

Jane Hatfield Award 2025:

Supporting Scotland's voluntary sector to understand the needs and circumstances of Black and racially minoritised communities

Black and racially minoritised communities in Edinburgh and the Lothians - Census analysis

January 2026

Produced by Lucien Staddon Foster and Sholen Macpherson



Contents

List of figures	3
List of tables	4
Introduction	5
Who we are	6
Black and racially minoritised communities in Edinburgh and the Lothians	7
Where do communities live?.....	8
Urban rural analysis	10
Edinburgh – smaller geographies.....	12
The Lothians – smaller geographies.....	13
How has the population changed over time?	14
Demographic profiles – age and sex	16
Children and young people.....	17
Working-age population	18
Gender.....	19
Other intersectional characteristics	20
Sexual orientation.....	20
Trans status.....	20
British Sign Language (BSL) users	20
Disability	21
Religion	22
Understanding immigration	23
Length of residence in the UK.....	24
Country of birth.....	26
Spotlight: Recent immigration trends	28
Language	30
Main language.....	30
English proficiency.....	32
Housing.....	34
Homeownership	34
Social housing	35
Private rented sector	35
Overcrowding	36
Access to central heating	37
Employment.....	39
Economic activity	39
Full-time and part-time employment	42
Self-employment	43
Occupational seniority	44
Unemployment.....	46
Industry	48
Occupation	52
Education	54
Qualifications	54
Student status	56
Multiple deprivation and ethnicity – Edinburgh and the Lothians	57
Locally-adjusted measures	59
Domains.....	61
Health and wellbeing	63
Self-reported health	63
Long-term conditions	64
Caring responsibilities	64
Students and young people in Edinburgh	66
Housing.....	66
Mental health.....	67
In closing	68

List of figures

Figure 1: Local authorities covered by the Edinburgh and Lothians Regional Equality Council	5
Figure 2: Proportion of the population coming from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds, by area	8
Figure 2: Edinburgh and Lothians - Proportion of people living in rural areas, small towns or urban areas, by ethnic group	10
Figure 3: Proportion of Edinburgh and the Lothians' population coming from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds, 2001 - 2011 - 2022.....	14
Figure 4: Proportion of people from white and Black and racially minoritised backgrounds in 5-year age bands	16
Figure 5: Age and sex composition of Edinburgh and the Lothians' white and Black and racially minoritised population	20
Figure 6: Largest religions among Edinburgh and the Lothians' Black and racially minoritised population	22
Figure 7: Proportion of people born in and outside of the UK in Edinburgh and the Lothians, by ethnic group	23
Figure 8: Migratory context of Edinburgh and the Lothians' Black and racially minoritised population	24
Figure 9: Edinburgh and the Lothians - Region of birth (excluding Europe)	26
Figure 10: Place of birth – detailed breakdowns for Asia, Africa and the Middle East	27
Figure 11: Ethnic identities of people immigrating to Edinburgh and the Lothians between 2020 and 2022	28
Figure 12: Proportion of people whose main language is English, by ethnic group (Edinburgh and the Lothians)	30
Figure 13: Proportion of people living in owner occupied housing, by ethnic group	34
Figure 14: Proportion of people living in social housing, by ethnic group ..	35
Figure 15: Proportion of people living in private rented housing, by ethnic group	35

Figure 16: Proportion of households living in an overcrowded home, by ethnicity of Household Reference Person	36
Figure 17: Proportion of households experiencing overcrowding in Edinburgh compared to the Lothians	37
Figure 18: Proportion of households without central heating, by ethnicity of Household Reference Person	37
Figure 19: Economic activity in Edinburgh and the Lothians, by ethnic group	39
Figure 20: Proportion of men and women who are economically inactive, by ethnic group (Edinburgh and the Lothians)	41
Figure 21: Proportion of workers in full or part time employment, by ethnic group	42
Figure 22: Proportion of workers in self- employment, by ethnic group	43
Figure 23: Proportion of men and women employed as managers, directors and senior officials, by ethnic group	45
Figure 24: Proportion of adults unemployed at the time of the 2022 Census, by ethnic group (Edinburgh and the Lothians)	46
Figure 25: Proportion of men and women unemployed at the time of the 2022 Census, by ethnic group	47
Figure 26: Edinburgh and the Lothians – Highest level of qualification held, by ethnic group.....	55
Figure 27: Proportion of each ethnic group who are full-time students, all people compared to those aged 16+.....	56
Figure 28: Proportion of each ethnic group living in the most deprived areas of Scotland.....	58
Figure 29: Proportion of each ethnic group living in the most deprived parts of Edinburgh and the Lothians.....	60
Figure 30: Proportion of all-student households in an overcrowded home, by ethnicity of Household Reference Person	66
Figure 31: Proportion of all-student households without access to any form of central heating, by ethnicity of Household Reference Person	66

List of tables

Table 1: Ethnic composition of Edinburgh and the Lothians' population, 2022.....	7	Table 16: Reasons for economic inactivity in Edinburgh and the Lothians, by ethnic group.....	40
Table 2: Ethnic composition of local authorities across the Edinburgh and Lothians region	9	Table 17: Representation of Black and racially minoritised groups as managers, directors and senior officials in Edinburgh and the Lothians, 2022	44
Table 3: Edinburgh and the Lothians: Ethnic composition of the population of urban areas, small towns and rural areas	11	Table 18: Proportion of each ethnic group working across key industries .	48
Table 4: Ethnic composition of Edinburgh's most and least diverse electoral wards.....	12	Table 19: Top industries for Black and racially minoritised people in Edinburgh and the Lothians	49
Table 5: Ethnic composition of Edinburgh's most and least diverse electoral wards.....	13	Table 20: Ten largest industries for Black and racially minoritised workers in Edinburgh and the Lothians, by ethnic group.....	51
Table 6: How has Edinburgh and the Lothians' population changed over time, by ethnic group	15	Table 21: Ten most recorded occupations for minority ethnic workers in Edinburgh and the Lothians, by ethnic group.....	52
Table 7: Ethnic composition of Edinburgh and the Lothians' child population.....	17	Table 22: National SIMD rankings: Proportion of ethnic groups in Edinburgh and the Lothians living in the top 20% most deprived parts of Scotland...	62
Table 8: Ethnic composition of Edinburgh and the Lothians' child population.....	18	Table 23: Locally-adjusted SIMD rankings: Proportion of each ethnic group living in the top 20% most deprived parts of Edinburgh and the Lothians .	62
Table 9: Gender composition of Edinburgh and the Lothians' population, by ethnic group	19	Table 24: Self-reported health, by ethnicity	63
Table 10: Disabled people in the West of Scotland, by ethnicity	21	Table 25: Proportion of people providing unpaid care, by ethnic group and hours of care provided (Edinburgh and the Lothians)	65
Table 11: Migrants from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds in Edinburgh and the Lothians: Year of arrival in the UK by ethnic group	25	Table 26: Proportion of people aged 16 - 24 years old with a mental health condition, by ethnic group.....	67
Table 12: Ethnic composition of recent migrants in Edinburgh and the Lothians (those arriving 2020-22).....	29		
Table 13: Proportion of people from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds who speak English as their main language, by age group (Edinburgh and the Lothians).....	31		
Table 14: Proportion of people who speak, read, write or understand English, by ethnic group	33		
Table 15: Proportion of households living in a home without any form of central heating, by ethnicity	38		

Introduction

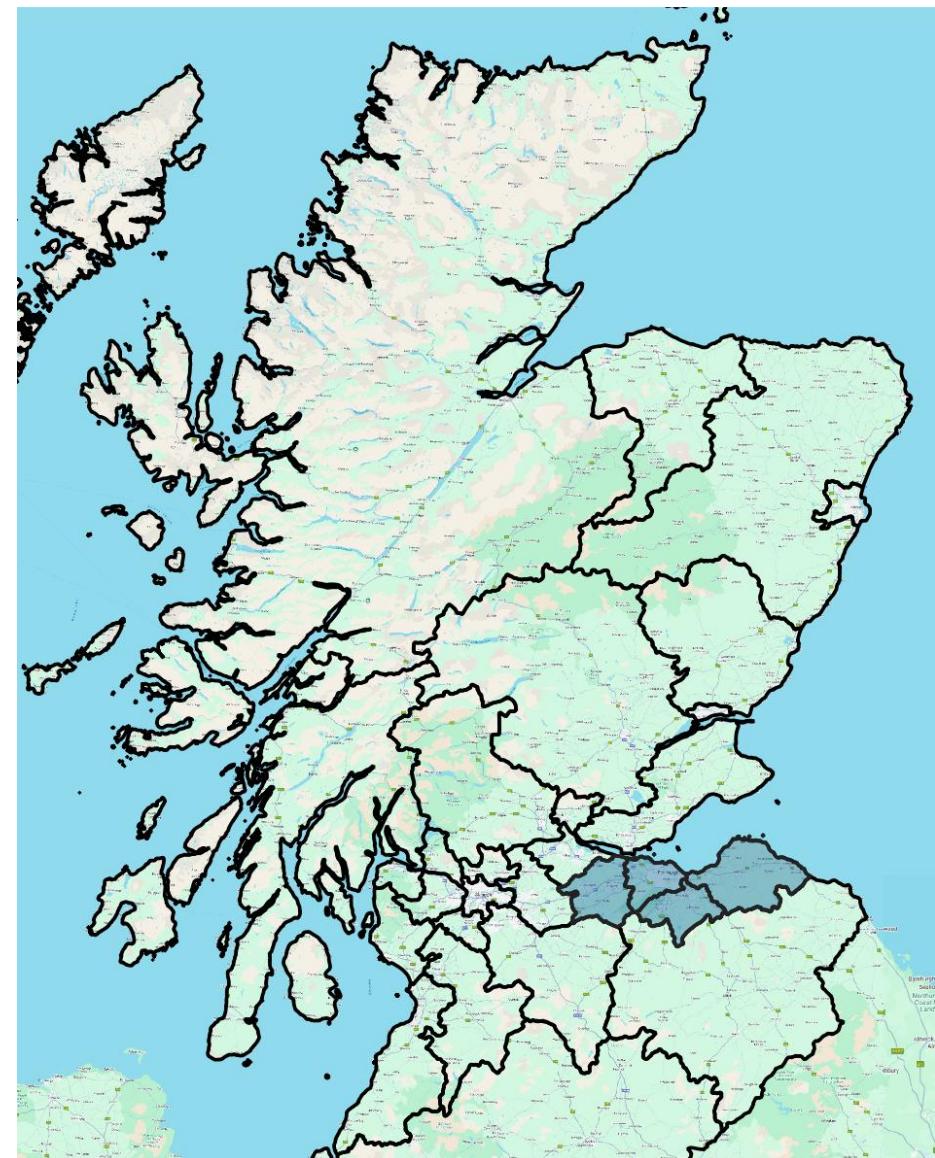
The Edinburgh and Lothians Regional Equality Council (ELREC) is a Scottish charity that has been working to support Black and racially minoritised communities in Edinburgh, East Lothian, Midlothian and West Lothian for over 50 years.

Through a variety of targeted services, ELREC provides support for victims of discrimination and hate crime, assists people accessing housing and council services, and offers a range of programmes for children and young people, asylum seekers and refugees and more.

In 2025, ELREC partnered with a project led by Lucien Staddon Foster and Sholen Macpherson, two race equality researchers specialising in using equalities data to expose and measure systemic racism in Scotland. This sought to help voluntary sector organisations better understand the needs and circumstances of Black and racially minoritised communities through targeted analysis of Scotland's 2022 Census.

In Scotland, the experiences of and outcomes of Black and racially minoritised groups are often obscured by a lack of ethnicity-disaggregated statistics. Where data exists, it often relies on high-level classifications that combine the experiences of all minority ethnic groups or cannot be broken down into regional scales. This can limit opportunities to measure the inequalities impacting specific ethnic groups and makes it difficult for regional and grassroots organisations to be statistically informed about the communities they work with, represent and support. As a result, organisations representing or providing target services for racially minoritised groups can be disadvantaged in funding applications and policy settings due to increasing demands for robust, quantitative evidence of service needs and impact.

Figure 1: Remit of the Edinburgh and Lothians Regional Equality Council



Our project leverages the rare opportunity presented by Scotland's 2022 Census to gain highly granular insights into population characteristics and people's outcomes in housing, employment, education and more.

Together with ELREC, we have produced the following briefing to highlight what the 2022 Census can tell us about racial equality in Edinburgh and the Lothians and provide an important evidence base to inform the design, delivery and evaluation of ELREC's services.

This initiative was made possible by the Jane Hatfield Award 2025 - an annual grant given to a team of young researchers from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds to investigate issues or topics related to community, social action and/or social justice. It was launched in 2022 by the Institute for Voluntary Action Research (IVAR) in partnership with The Ubele Initiative, and is named in memory and celebration of Jane Hatfield, trustee and chair of IVAR from 2006 to 2021.

Scope and terminology

This publication focuses on the experiences and outcomes of Black and racially minoritised groups, reflecting an understanding that racial inequality is produced through structural, institutional and social processes rather than being an inherent characteristic of particular groups. In the context of Scotland's Census, our use of Black and racially minoritised groups includes people who ethnically identify as Asian, African, Caribbean or Black, mixed or multiple ethnic groups, Arab groups and other 'non-white' ethnic groups – as specified by the Census.

In some cases, we also use the term 'white minority ethnic groups' to refer to white communities who do not come from white Scottish and/or white Other British backgrounds. However, we fully acknowledge that some of the communities classified as a 'white minority ethnic group' have not historically been racialised as white and may experience inequalities linked to discrimination, colonialism and their associated ideologies.

Who we are

Lucien Staddon Foster and **Sholen Macpherson** are race equality researchers specialising in using ethnicity-disaggregated data to identify and expose structural and institutional racism in Scotland. Outside of the Jane Hatfield Award, which was completed independently, Sholen and Lucien work for a Scottish anti-racism charity called the Coalition for Racial Equality and Rights (CRER).

The Institute for Voluntary Action Research (IVAR) is a UK research charity working with voluntary sector organisations, charitable foundations and public agencies to strengthen communities across the UK through action research.

The Ubele Initiative is an African diaspora-led social enterprise with a mission to contribute to the sustainability of the African Diaspora community.

Cite this report as:

Staddon Foster, L. & Macpherson, S. (2026). *Black and racially minoritised communities in Edinburgh and the Lothians - Census analysis*. Edinburgh and Lothians Regional Equality Council, Institute for Voluntary Action Research, The Ubele Initiative.

Black and racially minoritised communities in Edinburgh and the Lothians

Edinburgh and the Lothians are home to over 900,000 people. Of these, 95,000 (10.5%) come from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds, with a further 91,000 (10.1%) belonging to white minority ethnic groups.

People from mixed or multiple ethnic backgrounds comprise the largest Black and racially minoritised group in Edinburgh and the Lothians (approximately 17,000 people or 1.9% of the population), followed by the Chinese community (16,600 people, 1.8%) and the Indian community (14,600 people, 1.5%).

11,700 people living in Edinburgh and the Lothians come from an African background (1.3% of the population), while the Pakistani community consists of nearly 11,000 people (1.2%). Other Black and racially minoritised communities, including people from Arab, Bangladeshi and Caribbean backgrounds are much smaller.

Table 1: Ethnic composition of Edinburgh and the Lothians' population, 2022

Ethnic group	Population size	Percentage of the population
White Scottish / British	718,271	79.4%
White Scottish	614,433	67.9%
White Other British	103,838	11.5%
White minority ethnic groups	91,279	10.1%
White Irish	13,548	1.5%

Gypsy / Traveller	415	0.0%
White Polish	25,267	2.8%
White Roma	1,132	0.1%
White Showperson	184	0.0%
Other white ethnicities	50,733	5.6%
Black and racially minoritised groups	95,079	10.5%
Mixed or multiple ethnic groups	16,985	1.9%
Asian groups (combined)	52,710	5.8%
Pakistani	10,922	1.2%
Indian	14,570	1.6%
Bangladeshi	2,891	0.3%
Chinese	16,640	1.8%
Other Asian ethnicities	7,687	0.8%
African, Caribbean and Black groups (combined)	13,468	1.5%
African groups	11,689	1.3%
Caribbean or Black groups	1,779	0.2%
Arab	4,792	0.5%
Other non-white ethnic groups	7,124	0.8%
All groups	904,629	

Where do communities live?

Data from Scotland's 2022 Census shows that the City of Edinburgh is by far the most populous part of the region, with approximately 514,000 people, of whom 78,000 (15.1%) are from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds. Collectively, East Lothian, Midlothian and West Lothian are home to approximately 390,000 people, of which 17,300 come from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds.

After Edinburgh, West Lothian is the next largest and most ethnically diverse local authority in the region, home to a total of 181,000 people - 6.5% of whom come from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds. East Lothian and Midlothian are home to 112,000 and 96,500 people, respectively, with approximately 5% of their populations coming from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds.

Figure 2: Proportion of the population coming from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds, by area

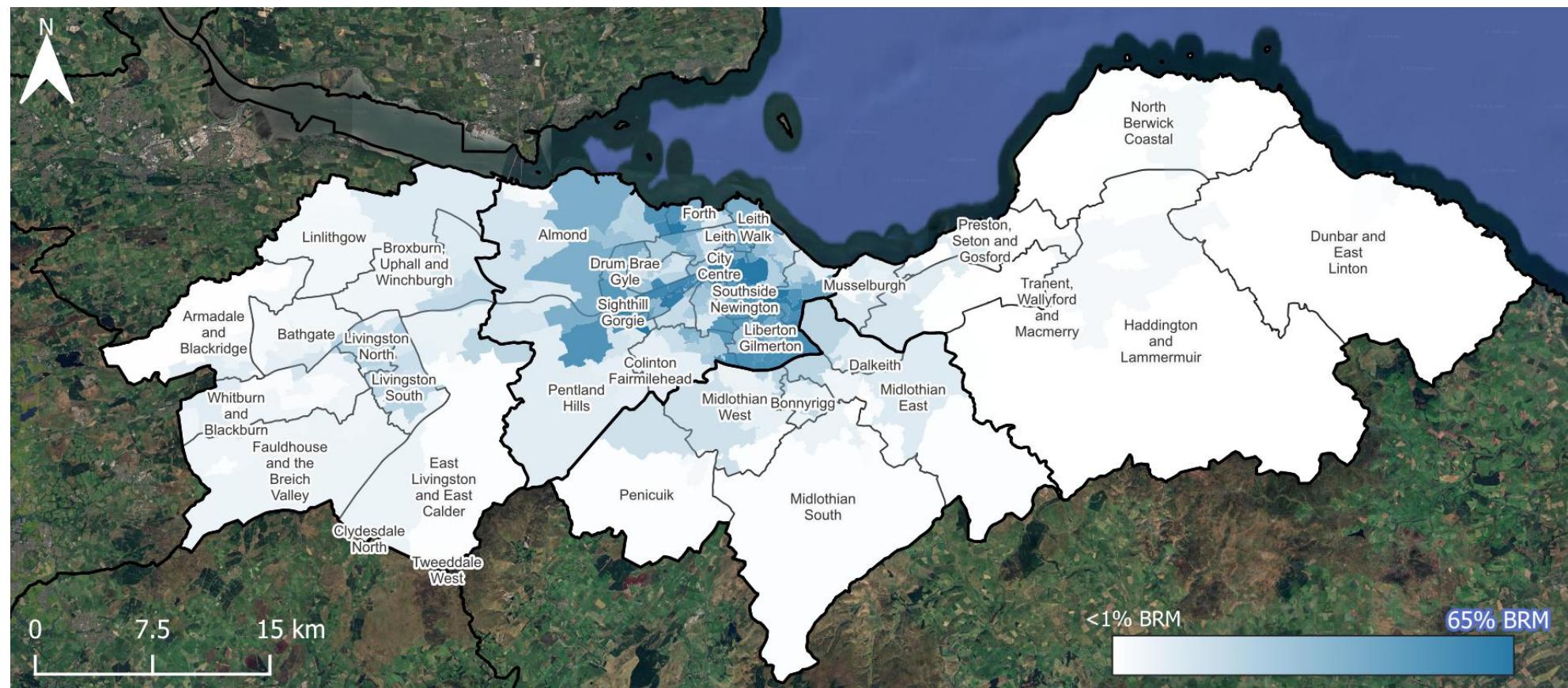


Table 2: Ethnic composition of local authorities across the Edinburgh and Lothians region

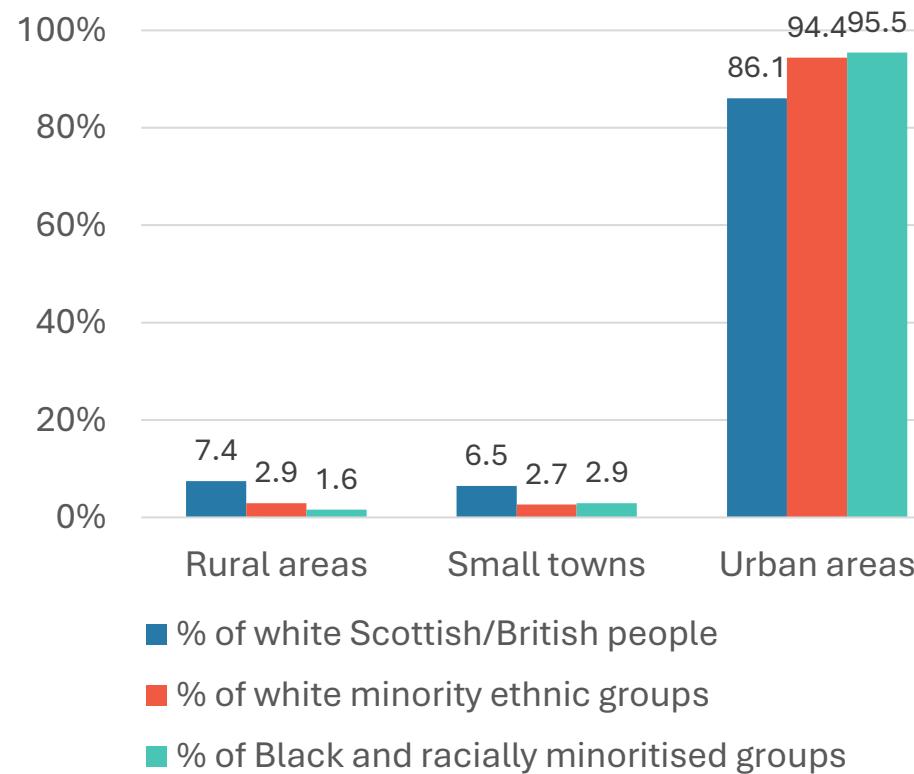
Ethnic Group	City of Edinburgh		East Lothian		Midlothian		West Lothian		Edinburgh and Lothians total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
White Scottish / British	368,362	71.6%	102,760	91.5%	87,117	90.2%	160,032	88.3%	718,271	79.4%
White Scottish	298,533	58.0%	89,252	79.5%	79,572	82.4%	147,073	81.1%	614,433	67.9%
White Other British	69,829	13.6%	13,508	12.0%	7,545	7.8%	12,959	7.1%	103,838	11.5%
White minority groups	68,384	13.3%	6,082	5.4%	5,037	5.2%	11,781	6.5%	91,279	10.1%
White Irish	10,326	2.0%	1,186	1.1%	745	0.8%	1,290	0.7%	13,548	1.5%
Gypsy / Traveller	256	0.0%	61	0.1%	31	0.0%	70	0.0%	415	0.0%
White Polish	16,351	3.2%	1,492	1.3%	1,855	1.9%	5,568	3.1%	25,267	2.8%
White Roma	911	0.2%	66	0.1%	31	0.0%	124	0.1%	1,132	0.1%
White Showperson	127	0.0%	10	0.0%	4	0.0%	47	0.0%	184	0.0%
Other white ethnicities	40,413	7.9%	3,267	2.9%	2,371	2.5%	4,682	2.6%	50,733	5.6%
Black and racially minoritised groups	77,801	15.1%	3,443	3.1%	4,380	4.5%	9,458	5.2%	95,079	10.5%
Mixed or multiple ethnic groups	12,882	2.5%	1,164	1.0%	1,027	1.1%	1,912	1.1%	16,985	1.9%
Asian groups (combined)	44,070	8.6%	1,371	1.2%	2,219	2.3%	5,056	2.8%	52,710	5.8%
Pakistani	7,454	1.4%	436	0.4%	700	0.7%	2,338	1.3%	10,922	1.2%
Indian	12,414	2.4%	318	0.3%	523	0.5%	1,315	0.7%	14,570	1.6%
Bangladeshi	2,685	0.5%	28	0.0%	133	0.1%	45	0.0%	2,891	0.3%
Chinese	15,076	2.9%	266	0.2%	488	0.5%	810	0.4%	16,640	1.8%
Other Asian ethnicities	6,441	1.3%	323	0.3%	375	0.4%	548	0.3%	7,687	0.8%
African, Caribbean and Black groups (combined)	10,881	2.1%	416	0.4%	575	0.6%	1,602	0.9%	13,468	1.5%
African	9,462	1.8%	317	0.3%	477	0.5%	1,439	0.8%	11,689	1.3%
Caribbean or Black	1,419	0.3%	99	0.1%	98	0.1%	163	0.1%	1,779	0.2%
Arab	4,119	0.8%	153	0.1%	188	0.2%	329	0.2%	4,792	0.5%
Other ethnic groups	5,849	1.1%	339	0.3%	371	0.4%	559	0.3%	7,124	0.8%
All groups	514,547		112,285		96,534		181,271		904,629	

Urban rural analysis

Using the Scottish Government Urban Rural Classification and data from Scotland's 2022 Census, we can understand the urban-rural distribution of different communities across Edinburgh and the Lothians.

