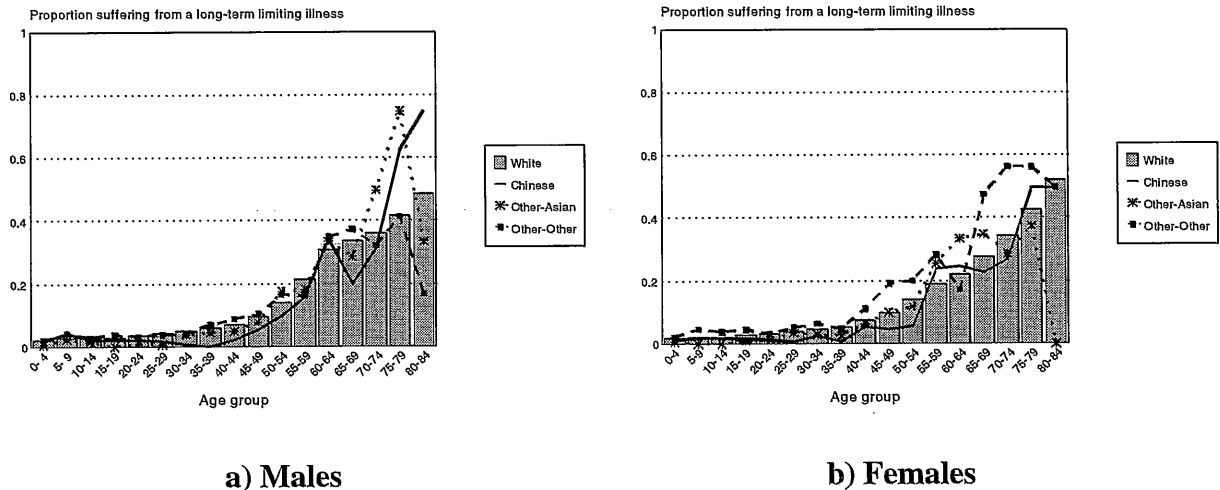


Figure 6: Rates of limiting long-term illness by age group

Overall, the percentage of people from the "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups suffering from long-term illnesses is well under half the corresponding rates for white people. Chinese people experience the lowest rate of illness, while the illness rate for the Other-Other ethnic group is 50 per cent higher. The percentage of households containing a person suffering a limiting long-term illness is also much lower for the "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups than for the white ethnic group, and the variation between ethnic groups follows the same pattern as for the overall illness rate. There is little difference between the four ethnic groups in Table 7 in the average number of persons suffering from limiting long-term illnesses per household. This average is slightly greater for the Chinese and Other-Other ethnic groups than for the Other-Asian and white ethnic groups, indicating a marginal tendency for the concentration of people with long-term illnesses in the Chinese and Other-Other ethnic groups, possibly due to the presence of older relatives in poorer health in many households.

Health tends to deteriorate with age, and inter-ethnic group differences are thus strongly influenced by the differences in age structure between ethnic groups. It is thus more meaningful to compare the rate of limiting long-term illness with the same rate standardised to take the age structure of an ethnic group into account. These rates can be calculated using the individual 1 per cent Sample of Anonymised Records; the results are presented in Table 7⁷. In contrast with the results for other minority ethnic groups (both Black and South Asian ethnic groups tend to have poorer health than the white ethnic group), this confirms the relatively good health of the Chinese and Other-Asian ethnic groups. The percentage of white people with limiting long-term illnesses is very close (actually marginally below) that which would be expected from the age structure of the ethnic group for both males and females, but illness rates for the "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups are lower than expected for males and close to the expected value for females. This average result disguises the fact that standardised illness rates for Chinese people are only two-thirds the level which would be expected on the basis of their age structure and those for Other-Asian people are around 80 per cent of the expected value, while the age-standardised illness rate for Other-Other people is greater than the expected value. The age-standardised illness rate for Other-Other males is only 4 per cent higher than the expected value, but the rate for females from this ethnic group is nearly 40 per cent higher than the expected value. Thus, Other-Other females are distinguished from both males from the same ethnic group and females from the other two ethnic groups in suffering relatively poor levels of health.

The influence of age upon health is demonstrated in Figures 6a and 6b, which plot the proportion of males and females with limiting long-term illnesses in each 5-year age group for each of the three "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups, compared with white people. Levels of ill-health are low for all four ethnic groups in the younger age ranges. The most rapid increases in this proportion occur from middle-age onwards, while in the oldest age groups, about half the

population is suffering from a limiting long-term illness. Both males and females from the Chinese ethnic group experience lower proportions with long-term illness in each 5-year age group up to retirement age, and it is only among the oldest sections of the population that illness rates consistently exceed those for white people. Moreover, illness rates for Chinese people are well below those for white people in the main economically active age groups. The pattern of illness by age is similar for the Other-Asian ethnic group, but with less of a positive differential relative to the white ethnic group. In contrast, illness rates for males from the Other-Other ethnic group are comparable with those of white males throughout the age range, while the proportion of Other-Other females suffering from limiting long-term illnesses is above the corresponding proportion for white females for all age groups, and well above from the age of 35 onwards.

Table 7 The incidence of limiting long-term illness among white and "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups in Great Britain, 1991

Long-term ill persons and illness rates	White people	Chinese and others	Chinese People	Other-Asian People	Other-Other People
Persons suffering limiting long-term illness (000s)	6,949.7	37.9	7.0	10.9	20.0
Percent of all persons	13.4	5.9	4.4	5.5	6.9
Households containing a long-term ill person (000s)	5,227.4	26.5	5.1	8.2	13.2
Percent of all households	24.9	14.3	10.6	13.9	16.9
Mean no. ill per household	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.5
Male age standardised long-term illness rate	12.0	6.5	7.1	6.7	6.0
Female age standardised long-term illness rate	13.1	6.0	7.0	6.2	5.3
Male relative illness rate	0.99	0.86	0.67	0.79	1.04
Female relative illness rate	0.99	0.99	0.68	0.81	1.39

Sources: 1991 Census Local Base Statistics (ESRC purchase) and 2 % individual Sample of Anonymised Records; both Crown Copyright.

7. Economic activity, employment and unemployment

In this section, detailed information on the experience of the three "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups in the labour market is presented for Great Britain as a whole. It covers three broad dimensions; contrasts in participation in the labour market by age and gender, differences in the industries and occupations in which men and women from "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups work, and variations in unemployment between "Chinese & Other" and white ethnic groups.

