

Introduction to EVENTS

The Evidence for Equality National Survey

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Jen Buckley (UK Data Service)



Overview

1. Creating the EVENS data

- What's new about EVENS?
- Motivations for EVENS
- Recruitment and data collection

2. About the EVENS data

- The EVENS sample
- Contents - topics & variables

3. Using the EVENS data

- Snapshot of findings
- Example research areas
- Accessing the data (demonstration)

Closing Q&A

1. CREATING THE EVENTS DATA

What's new about EVENS?

EVENS is the **largest and most comprehensive** survey of ethnic and religious minorities in the UK.

EVENS has **14,000 participants** including 10,000 who identify as ethnic minorities.

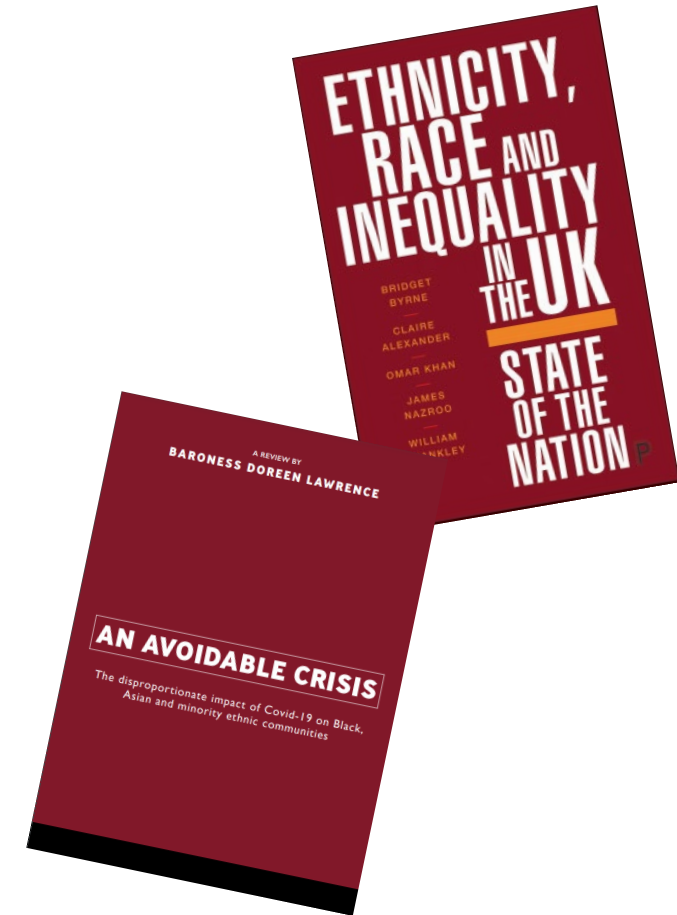
EVENS provides **novel, robust data** and is a unique, **rich resource** for understanding experiences of minoritised ethnic groups.

EVENS uses **innovative non-probability survey methods** to improve representation across ethnic groups.

Motivations for EVENS

A context of ethnic inequalities

- Evidence shows stark and persistent ethnic inequalities in the UK over recent decades across social realms (Byrne et al 2020)
- The pandemic emphasised ethnic inequalities (Lawrence 2020, ONS 2020, Katikireddi et al 2021)





Nazroo and Becares (2020) argue that higher Covid-19 related mortality in areas of high ethnic minority population are:

“a consequence of social and economic inequalities driven by **entrenched structural and institutional racism and racial discrimination**.... these factors should be central to any investigation of ethnic inequalities in COVID-19 outcomes.”

Data deficiencies: the 'ethnicity data gap'

- Social surveys in the UK tend to represent a limited number of (broad) ethnic groups
- Survey sampling favours (by design) areas of residential clustering of ethnic minorities
- General surveys do not have questions bespoke to the concerns and experiences of minority groups
- Census/administrative data have good population coverage but limited topic coverage
- No prior application of rapidly developing non-probability survey methods to (numerically) small population in the UK

Recruitment and data collection



Overview

- 30 minute questionnaire, developed in collaboration with partners
- Completed online via open web link or via Computer Assisted Telephone Interview (CATI), available in 14 languages
- All who consider themselves to be ethnic or religious minorities are invited to take part (non probability survey design)
- No exclusion/inclusion based on ethnic/religious minority identification or neighbourhood
- Residency of England, Wales or Scotland required for eligibility
- Incentive of £10 (voucher) issued upon completion of survey
- Data collection from February to October 2021
- Original questions plus those borrowed/developed from existing surveys
- Administered by Ipsos
- Full ethical approval (including amendments), University of Manchester