Our analysis found that 96% of people from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds in Edinburgh and the Lothians live in urban areas, with 2.9% living in small towns and just 1.6% living in rural areas.

Figure 3: Edinburgh and Lothians - Proportion of people living in rural areas, small towns or urban areas, by ethnic group



This means that 11.4% of people living in urban areas come from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds, compared to 5.3% for small towns around Edinburgh and the Lothians. For rural areas, just 2.7% of the population comes from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds, meaning that rural parts of Edinburgh and the Lothians are slightly more ethnically diverse than the national average of 2.2%. Similarly, urban parts of Edinburgh and the Lothians are more ethnically diverse than the national average of 9.0%.

Table 3: Edinburgh and the Lothians: Ethnic composition of the population of urban areas, small towns and rural areas

Ethnic group	Rural areas		Small towns		Urban areas	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
White Scottish/British	53,332	92.7%	46,622	90.0%	618,153	77.8%
White minority ethnic groups	2,668	4.6%	2,414	4.7%	85,908	10.8%
Black and racially minoritised groups	1,541	2.7%	2,758	5.3%	90,746	11.4%
Mixed or multiple ethnic groups	514	0.9%	568	1.1%	15,899	2.0%
Pakistani	222	0.4%	436	0.8%	10,214	1.3%
Indian	140	0.2%	516	1.0%	13,922	1.8%
Bangladeshi	6	0.0%	37	0.1%	2,847	0.4%
Chinese	135	0.2%	309	0.6%	16,177	2.0%
Other Asian	107	0.2%	196	0.4%	7,452	0.9%
African groups	159	0.3%	344	0.7%	11,186	1.4%

Table 3: Edinburgh and the Lothians: Ethnic composition of the population of urban areas, small towns and rural areas

Ethnic group	Rural areas		Small towns		Urban areas	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Caribbean or Black groups	41	0.1%	54	0.1%	1,681	0.2%
Arab	52	0.1%	140	0.3%	4,583	0.6%
Other ethnic groups	160	0.3%	163	0.3%	6,779	0.9%

Edinburgh – smaller geographies

Some parts of Edinburgh are much more diverse than others, with Southside/Newington, City Centre and Sighthill/Gorgie being the most diverse electoral wards, where more than one in five people come from a Black and racially minoritised background.

Corstorphine/Murrayfield is the least ethnically diverse ward in Edinburgh, where just 8.6% of people come from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds. In Almond and Colinton/Fairmilehead, the next least diverse wards, this rises to approximately one in ten people.

Table 4: Ethnic composition of Edinburgh's most and least diverse electoral wards

The three most diverse wards in Edinburgh																							
Electoral ward:	Black and racially minoritised groups		Mixed and multiple ethnic groups		Pakistani		Indian		Bangladeshi		Chinese		Other Asian		African groups		Caribbean or Black groups		Arab		Other ethnic groups		Total
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#
Southside/Newington	8,079	22.4%	1,278	3.5%	512	1.4%	887	2.5%	118	0.3%	3274	9.1%	700	1.9%	375	1.0%	96	0.3%	254	0.7%	585	1.6%	36,106
City Centre	3,986	12.1%	575	1.7%	361	1.1%	643	1.9%	164	0.5%	448	1.4%	266	0.8%	434	1.3%	123	0.4%	376	1.1%	596	1.8%	33,039
Sighthill/Gorgie	6,320	20.5%	653	2.1%	485	1.6%	2,025	6.6%	327	1.1%	691	2.2%	424	1.4%	858	2.8%	103	0.3%	348	1.1%	406	1.3%	30,820
The three least diverse wards in Edinburgh																							
Electoral ward:	Black and racially minoritised groups		Mixed and multiple ethnic groups		Pakistani		Indian		Bangladeshi		Chinese		Other Asian		African groups		Caribbean or Black groups		Arab		Other ethnic groups		Total
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#
Almond	3,647	10.4%	575	1.6%	361	1.0%	643	1.8%	164	0.5%	448	1.3%	266	0.8%	717	2.1%	83	0.2%	134	0.4%	256	0.7%	34,966
Colinton/Fairmilehead	2,434	10.0%	496	2.0%	300	1.2%	248	1.0%	101	0.4%	362	1.5%	246	1.0%	283	1.2%	63	0.3%	145	0.6%	190	0.8%	24,389
Corstorphine/Murrayfield	2,014	8.6%	339	1.5%	105	0.4%	544	2.3%	60	0.3%	315	1.3%	187	0.8%	123	0.5%	43	0.2%	123	0.5%	175	0.7%	23,376

This data highlights some interesting patterns regarding the clustering of specific communities. For instance, our analysis shows that 20% of all Chinese people living in Edinburgh and the Lothians live in Southside/Newington, and 14% of all Indian people live in Sighthill/Gorgie.

The Lothians – smaller geographies

Some parts of the Lothians are more ethnically diverse than others, with Livingston North (West Lothian), Livingston South (West Lothian) and Dalkeith (Midlothian) being the most ethnically diverse electoral wards, where 8.6%, 7.8% and 6.7% of the population comes from a Black and racially minoritised background, respectively.

The three least diverse electoral wards in Edinburgh and the Lothians are all found in East Lothian. In Dunbar and East Linton, 2.7% of people come from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds, with this falling to 2.5% for Haddington and Lammermuir ward and Preston, Seton and Gosford ward.

Table 5: Ethnic composition of Edinburgh's most and least diverse electoral wards

The three most diverse wards in Edinburgh																										
Electoral ward:	Black and racially minoritised groups		Mixed and multiple ethnic groups		Pakistani		Indian		Bangladeshi		Chinese		Other Asian		African groups		Caribbean or Black groups		Arab		Other ethnic groups		Total			
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Livingston North (West Lothian)	1,976	8.6%	303	1.3%	588	2.6%	431	1.9%	16	0.1%	142	0.6%	106	0.5%	213	0.9%	17	0.1%	62	0.3%	98	0.4%	22,879			
Livingstone South (West Lothian)	1,901	7.8%	266	1.1%	594	2.5%	263	1.1%	1	0.0%	190	0.8%	130	0.5%	237	1.0%	35	0.1%	86	0.4%	99	0.4%	24,219			
Dalkeith (Midlothian)	994	6.7%	182	1.2%	163	1.1%	128	0.9%	40	0.3%	108	0.7%	63	0.4%	160	1.1%	7	0.0%	73	0.5%	70	0.5%	14,934			
The three least diverse wards in Edinburgh																										
Electoral ward:	Black and racially minoritised groups		Mixed and multiple ethnic groups		Pakistani		Indian		Bangladeshi		Chinese		Other Asian		African groups		Caribbean or Black groups		Arab		Other ethnic groups		Total			
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	
Dunbar and East Linton (East Lothian)	419	2.7%	158	1.0%	35	0.2%	34	0.2%	1	0.0%	30	0.2%	62	0.4%	26	0.2%	16	0.1%	19	0.1%	38	0.2%	15,706			
Haddington and Lammermuir (East Lothian)	510	2.5%	230	1.1%	60	0.3%	32	0.2%	2	0.0%	8	0.0%	38	0.2%	52	0.3%	16	0.1%	19	0.1%	53	0.3%	20,430			
Preston, Seton and Gosford (East Lothian)	459	2.5%	158	0.8%	74	0.4%	23	0.1%	1	0.0%	28	0.1%	46	0.2%	42	0.2%	13	0.1%	5	0.0%	69	0.4%	18,681			

How has the population changed over time?

Edinburgh and the Lothians have become increasingly ethnically diverse over time. Since 2001, the Black and racially minoritised population has grown from just 2.8% of the regional population to 5.6% in 2011 and 10.5% in 2022.

While all Black and racially minoritised communities have grown in size since 2001, some groups, such as people from African, Indian and Other Asian backgrounds, have grown the most. For example, in 2001, just 1,400 people from an African ethnic background lived in Edinburgh and the Lothians; however, by 2022, this had risen to nearly 12,000.

During this time, the number of people from white Scottish/British backgrounds fell from 726,000 people to 718,000 people, meaning that the growth of the Black and racially minoritised population has helped curb population decline in Edinburgh and the Lothians.

Figure 4: Proportion of Edinburgh and the Lothians' population coming from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds, 2001 - 2011 - 2022

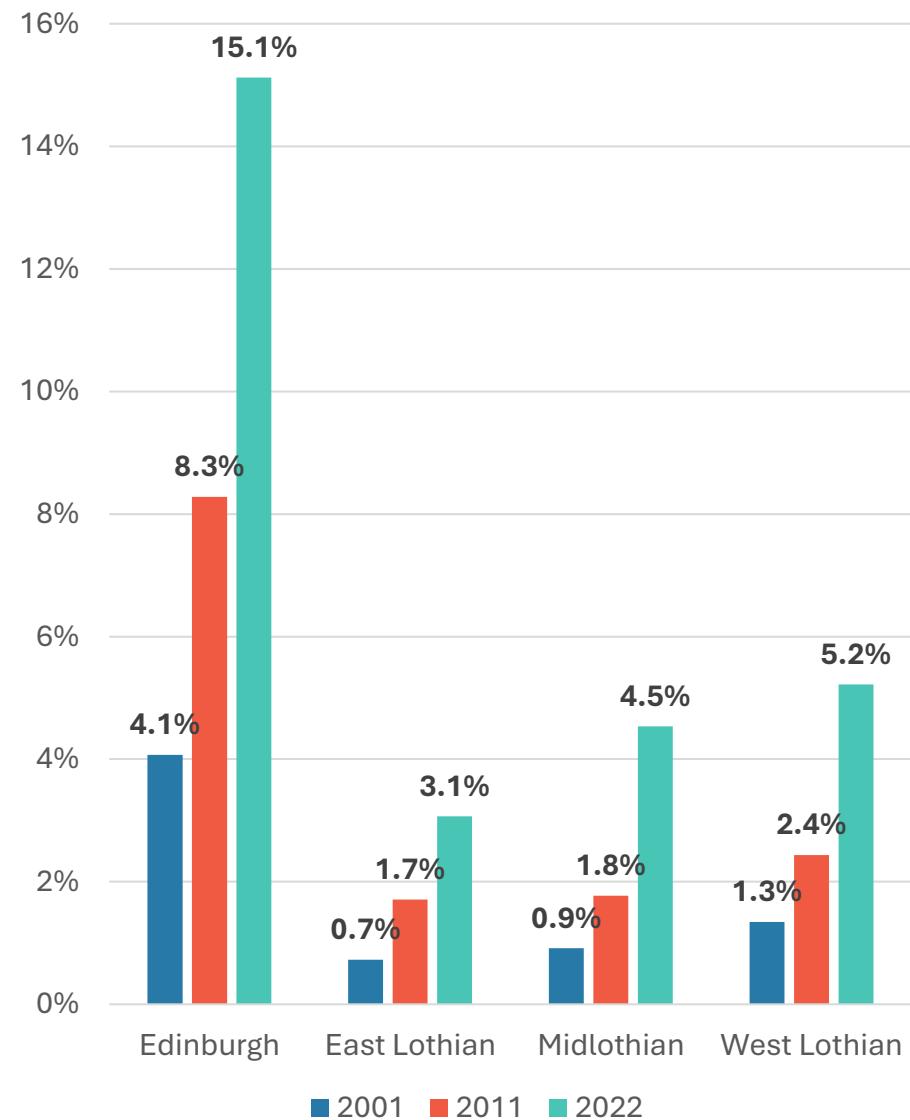


Table 6: How has Edinburgh and the Lothians' population changed over time, by ethnic group

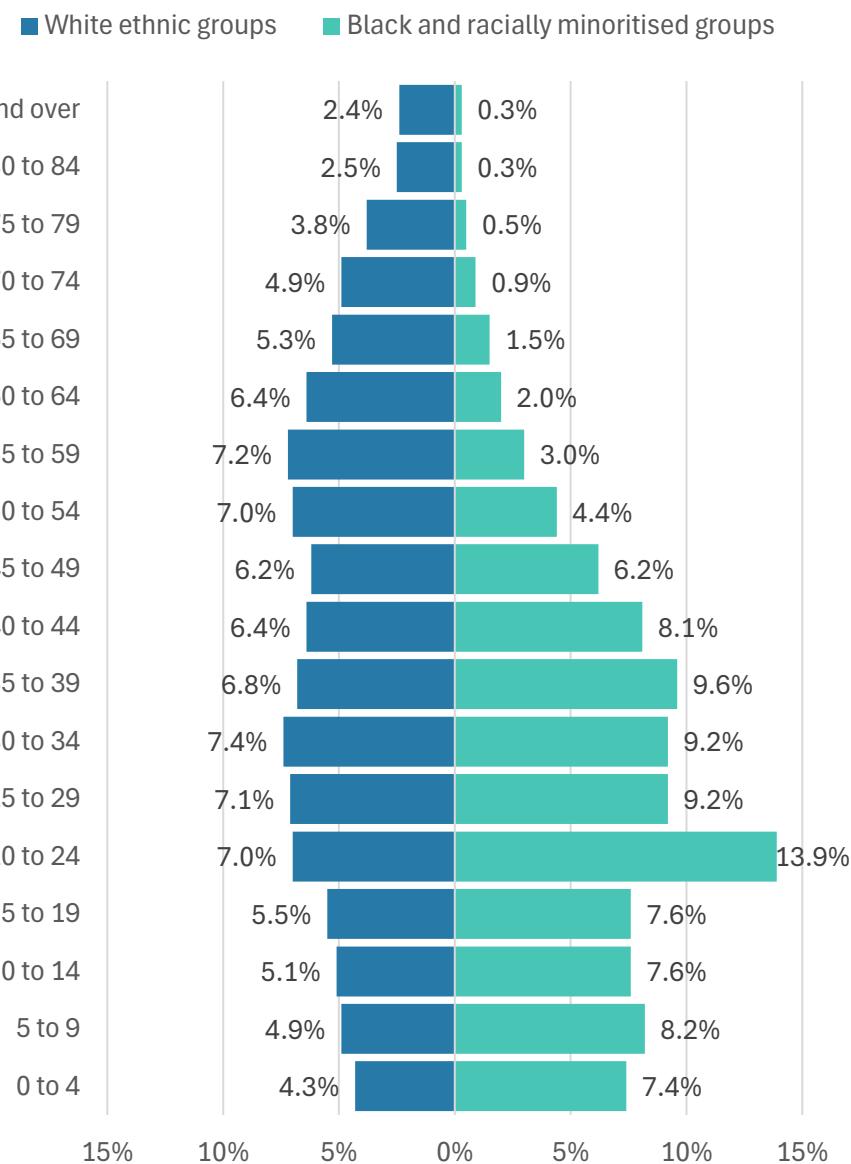
Ethnic group	2001		2011		2022	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
All people	778,367	100%	834,648	100%	904,631	100%
White Scottish/British	725,706	93.2%	729,399	87.4%	718,271	79.4%
Minority ethnic total	52,661	6.8%	105,249	12.6%	186,360	20.6%
White minority ethnic groups (combined)	30,878	4.0%	58,344	7.0%	91,284	10.1%
White Irish	21,783	2.8%	46,905	5.6%	95,076	10.5%
Other white backgrounds	3,465	0.4%	5,194	0.6%	16,985	1.9%
Black and racially minoritised groups (combined)	5,045	0.6%	7,937	1.0%	10,928	1.2%
Any Mixed Background	2,713	0.3%	7,566	0.9%	14,570	1.6%
Pakistani	672	0.1%	1,372	0.2%	2,891	0.3%
Indian	3,974	0.5%	8,913	1.1%	16,640	1.8%
Bangladeshi	1,377	0.2%	5,282	0.6%	7,687	0.8%
Chinese	1,405	0.2%	5,269	0.6%	11,690	1.3%
Other Asian	632	0.1%	1,355	0.2%	1,776	0.2%
African groups	2,500	0.3%	4,017	0.5%	11,907	1.3%
Caribbean or Black groups	778,367	100%	834,648	100%	904,631	100%
Other ethnic groups	725,706	93.2%	729,399	87.4%	718,271	79.4%

Demographic profiles – age and sex

On average, Black and racially minoritised communities in Edinburgh and the Lothians are younger than white communities.

The size of the BME population between the ages of 20 and 40 are particularly pronounced compared to the white population. Much of this can be attributed to large numbers of students from a wide range of backgrounds.

Figure 5: Proportion of people from white and Black and racially minoritised backgrounds in 5-year age bands



Children and young people

When considering issues or services relating to children and young people from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds, equality monitoring benchmarks should be tied to the specific profile of those under the age of 18.

Data from Scotland's 2022 Census shows that 10.5% of children in Edinburgh and the Lothians come from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds. This means that over a quarter of people from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds (approximately 25,000 people) are under the age of 18.

Table 7: Ethnic composition of Edinburgh and the Lothians' child population

Ethnic group	Number of children (0-17 years old)	% of ethnic group below the age of 18	% of children in Edinburgh and the Lothians
White Scottish/ British	126,611	17.6%	76.9%
White minority ethnic groups	12,499	13.7%	7.6%
Black and racially minoritised groups (combined)	25,508	26.8%	15.5%
Mixed or multiple ethnic groups	7,028	41.4%	4.3%
Pakistani	3,182	29.1%	1.9%
Indian	3,727	25.6%	2.3%

Table 7: Ethnic composition of Edinburgh and the Lothians' child population

Ethnic group	Number of children (0-17 years old)	% of ethnic group below the age of 18	% of children in Edinburgh and the Lothians
Bangladeshi	998	34.5%	0.6%
Chinese	2,283	13.7%	1.4%
Other Asian	1,402	18.2%	0.9%
African groups	3,764	32.2%	2.3%
Caribbean and Black groups	344	19.3%	0.2%
Arab	1,553	32.4%	0.9%
Other ethnic groups	1,227	17.2%	0.7%

Working-age population

When considering representation in employment or uptake with employability services, equality monitoring benchmarks should be tied to the working-age population - those between the ages of 16 and 64.

Data from Scotland's 2022 Census shows that 11.4% of Edinburgh and the Lothians' working-age population comes from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds.

Table 8: Ethnic composition of Edinburgh and the Lothians' child population

Ethnic group	Working age (16-64) population	% of ethnic group	Proportion of working-age population
White Scottish/ British	458,397	63.8%	76.1%
White minority ethnic groups	75,240	82.4%	12.5%
Black and racially minoritised groups (combined)	68,378	71.9%	11.4%
Mixed or multiple ethnic groups	10,032	59.1%	1.7%
Pakistani	7,428	68.0%	1.2%
Indian	10,701	73.4%	1.8%
Bangladeshi	1,892	65.4%	0.3%

Table 8: Ethnic composition of Edinburgh and the Lothians' child population

Ethnic group	Working age (16-64) population	% of ethnic group	Proportion of working-age population
Chinese	13,962	83.9%	2.3%
Other Asian	6,185	80.5%	1.0%
African groups	7,999	68.4%	1.3%
Caribbean and Black groups	1,384	77.9%	0.2%
Arab	3,214	67.1%	0.5%
Other ethnic groups	5,581	78.4%	0.9%

Gender

The gender composition of Edinburgh and the Lothians' Black and racially minoritised communities is broadly comparable to that of the white Scottish/British population.

Among Arab, Indian, and African communities, there are slightly more men than women, whereas the opposite is true for Chinese communities, people of mixed heritage, and people from in the 'Other Asian' category.