7.1 Labour Market participation

The main dimensions of economic participation by the three "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups are presented in Table 8. The economic activity rate is an extremely important indicator, representing the percentage of people who participate in the labour market (either through being in work or by seeking work)⁸. The table contrasts the economic activity of all persons aged 16 and over, people of economically active age and those aged 16-24.

Table 8 Economic characteristics of "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups in Great Britain, 1991

Economic status	White People		Chinese People		Other-Asian People		Other-Other People	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
<i>Aged 16+</i>								
Total (000s)	19,927.7	21,918.7	58.8	61.5	69.0	80.1	88.3	80.7
Economically active (000s)	14,577.7	10,897.4	41.2	32.7	52.8	43.2	66.6	43.5
Economic activity rate (%)	73.2	49.7	70.1	53.1	76.4	53.9	75.4	53.9
<i>Aged 16-59/64</i>								
Total (000s)	16,442.7	15,259.2	56.5	56.7	67.0	75.7	84.1	73.3
Economically active (000s)	14,299.4	10,422.8	40.9	32.2	52.4	42.5	66.0	42.7
Economic activity rate (%)	87.0	68.3	72.4	56.7	78.2	56.2	78.5	58.2
<i>16-24 year olds</i>								
Total (000s)	3,262.1	3,246.6	14.5	13.5	14.6	14.5	21.7	22.5
Economically active (000s)	2,544.2	2,169.9	5.3	5.0	6.7	5.7	12.3	11.2
Economic activity rate (%)	78.0	66.8	36.4	37.0	45.9	39.1	57.0	50.1
<i>Economically inactive aged 16 and over</i>								
Total (000s)	5,345.0	11,021.3	17.6	28.9	16.5	37.0	21.7	37.2
Inactivity rate (%)	26.9	50.3	29.9	46.9	23.8	46.1	24.6	46.1
<i>Composition of the economically inactive</i>								
full-time students (%)	13.5	6.7	74.2	34.5	68.4	24.7	56.7	25.5
permanently sick (%)	18.5	6.6	5.9	2.7	10.0	4.2	13.0	6.0
retired (%)	65.2	42.9	14.8	10.3	12.2	6.9	20.1	13.4
other inactive (%)	2.7	43.9	5.1	52.4	9.3	64.2	10.2	55.1

Source: 1991 Census Local Base Statistics (ESRC purchase); Crown Copyright.

For all people aged 16 and over, the economic activity rate of Chinese men is slightly lower than that for white men, but for women and for the Other-Asian and Other-Other ethnic groups, economic activity rates are higher than for white people. However, calculating economic activity rates for all persons over the age of 16 biases the comparison between ethnic groups, since people of retirement age form a much larger part of the white population than for the other ethnic groups. A more meaningful comparison is of economic activity rates for persons in the economically active age range (16-59 for women and 16-64 for men), which raises economic activity rates for all ethnic groups and both genders. Economic activity rates are similar for women in all three of the "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups, at just under 60 per cent, but are well below that for white women. Economic activity rates for Other-Asian and Other-Other men are very similar, at nearly 80 per cent, but again, well below that of white men. Chinese men experience much lower economic activity rates than white men, with fewer than three-quarters of those of working age being economically active. Rates of labour market participation rates are lower for the 16-24 year old age group than for the working age population as a whole, since a large percentage of this age group are engaged in full-time education. The contrast is greatest for the Chinese ethnic group, in which just over a third of young men and women are economically active. Well under half of young Other-Asian men and women are economically active. The low economic activity rates of these two ethnic groups results from their high degree of participation in full-time education (see section 8), and thus economic activity rates are much higher for the Other-Other ethnic group in which rates of educational participation are much lower. White men and women in the 16-24 year age group experience much higher economic activity rates than any of the "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups.

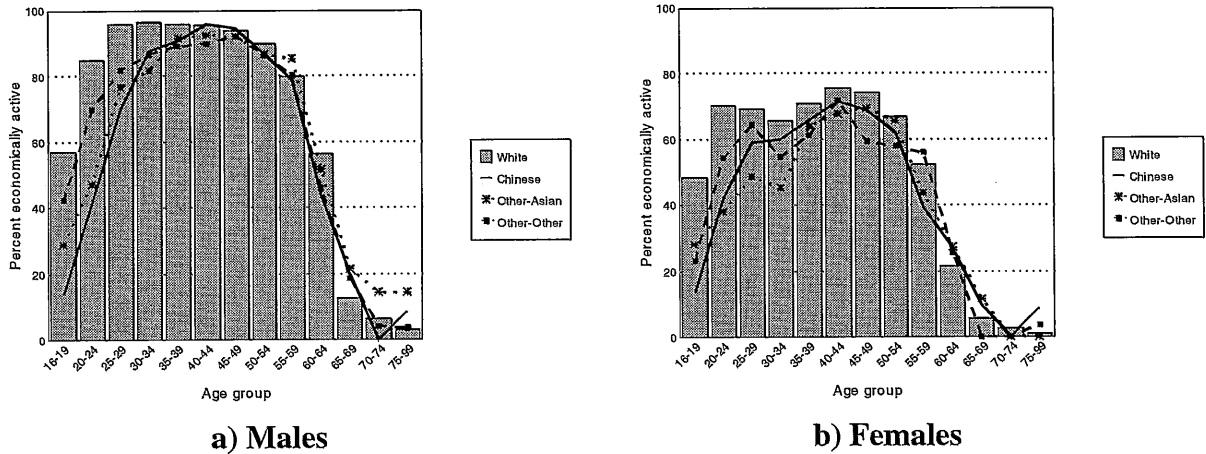


Figure 7: Percentage economically active by age group

The detailed variation in labour market participation within the working age range is illustrated in Figures 7a (for men) and 7b (for women), which reveal very different patterns for the white and "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups. Economic activity rates for men rise much more slowly with increasing age than for the white ethnic group, and do not catch up with those of white men until the 40-44 year age group, in which the economic activity rate of Chinese men reaches a peak. Economic activity rates then decline steadily with age, paralleling the trend of economic activity for white men. Male economic activity rates are highest for the Other-Other ethnic group, and higher for the Other-Asian than the Chinese ethnic group through most of the age range. Economic activity rates for women are lower than for men throughout the age range for both white and "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups. The pattern of labour market participation is quite different for the white and Other-Other ethnic groups and the Chinese and Other-Asian ethnic groups. The former display a pattern of two peaks; activity rates increase to a maximum for women in their late twenties, declines in the mid-thirties (due to withdrawal from the labour market associated with child-raising) and then increases to reach a second peak in the 40-44 years age group, afterwards declining. For Chinese and Other-Asian women, economic activity rates increase with age to reach a single peak in the 40-44 years age group, and thereafter decline. The effect of withdrawal from the labour market in the prime child-bearing age range is much weaker. After the age of 45, women from all four ethnic groups display very similar economic activity rates, and the trend in these rates is very similar.