English
Arabic
Bengali
Chinese
Gujarati
Polish
Portuguese
Punjabi:
Gurmukhi
Punjabi:
Shahmukhi
Romanian
Somali
Turkish
Urdu
Welsh

Responsive recruitment

- Using a non probability approach means there is no sampling frame and no (standard) response rates
- Target quotas were set by ethnicity*age*sex*region to maximise the representativeness of the sample
- An initial registration/screening questionnaire ensured eligibility in terms of GB residence and ethnic minority (self) identification
- Quota targets were monitored daily to enable responsive and adaptive recruitment i.e. increase/decrease recruitment efforts according to whether quota targets were being met
- Calculation of a 'R' indicator – multivariate indicator of 'representativeness' (Schouten et al 2017, 2009) to guide recruitment efforts

A challenge of open-link incentivised surveys: fraud

- In March 2021, the daily monitoring of the survey responses by the EVENS team and Ipsos revealed a spike in survey completion (and completion via snowballing)
- We identified features of completions that caused concern including:
 - clustering in certain language and ethnic group options
 - non-standard questionnaire timing and completion times
 - use of fake postcode information
 - suspicious open-ended responses
 - suspicious IP addresses
 - use of suspicious email addresses (for receipt of voucher)
- Patterns suggested completions had come from 'survey farms' and digital 'bots'
- The survey was paused in order to instigate data quality initiatives
- Follow up email communications confirmed suspicious cases; voucher payments were not made for completions considered to be spurious