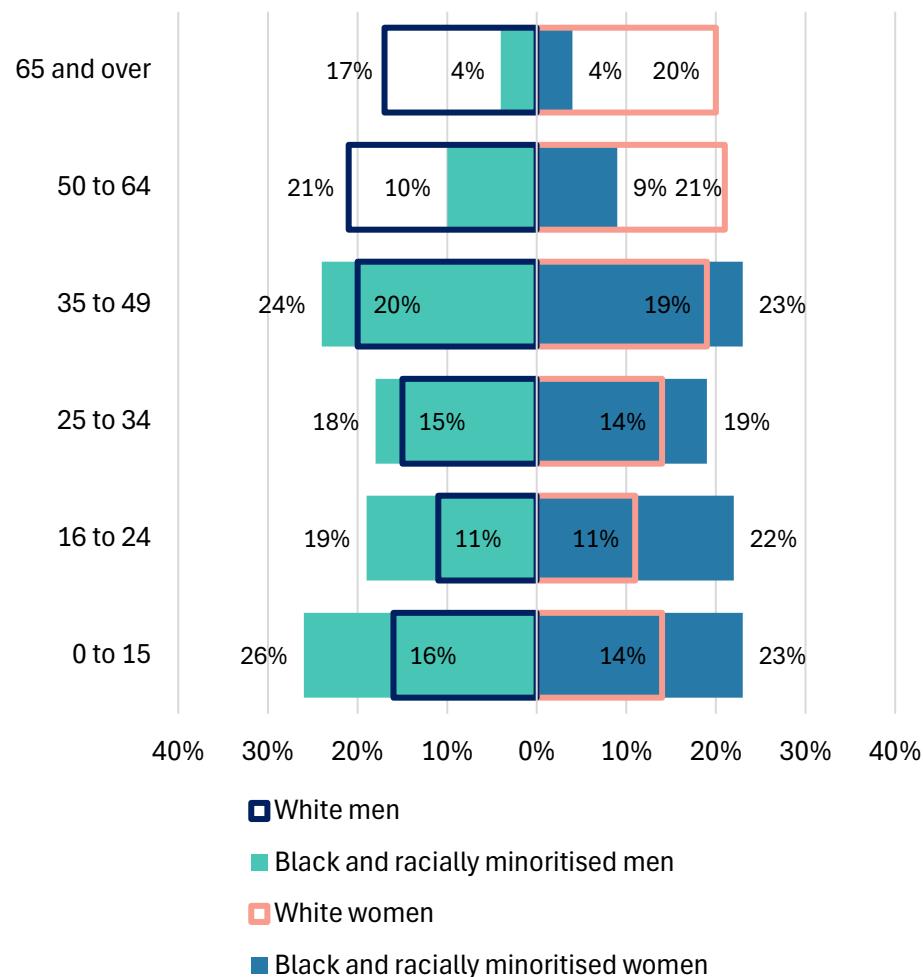
The following table presents the proportion of each ethnic group identifying as men and women across Edinburgh and the Lothians, which may be a useful tool for benchmarking service engagement.

Table 9: Gender composition of Edinburgh and the Lothians' population, by ethnic group

Ethnic group	# Men	# Women	% Male	% Female
White Scottish/British	350,959	367,311	48.9%	51.1%
White minority ethnic groups	41,113	50,159	45.0%	55.0%
Black and racially minoritised groups	45,974	49,090	48.4%	51.6%
Mixed or multiple ethnic groups	7,892	9,092	46.5%	53.5%
Pakistani	5,551	5,375	50.8%	49.2%
Indian	7,626	6,945	52.3%	47.7%
Bangladeshi	1,474	1,417	51.0%	49.0%
Chinese	6,946	9,691	41.8%	58.2%
Other Asian	3,276	4,411	42.6%	57.4%
African	6,065	5,621	51.9%	48.1%
Caribbean or Black	924	854	52.0%	48.0%
Arab	2,677	2,109	55.9%	44.1%
Other ethnic groups	3,543	3,575	49.8%	50.2%

When considering the demographic make-up of the population, it may be useful to consider age and sex simultaneously. This can be helpful for benchmarking service uptake and engagement.

Figure 6: Age and sex composition of Edinburgh and the Lothians' white and Black and racially minoritised population



Other intersectional characteristics

Sexual orientation

Due to the data sensitivity controls used by National Records Scotland, it is not possible to disaggregate census data on sexual orientation beyond a national level. This prevents any analysis of the number of LGBTQ+ people from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds living in Edinburgh and the Lothians without additional access credentials.

Trans status

Due to the data sensitivity controls used by National Records Scotland, it is not possible to disaggregate census data on trans status or history beyond a national level. This prevents any analysis of the number of trans or non-binary people from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds living in Edinburgh and the Lothians without additional access credentials.

British Sign Language (BSL) users

Data from the 2022 Census shows that approximately 2,700 Black and racially minoritised people who use British Sign Language (BSL) live in Edinburgh and the Lothians, meaning that 2.9% of the Black and racially minoritised population use BSL, compared to 1.9% of white Scottish/British people.

Disability

Data from Scotland's 2022 Census shows that 11,200 people from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds in Edinburgh and the Lothians are disabled.

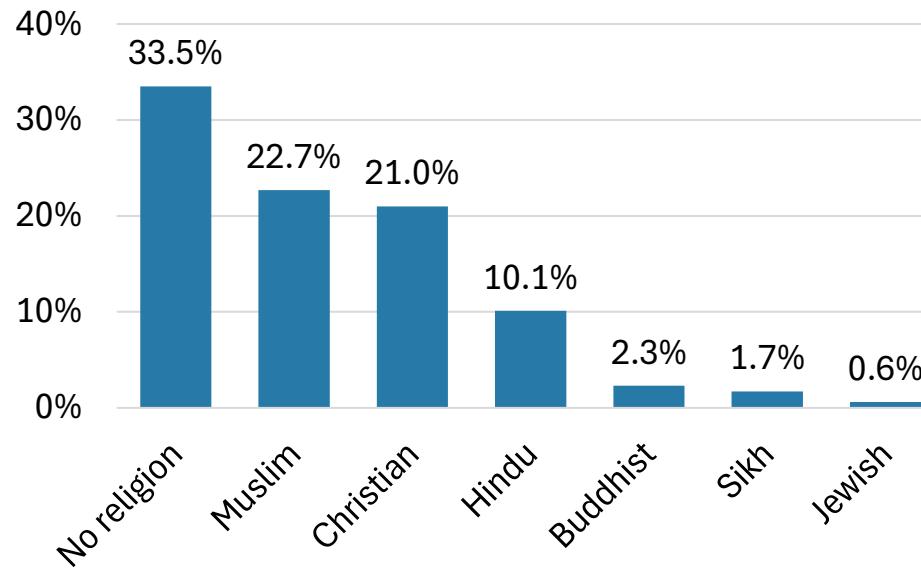
Table 10: Disabled people in the West of Scotland, by ethnicity

Ethnic group	# of disabled people	% of people with a disability
White Scottish/British	168,940	23.5%
White minority ethnic groups	11,419	12.5%
Black and racially minoritised groups	11,216	11.8%
Mixed or multiple ethnic groups	2,420	14.2%
Pakistani	1,957	17.9%
Indian	1,126	7.7%
Bangladeshi	481	16.6%
Chinese	1,303	7.8%
Other Asian	743	9.7%
African	1,141	9.8%
Caribbean or Black	291	38.6%
Arab	706	14.7%
Other ethnic groups	1,048	14.7%

Religion

Scotland's Census also collects information about people's religions, which can be disaggregated by ethnicity for intersectional analysis and benchmarking.

Figure 7: Largest religions among Edinburgh and the Lothians' Black and racially minoritised population



Our analysis shows that 33% of people from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds in Edinburgh and the Lothians have no religion, compared to 61% of the white Scottish/British group. There is significant variation between Black and racially minoritised groups, with people from Chinese backgrounds being the most likely to say they have no religion (76%). This is followed by 58% of people from mixed or multiple ethnicities and 40% of those from Caribbean or Black backgrounds. In contrast, just 6% of people from Pakistani and Bangladeshi backgrounds in Edinburgh and the Lothians have no religion.

Nearly 20,000 people from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds in Edinburgh and the Lothians identify as Christian, approximately 21% of the Black and racially minoritised population. People from African backgrounds are the most likely to be Christian (61%), followed by the Caribbean and Black group (45%). The proportion of people identifying as Christian is lowest among Asian communities: 27% of people in the 'Other Asian' category, 13% of Indian and Chinese people, and less than 1% of people from Pakistani and Bangladeshi communities.

Data from the 2022 Census shows that Edinburgh and the Lothians are home to around 23,000 people with a Muslim religion, 94% of whom come from a Black and racially minoritised background.

Approximately 13,000 Muslims in Edinburgh and the Lothians come from an Asian background (26% of Asian people), with a further 2,400 from an African ethnic background (19%) and nearly 5,000 from an 'Other' non-white ethnic background (40%). However, due to the way that National Records Scotland publishes data for non-Christian religions, these statistics cannot be disaggregated to a more granular level.

Hindus constitute the next largest religious group within Edinburgh and the Lothians' Black and racially minoritised population, with Census data showing that nearly 10,000 people religiously identify as Hindu - the vast majority of whom come from Asian backgrounds. This was followed by Buddhism, approximately 2,200 people from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds, and Sikhism with 1,600.

Just 1,500 people living in Edinburgh and the Lothians religiously identify as Jewish.

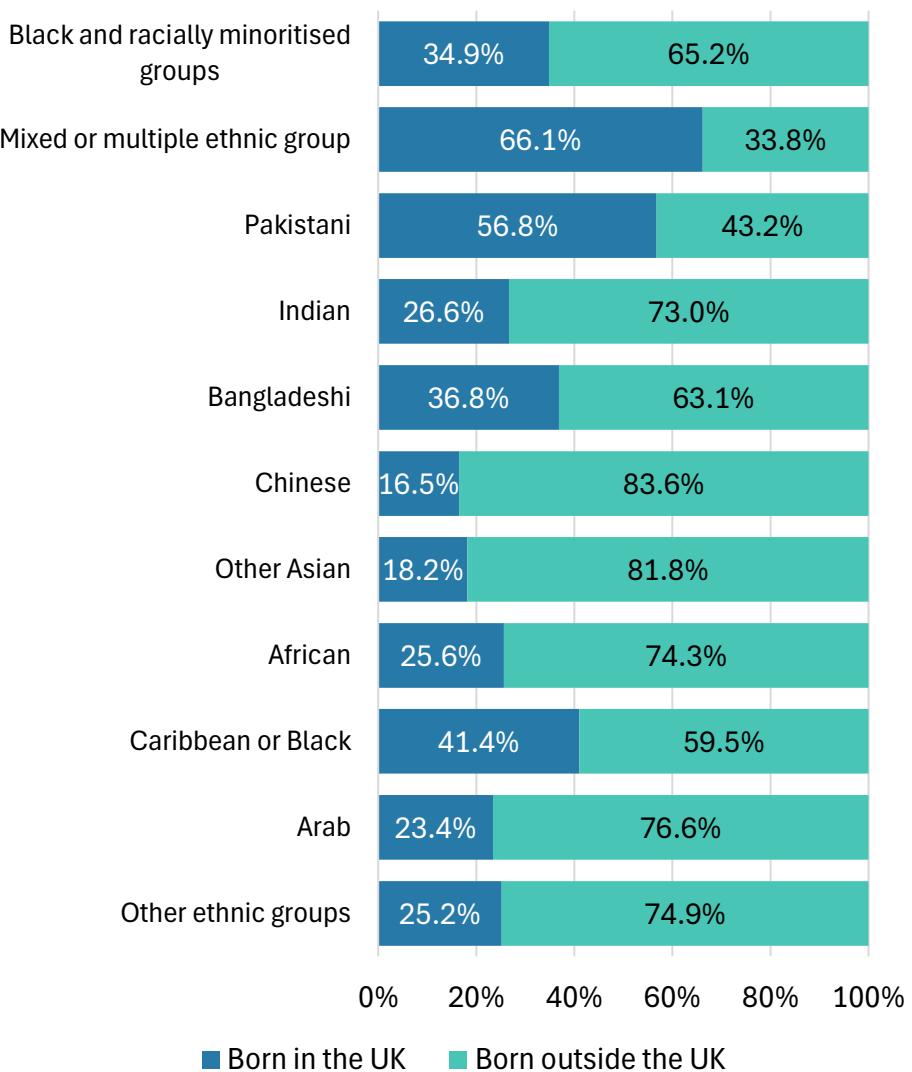
Understanding immigration

Scotland's Census also collects some limited information about people's experiences of migration, including people's country of birth and how long they have lived in the UK. While this cannot capture the unique circumstances of someone's migration status, it can provide useful information about the population's demographic profile.

The Census shows that across Edinburgh and the Lothians, approximately 62,000 people from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds were born outside of the UK, most of whom (53,000) reside in Edinburgh. This means that 65% of the Black and racially minoritised population was born outside of the UK, compared to about 80% of people from a white minority ethnic background.

Within the Black and racially minoritised category, some clear trends can be seen, with people from mixed and multiple ethnic backgrounds being the most likely to have been born in the UK, followed by people from Pakistani, Caribbean and Black backgrounds. People from Chinese and Other Asian backgrounds were the least likely to be born in the UK.

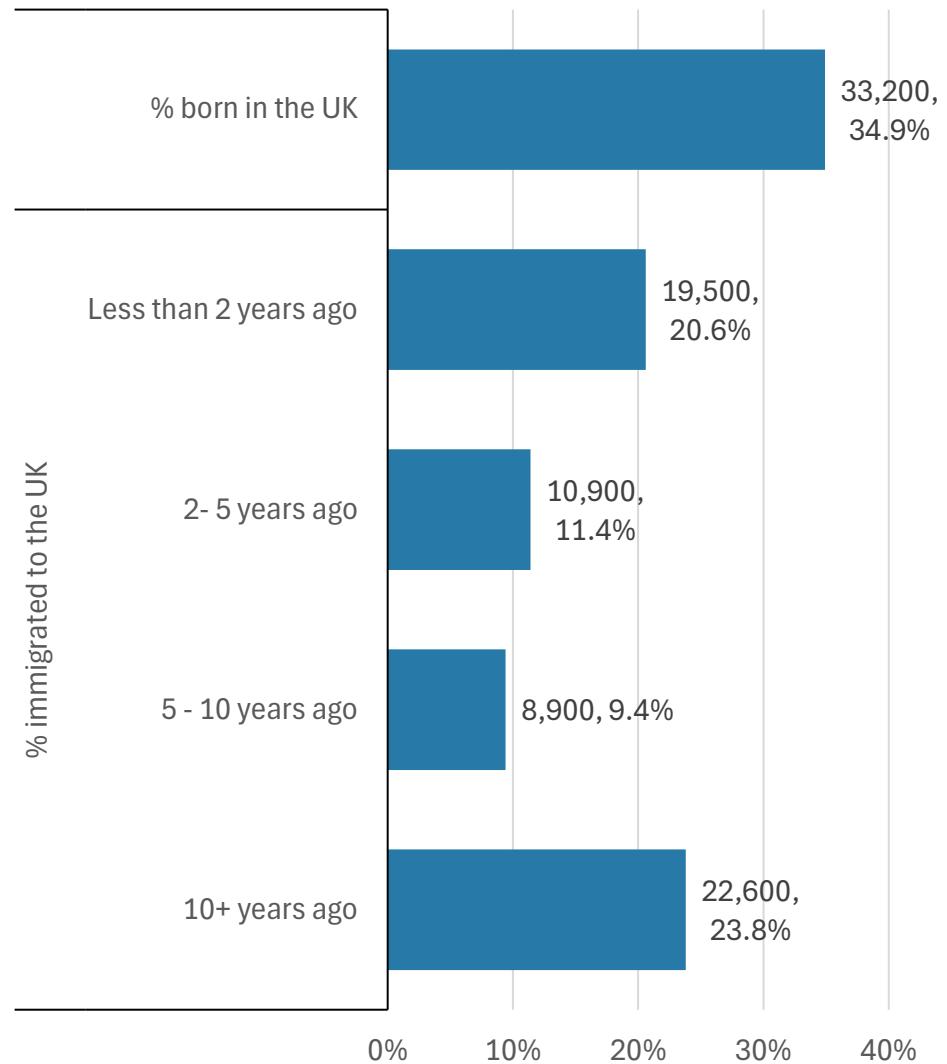
Figure 8: Proportion of people born in and outside of the UK in Edinburgh and the Lothians, by ethnic group



Length of residence in the UK

Of the 62,000 people from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds who were not born in the UK, 37% have lived in the country for 10 years or more (23,000 people, a third of the total BRM population), while 32% have lived in the UK for less than 2 years (19,500 people, 21% of the total BRM population).

Figure 9: Migratory context of Edinburgh and the Lothians' Black and racially minoritised population



Among people born outside the UK, those with a Pakistani background were most likely to have lived in the UK for 10+ years (67%), followed by migrants from an 'Other Asian' background, 45% of whom have lived in the UK for 10+ years. In contrast, just 24% of migrants with a Chinese background have lived in the UK for more than a decade, while 69% arrived within the past 5 years.

Table 11: Migrants from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds in Edinburgh and the Lothians: Year of arrival in the UK by ethnic group

Time of arrival in the UK	Black and racially minoritised groups	Mixed or multiple ethnic groups	Pakistani	Indian	Bangladeshi	Chinese	Other Asian	African	Caribbean or Black	Arab	Other ethnic groups
Less than 2 years ago	31.6%	31.6%	31.6%	31.6%	31.6%	31.6%	31.6%	31.6%	31.6%	31.6%	31.6%
2- 5 years ago	20.7%	20.7%	20.7%	20.7%	20.7%	20.7%	20.7%	20.7%	20.7%	20.7%	20.7%
5 - 10 years ago	12.0%	12.0%	12.0%	12.0%	12.0%	12.0%	12.0%	12.0%	12.0%	12.0%	12.0%
10+ years ago	31.8%	31.8%	31.8%	31.8%	31.8%	31.8%	31.8%	31.8%	31.8%	31.8%	31.8%

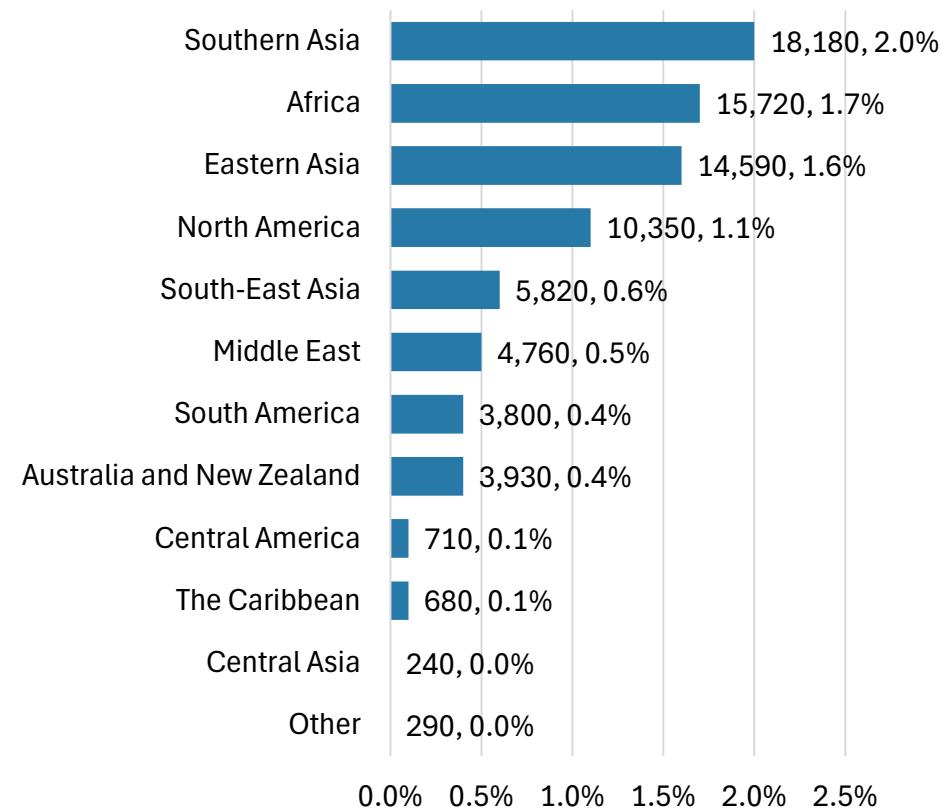
Some interesting differences can also be observed between Edinburgh and the other local authorities, likely due to the influence of the student population. For example, in the City of Edinburgh, just 32% of people from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds were born in the UK, but in East Lothian, Midlothian and West Lothian, this rises to approximately 50%. Similarly, in Edinburgh, 34% of BRM people not born in the UK had only lived in the UK for two years, but this fell to 14-17% across East Lothian, Midlothian and West Lothian.

Country of birth

The vast majority (83%) of Edinburgh and the Lothians' population was born in the UK, with 91% born in a European country. The remaining 9% - approximately 79,000 people - were born outside of Europe.

Outside Europe, the most common region of birth was Eastern Asia, followed by North America, South and Eastern Africa and South East Asia, accounting for 1.6%, 1.1%, 0.9% and 0.6% of the total population, respectively.