Table 8 provides further insights into the reasons underlying differences in labour market participation between the white and "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups, through a breakdown of the structure of the economically inactive. Economic inactivity rates (the percentage of those aged 16 and over neither employed nor seeking work) are higher for women than for men in both "Chinese & Other" and white ethnic groups. They are higher for white women than for women from the "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups, and higher for Chinese men than white men, but lower than for white men for men from the Other-Asian and Other-Other ethnic groups. For white men, the main causes of inactivity are retirement and permanent sickness (associated with industrial diseases and high unemployment). In the "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups, the largest category of male inactivity is full-time education; nearly three-quarters of inactive Chinese men are full-time students. In each of these three ethnic groups, the next largest category is retirement, though the percentage suffering permanent sickness is relatively high in both the Other-Asian and Other-Other ethnic groups. Turning to women, the white inactive are nearly all either retired or "other inactive" - in most instances looking after a home or family full-time (both categories are broadly equal in size). The latter is the largest single category for all three "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups, accounting for nearly two-thirds of inactive Other-Asian women and over half of economically inactive Chinese and Other-Other women. However, the percentage of economically inactive women who are full-time students is about twice as high for

Other-Asian and Other-Other women as for white women, while more than a third of economically inactive Chinese women are full-time students.

7.2 Employment

Table 9 outlines the broad dimensions of employment for men and women from the "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups, and compares these ethnic groups with white people. The table reveals notable differences in the type of work in which these three ethnic groups are involved. Chinese people are less likely than white, Other-Asian or Other-Other people to be employees; a third of Chinese men are self-employed, nearly double the rate for white men, while the percentage of Chinese women self-employed is about three times higher than those for the other three ethnic groups in the table. In contrast, Other-Asian people are less likely to be self-employed than people from the white and Other-Other ethnic groups. In all four ethnic groups, a smaller percentage of women than men are self-employed. Amongst employees, there are substantial differences by gender and ethnic group in the percentage who work part-time. This type of employment has grown rapidly in the last twenty years, at the expense of full-time jobs, and the bulk of part-time employment has been gained by women. Nearly 40 per cent of white women employees worked part-time in 1991, but the percentages for "Chinese & Other" women were much lower. In the "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups, Chinese women are most likely to work part-time and Other-Asian women are least likely to, but rates of part-time working for all three ethnic groups are well below that for white women. The percentage of male employees working part-time is far lower than for women, at 4.2 per cent, but Chinese and Other-Other men are more likely than white men to be employed part-time. These differences are also reflected in contrasts in the median working week for ethnic groups. On average, white men work for 5 hours longer per week than white women. Other-Asian and Other-Other men have similar average working weeks to white men, but Chinese men work 1.5 hours more per week on average. This differential is even greater for women; Chinese women work for 3 hours a week more than white women, Other-Asian women work 2.4 hours more per week and the working week of Other-Other women is 2 hours longer than for white women, on average. The difference in median number of hours worked per week between men and women is thus smaller for the three "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups than for white people.

Table 9 Employment of "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups and white people in Great Britain, 1991

Economic status	White People		Chinese People		Other-Asian People		Other-Other People	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
All in work (000s)	12,822.4	10,087.9	36.3	29.4	43.8	36.6	51.7	35.9
Employees FT (000s)	10,121.9	5,677.0	22.7	16.8	36.4	25.7	39.3	24.4
Employees PT (000s)	444.9	3,743.6	1.7	6.6	2.0	8.4	2.9	9.0
%employed pt	4.2	39.7	6.8	28.4	5.2	24.7	6.9	26.9
Median hours worked	38.2	33.8	39.7	36.8	38.0	36.2	38.2	35.7
Self-employed with employees (000s)	737.2	241.5	7.3	3.0	2.4	1.0	3.7	0.7
Self-employed without employees (000s)	1,518.4	425.9	4.6	2.9	2.9	1.5	5.8	1.9
%working self-employed	17.6	6.6	32.8	20.3	12.2	6.9	18.4	7.2
Self-employed with employees as percent of economically active	5.1	2.2	17.8	9.3	4.6	2.3	5.6	1.7
Econ. active students (000s)	97.1	125.2	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.9	1.0

Source: 1991 Census Local Base Statistics (ESRC purchase) and OPCS/GRO(Scotland) (1994) Country of Birth and Ethnic Group report (HMSO); both Crown Copyright.

Self-employment grew by nearly a million during the 1980s, having received considerable support from government policies aimed at encouraging people to be more "entrepreneurial" and start up their own businesses (e.g. the Enterprise Allowance Scheme). However, some of this growth resulted from changes in employment contracts enforced by employers, rather than being a result of people starting their own businesses. By 1991, the growth of self-employment was beginning to slow down as a result of the return of economic recession. Census data provides some insight into the extent to which self-employment reflects small business formation, since it distinguishes whether the self-employed had employees or not. An "entrepreneurship rate" can be calculated, representing the percentage of economically active people in an ethnic group who were self-employed with employees (Table 9). There are strong contrasts between the white ethnic group and those in the "Chinese & Other" category and also between men and women in their participation in self-employment. It has already been noted that Chinese people (particularly men) are distinguished from the other three ethnic groups discussed here by having a much higher rate of self-employment. Moreover, self-employed Chinese people are much more likely than those from the other three ethnic groups to be entrepreneurs; the "entrepreneurship rate" is three times higher for Chinese men than white men, and the rate for Chinese women is more than four times greater than the female entrepreneurship rate for women from each of the other three ethnic groups. However, Chinese women share the tendency of women from the white, Other-Asian and Other-Other ethnic groups to be less likely to be self-employed with employees than men from the same ethnic group.