Figure 10: Edinburgh and the Lothians - Region of birth (excluding Europe)



Focusing on Africa, the Middle East and Asia, we can see that:

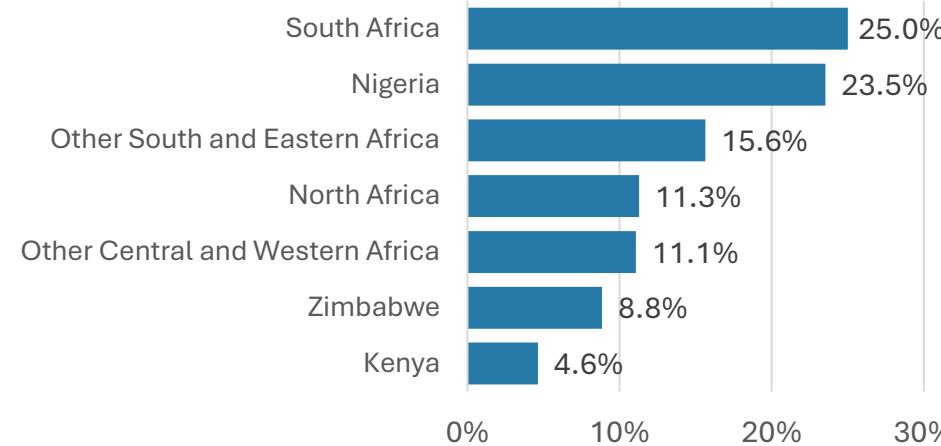
- 25% of people born in Africa were from South Africa, with 24% from Nigeria, 9% from Zimbabwe and 5% from Kenya. 16% of people were born in countries in the 'Other South and Eastern Africa' category, 11% in 'Other Central and Western Africa', and 11% in North Africa, with no further details available
- 16% and 11% of people born in the Middle East were from Iran and Iraq, respectively, with the remaining 72% from 'Other Middle East' regions not specified in the Census
- 47% of those born in Asia were born in Southern Asia, 38% in Eastern Asia, 15% in South-East Asia, and 1% were born in Central Asia
- 59% of people born in Eastern Asia were from China, 29% from Hong Kong and the remaining 12% were from Other countries in Eastern Asia
- 60% of people born in Southern Asia were from India, 25% from Pakistan and 9% from Bangladesh. The remaining 7% were from Other countries in Southern Asia
- 28% of people born in South-East Asia were born in Malaysia, 25% in the Philippines, and 18% in Singapore. 29% of people born in South-East Asia were from countries in the 'Other South-East Asia' category, not expanded upon in the Census

For other regions, we can see that

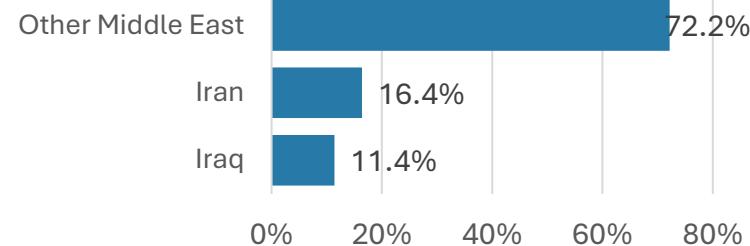
- Of the 15,500 people born in the Americas and the Caribbean, two-thirds were born in North America, with 49% from the United States and 17% from Canada. 24% were born in South America, 5% in Central America and 4% in the Caribbean
- In the 'Antarctica and Oceania' category, 67% were born in Australia, 27% in New Zealand, and 7% in countries listed as 'Other Antarctica and Oceania'

Figure 11: Place of birth – detailed breakdowns for Asia, Africa and the Middle East

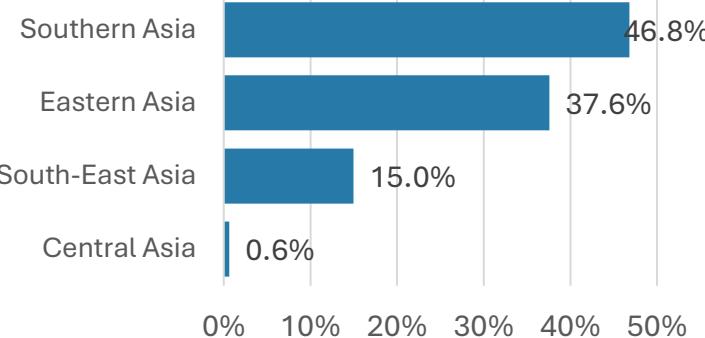
African regions



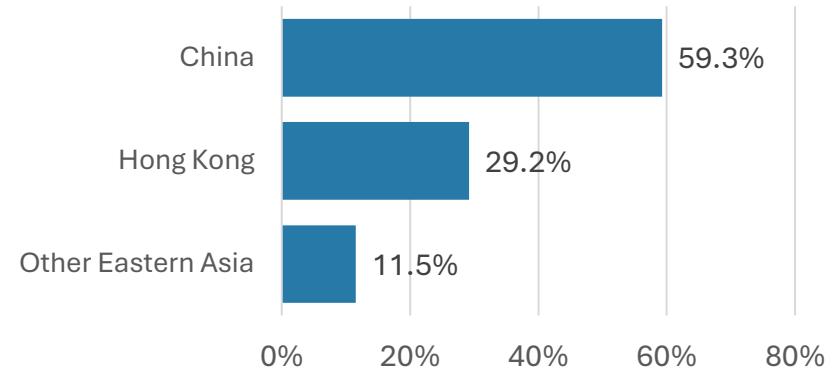
Middle East



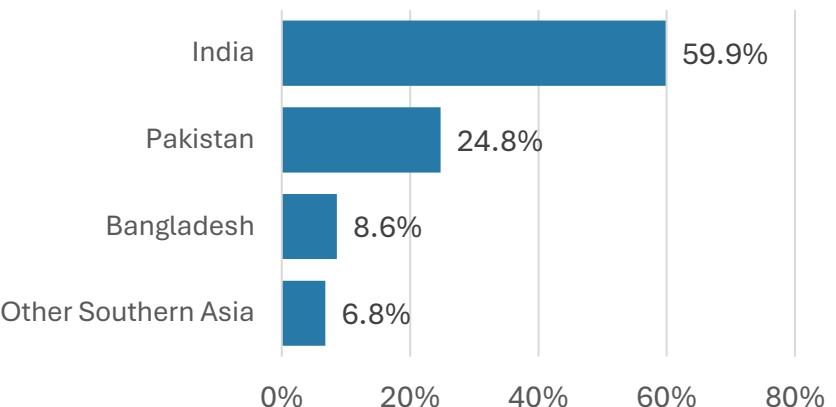
Asian regions



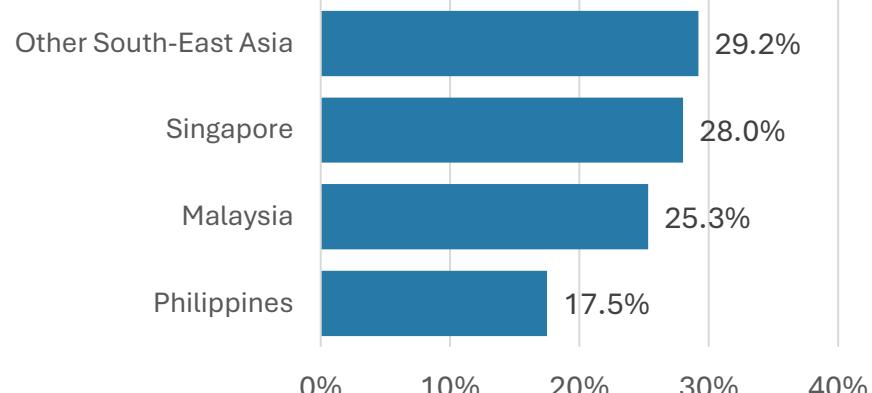
East Asia



South Asia



South East Asia

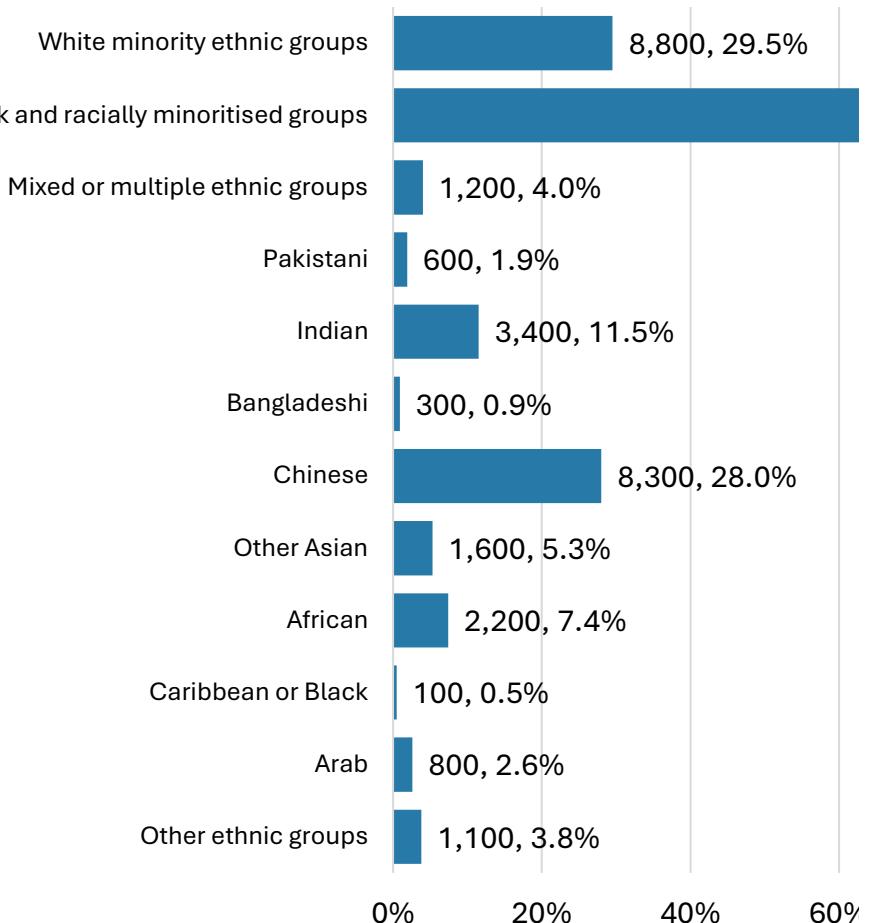


Spotlight: Recent immigration trends

By isolating those who have lived in the UK for less than two years, we can understand the ethnic composition of recent migration into the Edinburgh and the Lothians region.

Our analysis found that, at the time of the 2022 Census, nearly 30,000 people in the region were recent immigrants, 20,000 of whom were from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds (66%). 28% of recent migrants came from Chinese backgrounds, 11% were Indian and 7% had an African ethnic identity.

Figure 12: Ethnic identities of people immigrating to Edinburgh and the Lothians between 2020 and 2022



The vast majority (93%) of Black and racially minoritised migrants lived in Edinburgh, with 1.5%, 1.6% and 3.9% living in East Lothian, Midlothian and West Lothian, respectively.

Table 12: Ethnic composition of recent migrants in Edinburgh and the Lothians (those arriving 2020-22)

Ethnic identity of recent migrants	Edinburgh	East Lothian	Midlothian	West Lothian
White Scottish/British	4.3%	7.4%	7.9%	7.8%
White minority ethnic groups	28.8%	54.4%	28.2%	29.4%
Black and racially minoritised groups	66.9%	38.2%	63.9%	62.8%
Mixed or multiple ethnic groups	3.9%	6.5%	5.8%	4.1%
Pakistani	1.7%	2.6%	2.7%	7.0%
Indian	11.9%	2.7%	4.6%	9.2%
Bangladeshi	1.0%	0.4%	0.4%	0.0%
Chinese	29.1%	8.6%	21.2%	18.4%
Other Asian	5.3%	5.5%	5.4%	4.3%
African	7.0%	7.9%	15.4%	14.2%
Caribbean or Black	0.5%	0.4%	0.8%	0.1%
Arab	2.7%	0.7%	1.7%	1.7%
Other ethnic groups	3.8%	2.9%	6.0%	3.9%

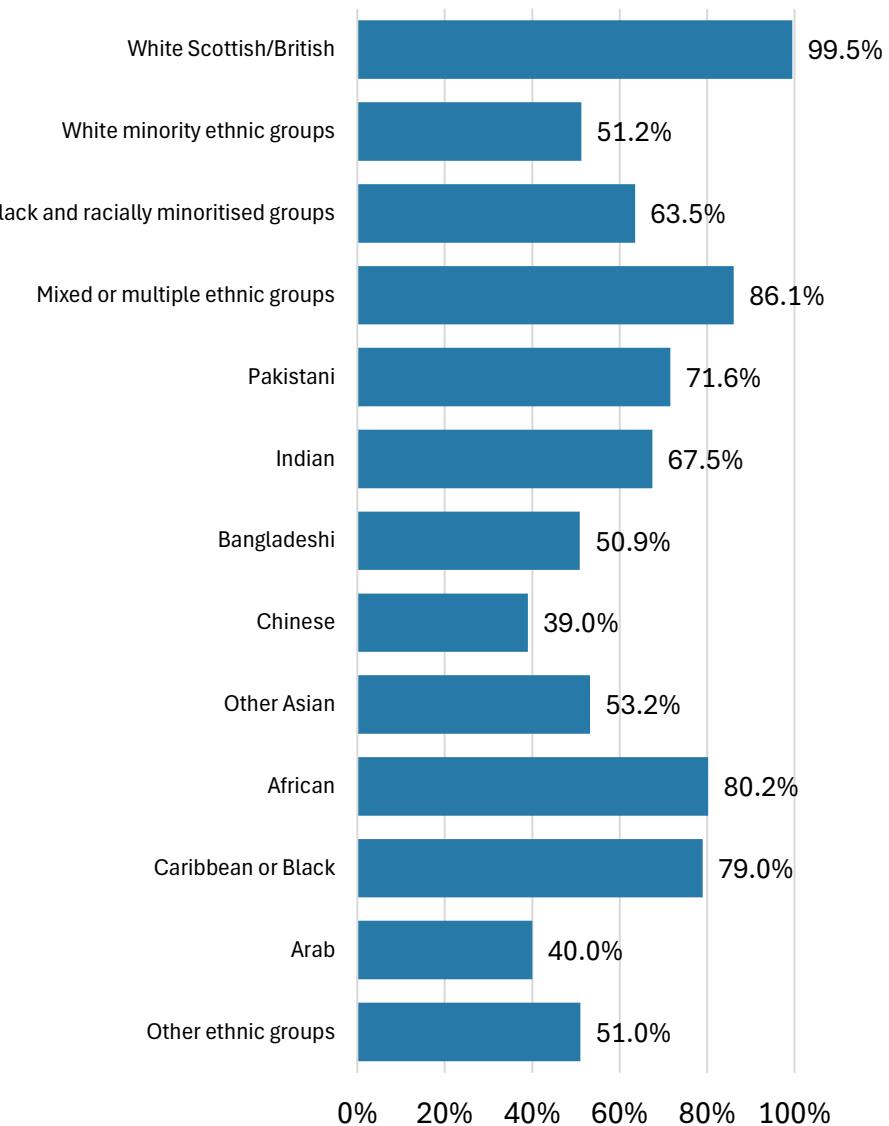
Language

Main language

Data from Scotland's 2022 Census shows that, in the Edinburgh and Lothians, just under half (49%) of people from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds have a main language other than English, Gaelic or Scots, compared to 9% of all people. However, due to the way that National Records Scotland publishes data for languages outside of English, Gaelic, Scots, Polish, BSL and other sign languages, it is not possible to generate findings for other specific languages spoken within Black and racially minoritised communities.

On aggregate, people from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds are more likely to speak English as their main language than white minority ethnic groups; however, these levels vary considerably between ethnic groups. For example, 79% of people from Caribbean or Black backgrounds speak English as their main language, compared to just 39% of Chinese people and 40% of Arab people.

Figure 13: Proportion of people whose main language is English, by ethnic group (Edinburgh and the Lothians)



The likelihood of someone's main language being English also varies with age: 80% of people from Black and racially minoritised groups aged 0-15 speak English as their main language, whereas this is 51% of those aged 65 and over.

For most Black and racially minoritised groups in Edinburgh and Lothians, the proportion of people who speak English as their main language was greater among the youngest generations compared to the oldest generations. For example, 64% of people from Chinese backgrounds under the age of 16 speak English as their main language, compared to just 19% of those over the age of 65. However, for several racially minoritised groups, there is a notable drop in the use of English as a main language for those aged 25-34 and 35-49, perhaps reflecting the age profiles of recent migrants.

Table 13: Proportion of people from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds who speak English as their main language, by age group (Edinburgh and the Lothians)

Age group:	Black and racially minoritised groups	Mixed or multiple ethnic groups	Pakistani	Indian	Bangladeshi	Chinese	Other Asian	African	Caribbean or Black	Arab	Other ethnic groups
0 to 15	61%	80%	95%	89%	71%	74%	64%	70%	86%	77%	52%
16 to 24	58%	62%	90%	87%	78%	74%	31%	65%	82%	85%	50%
25 to 34	46%	61%	77%	70%	68%	53%	46%	46%	80%	73%	30%
35 to 49	43%	57%	75%	65%	58%	31%	42%	42%	77%	73%	30%
50 to 64	59%	59%	85%	57%	76%	23%	35%	48%	75%	90%	37%
65 and over	75%	51%	84%	33%	69%	21%	19%	57%	76%	91%	44%

English proficiency

It is important to note that someone's main language not being English does not mean they cannot speak the language. Data from Scotland's 2022 Census show that there are very small numbers of people in Edinburgh and the Lothians with no skills in English.

Of the nearly 1,600 people in Edinburgh and the Lothians with no skills in English, 740 come from a Black and racially minoritised background, meaning that more than half of those with no skills in English are from white ethnic groups. Less than 1% of people from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds have extremely limited proficiency in English. The likelihood of having no skills in English was greatest among those aged 65 and over, where 5.8% (195 people) had no English proficiency.

There is some notable variation within the Black and racially minoritised category. For Mixed, Indian, African, Other Asian and Pakistani groups, the proportion of people without skills in English falls below 1%. However, the Chinese, Arab and Bangladeshi communities had the largest proportions of people with no English proficiency, with 2.5%, 2.1% and 2.1% of people having no skills in English, respectively.

When considering whether someone can speak, read or write English, a more complex picture is painted. While on aggregate, 86% of people from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds could speak, read and write English, this ranged from 72% to 93% between individual ethnic groups.

Table 14: Proportion of people who speak, read, write or understand English, by ethnic group

Ethnic group	Speaks, reads and writes English	Understands but does not speak, read or write English	Speaks but does not read or write English	Speaks and reads but does not write English	Reads but does not speak or write English	Other combination of skills in English	No skills in English
White Scottish/British	95.6%	0.3%	2.9%	0.7%	0.0%	0.5%	0.1%
White minority ethnic groups	88.6%	1.0%	3.1%	2.0%	0.6%	4.3%	0.5%
Black and racially minoritised groups (combined)	85.8%	0.7%	4.2%	1.7%	0.7%	6.0%	0.8%
Mixed or multiple	89.0%	0.5%	7.1%	1.2%	0.2%	1.7%	0.2%
Pakistani	85.4%	1.4%	5.0%	2.0%	0.5%	4.9%	0.8%
Indian	92.7%	0.4%	3.3%	0.8%	0.3%	2.3%	0.3%
Bangladeshi	72.1%	1.9%	5.3%	2.5%	1.5%	14.7%	2.1%
Chinese	79.4%	0.8%	2.5%	1.9%	1.6%	12.3%	1.4%
Other Asian	86.4%	0.6%	3.1%	2.5%	0.9%	6.0%	0.6%
African	89.4%	0.6%	4.3%	1.6%	0.4%	3.4%	0.3%
Caribbean or Black	89.1%	0.3%	2.6%	2.1%	0.5%	3.8%	1.6%
Arab	75.6%	1.2%	5.0%	2.8%	0.8%	12.5%	2.1%
Other ethnic groups	85.5%	0.7%	3.5%	2.0%	0.8%	6.4%	1.1%

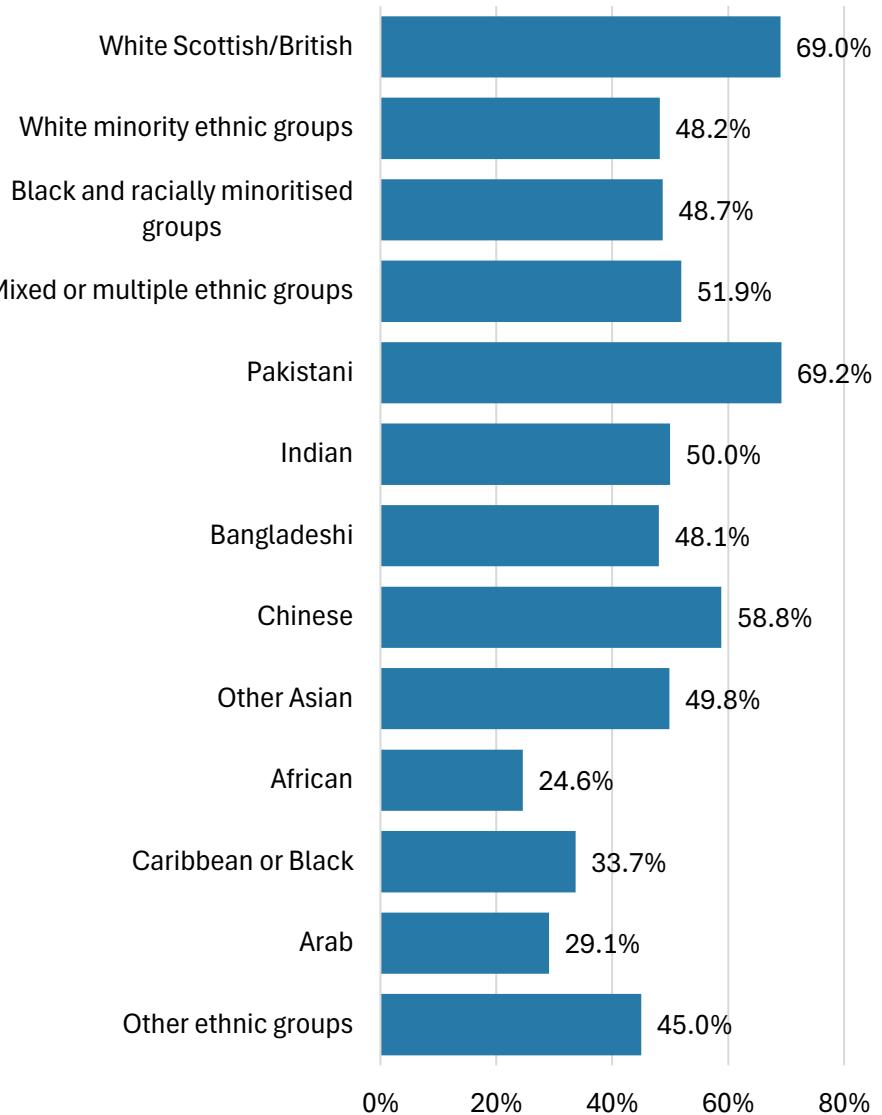
Housing

Homeownership

In Edinburgh and the Lothians, 49% of people from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds live in an owner-occupied home compared to 69% of people from white Scottish/British backgrounds. This means that people from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds are less likely to be homeowners than their white counterparts.

Within the Black and racially minoritised category, people from Pakistani (69% living in owner-occupied housing), Chinese (59%) and mixed or multiple ethnic (50%) backgrounds are most likely to be homeowners, whereas African (25%) and Arab (29%) communities have the lowest levels of homeownership.