Table 10 The industrial structure of work for "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups and white people in Great Britain, 1991

Industrial category	White People		Chinese People		Other-Asian People		Other-Other People	
	Male (%)	Female (%)	Male (%)	Female (%)	Male (%)	Female (%)	Male (%)	Female (%)
Agriculture, etc.	2.9	1.0	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.5	0.1
Mining	1.1	0.2	0.6	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.1
Utilities	1.8	0.7	0.5	0.0	0.5	0.3	0.7	0.6
Metals&minerals	2.1	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.9	0.3
Chemicals	1.7	0.9	0.3	0.5	0.7	0.4	1.5	1.3
Engineering	13.2	4.4	4.0	2.3	8.7	2.5	8.5	4.0
Food,drink,tobacco	2.4	2.1	0.6	0.2	1.0	1.0	1.4	1.3
Textiles&clothing	1.3	2.7	0.8	1.1	0.7	2.7	0.8	1.6
Other manufacturing	5.7	3.1	1.1	1.1	3.3	1.8	4.5	1.9
Construction	12.5	1.6	1.7	0.7	2.8	1.0	5.2	1.2
Distribution	16.7	24.1	60.5	50.9	27.5	26.5	23.4	18.1
Transport/comms.	8.7	3.3	2.7	2.5	8.7	4.4	7.8	4.6
Business services	11.2	13.6	12.4	13.7	19.2	11.3	16.0	19.1
Misc. services	5.7	14.1	2.9	7.0	5.6	13.7	9.0	14.3
Health&education	5.7	20.8	8.7	15.7	12.7	26.3	10.1	23.3
Public administration	7.3	6.9	3.4	3.9	7.8	7.7	9.1	7.9

Source: 1991 Census 2 % Individual Sample of Anonymised Records; Crown Copyright.

There are major contrasts between white and "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups and between men and women in the type of work which they are engaged in. Two important dimensions of work are the industry (detailed in Table 10) and occupation (presented in Table 11) in which a person works⁹. Most white men work in four industrial sectors; engineering, construction, distribution (which includes hotels, catering and retailing) and business services. This contrasts strongly with white women, the great majority of whom work in the service sector, mainly in distribution and the health and education services. The industrial distribution

of work for men from "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups is quite different from that of white men; in particular, they are far more likely than white men to work in service sector industries. Men from the Chinese ethnic group overwhelmingly work in the distribution sector, with the only other significant sources of employment being the business services sector (including banking, financial and professional services) and the health & education sector. These sectors also represent the most important sources of employment for Other-Asian and Other-Other men. However, these ethnic groups are far less concentrated into a few industries than the Chinese, with the largest sector, distribution, accounting for about a quarter of all employment. A relatively large percentage of men from these two ethnic groups also work in the engineering sector.

In contrast, the industrial distribution of employment for women from the "Chinese & Other" ethnic group is much more similar to that of white women. However, Chinese women are also much more strongly concentrated into the distribution sector than other ethnic groups; this sector accounts for more than half of all jobs for Chinese women. Other-Asian women have a very similar industrial distribution to white women, but the health & education sector is a more important source of employment for this ethnic group. Other-Other women are less likely than women from the two Asian ethnic groups to work in the distribution sector, and are more likely to work in business services and the engineering sector.

The occupational structure of work is partly determined by the industrial structure; thus there are more manual jobs in the manufacturing sector and more white-collar jobs in the service sector. However, there is a long term trend towards decline in manual work in all sectors of the economy and a growth in non-manual employment, even in manufacturing industry, in which firms both carry out many 'service-like' functions, such as marketing and administration, and are increasingly relocating production activities to low labour-cost regions of the world. Comparing the occupational structure of white men and white women highlights the substantial gender division of work which exists in Britain (Table 11). The most common occupations for white men are corporate managers, other skilled trades, skilled engineering trades and industrial machine and plant operators (semi-skilled manual jobs), with "other elementary occupations" (unskilled manual work) and "managers and proprietors in agriculture and services" (self-employed farmers and business people) also important sources of work. In contrast, the dominant types of work done by white women are clerical occupations, followed by personal service occupations (hairdressers, etc.), secretarial occupations, other elementary occupations (unskilled manual jobs) and sales occupations. The percentage of corporate managers is just over half that for white men, and women are also less likely to be scientists and engineers or work in skilled manual craft occupations. However, white women are more likely than white men to be teachers or nurses (health associate professionals).

There is a very different gender division of labour for the three "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups. Chinese men display a very concentrated occupational distribution (reflecting their high degree of industrial specialisation), with a fifth being managers & proprietors in agriculture & services, and a third working in personal service occupations. These are clearly associated with the distribution sector, specifically the restaurant and associated trades. However, the largest of the remaining occupations are science & engineering professionals, clerical occupations and health professionals, showing that high-status white-collar occupations are also a significant source of employment for Chinese men. This "white-collar" orientation of employment is even more strongly evident for Other-Asian men, for whom the largest occupations are corporate managers & administrators, followed by managers & proprietors in agriculture & services, clerical occupations and science & engineering professionals. Clearly, both these Asian ethnic groups benefit in the job market from possession of higher education qualifications (see Section 8), but the high percentage of corporate managers may also reflect the presence of managers from Japanese and other Far Eastern companies associated with inward investment to the UK. The largest occupational category for men from the Other-Other ethnic group is clerical occupations, followed by managers & proprietors in agriculture & services, corporate managers & administrators and science & engineering professionals. Occupations associated with manufacturing account for a larger share of employment than in the Chinese and Other-Asian

ethnic groups, but the occupational structure is far more oriented to non-manual occupations than for white men.

Table 11 The occupational structure of employment for "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups and white people in Great Britain, 1991.