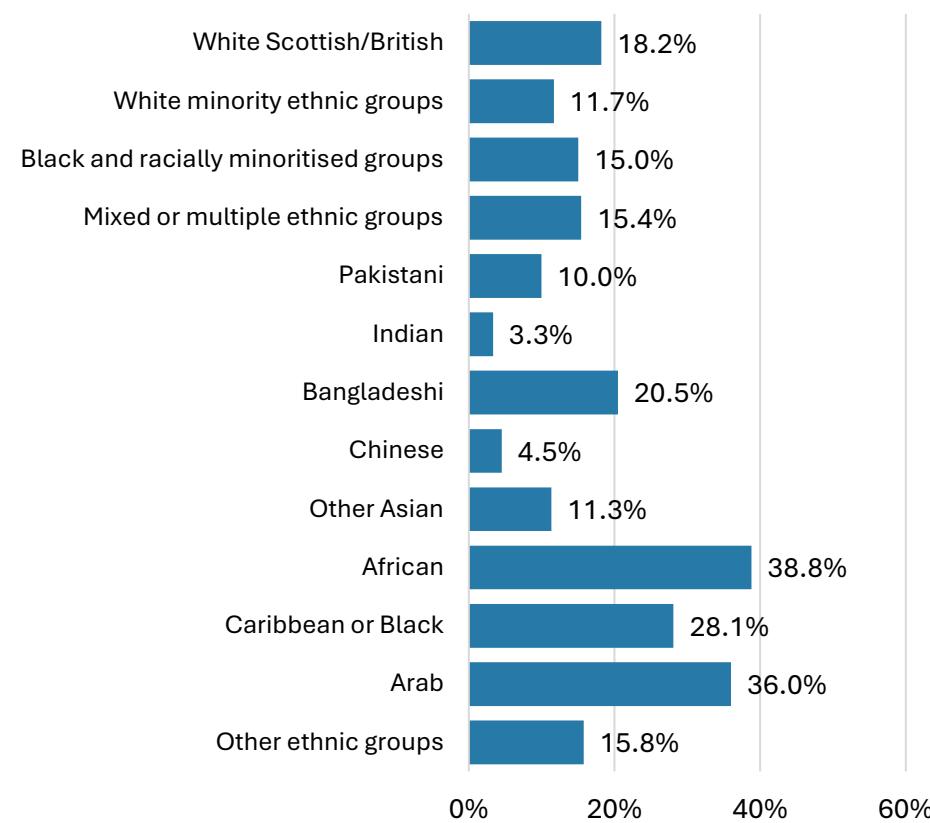
Figure 14: Proportion of people living in owner occupied housing, by ethnic group



Social housing

On average, people from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds in Edinburgh and the Lothians are less likely to live in social housing than people from white Scottish/British backgrounds. However, there is significant variation between communities, with 39% of people from African backgrounds living in a socially rented home compared to just 3% of people from an Indian background.

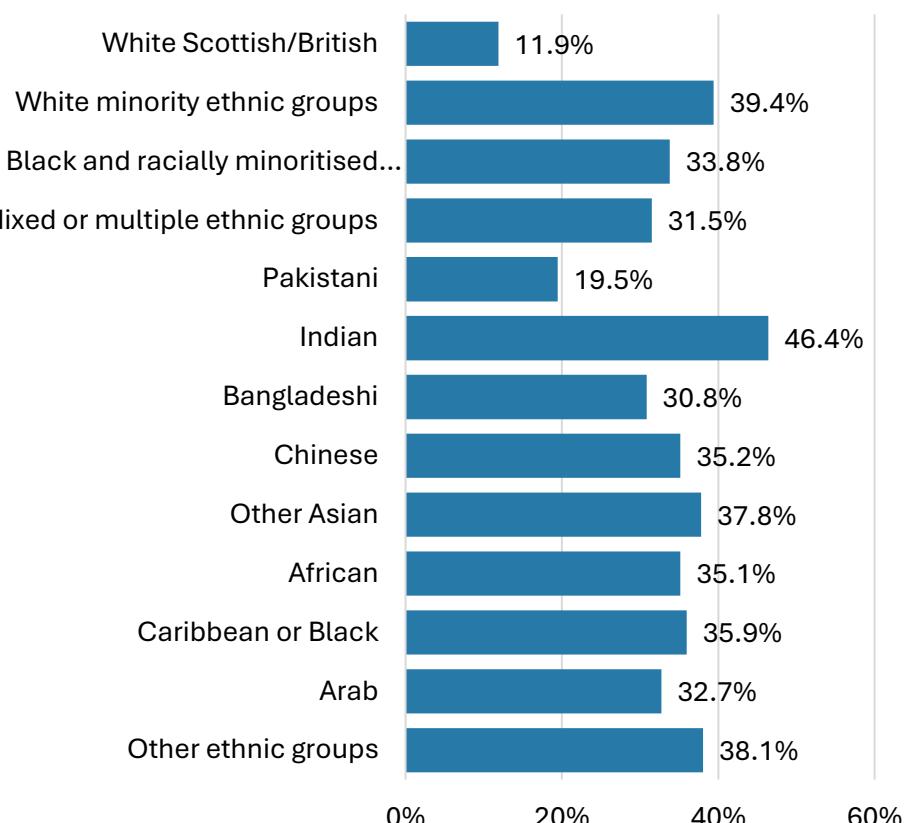
Figure 15: Proportion of people living in social housing, by ethnic group



Private rented sector

On average, Black and racially minoritised groups in Edinburgh and the Lothians are nearly three times as likely to live in private rented housing as people from white Scottish/British backgrounds. However, there is significant variation between communities, with people from Indian backgrounds being the most likely to live in the private rented sector and people from Pakistani backgrounds being the least.

Figure 16: Proportion of people living in private rented housing, by ethnic group

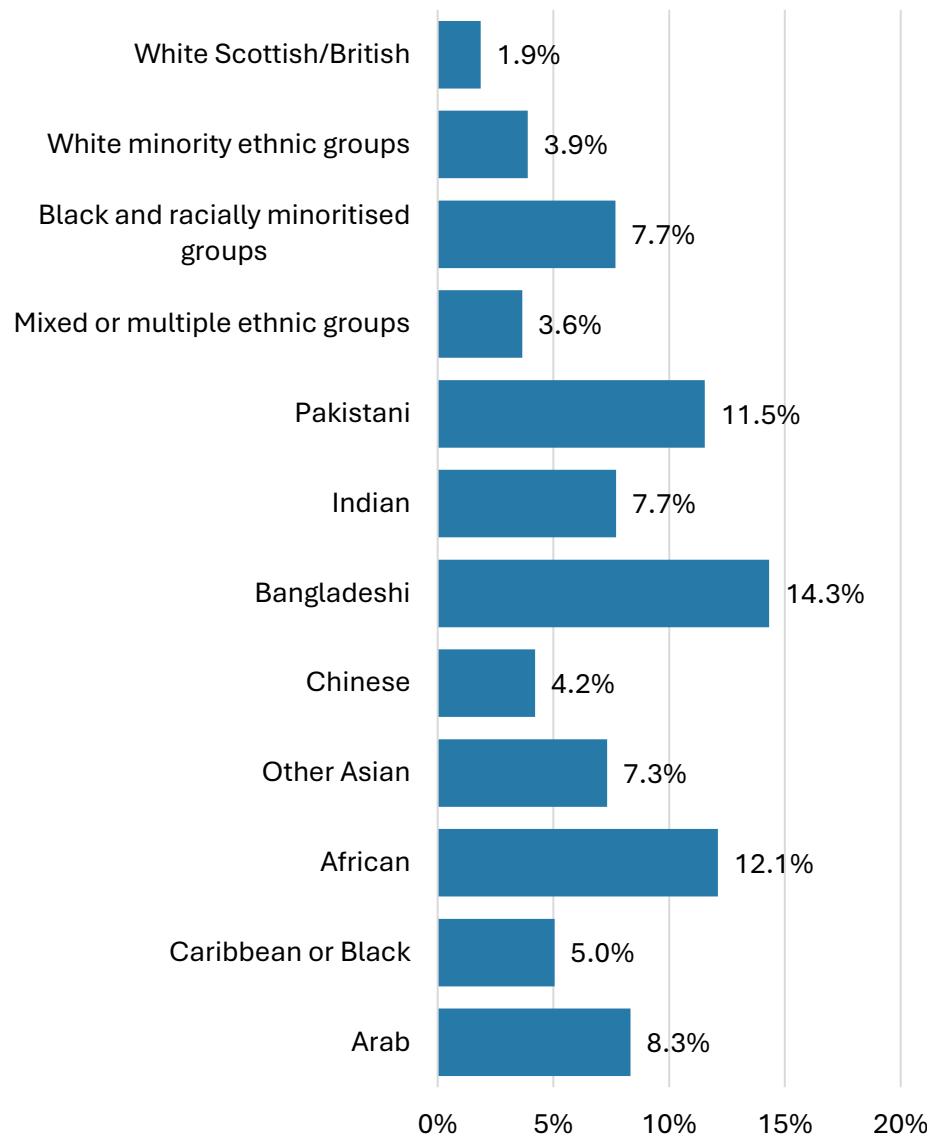


Overcrowding

Data from Scotland's 2022 Census shows that 8% of Black and racially minoritised households in Edinburgh and the Lothians live in an overcrowded home, making them four times as likely to live in an overcrowded property as white Scottish/British households.

This inequality is not experienced equally between communities. While all Black and racially minoritised groups are more likely to live in an overcrowded home than white Scottish/British households, our analysis shows that Bangladeshi, African and Pakistani households are the most likely to experience overcrowding.

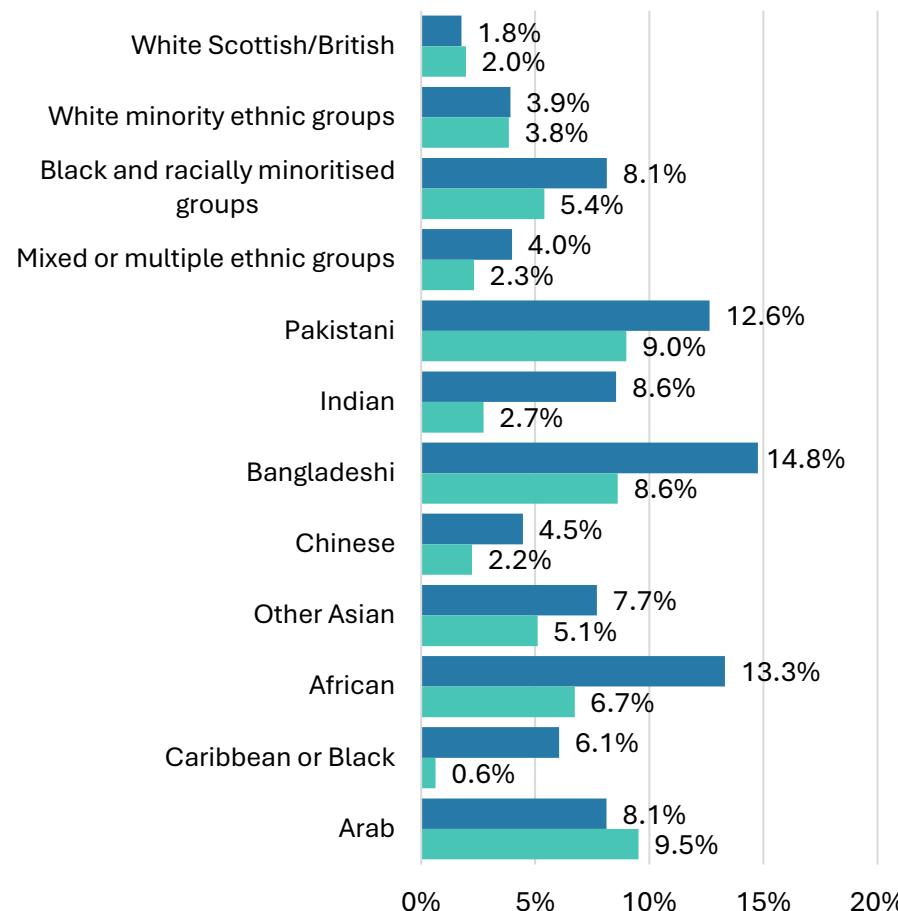
Figure 17: Proportion of households living in an overcrowded home, by ethnicity of Household Reference Person



Key differences can also be seen between households in Edinburgh and those in East Lothian, West Lothian, and Midlothian.

For all Black and racially minoritised groups, we found that rates of overcrowding are higher in Edinburgh than they are in the Lothians; however, for people from white Scottish/British backgrounds, the opposite is true.

Figure 18: Proportion of households experiencing overcrowding in Edinburgh compared to the Lothians

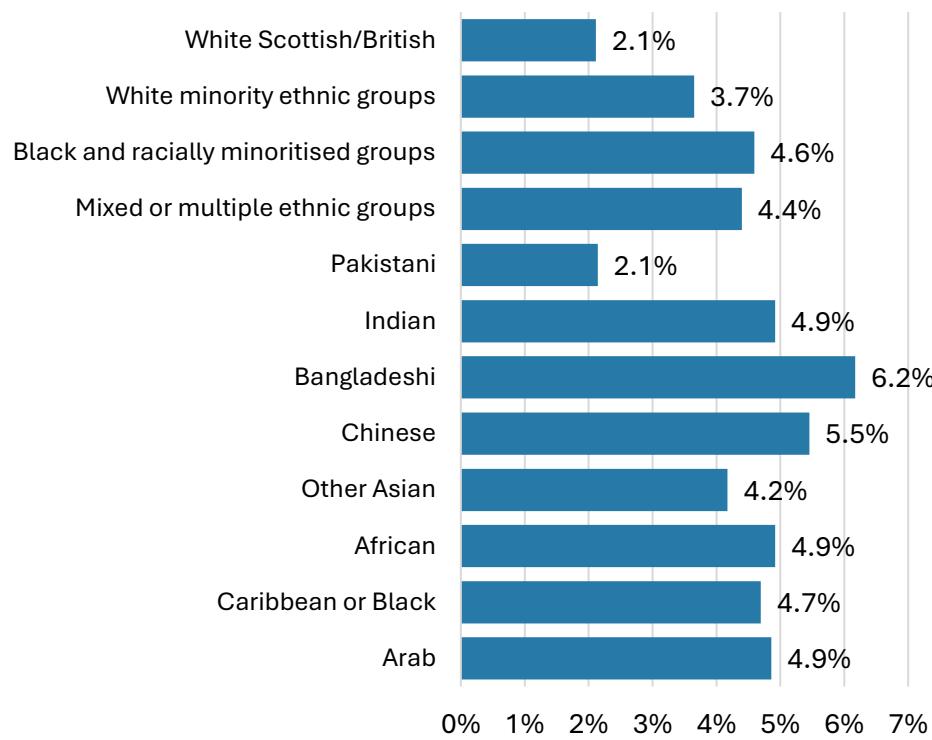


Access to central heating

Data from Scotland's 2022 Census shows that nearly 5% of Black and racially minoritised households in Edinburgh and the Lothians live in a home with no form of central heating, compared to just 2% of white Scottish/British households.

Bangladeshi households are the most likely to lack access to central heating, with 6.2% of households having no form of central heating in their home. This is followed by Chinese, African and Indian households, where 5.5%, 4.9% and 4.9% have no access to central heating, respectively.

Figure 19: Proportion of households without central heating, by ethnicity of Household Reference Person



This measure tells us that Black and racially minoritised households in Edinburgh and the Lothians experience higher rates of fuel poverty than white Scottish/British households, even before the affordability of heating is considered. Clear inequalities can also be observed between households in Edinburgh and those living in East Lothian, West Lothian, and Midlothian. Across all ethnic groups, those living in Edinburgh are less likely to have access to central heating.

Table 15: Proportion of households living in a home without any form of central heating, by ethnicity

Ethnicity of household reference person	Edinburgh	The Lothians
White Scottish/British	2.9%	1.2%
White minority ethnic groups	4.2%	1.9%
Black and racially minoritised groups	5.1%	2.2%
Mixed or multiple ethnic groups	5.1%	1.7%
Pakistani	2.2%	2.1%
Indian	5.3%	2.6%
Bangladeshi	6.5%	1.7%
Chinese	5.9%	1.9%
Other Asian	4.6%	1.8%
African	5.4%	3.0%
Caribbean or Black	5.5%	1.3%
Arab	5.3%	2.2%

Employment

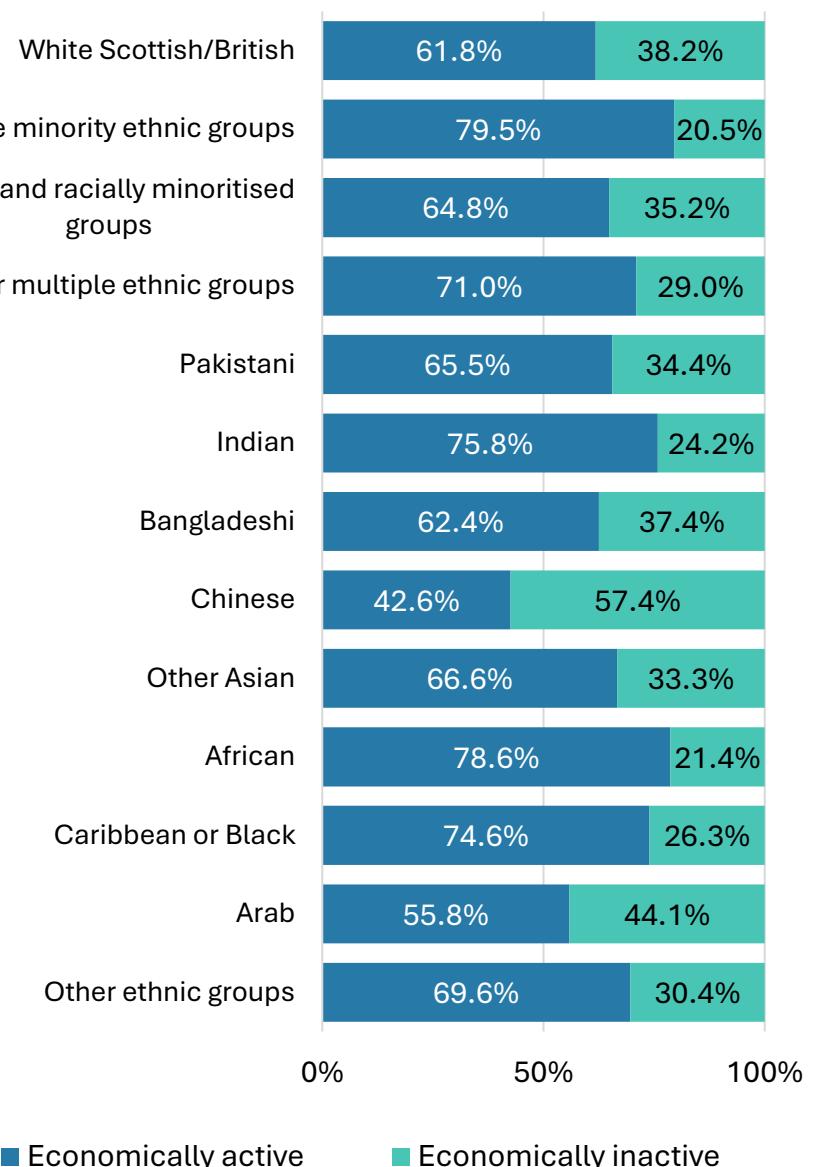
Economic activity

Economic activity data relates to whether someone is an active participant in the labour market or not, meaning they are aged 16 and over and working or were looking for work at the time of the census.

Our analysis found that 65% of adults from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds are economically active, compared to 62% of adults from a white Scottish/British background.

Within the Black and racially minoritised category, African adults had the highest levels of economic activity (79%), followed by adults from Indian (76%) and Caribbean or Black backgrounds (75%).

Figure 20: Economic activity in Edinburgh and the Lothians, by ethnic group



For Black and racially minoritised adults in Edinburgh and the Lothians, the leading reason for being economically inactive is being a full-time student (58% of economically inactive adults), followed by being responsible for looking after one's home or family (17%). By comparison, the leading reason for white Scottish/British adults being economically inactive is being retired (63% of economically inactive adults).

Table 16: Reasons for economic inactivity in Edinburgh and the Lothians, by ethnic group

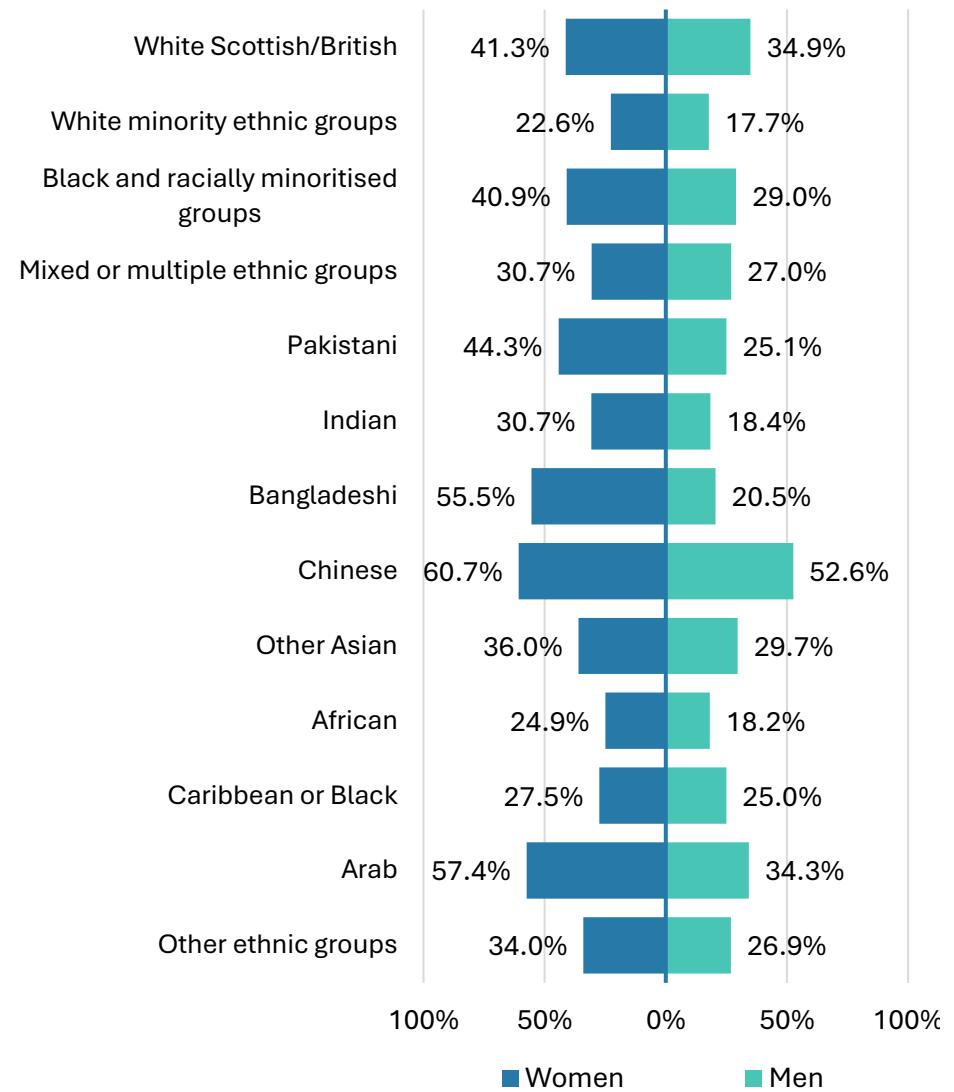
Ethnic group	Retired	Full-time student	Looking after home or family	Long-term sick or disabled	Other
White Scottish/British	63.4%	11.9%	6.9%	12.3%	5.6%
White minority ethnic groups	25.6%	47.9%	12.6%	7.1%	6.8%
Black and racially minoritised groups	12.5%	58.2%	16.6%	5.7%	7.0%
Mixed or multiple ethnic groups	12.4%	61.0%	9.6%	9.8%	7.2%
Pakistani	20.0%	29.0%	29.7%	10.9%	10.4%
Indian	12.3%	53.4%	24.2%	3.9%	6.3%
Bangladeshi	9.1%	32.3%	39.6%	10.3%	8.8%
Chinese	10.0%	76.7%	9.0%	1.0%	3.2%

Table 16: Reasons for economic inactivity in Edinburgh and the Lothians, by ethnic group

Ethnic group	Retired	Full-time student	Looking after home or family	Long-term sick or disabled	Other
Other Asian	10.2%	59.2%	18.9%	4.0%	7.7%
African	10.1%	49.6%	16.8%	10.7%	12.8%
Caribbean or Black	21.6%	34.3%	14.7%	15.7%	13.7%
Arab	10.5%	53.2%	21.5%	7.3%	7.5%
Other ethnic groups	18.8%	46.7%	16.4%	6.5%	11.5%

These statistics can also be disaggregated by sex, revealing that for all ethnic groups, women are more likely to be economically inactive than men. The gap between men and women is largest in the Bangladeshi community, where women are nearly 3 times as likely to be economically inactive than their male counterparts. In contrast, the gap was narrowest among people from Caribbean or Black and mixed or multiple ethnic backgrounds.

Figure 21: Proportion of men and women who are economically inactive, by ethnic group (Edinburgh and the Lothians)

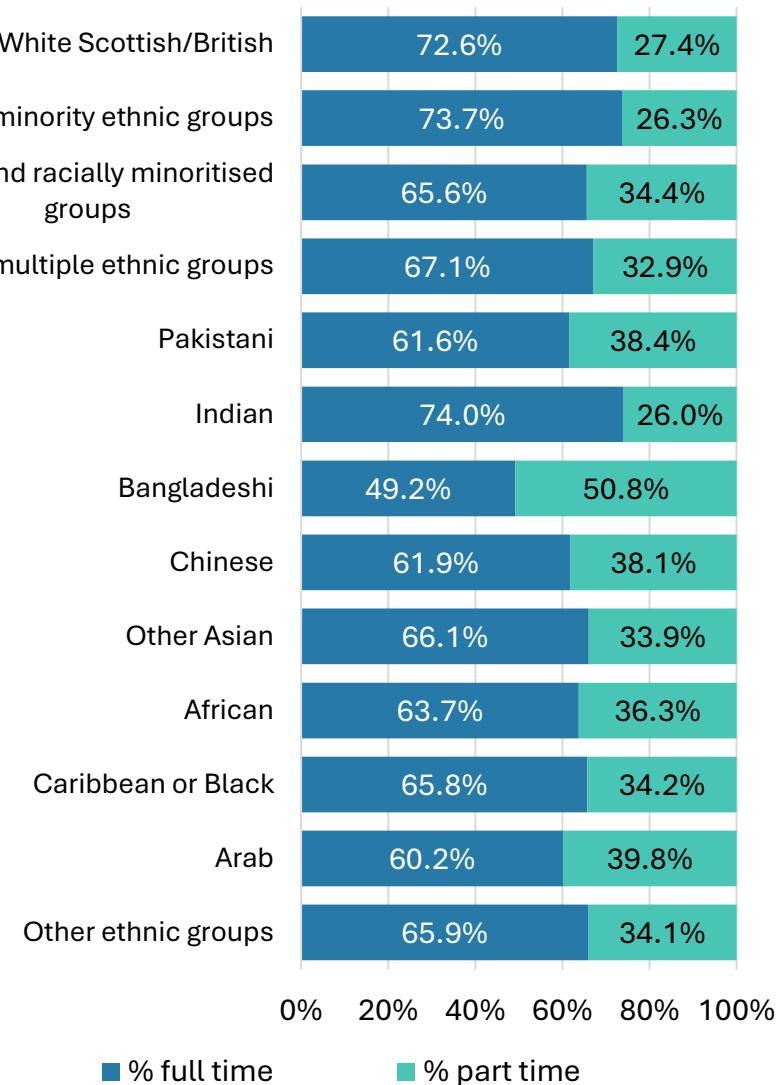


Full-time and part-time employment

Data from the 2022 Census shows that 60% of adults from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds are in work, mirroring the levels for the white Scottish/British group.

Across Edinburgh and the Lothians, 66% of workers from a Black and racially minoritised background work in full-time employment, compared to 73% of white Scottish/British workers. Some communities have higher rates of full-time employment than others, with workers from Indian, Other Asian, and mixed or multiple ethnic backgrounds being the most likely to work full-time, and workers from a Bangladeshi background the least likely.

Figure 22: Proportion of workers in full or part time employment, by ethnic group

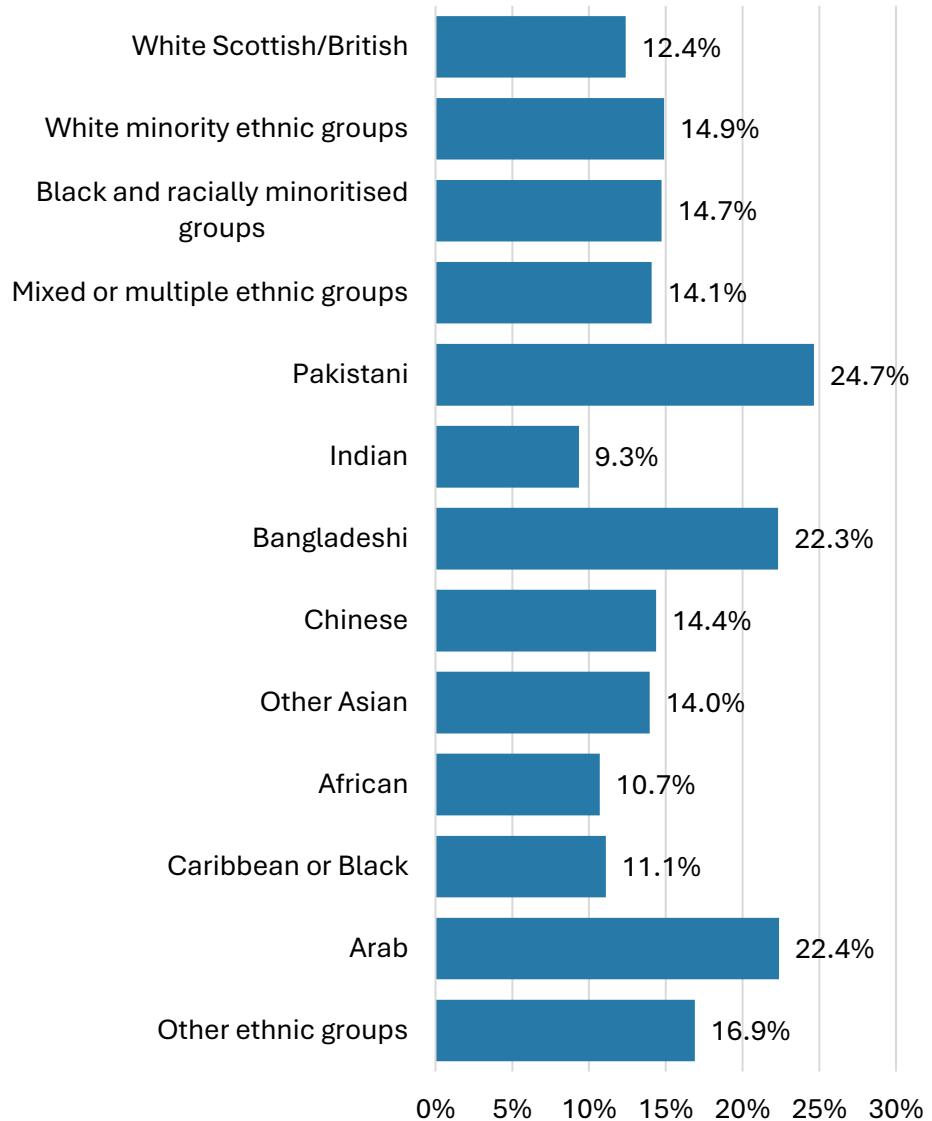


Self-employment

Black and racially minoritised workers in Edinburgh and the Lothians have higher levels of self-employment than white Scottish/British workers.

Our analysis of the 2022 Census found that 15% of workers from black and racially minoritised backgrounds are self-employed, compared to around 12% of white Scottish/British workers. Within the Black and racially minoritised category, workers from a Pakistani background have the highest rates of self-employment (25%), whilst workers from an Indian background are the least likely to be self-employed (9%).

Figure 23: Proportion of workers in self- employment, by ethnic group



Occupational seniority

In Edinburgh and the Lothians, people from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds are less likely to be employed in managerial and senior roles than people from white Scottish/British backgrounds.

Our analysis of Scottish Census data found that just 3.9% of managers, directors and senior officials in Edinburgh and the Lothians come from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds, despite comprising 11.4% of the working-age population.

Within the Black and racially minoritised category, some ethnic groups have higher levels of representation as managers, directors and senior leaders than others. For example, 5% of Pakistani workers are employed in managerial roles, whereas this falls to less than 3% for people from African and Arab backgrounds.

Table 17: Representation of Black and racially minoritised groups as managers, directors and senior officials in Edinburgh and the Lothians, 2022

Ethnic group	% employed as managers, directors and senior officials	% of senior leaders in the Edinburgh and the Lothians
White Scottish/British	6.3%	83.9%
White minority ethnic groups	5.5%	9.3%
Black and racially minoritised groups	3.9%	6.8%
Mixed or multiple ethnic groups	3.5%	1.1%

Table 17: Representation of Black and racially minoritised groups as managers, directors and senior officials in Edinburgh and the Lothians, 2022

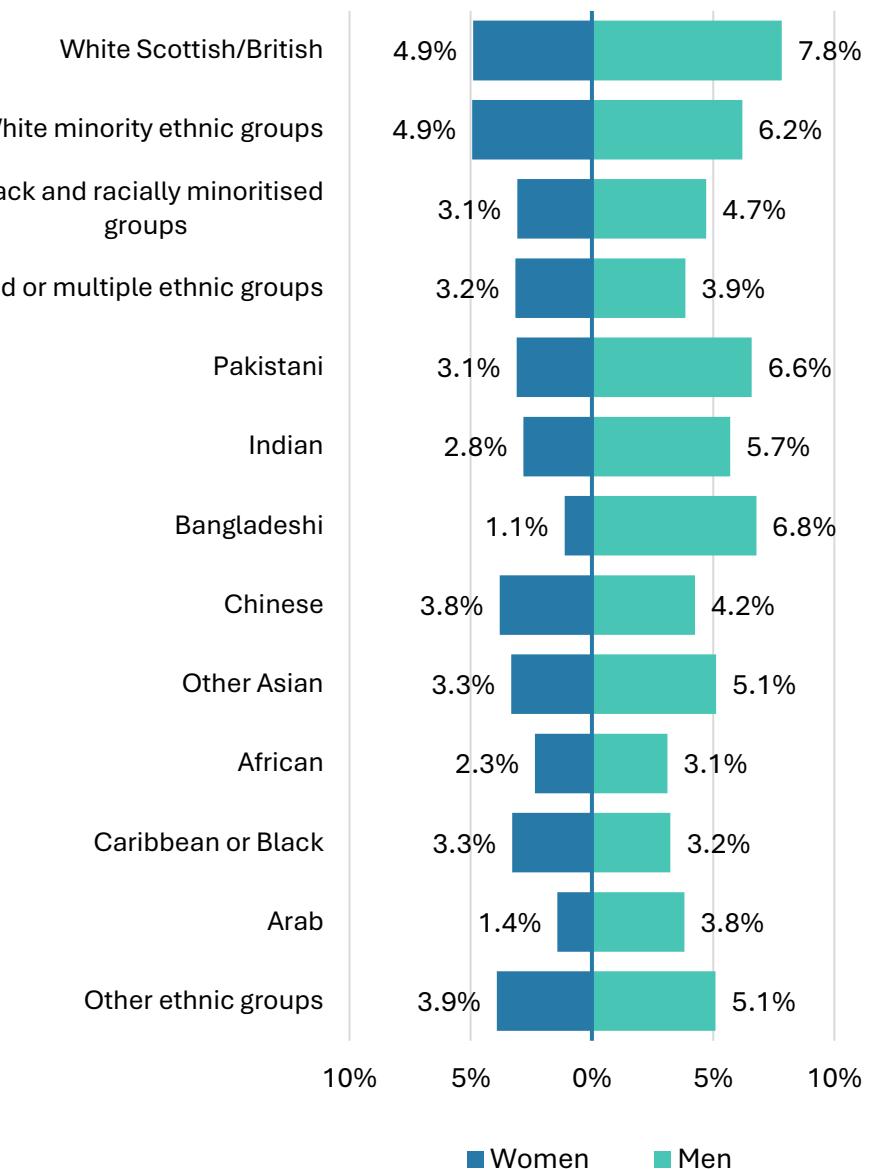
Ethnic group	% employed as managers, directors and senior officials	% of senior leaders in the Edinburgh and the Lothians
Pakistani	4.9%	1.0%
Indian	4.3%	1.2%
Bangladeshi	4.0%	0.2%
Chinese	4.0%	1.2%
Other Asian	4.1%	0.6%
African	2.7%	0.6%
Caribbean or Black	3.0%	0.1%
Arab	2.8%	0.3%
Other ethnic groups	4.5%	0.6%

These statistics can also be disaggregated by sex, revealing a stark gap in senior leadership representation between men and women. For every ethnic group, women were likely to be employed as managers, directors and senior officials than their male counterparts; however, the gap between men and women is wider for some ethnic groups than others.

For example, for the white Scottish/British group, men are 60% more likely to be employed in managerial and senior roles than women. The gap narrows slightly among Black and racially minoritised groups; however, men remain 53% more likely to be employed in senior roles than women.

The widest gap between men and women is observed in the Bangladeshi community, where men are more than six times as likely to be in senior positions as women counterparts. Although, significant gaps are also seen in the Arab, Pakistani and Indian communities, where men are more than twice as likely to be senior leaders than women.

Figure 24: Proportion of men and women employed as managers, directors and senior officials, by ethnic group



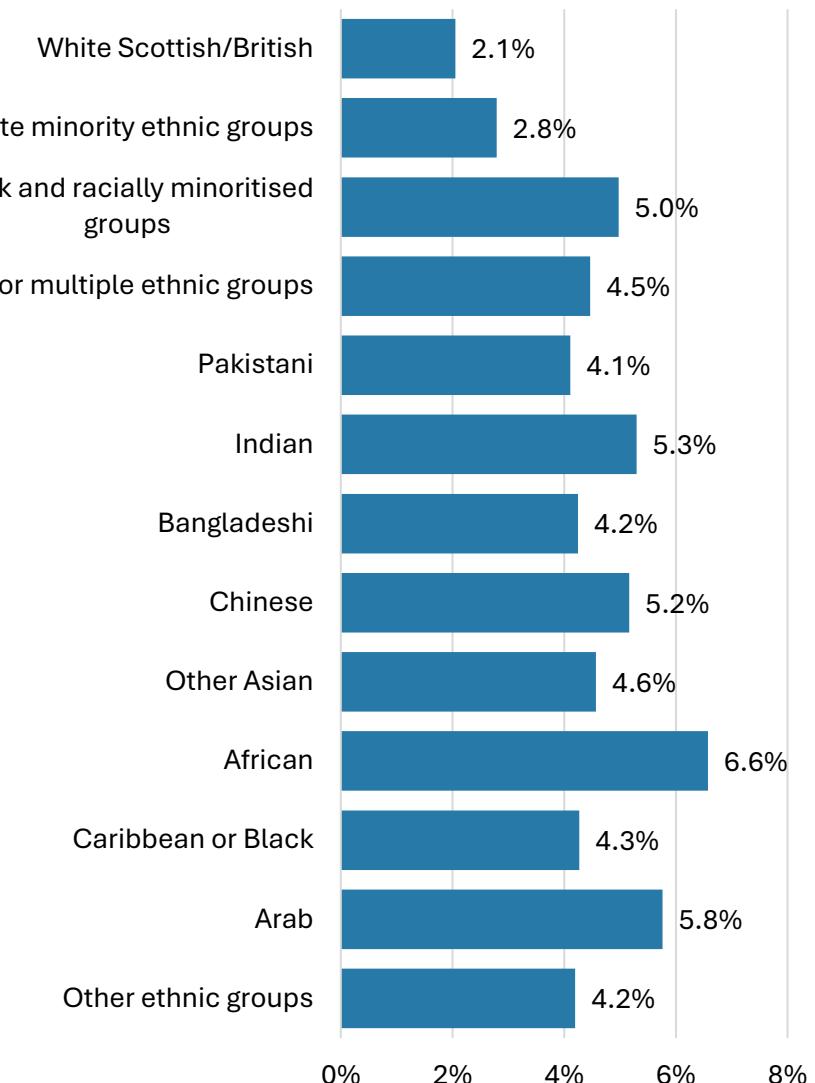
Unemployment

Data from Scotland's 2022 Census suggests that people from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds experience significantly higher rates of unemployment than people from white Scottish/British backgrounds.

We found that approximately 2% of people aged 16 and over in the white Scottish/British group were unemployed, compared to 5% of people from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds.

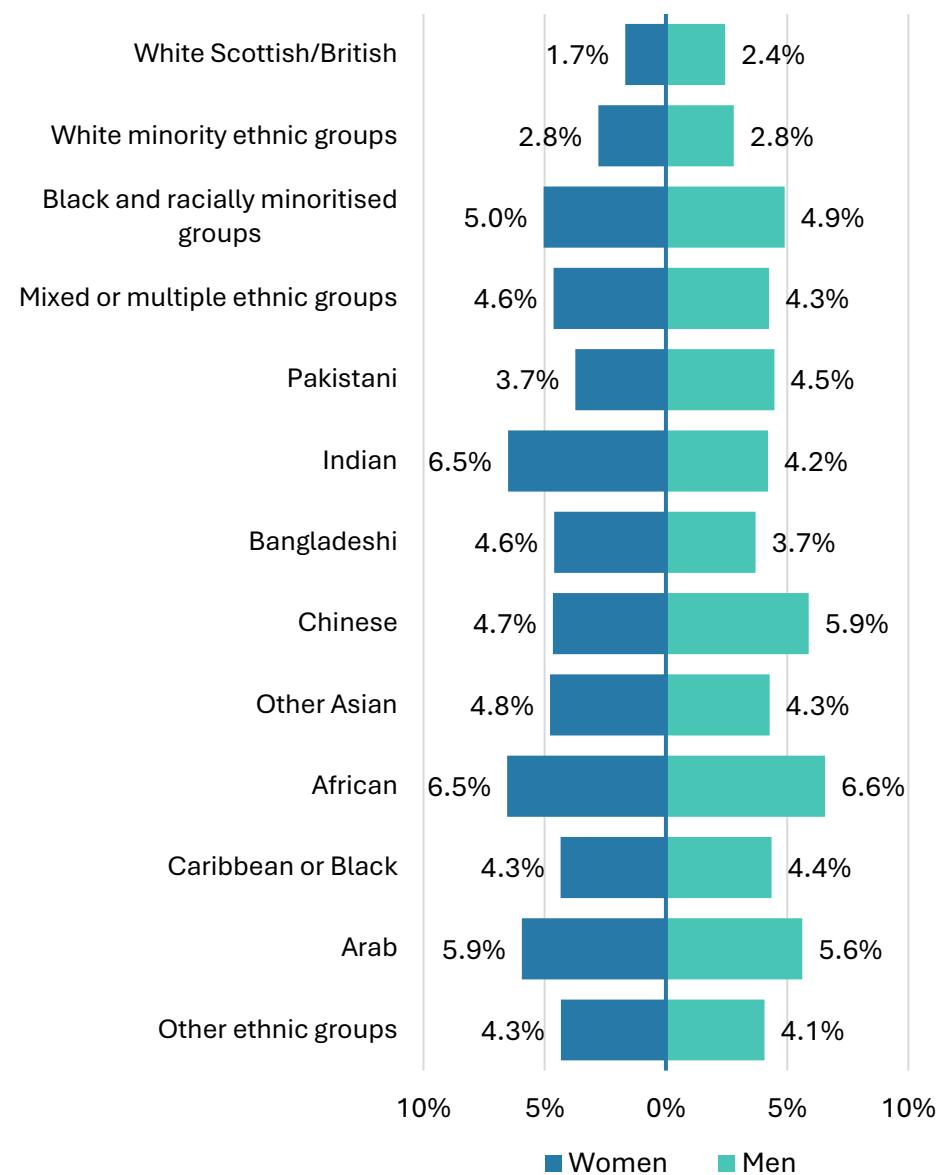
Some ethnic groups experience higher rates of unemployment than others, with adults from African and Arab backgrounds being the most likely to be unemployed, and those from Pakistani and Bangladeshi backgrounds being the least.

Figure 25: Proportion of adults unemployed at the time of the 2022 Census, by ethnic group (Edinburgh and the Lothians)



These statistics can also be disaggregated by sex, revealing that, on aggregate, men and women from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds experience similar rates of unemployment. However, within the Black and racially minoritised category, there is significant variation, with women from Indian backgrounds being 55% more likely to be unemployed than Indian men, whereas Chinese men experience higher rates of unemployment than Chinese women.

Figure 26: Proportion of men and women unemployed at the time of the 2022 Census, by ethnic group



Industry

The Census also captures the representation of different ethnic groups across key industries, revealing that some groups are concentrated in particular types of work.

For example, 40% of people from a Bangladeshi background and 34% from a Pakistani background work in 'Distribution, Hotels and Restaurants' compared to 17% of the white Scottish/British group. Similarly, 43% of African workers are employed in 'Public administration, education and health', compared to 33% of people from a white Scottish/British background. 23% of Indian workers were categorised into the transport and communications sector, more than triple the proportion of the white Scottish/British group (7%).

Table 18: Proportion of each ethnic group working across key industries

Industry	White Scottish/ British	White minority ethnic groups	Black and racially minoritised groups	Mixed or multiple	Pakistani	Indian	Bangladeshi	Chinese	Other Asian	African	Caribbean or Black	Arab	Other ethnic groups
Agriculture, energy and water	3%	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%
Manufacturing	7%	6%	4%	4%	5%	4%	4%	5%	5%	3%	5%	5%	5%
Construction	6%	4%	2%	3%	2%	1%	1%	1%	2%	2%	4%	3%	2%
Distribution, hotels and restaurants	17%	23%	26%	25%	34%	20%	40%	32%	29%	16%	24%	24%	24%
Transport and communication	7%	9%	11%	8%	14%	23%	14%	7%	6%	8%	6%	13%	10%
Financial, real estate, professional and administrative activities	19%	21%	20%	20%	19%	22%	15%	21%	16%	21%	21%	19%	19%
Public administration, education and health	33%	28%	29%	29%	21%	25%	21%	26%	34%	43%	32%	28%	30%
Other	7%	7%	6%	9%	5%	4%	3%	6%	7%	5%	7%	6%	8%

Looking at a greater level of detail for industry, we can see that 'Accommodation and Food Service' accounts for 15% of employment in Edinburgh and the Lothians' Black and racially minoritised population. This is followed by work in health and social care settings, accounting for 13% of employment, and 'Wholesale and Retail trade; Repair of Motor Vehicles and Motorcycles' (11%).