Standard Occupational Classification sub-major group	White People		Chinese People		Other-Asian People		Other-Other People	
	Male (%)	Female (%)	Male (%)	Female (%)	Male (%)	Female (%)	Male (%)	Female (%)
Corporate managers and administrators	12.4	6.6	5.9	4.2	14.2	3.8	9.9	7.3
Managers and proprietors agriculture & services	7.1	5.2	20.5	15.3	10.0	4.9	10.4	2.7
Science and engineering professionals	3.8	0.5	7.3	0.9	6.4	0.8	6.3	1.0
Health professionals	0.7	0.5	4.0	0.9	5.1	3.7	3.0	1.2
Teaching professionals	2.5	5.2	2.3	2.1	1.5	3.2	4.5	7.0
Other professionals	2.6	1.6	3.5	4.8	4.3	2.3	3.6	2.4
Science and engineering associate professionals	3.4	1.1	2.7	1.2	3.0	1.5	4.7	2.1
Health assoc. professionals	0.5	5.0	1.7	11.3	4.4	12.1	0.4	7.9
Other associate professionals	4.1	3.6	3.0	3.9	4.9	3.4	5.4	5.1
Clerical occupations	6.4	18.3	5.6	9.7	9.2	16.5	11.1	17.9
Secretarial occupations	0.2	10.3	0.2	4.8	0.4	5.4	0.5	12.9
Skilled construction trades	4.7	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.1	1.6	0.3
Skilled engineering trades	7.9	0.3	1.5	0.0	4.4	0.3	4.9	0.3
Other skilled trades	11.0	3.1	1.7	1.4	4.7	3.0	5.7	1.9
Protective service occs.	3.3	0.6	0.5	0.0	1.3	0.0	3.6	0.9
Personal service occs.	2.4	12.4	33.3	21.5	6.4	15.6	5.7	10.7
Buyers, brokers, sales reps	2.5	1.0	1.4	0.5	3.0	0.4	2.0	1.8
Other sales occupations	1.8	9.2	0.5	7.7	3.9	8.0	1.9	6.3
Industrial plant and machine operators, assemblers	7.7	4.6	0.6	1.6	4.0	4.4	4.6	3.7
Drivers and mobile machinery operators	6.7	0.4	0.9	0.2	2.8	0.0	2.8	0.0
Other occupations in agriculture, forestry and fishing	1.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0
Other elementary occupations	7.1	9.9	2.9	8.1	5.5	10.6	6.8	6.7

Source: 1991 Census 2 % Individual Sample of Anonymised Records; Crown Copyright.

The occupational distribution of Chinese women is also strongly influenced by their industrial specialisation. The two largest occupational categories are managers & proprietors in agriculture & services and personal service occupations, reflecting the importance of activities in the distribution sector for female employment. However, the next largest occupational category is health associate professionals (which includes nurses), followed by clerical occupations and other elementary occupations, and they are less prominent than men in higher-status white-collar occupations, except for other professionals. The lower incidence of self-employment among Other-Asian and Other-Other women results in a smaller percentage being employed as managers & proprietors in agriculture & services. The largest occupations for Other-Asian women are clerical occupations, personal service occupations, health associate professionals, other elementary occupations and other sales occupations. They are more likely than white women to be health professionals, but less likely to be teaching professionals, and though

slightly more likely than white women to be working as science & engineering professionals, this percentage is far lower than for Other-Asian men. Other-Other women are predominantly employed in clerical, secretarial and personal service occupations, but they are also more likely than white women to be working as corporate managers & administrators or in the professions, notably health and teaching professions. They are less likely than white, Chinese or Other-Asian women to be working in semi- and un-skilled manual occupations.

7.3 Unemployment

Table 12 contrasts the experience of unemployment between white people and the three "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups, for men and women. Once again, there are both ethnic group and gender dimensions to the pattern of variation presented. Across all four ethnic groups presented, women experience lower unemployment rates than men, while unemployment rates for the "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups cover a broad range, from being similar to those of white people to being around twice as high. The unemployment rate for Chinese men is marginally lower than that for white men (and is lower than for any other minority ethnic group), but that for Other-Other men is nearly twice the white male unemployment rate, with the unemployment rate for Other-Asian men lying midway between these two extremes. The unemployment rate differential is much greater for women, all three "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups experiencing higher unemployment rates and the Other-Asian and Other-Other ethnic groups experiencing unemployment rates at least twice as high as for white women. The gender contrast in unemployment rates is smallest for Other-Asian people and widest for Other-Other people.

In the white ethnic group, men are slightly more likely than women to participate on government schemes, but people from the "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups are more likely than white people to be on such schemes. The percentage of economically active Chinese men on government training schemes is similar to that of white men. This percentage is around double the white percentage in both the Other-Asian and Other-Other ethnic groups, probably reflecting the language training needs of some people from the Other-Asian ethnic group (e.g. Vietnamese refugees) and the relative youth of the Other-Other ethnic group (since most training schemes are aimed at young people). For these two ethnic groups, there is little difference between participation rates for men and women, but Chinese women are more likely than Chinese men to be on such training schemes.

Unemployment rates vary with age for all ethnic groups, being high for young people, then falling to their lowest levels for people in their forties, before rising again for older workers. Unemployment rates are higher for men than for women in all parts of the age range, and the increase for older workers is more marked for men than for women. These trends are exaggerated for the "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups. Unemployment rates are highest for 16-24 year olds, with around 20 per cent of Chinese people and Other-Other women and nearly 30 per cent of Other-Asian people and Other-Other men unemployed. For men, unemployment rates in all three "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups are well above those for white men up to the age of 39. Amongst men in their forties, the unemployment rate for the Chinese is only half the white unemployment rate, and those for the other two ethnic groups are similar to the white unemployment rate. However, the increase in unemployment rates for men nearing retirement age is much more rapid for the "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups than for the white ethnic group. The unemployment rate for Chinese women is at its lowest in the 25-39 age group, when it is lower than the white unemployment rate. Unemployment rates decline continuously with age for Other-Asian women, who have lower unemployment rates than the Chinese or Other-Other ethnic groups in later middle age. In contrast to the other three ethnic groups presented in the table, the unemployment rate for older Other-Other women is similar to that for the youngest age group, and reaches a minimum in the 40-49 years age group.

It is also possible to analyse the incidence of unemployment by industry and occupation. Turning first to industry, unemployment rates for white men are highest in the construction sector, and both men and women experience lower unemployment rates in the service sector than in manufacturing industry. The industrial pattern is less easy to interpret for "Chinese & Other"

people, since there are relatively few employed outside the manufacturing and service sectors. For both men and women from the Chinese and Other-Asian ethnic groups, unemployment rates are higher in manufacturing industry than in the service sector, and higher for women than men in manufacturing. However, unemployment rates are higher in the service sector than in manufacturing for Other-Other people, which is the only one of the three "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups to display a higher unemployment rate than white people for the service sector.