When comparing levels of representation to the white Scottish/British group, we can see that people from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds are more than twice as likely to work in 'Accommodation and Food Service Activities' and 'Information and Communication'.

A full breakdown of the top industries worked by Black and racially minoritised groups is provided below:

Table 19: Top industries for Black and racially minoritised people in Edinburgh and the Lothians

Industry	% Per cent	# Count	Ratio to White Scottish / British
Accommodation and Food Service Activities	8,581	15%	2.31
Human Health and Social Work Activities	7,782	13%	0.96
Wholesale and Retail trade; Repair of Motor Vehicles and Motorcycles	6,369	11%	1.00
Education	5,417	9%	0.99
Professional Scientific and Technical Activities	4,460	8%	1.15
Financial and Insurance Activities	4,172	7%	0.99
Information and Communication	4,142	7%	2.27
Public Administration and Defence; Compulsory Social Security	3,612	6%	0.63
Manufacturing	2,557	4%	0.66
Administrative and Support Service Activities	2,523	4%	0.99
Transport and Storage	2,445	4%	0.98
Other Service Activities	2,085	4%	1.00

Table 19: Top industries for Black and racially minoritised people in Edinburgh and the Lothians

Industry	% Per cent	# Count	Ratio to White Scottish / British
Arts, Entertainment and Recreation	1,260	2%	0.71
Construction	1,131	2%	0.32
Real Estate Activities	406	1%	0.69
Electricity, Gas, Steam and Air Conditioning Supply	202	0%	0.53
Mining and Quarrying	190	0%	0.60
Activities of Extra-Territorial Organisations and Bodies	138	0%	3.04
Water Supply; Sewage; Waste Management and Remediation activities	136	0%	0.42
Agriculture; Forestry; Fishing	132	0%	0.30
Activities of Household as Employers; Undifferentiated Goods – and Services – Producing Activities of Households for Own Use	119	0%	1.30

This, of course, varies between ethnic groups. For example, for Asian groups, the most common industry to be employed in was ‘Wholesale and Retail trade; Repair of Motor Vehicles and Motorcycles’, while African and Caribbean or Black groups and ‘Mixed or multiple ethnic groups’ were most likely to work in the health and social care sector.

A full breakdown of the top ten industries worked by each Black and racially minoritised group is provided overleaf:

Table 20: Ten largest industries for Black and racially minoritised workers in Edinburgh and the Lothians, by ethnic group

	Mixed or multiple	Asian	African	Caribbean or Black	Other ethnic groups	All people
1	15% - Accommodation and Food Service Activities	14% - Human Health and Social Work Activities	18% - Wholesale and Retail trade; Repair of Motor Vehicles and Motorcycles	23% - Human Health and Social Work Activities	19% - Human Health and Social Work Activities	14% - Accommodation and Food Service Activities
2	13% - Human Health and Social Work Activities	13% - Accommodation and Food Service Activities	17% - Accommodation and Food Service Activities	10% - Administrative and Support Service Activities	9% - Wholesale and Retail trade; Repair of Motor Vehicles and Motorcycles	13% - Human Health and Social Work Activities
3	11% - Wholesale and Retail trade; Repair of Motor Vehicles and Motorcycles	12% - Wholesale and Retail trade; Repair of Motor Vehicles and Motorcycles	12% - Human Health and Social Work Activities	9% - Public Administration and Defence; Compulsory Social Security	9% - Accommodation and Food Service Activities	13% - Wholesale and Retail trade; Repair of Motor Vehicles and Motorcycles
4	9% - Education	8% - Education	7% - Education	9% - Wholesale and Retail trade; Repair of Motor Vehicles and Motorcycles	8% - Public Administration and Defence; Compulsory Social Security	9% - Education
5	8% - Professional Scientific and Technical Activities	7% - Public Administration and Defence; Compulsory Social Security	6% - Professional Scientific and Technical Activities	9% - Accommodation and Food Service Activities	7% - Education	7% - Professional Scientific and Technical Activities
6	7% - Financial and Insurance Activities	7% - Professional Scientific and Technical Activities	6% - Financial and Insurance Activities	7% - Transport and Storage	7% - Manufacturing	6% - Manufacturing
7	7% - Information and Communication	5% - Manufacturing	6% - Transport and Storage	6% - Manufacturing	6% - Administrative and Support Service Activities	6% - Other Service Activities
8	6% - Public Administration and Defence; Compulsory Social Security	5% - Administrative and Support Service Activities	5% - Public Administration and Defence; Compulsory Social Security	5% - Professional Scientific and Technical Activities	5% - Transport and Storage	6% - Transport and Storage
9	4% - Manufacturing	5% - Information and Communication	5% - Information and Communication	5% - Financial and Insurance Activities	4% - Financial and Insurance Activities	5% - Public Administration and Defence; Compulsory Social Security
10	4% - Administrative and Support Service Activities	4% - Arts, Entertainment and Recreation	4% - Manufacturing	4% - Education	4% - Professional Scientific and Technical Activities	5% - Administrative and Support Service Activities

Occupation

Scotland's Census also captures how workers from different ethnic groups are distributed across different types of roles.

For example, across Edinburgh and the Lothians, we found that people from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds are more likely to work in Sales and Customer Service than white Scottish/British people - 10% compared to 8%. For the Pakistani group, this rose to 22%. The most prevalent recorded occupation for Black and racially minoritised workers in Edinburgh and the Lothians was 'Elementary Administration and Service', which accounted for 13% of the Black and racially minoritised workforce.

Table 21: Ten most recorded occupations for minority ethnic workers in Edinburgh and the Lothians, by ethnic group

Rank	Black and racially minoritised groups	Mixed or multiple	Pakistani	Indian	Bangladeshi	Chinese	Other Asian	African	Caribbean or Black	Arab	Other ethnic groups
1	13% - Elementary Administration and Service	15% - Elementary Administration and Service	19% - Sales	23% - Science, Research, Engineering and Technology Professionals	18% - Elementary Administration and Service	14% - Elementary Administration and Service	17% - Elementary Administration and Service	21% - Caring Personal Service	17% - Elementary Administration and Service	13% - Elementary Administration and Service	13% - Elementary Administration and Service
2	10% - Science, Research, Engineering and Technology Professionals	9% - Business, Media and Public Service Professionals	9% - Transport and Mobile machine Drivers and Operatives	11% - Business, Media and Public Service Professionals	13% - Transport and Mobile machine Drivers and Operatives	9% - Science, Research, Engineering and Technology Professionals	8% - Caring Personal Service	15% - Elementary Administration and Service	9% - Caring Personal Service	10% - Science, Research, Engineering and Technology Professionals	10% - Science, Research, Engineering and Technology Professionals
3	8% - Business, Media and Public Service Professionals	8% - Science, Research, Engineering and Technology Professionals	8% - Administrative	10% - Elementary Administration and Service	9% - Sales	8% - Business, Media and Public Service Professionals	8% - Health Professionals	8% - Business, Media and Public Service Professionals	7% - Science, Research, Engineering and Technology Professionals	7% - Teaching and Educational Professionals	8% - Business, Media and Public Service Professionals
4	8% - Sales	7% - Sales	8% - Elementary Administration and Service	6% - Health Professionals	8% - Textiles, Printing and Other Skilled Trades	8% - Teaching and Educational Professionals	8% - Science, Research, Engineering and Technology Professionals	7% - Health Professionals	7% - Sales	7% - Transport and Mobile machine Drivers and Operatives	8% - Teaching and Educational Professionals
5	7% - Caring Personal Service	6% - Business and Public Service Associate Professionals	6% - Business, Media and Public Service Professionals	6% - Sales	6% - Administrative	7% - Sales	6% - Textiles, Printing and Other Skilled Trades	5% - Science, Research, Engineering and Technology Professionals	6% - Business, Media and Public Service Professionals	6% - Business, Media and Public Service Professionals	6% - Sales
6	6% - Administrative	6% - Administrative	5% - Science, Research, Engineering and Technology Professionals	6% - Administrative	6% - Caring Personal Service	7% - Administrative	6% - Sales	5% - Administrative	6% - Administrative	6% - Health Professionals	5% - Business and Public Service Associate Professionals

Table 21: Ten most recorded occupations for minority ethnic workers in Edinburgh and the Lothians, by ethnic group

Rank	Black and racially minoritised groups	Mixed or multiple	Pakistani	Indian	Bangladeshi	Chinese	Other Asian	African	Caribbean or Black	Arab	Other ethnic groups
7	6% - Health Professionals	5% - Teaching and Educational Professionals	5% - Business and Public Service Associate Professionals	5% - Business and Public Service Associate Professionals	5% - Business, Media and Public Service Professionals	7% - Textiles, Printing and Other Skilled Trades	6% - Business, Media and Public Service Professionals	5% - Business and Public Service Associate Professionals	6% - Health Professionals	5% - Textiles, Printing and Other Skilled Trades	5% - Caring Personal Service
8	5% - Business and Public Service Associate Professionals	5% - Caring Personal Service	5% - Corporate Managers and Directors	5% - Caring Personal Service	5% - Other Managers and Proprietors	6% - Business and Public Service Associate Professionals	5% - Administrative	5% - Business and Public Service Associate Professionals	5% - Business and Public Service Associate Professionals	5% - Sales	5% - Administrative
9	5% - Teaching and Educational Professionals	5% - Health Professionals	5% - Health Professionals	4% - Corporate Managers and Directors	5% - Science, Research, Engineering and Technology Professionals	4% - Health Professionals	5% - Teaching and Educational Professionals	3% - Transport and Mobile machine Drivers and Operatives	4% - Textiles, Printing and Other Skilled Trades	5% - Caring Personal Service	5% - Textiles, Printing and Other Skilled Trades
10	4% - Textiles, Printing and Other Skilled Trades	4% - Corporate Managers and Directors	4% - Caring Personal Service	3% - Teaching and Educational Professionals	4% - Process, Plant and Machine Operatives	4% - Corporate Managers and Directors	5% - Business and Public Service Associate Professionals	3% - Customer Service	3% - Culture, Media and Sports	4% - Administrative	4% - Health Professionals

Using a finer level of detail, we can gain more specific insights on occupational segregation within ethnic groups.

For example, we found that 43% of people from an Indian background recorded a 'Professional Occupation', almost double the proportion of white Scottish/British people. Within this, 23% are Science, Engineering and Technology professionals, 11% are Business, Media and Public Service Professionals, Health Professionals (6%) and Education Professionals (5%).

Similarly, 21% of people from an African background had a Caring Personal Service occupation, with a further 15% in an Elementary Administration and Services role and 7% as 'Health Professionals'.

Education

Qualifications

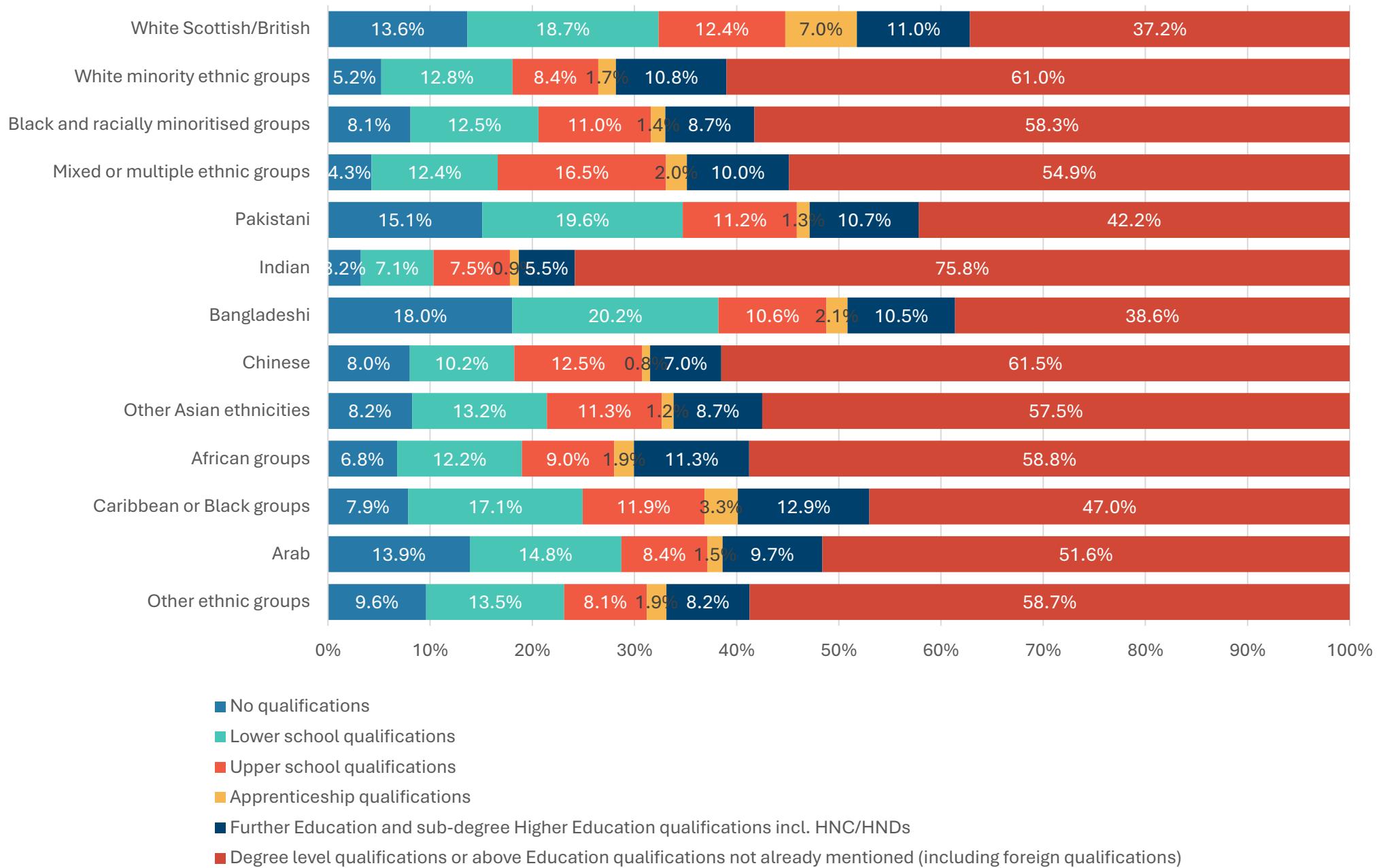
Data from Scotland's 2022 Census shows that 58% of adults from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds in Edinburgh and hold degree-level qualifications, compared to 37% of white Scottish/British adults. Within the Black and racially minoritised category, adults from a Indian background are most likely to have a degree-level qualification (76%), followed by those from African (59%) and Other BME (59%) backgrounds.

When looking at apprenticeships, we can see that people from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds are less likely to have completed apprenticeships compared to white Scottish/British adults. For most ethnic groups in the Black and racially minoritised category, less than 2% of people had an apprenticeship as their highest level of qualification, compared to 7% of the white Scottish/British group.

The Census also shows that approximately 92,600 adults in Edinburgh and Lothians have no formal educational qualifications. Disaggregating these statistics by ethnicity, we can see that adults from white Scottish/British backgrounds are more likely to have no qualifications than those from a minority ethnic background. For example, 5% of adults from a white minority ethnic background and 8% from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds have no formal qualifications, compared to 14% of white Scottish/British adults.

A full breakdown of the highest levels of qualifications held across ethnic groups in Edinburgh and the Lothians is provided overleaf.

Figure 27: Edinburgh and the Lothians – Highest level of qualification held, by ethnic group

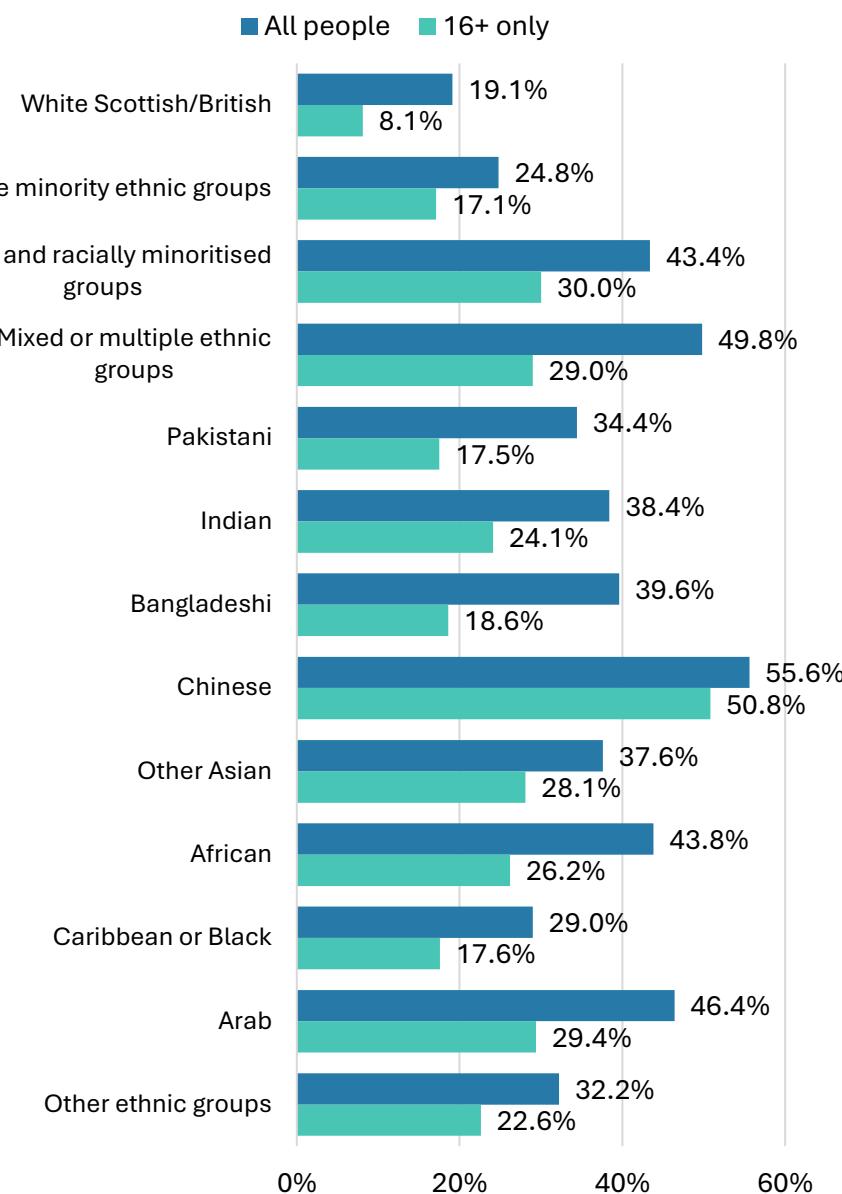


Student status

Edinburgh and Lothians has a significant student population, at the time of the 2022 Census around 193,500 were recorded as full-time students. 30% of these full-time students came from minority ethnic backgrounds, with nearly 39,000 people from Black and racially minoritised groups and 22,000 from white minority ethnic groups.

This means that around 22% of people living in the Edinburgh and Lothians region were students. This varied considerably between groups, such that 43% of people from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds were full-time students, with this rising to 56% of the Chinese ethnic group. However, as this categorisation does not differentiate between those studying full-time in Higher or Further Education from school pupils, we can also disaggregate these statistics by age to focus on those aged 16 or over, who are more likely to be in tertiary education.

Figure 28: Proportion of each ethnic group who are full-time students, all people compared to those aged 16+



Multiple deprivation and ethnicity – Edinburgh and the Lothians

Using the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD), which divides Scotland into small areas known as datazones and ranks them from most deprived to least deprived, we can see how different communities are distributed across the most deprived parts of Edinburgh and the Lothians.

The SIMD's rankings are generated from seven key metrics domains: Income, Employment, Education, Health, Access to Services, Crime and Housing. In this section, we present the distribution of ethnic groups across the SIMD and its individual domains, as well as region-specific rankings of deprivation to provide more locally relevant insights.

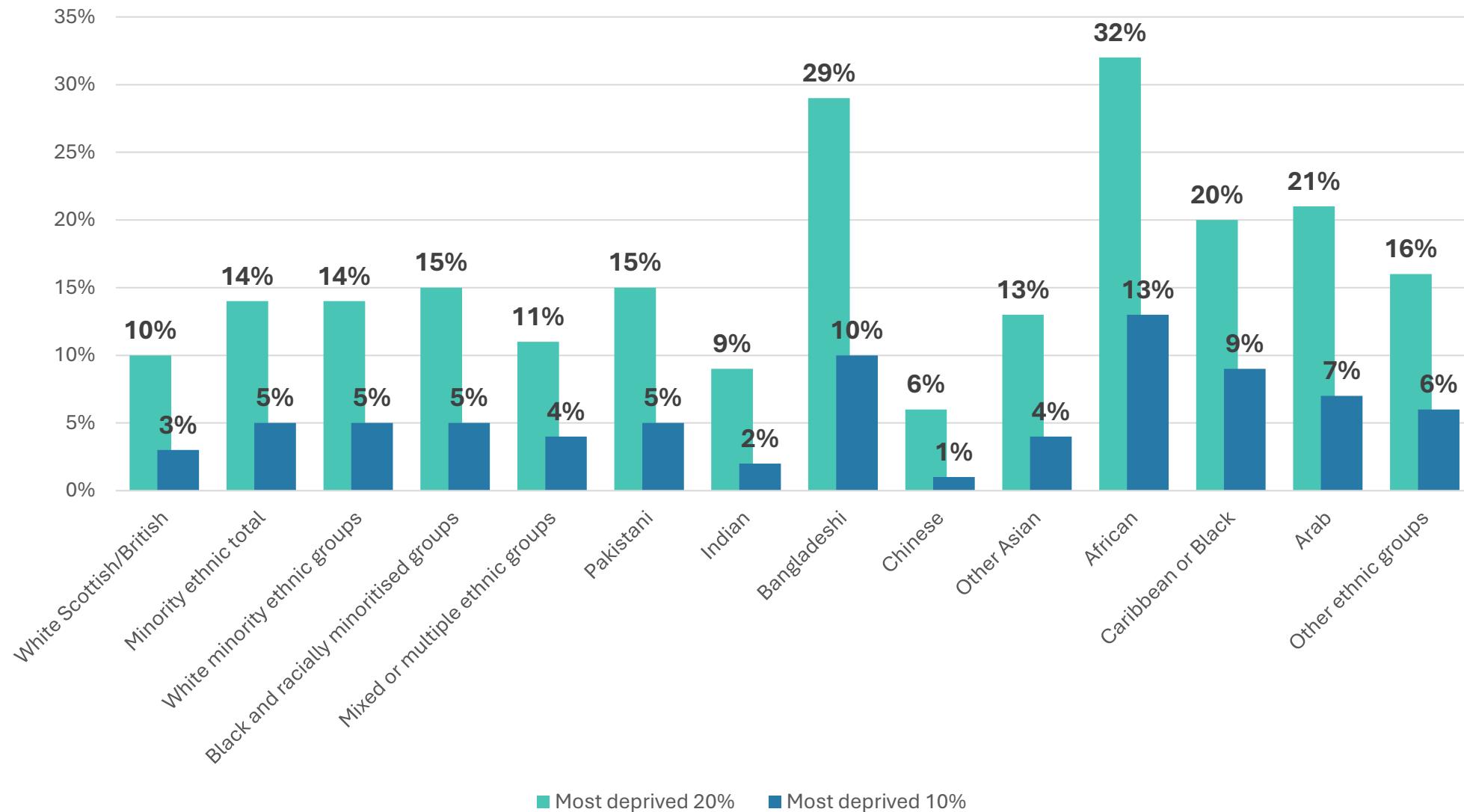
On aggregate, around 99,000 people across Edinburgh and the Lothians live in the top 20% (quintile) most deprived parts of Scotland. Of these:

- 73,000 come from a white Scottish/British background
- 12,400 were from a white minority ethnic group
- 12,900 were from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds

This means that 14% of Black and racially minoritised people living in Edinburgh and the Lothians reside in the top 20% most deprived areas in Scotland, compared to 10% of the white Scottish/British group.