Table 12 Unemployment among Chinese and Other and white ethnic groups in Great Britain, 1991

Economic activity, age, industry and occupation groups	White People		Chinese People		Other-Asian People		Other-Other People	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Economically active	14577.7	10897.4	41.2	32.7	52.8	43.2	66.6	43.5
Unemployed	1556.5	689.7	4.3	2.7	7.5	5.3	13.1	6.4
Unemployment rate	10.7	6.3	10.5	8.3	14.2	12.3	19.7	14.8
On govt. scheme (000s)	198.8	119.8	0.6	0.6	1.5	1.2	1.8	1.2
% on schemes	1.4	1.1	1.4	1.8	2.8	2.9	2.7	2.7
<i>Unemployment rates by age group</i>								
16-24	18.0	12.3	21.3	19.5	29.3	28.3	28.9	21.6
25-39	10.2	6.1	11.4	5.1	14.2	14.0	18.9	13.7
40-49	7.5	4.1	3.3	7.7	7.0	7.8	13.4	8.4
50-59/64	10.7	5.5	15.7	6.6	19.3	6.3	17.3	18.3
<i>Unemployment rates by previous industry of employment</i>								
Agriculture/energy	7.8	3.7	-	-	-	-	5.6	0.0
Manufacturing	9.1	7.8	12.0	19.4	14.3	16.4	12.1	11.3
Construction	15.8	6.7	15.4	-	28.1	-	27.8	11.1
Services	8.2	5.0	7.1	4.3	7.5	7.0	14.5	9.6
<i>Unemployment rates by previous occupation of employment</i>								
Managerial/professional	4.5	3.5	6.4	4.9	4.3	4.9	10.8	6.5
Other white collar	8.6	4.9	4.1	9.6	11.9	9.2	11.2	10.6
Skilled manual	9.6	10.1	25.0	-	16.0	31.4	21.3	19.0
Semi-skilled	11.1	7.6	7.1	3.8	14.1	7.0	17.0	12.1
Unskilled	19.1	5.6	13.6	4.2	16.7	5.1	27.6	11.8

Source: 1991 Census Local Base Statistics (ESRC purchase) and 2 % Individual Sample of Anonymised Records; both Crown Copyright.

Turning to occupations, unemployment rates for white men tend to rise as the level of skill in an occupation falls; managers and professional people experience the lowest unemployment rates while unskilled workers suffer the highest rates of unemployment. This pattern is broadly repeated for "Chinese & Other" men, but skilled manual workers in the Chinese and Other-Other ethnic groups experience very high unemployment rates. With this exception, unemployment rates for Chinese men are higher than for white men in white collar occupations, but lower than for white men in manual occupations. For Other-Asian men, unemployment rates are lower than for white men for managerial and professional occupations and in unskilled occupations, but higher in the middle of the skill range. However, unemployment rates for Other-Other men are well above those for white men in all occupation groups. Unemployment rates for white women are lowest for managerial and professional occupations and highest for skilled manual occupations, and then decline as skill levels decline. There is less pattern to the unemployment rates experienced by Chinese women, but women in other white collar jobs experience the highest unemployment rate. The pattern of unemployment

rates for Other-Asian and Other-Other women reflects that for white women, but while Other-Other women experience higher unemployment rates in all occupations, Other-Asian women have unemployment rates similar to white women in all occupations except skilled manual jobs, for which the unemployment rate is three times the white rate (probably as a result of small numbers in this category).

8. Participation in higher and further education and highest qualifications held

The recent expansion of the higher education system and increasing awareness of the need to raise general levels of education and training in order to improve national economic competitiveness has led to young people being encouraged to continue in full-time education for longer, in order to gain additional qualifications. Asian young people (Indians in particular) displayed higher staying-on rates than white and African-Caribbean young people at the start of the 1980s, but Labour Force Survey data reveals that the latter two ethnic groups had caught up to some extent during by the end of the decade¹⁰. The participation of young people from the three "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups in further and higher education is illustrated in Figure 8 (a and b). This diagram shows the percentage of young people who were full-time students at the time of the Census, for each single year of age from 16 to 29.

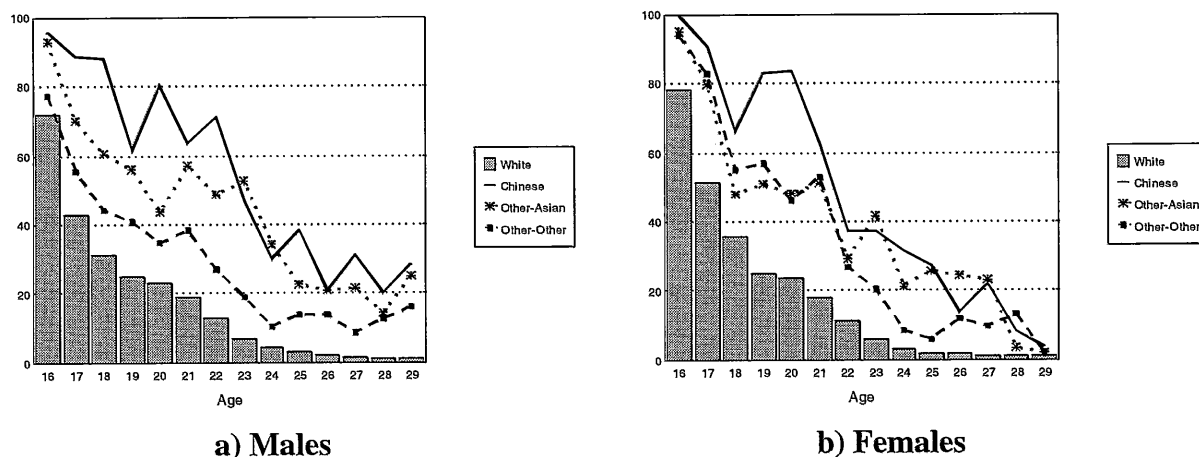


Figure 8: Percentage in full-time education by single year of age

In the white ethnic group, the general trend for both males and females is for the percentage involved in full-time education to decline with age, with a rapid fall associated with school leaving and then a more gradual decline up to the age of 25. The decline levels out after this point, with students representing a small but steady percentage of 25-29 year olds. Men from the Other-Other ethnic group display a similar trend to white men, but while the percentage of 16 year olds staying on in education is similar to white men, the decline with age is much faster for white men, and over a tenth of Other-Other men remain in full-time education throughout their twenties. Educational participation rates for men from the Chinese and Other-Asian ethnic groups are far higher than for the Other-Other ethnic group. For both, more than 90 per cent of 16 year olds stay in full-time education. This percentage declines more rapidly for Other-Asian than Chinese men, but over half of Other-Asian men aged 18-23 are full-time students. The percentage of full-time students falls sharply for 24-25 year old Other-Asian men, but even so, around 20 per cent of 25-29 year old men are in full-time education. Educational participation rates are highest for Chinese men for nearly all of the 16-29 year age range. The percentage who are full-time students remains over 70 per cent until the age of 22. There is a sharp decline in the percentage in full-time education for 23 and 24 year olds, but full-time students still represent between 20 and 30 per cent of all men aged from 24 to 29.