However, some ethnic groups are more likely to live in deprived areas than others. For example, 32% of Edinburgh and the Lothians' African population and 29% of the Bangladeshi population live in areas ranking in the top 20% most deprived parts of Scotland. In contrast, just 9% of the Indian population and 6% of people from a Chinese background live in the most deprived areas.

Figure 29: Proportion of each ethnic group living in the most deprived areas of Scotland



Of the 124 datazones in the most deprived quintile of Scotland, 71 were found in the City of Edinburgh, 35 in West Lothian, 10 in Midlothian and 8 in East Lothian. Using a finer level of detail than local authority, such as Census Intermediate Zone, we can see that the datazones in the top 20% most deprived areas are located in the following parts of Edinburgh and the Lothians:

City of Edinburgh	East Lothian	Midlothian
Great Junction Street Moredun and Craigour Muirhouse Bingham, Magdalene and The Christians Restalrig and Lochend Niddrie, Murrayburn and Wester Hailes North The Calders Granton South and Wardieburn Cloveystone and Wester Hailes Restalrig (Loganlea) and Craigentinny West Granton and Royston Mains Craigmillar Hyvots and Gilmerton Oxgangs North Leith and Newhaven Granton West and Salvesen Broomhouse and Bankhead Stenhouse and Saughton Mains	Tranent North Prestonpans West Musselburgh North Tranent South Wallyford/Whitecraig	Dalkeith Mayfield Easthouses Straiton North Gorebridge Gorebridge and Middleton

City of Edinburgh	East Lothian	Midlothian
Gracemount, Southhouse and Burdiehouse West Pilton Clermiston and Drumbrae Fernieside and Moredun South Old Town, Princes Street and Leith Street Gorgie East Colinton Mains and Firrhill Drylaw Prestonfield		

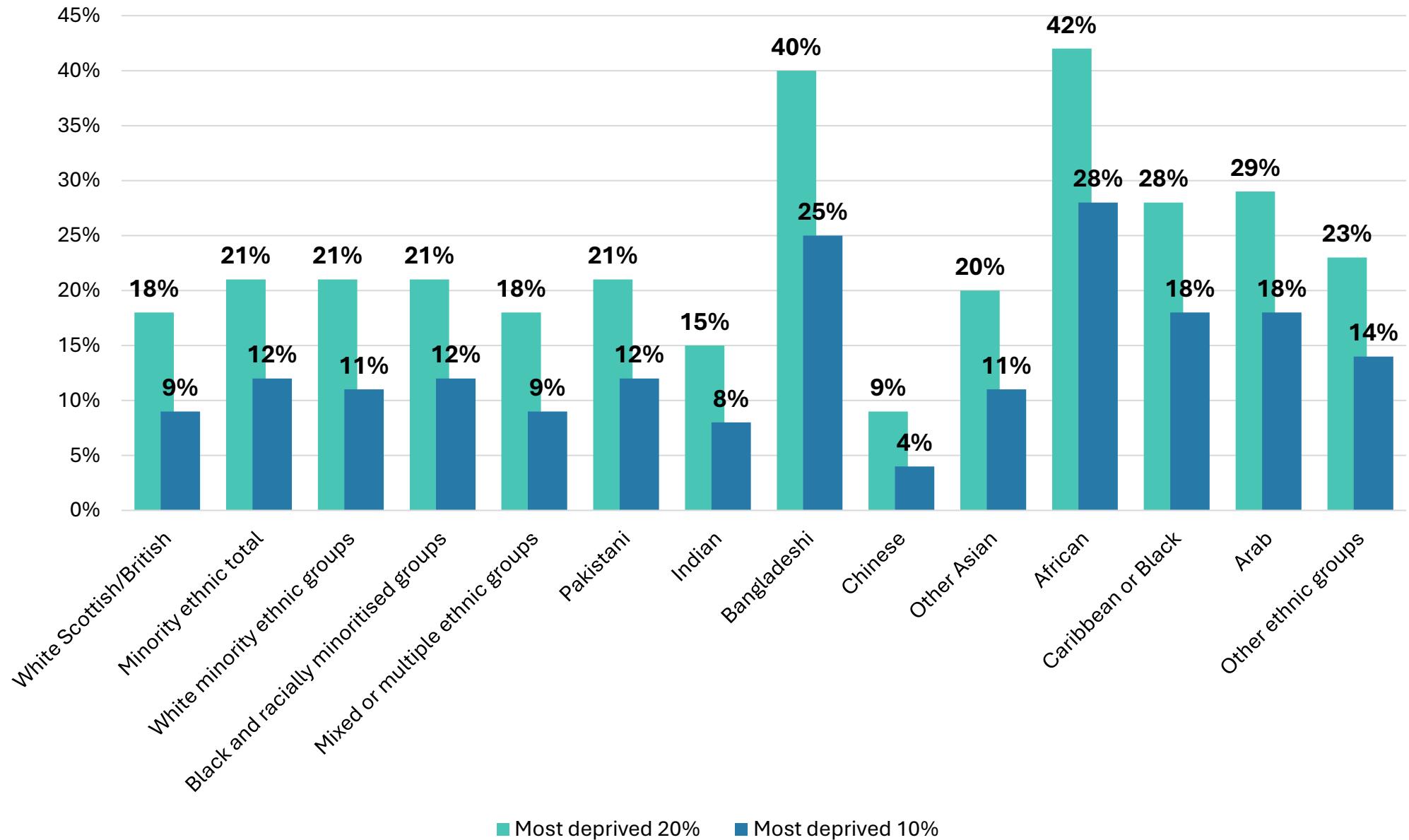
Locally-adjusted measures

It may also be useful to consider the local distribution of deprived areas to account for how the national distribution of area-based deprivation might skew regional analysis. To do this, we re-ranked each datazone across Edinburgh and the Lothians relative to the rest of the region to provide ELREC adjusted estimates.

Using local measures, we can see that 21% of the Black and racially minoritised population lives in the top 20% most deprived parts of Edinburgh and the Lothians. For African groups, this rises to 42%, meaning that people from an African background are more than twice as likely to live in the most deprived parts of the region than white Scottish/British people. People from Bangladeshi, Arab and Caribbean or Black backgrounds were also particularly over-represented in the most deprived parts of Edinburgh and the Lothians.

In contrast, people from Indian and Chinese backgrounds remained less likely to live in deprived areas than white Scottish/British people.

Figure 30: Proportion of each ethnic group living in the most deprived parts of Edinburgh and the Lothians



Domains

We can also measure population distribution across rankings for each domain of the SIMD: Income, Employment, Education, Health, Access to Services, Crime and Housing.

Our analysis found that people from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds were more likely to live in the most deprived areas in Scotland across all domains but 'Access to Services'.

For example, using national SIMD rankings, we found that Black and racially minoritised groups are particularly over-represented in areas ranking in the top 20% most deprived areas for housing. On aggregate, there were 30,600 people from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds in Edinburgh and the Lothians living in the top quintile for housing deprivation. With the exception of the Pakistani group, this meant that more than 40% of all Black and racially minoritised groups lived in the most deprived quintile of the Housing domain - more than twice their expected rate. Interestingly, even though Indian and Chinese groups were under-represented in deprived areas in general, they were still significantly over-represented in areas ranking in the top 20% most deprived for housing.

Similar patterns are also observed for areas ranking in the most deprived quintile of the crime domain. For example, over 40% of the African and Bangladeshi communities live in areas ranking in the top 20% most deprived areas for crime, compared to less than 20% of people from a white Scottish/British background.

Tables for the representation of each ethnic group according to national and localised rankings of multiple deprivation are provided overleaf.

Table 22: National SIMD rankings: Proportion of ethnic groups in Edinburgh and the Lothians living in the top 20% most deprived parts of Scotland

National quintile 1 by domain	All People	White Scottish/British	White minority ethnic groups	Black and racially minoritised groups	Minority ethnic Total	Mixed or multiple	Pakistani	Indian	Bangladeshi	Chinese	Other Asian	African	Caribbean or Black	Arab	Other ethnic groups
SIMD	11%	10%	14%	15%	14%	11%	15%	9%	29%	6%	13%	32%	20%	21%	16%
	12%	11%	14%	15%	14%	12%	15%	9%	33%	5%	14%	32%	20%	21%	16%
	11%	10%	13%	13%	13%	11%	13%	8%	24%	5%	12%	28%	19%	19%	15%
	11%	10%	14%	15%	14%	11%	15%	9%	27%	6%	14%	30%	20%	22%	16%
	16%	15%	19%	21%	20%	16%	19%	16%	39%	13%	19%	39%	25%	27%	21%
	13%	14%	7%	8%	7%	8%	11%	10%	3%	7%	7%	6%	7%	6%	6%
	21%	19%	27%	31%	29%	25%	25%	28%	41%	32%	31%	42%	31%	35%	31%
	27%	22%	47%	48%	48%	43%	32%	45%	54%	58%	49%	54%	50%	52%	50%

Table 23: Locally-adjusted SIMD rankings: Proportion of each ethnic group living in the top 20% most deprived parts of Edinburgh and the Lothians

Adjusted Q1	All People	White Scottish/British	White minority ethnic groups	Black and racially minoritised groups	Minority ethnic total	Mixed or multiple	Pakistani	Indian	Bangladeshi	Chinese	Other Asian	African	Caribbean or Black	Arab	Other ethnic groups
SIMD	19%	18%	21%	21%	21%	18%	21%	15%	40%	9%	20%	42%	28%	29%	23%
	18%	18%	20%	20%	20%	16%	20%	14%	38%	8%	19%	39%	26%	28%	21%
	18%	18%	20%	20%	20%	17%	20%	14%	35%	8%	19%	38%	27%	27%	21%
	19%	18%	22%	21%	21%	17%	23%	15%	34%	10%	20%	41%	27%	29%	22%
	19%	15%	19%	21%	20%	16%	19%	16%	39%	13%	19%	39%	25%	27%	21%
	23%	25%	13%	15%	14%	16%	21%	18%	13%	12%	12%	11%	14%	12%	13%
	21%	19%	27%	31%	29%	25%	25%	28%	41%	31%	31%	42%	31%	35%	31%
	22%	17%	40%	41%	40%	36%	25%	40%	39%	54%	42%	43%	40%	44%	42%

Health and wellbeing

Self-reported health

Responses to Scotland's 2022 Census show that Black and racially minoritised groups in Edinburgh and the Lothians are generally more likely to speak positively of their health than white Scottish/British respondents, with 89% of people from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds reporting they are in good or very good health, compared to 80% of white Scottish/British people.

On aggregate, 2.8% of people from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds reported that they are in bad or very bad health. People from Pakistani, Bangladeshi, Arab and Caribbean or Black backgrounds had the highest levels of poor health, whereas people from Indian, Chinese and 'Other Asian' backgrounds had the lowest levels of poor health.

Table 24: Self-reported health, by ethnicity

Ethnic group	% good or very good health	% fair health	% bad or very bad health
White Scottish/British	80.2%	13.6%	6.3%
White minority ethnic groups	89.2%	8.3%	2.5%
Black and racially minoritised groups	88.8%	8.3%	2.8%
Mixed or multiple ethnic groups	90.5%	6.9%	2.7%
Pakistani	82.9%	12.0%	5.2%
Indian	92.2%	6.3%	1.5%
Bangladeshi	81.7%	13.3%	5.0%
Chinese	89.1%	9.4%	1.6%
Other Asian	90.2%	7.9%	1.9%
African	91.8%	5.8%	2.4%
Caribbean or Black	84.9%	10.9%	4.2%
Arab	85.9%	9.1%	4.9%
Other ethnic groups	86.0%	9.7%	4.3%

Long-term conditions

Scotland's Census also asks respondents about their experiences of long-term conditions, like physical disabilities, mental health conditions, or vision impairments.

Data from 2022 shows that, in Edinburgh and the Lothians:

- 130 people from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds are blind or partially vision impaired - about 1.1% of the BRM population
- 490 people from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds have learning disabilities, learning difficulties or developmental disorders (4.2%)
- 230 people from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds are deaf or partially hearing (2.0%)
- 1,400 people from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds have a long-term illness, disease or condition (12.1%)
- 860 people from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds experience long-term mental health conditions (7.4%)
- 410 people from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds have physical disabilities (3.6%)

Caring responsibilities

Scotland's Census also collects data on whether people provide unpaid care, and if so, how many hours of unpaid care they provide a week.

Data from the 2022 Census shows that over 6,000 people from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds in Edinburgh and the Lothians are unpaid carers, meaning that nearly 7% of the Black and racially minoritised population provides unpaid care.

Among Black and racially minoritised groups, people from Pakistani backgrounds are the most likely to be unpaid carers, with 11.5% of Edinburgh and the Lothians' Pakistani population providing some form of unpaid care. In comparison, people from Chinese backgrounds were the least likely to be unpaid carers, with just 4.8% of the Chinese population holding unpaid care responsibilities.

When examining the number of hours people provide care for, the data shows that, on aggregate, unpaid carers from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds are more likely to have full-time caring responsibilities than white Scottish/British carers, spending more than 35 hours a week providing unpaid care.

Table 25: Proportion of people providing unpaid care, by ethnic group and hours of care provided (Edinburgh and the Lothians)

Amount of unpaid care provided:	Less than 35 hours a week		More than 35 hours a week		Total unpaid carers	
Ethnic group	#	%	#	%	#	%
White Scottish/British	58,513	8.4%	25,302	3.6%	83,815	12.0%
White minority ethnic groups	3,394	3.8%	1,653	1.9%	5,047	5.7%
Black and racially minoritised groups	4,204	4.6%	2,081	2.3%	6,285	6.9%
Mixed or multiple ethnic groups	821	5.3%	281	1.8%	1,102	7.1%
Pakistani	765	7.4%	431	4.2%	1,196	11.5%
Indian	504	3.6%	233	1.7%	737	5.3%
Bangladeshi	153	5.6%	85	3.1%	238	8.8%
Chinese	548	3.3%	234	1.4%	782	4.8%
Other Asian	245	3.3%	159	2.1%	404	5.4%
African	509	4.6%	303	2.7%	812	7.3%
Caribbean or Black	83	11.4%	51	2.9%	134	7.7%
Arab	576	12.5%	146	3.2%	342	7.5%
Other ethnic groups	196	2.8%	158	2.3%	538	7.7%

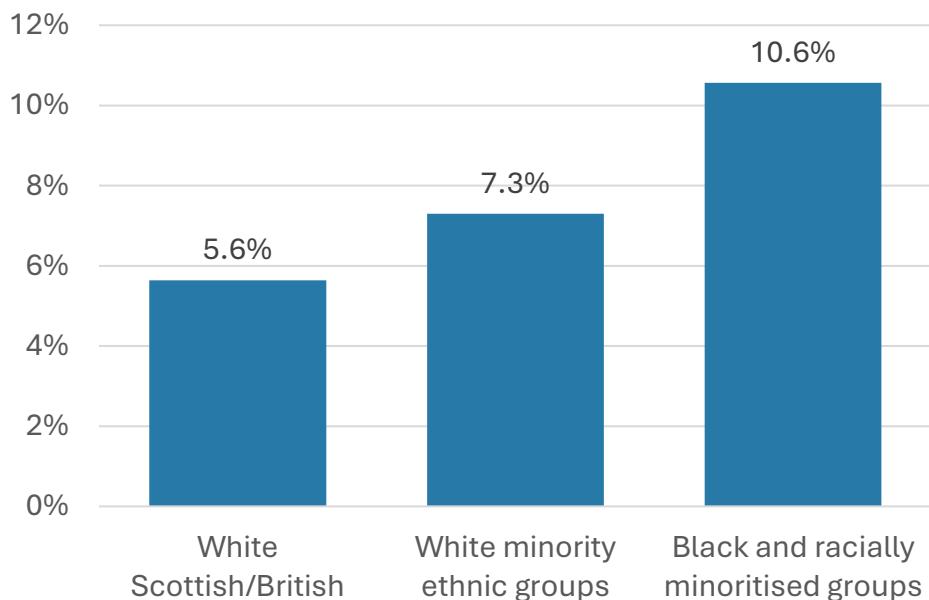
Students and young people in Edinburgh

Housing

Students from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds in Edinburgh experience a range of housing inequalities, including increased rates of overcrowding and being more likely to live in a home with no form of central heating.

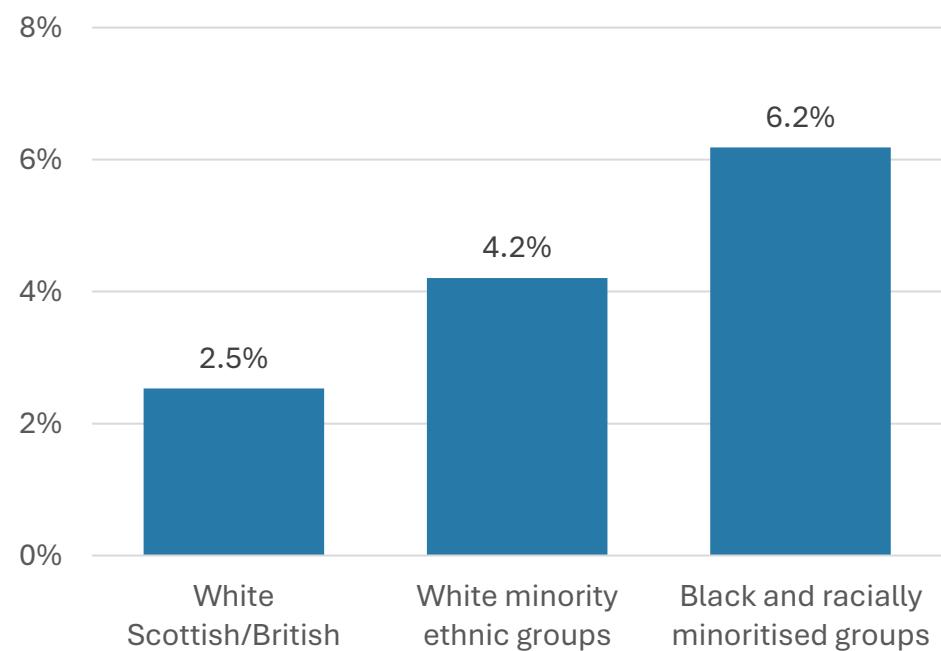
Edinburgh-based students from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds are more likely to experience overcrowding than those from white ethnic backgrounds. When looking at households consisting entirely of students, our analysis found that 11% of Black and racially minoritised households lived in an overcrowded home, compared to less than 6% of white Scottish/British households.

Figure 31: Proportion of all-student households in an overcrowded home, by ethnicity of Household Reference Person



Edinburgh-based students from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds are more than twice as likely to live in a home with no form of central heating as their white Scottish/British counterparts. When looking at households consisting entirely of students, we found that 6% of Black and racially minoritised households have no form of central heating, compared to less than 3% of white Scottish/British student households.

Figure 32: Proportion of all-student households without access to any form of central heating, by ethnicity of Household Reference Person



Mental health

On aggregate, Edinburgh-based students from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds were less likely to say they had a mental health condition than those from white Scottish/British backgrounds. However, some ethnic groups were more likely to report having a mental health condition than others.

Table 26: Proportion of people aged 16 - 24 years old with a mental health condition, by ethnic group

Ethnic group	# with a mental health condition	% of ethnic group
White Scottish/British	9,201	19.3%
White minority ethnic groups	2,126	19.2%
Black and racially minoritised groups (combined)	2,135	12.2%
Mixed or multiple ethnic groups	603	21.3%
Pakistani	109	9.5%
Indian	196	9.6%
Bangladeshi	39	10.7%
Chinese	600	9.0%
Other Asian	187	13.0%
African	109	9.2%
Caribbean or Black	41	42.3%
Arab	75	11.0%
Other ethnic groups	176	18.7%

In closing

This report was created by Lucien Staddon Foster and Sholen Macpherson in partnership with the Edinburgh and Lothians Regional Equality Council (ELREC), as part of a project funded by the Jane Hatfield Award 2025.

The Jane Hatfield Award is an annual research grant offered to early career researchers from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds. It is delivered by the Institute for Voluntary Action Research (IVAR), in partnership with The Ubele Initiative CIC.

By examining the characteristics and outcomes of Scotland's Black and racially minoritised communities at regional levels, we hope to provide a solid evidence base to inform the design and delivery of services, support policy advocacy in the voluntary sector and facilitate more effective equality benchmarking for local work.

While we believe this report does well to demonstrate the value of high-quality ethnicity-disaggregated data, this type of analysis should not be locked behind the 10-year cycles of the Census. The poor quality, availability and coherence of ethnicity-disaggregated statistics in Scotland directly undermines the design and delivery of essential services and allows the true nature and extent of racial inequality in Scotland to remain hidden, downplayed and ignored.

This report is part of a series of outputs, learn more here:



"We can't get the funding because we can't get the evidence" - Supporting the Scottish voluntary sector's work with Black and racially minoritised communities – [\[LINK\]](#)