Table 13 Highest qualification held, and the characteristics of highly qualified "Chinese and other" and white people in Great Britain, 1991.

Qualifications, age groups and economic status	White people	Chinese and other	Chinese	Other Asians	Other Others
Persons aged 18 and over(000s)	40,559.6	412.2	115.2	143.3	153.6
Persons with highest qualification better than					
A-Level or equivalent (000s)	5,416.6	104.7	29.7	35.0	40.0
persons with higher degree (000s)	365.0	14.6	4.6	3.4	6.7
persons with first degree (000s)	2,489.3	47.6	14.4	14.7	18.5
persons with Diploma or equivalent (000s)	2,562.3	42.4	10.7	16.9	14.9
Percentage share of each age group with higher level qualifications:					
aged 18-29	21.4	29.0	39.9	20.7	28.9
aged 30-44	40.0	51.8	49.4	55.9	50.2
aged 45 up to pensionable age	26.2	16.9	10.7	21.6	17.4
of pensionable age	12.4	2.2	1.0	1.9	3.5
All aged 18 and over	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Percentage of all people in the age group with higher level qualifications:					
aged 18-29	12.5	20.4	27.9	16.1	18.4
aged 30-44	19.7	32.1	31.8	30.0	34.8
aged 45 up to pensionable age	14.0	23.3	15.5	27.1	25.3
Of pensionable age	6.6	9.3	4.0	10.1	12.0
All aged 18 and over	13.4	25.4	25.8	24.4	26.0
Qualified persons aged 18-59/64 (000s)	4,745.5				
Total economically active (000s)	4,208.3	81.0	22.4	26.9	31.8
Percent economically active	88.7	79.1	76.0	78.3	82.3
Employed or self-employed (000s)	4,044.6	72.7	20.7	24.4	27.6
On a government scheme (000s)	14.3	1.8	0.4	0.8	0.6
Unemployed (000s)	149.5	6.5	1.3	1.7	3.5
Unemployment rate	3.6	7.9	5.5	6.1	10.8

Sources: 1991 Census Local Base Statistics (ESRC purchase); Crown Copyright and OPCS/GRO(Scotland) (1994) Country of Birth and Ethnic Group report (HMSO).

Note: This table is based on a 10 per cent sample of Census returns. The population estimates were obtained by multiplying the sample counts by 10.162.

Full-time students represent a higher percentage of women aged 16-18 than they do of men of the same age, with over three-quarters of 16 year old white women staying in full-time education. However, educational participation rates for white men and women converge after the age of 18, and a higher percentage of men than women from the white ethnic group remain in full-time education during their twenties, but the percentage of both who are full-time students is very small from the age of 25 onwards. The percentage of "Chinese & Other" women who are full-time students remains well above the corresponding percentage for white women throughout the 16-29 age range. The pattern for Other-Asian and Other-Other women is very similar. Around 95 per cent of 16 year olds remain in full-time education, and while this percentage falls rapidly for 17-18 year olds, around a half of women aged 18-21 are full-time students. From the age of 21 onwards, the percentage of full-time students declines continuously with age, but more rapidly for the Other-Other ethnic group than the Other-Asian ethnic group. More than a fifth of

Other-Asian women, and around a tenth of Other-Other women are still in full-time education in their late twenties. Chinese women display the highest rates of educational participation of any ethnic group. Nearly all 16 year olds stay in full-time education, and the decline in the later teenage years is much less marked than for other ethnic groups. Over 80 per cent of 19-20 year old women are in full-time education, but this percentage falls off rapidly for women in their early twenties, reaching levels comparable with the Other-Asian ethnic group. More than a fifth of Chinese women are in full-time education up to the age of 27, with a rapid fall in this percentage for 28-29 year olds.

Table 13 presents contrasts between the three "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups and white people in their achievement of further and higher education qualifications. The percentage of people from the three "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups aged 18 and over with higher education qualifications is about twice as high as for white people. There is little difference between these ethnic groups, with the percentage holding Diplomas and other qualifications better than A-level (or equivalent) standard being marginally greater for the Other-Other ethnic group than for the Chinese ethnic group. These ethnic groups also have a higher level of qualification than the white ethnic group, with about 14 per cent of the highly qualified holding higher degrees, compared to 6.7 per cent of highly qualified white people.

The majority of people with Diplomas (or equivalent) and above as their highest qualification are aged between 30 and 44. This age group accounts for 40 per cent of the highly qualified in the white ethnic group, but more than half of those from the "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups. The highly qualified Chinese are more youthful than those from the white, Other-Other or Other-Asian ethnic groups; nearly 40 per cent are aged under 30, twice the corresponding figure for the white and Other-Asian ethnic groups. More than a fifth of the highly qualified Other-Asians are aged from 45 to retirement age, a percentage not quite as high as for white people, but twice as high as for Chinese people. The percentage of persons of younger working age with higher education qualifications is much greater for the "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups than for white people, with the percentage for the Chinese ethnic group being 2.2 times higher than for white people. While nearly a third of 30-44 year old "Chinese & Other" people are highly qualified, compared to a fifth of white people, Other-Other have the highest rate of qualification in this age group. While a quarter of people of older working age from the Other-Asian and Other-Other ethnic groups have higher education qualifications, the percentage of Chinese people highly qualified in this age group is similar to that of white people. This pattern might be explained by the highly qualified among the Chinese ethnic group being predominantly the children (many UK-born) of Chinese immigrants who found work in the restaurant and catering trades, for which higher-level qualifications were not necessary. Highly-qualified older people in the Other-Other ethnic group may be managers and professionals in Far East-owned companies which have located in the UK in recent years.

Amongst the highly qualified, the percentage of "Chinese & Other" people who are economically active is far lower than for white people, mirroring the differentials in the population as a whole. Just over three-quarters of Chinese people with higher education qualifications participate in the labour market, and the highest rate is displayed by the Other-Other ethnic group, at 82.3 per cent. This suggests that many of these highly qualified people are still in full-time education, studying for more advanced qualifications (many of whom may be Far Eastern and Middle Eastern overseas students). In common with other minority ethnic groups (see NEMDA 1991 Census Statistical Papers 6 and 7), highly qualified people from the "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups experience higher unemployment rates than white people with similar qualifications; three times as high as for white people in the case of the Other-Other ethnic group. Nevertheless, unemployment rates for the highly qualified are much lower than for each ethnic group as a whole, indicating that the possession of higher education qualifications does improve job prospects.

9. Conclusions

The analyses presented in this Statistical Paper contain a considerable amount of detail on the socio-economic characteristics of people from the highly diverse "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups. To summarise the findings of the report, a number of key findings may be highlighted;

- The three "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups contained 644.7 thousand people in April 1991, representing 1.2 per cent of the British population;
The national origins of people from these ethnic groups is very diverse. The Other-Other ethnic group contains people with ethnic origins from a wide range of south-east Asian countries, while the Other-Other group contains both people from north African and Middle Eastern countries and people with parents from different ethnic groups;
- The age distribution of these ethnic groups is very different from other minority ethnic groups, with the majority of Chinese and Other-Asian people being of prime working age;
- While the bulk of the Chinese and Other-Asian ethnic groups were born outside the UK, the great majority of all people in the Other-Other ethnic group were born in the UK and half are aged under 15;
- London contains the majority of people from the "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups, but Chinese people have a more widespread distribution, with substantial concentrations in Liverpool, Manchester, Newcastle, and the larger Scottish and Welsh cities;
- The percentage of people from "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups is highest in London Boroughs and LEAs, but the parliamentary constituency with the highest percentage of Chinese people is in Liverpool;
- Married couples are more common for Chinese and Other-Asian people than for white people, and Other-Asian married couples are more likely than the white ethnic group to have dependent children;
- People from "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups are less likely than white people to own their own houses and are more likely to live in private-rented accommodation;
- Lone parent families are more common in the Other-Other ethnic group than for white, Chinese or Other-Asian ethnic groups;
- Rates of limiting long-term illness are lower for people in "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups than for white people;
- When age structure is taken into account, Chinese and Other-Asian ethnic groups emerge as being substantially more healthy than white people, but the Other-Other ethnic group is less healthy than the white ethnic group;
- The "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups have lower economic activity rates than white people, because they tend to enter the labour market at a later age;
- People from the "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups have longer working weeks on average than white people, with Chinese people working the longest hours of all;
- "Chinese & Other" people tend to work in similar industries to white people, but overall "Chinese & Other" people are more strongly represented in services than in manufacturing;
- Most Chinese people work in the distribution sector (which includes retailing and catering);
- Chinese people experience unemployment rates similar to white people, across all age groups, while Other-Other people have much higher unemployment rates than white people;
- People from the "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups are more likely to stay in full-time education after the age of 16 than white people, and stay in full-time education for longer than white people;
- Consequently, the percentage of "Chinese & Other" people with further and higher education qualifications is much higher than for white people;
- However, highly-qualified "Chinese & Other" people are less likely to participate in the labour market than white people, and suffer much higher unemployment rates.

10. Notes and references

- 1 The Samples of Anonymised Records consist of the responses for a 2 per cent sample of all individuals and a 1 per cent sample of all households in Great Britain. They permit a range of information not available from the standard tables released by OPCS and GRO (Scotland) to be derived.
- 2 Note that people for whom no answer on ethnic group was provided had their ethnic group "imputed", on the basis of the ethnic group of completed Census forms with similar characteristics, from the same neighbourhood.
- 3 The regional and county-level distribution of the Chinese, Other-Asian and Other-Other ethnic groups has already been analysed in Owen, D. (1992) **Ethnic Minorities in Great Britain: Settlement Patterns**, NEMDA 1991 Census Statistical Paper no 1, Centre for Research in Ethnic Relations, University of Warwick.
- 4 These maps are based on the "location quotient" for each ethnic group. This is the ratio of the percentage of the population from a given ethnic group in an area to the percentage of the population of Great Britain from that ethnic group. Thus, values less than 1.0 occur where the representation of an ethnic group in an area is less than its share of the British population; values above 1.0 represent relative concentration of the ethnic group. The areas mapped are local authority districts.
- 5 "Freestanding" towns and cities are those situated outside the commuting hinterlands of the major conurbations which are employment centres in their own right and act as foci for commuting and urban functions for the surrounding area. See Champion, A.G., Green, A.E., Owen, D.W., Ellin, D.J. and Coombes, M.G. (1987) **Changing Places** (Longman: London) for a discussion of the British urban system.
- 6 It should be noted that while the percentage of households without a car is often used as a surrogate for household income, this figure may be inflated by the relative concentration of people from "Chinese & Other" ethnic groups in London and other large cities, where the lack of a car is a less serious limitation on the daily activity of a household due to the existence of better public transport than elsewhere, and is hence a poorer reflection of income levels.
- 7 This involves calculating the proportion of the entire population in an age group for Great Britain as a whole and applying this percentage to the age-disaggregated population of each ethnic group to yield a hypothetical number of long-term ill persons, if the ethnic group suffered the same age-specific illness rates as the population as a whole. The actual number of long-term ill persons can then be expressed as a ratio of the hypothetical number, and if greater than 1, the ethnic group can be said to have poorer health than the population as a whole. The calculation excludes persons in communal establishments, since these include hospitals, which would tend to artificially inflate illness rates.
- 8 However, the choice of the appropriate age range over which to calculate it strongly influences the result. The usual definition of the economically active age range is from 16 to retirement age (59 for women and 64 for men), but many people remain in the labour force beyond conventional retirement age. Many analysts thus base the calculation on all persons aged over 16, but this clearly greatly depresses the white economic activity rate relative to that based on 16-59/64 year olds, and leads to the conclusion that a higher percentage of Indian than white people are in the labour force; with the contrast especially marked for women. This is unrealistic, because the calculation for white people includes a large number of retired people. Since South Asian people are much younger on average, retirement has much less influence upon their economic activity rates (Indians are the only South Asian ethnic group for whom the percentage of retired people is significant).
- 9 These tables include both employees and the self-employed.
- 10 Jones, T. (1993) **Britain's Ethnic Minorities** (PSI: London).

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