Additional quality assurance measures

Additional digital fingerprinting

Introduction of reCAPTCHA question at the beginning of the survey

Extra validation before supply of snowballing links

Switch from digital to postal delivery of vouchers

On-going, revised daily data validation checks



Recruitment methods: promotion and partnership

E V E N S

EVIDENCE FOR EQUALITY
NATIONAL SURVEY

E V E N S IS A PARTNERSHIP WITH

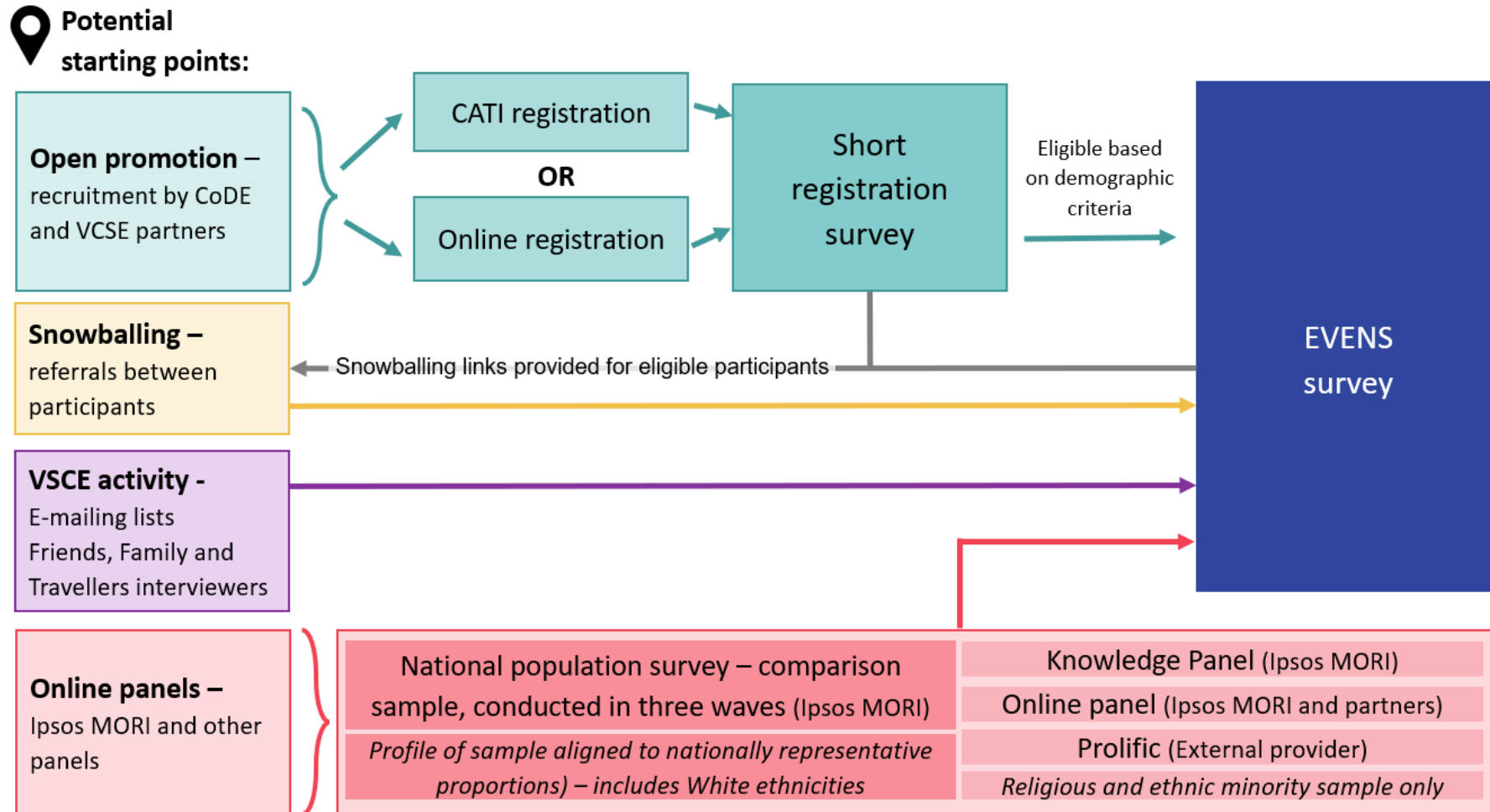


STUART HALL
FOUNDATION



EVENS is being undertaken by researchers at The University of Manchester, The University of St Andrews and The University of Sussex with Ipsos MORI and is funded by the Economic and Social Research Council.

Figure 1.1 Diagrammatic summary of routes into the EVENS survey



Your experience of Covid-19 Matters!

Be part of the first survey of its kind in the UK.

Take the survey: bit.ly/evensurvey
Or call freephone: 0808 129 6800
Deadline: 28th July 2021

Available in 14 languages



E V E N S
EVIDENCE FOR EQUALITY NATIONAL SURVEY

EVERYONE WHO COMPLETES THE 30 MINUTE SURVEY WILL RECEIVE A GIFT VOUCHER AS A THANK YOU.

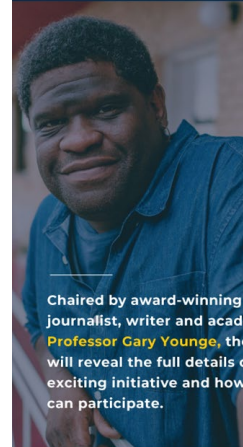
E V E N S
EVIDENCE FOR EQUALITY NATIONAL SURVEY



Taking part is voluntary and confidential. Your identity and the information you provide will be fully protected. You can complete the EVENS survey online (bit.ly/evensurvey) or via a freephone telephone number: 0808 129 6800. When you have completed the survey, you will receive a £10 gift voucher as a thank you for your time.

CoDE IS HOSTING A PRESS LAUNCH ON A GROUND-BREAKING SURVEY THAT WILL SHIFT THE NARRATIVE ON RACIAL JUSTICE, AND ETHNIC AND RELIGIOUS INEQUALITIES DURING COVID IN BRITAIN.

TUESDAY 16th FEBRUARY 2021
11.30AM-12.45PM



Chaired by award-winning journalist, writer and academic Professor Gary Younge, the event will reveal the full details of this exciting initiative and how you can participate.



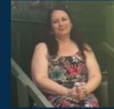
Professor James Nazroo
Deputy Director - CoDE



Dr Nissa Finney
CoDE Survey Lead
University of St Andrews



Dr Dharmi Kapadia
Lead Researcher
CoDE



Claire Rice
Community Engagement Officer
GATEHerts



Molly Rosenberg
Director, Royal Society of Literature



Sir Simon Woolley
Director
Operation Black Vote



Zara Mohammed
Elected Secretary General
Muslim Council of Britain



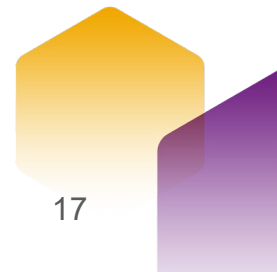
E V E N S
EVIDENCE FOR EQUALITY NATIONAL SURVEY

jpr /
Institute for Jewish Policy Research



The Evidence for Equality National Survey (EVENS)

is the largest national survey of its kind dedicated to learning more about the concerns and needs of all ethnic and religious minorities. That's why we're encouraging Jewish people across the country to take part.



FFT Partnership: Community Interviewing

- Participation from people identifying as Roma or Gypsy Traveller was seen to be low in the first months of the survey
- Focus groups revealed concerns around trust, confidentiality, and digital literacy
- In partnership with FFT (Friends, Families and Travellers) six community interviewers were trained to undertake face-to-face interviews to complete the EVENS online questionnaire
- Community interviewing fieldwork took place 12th July-15th August 2021
- 309 participants were recruited via this methods



2. ABOUT THE EVENS DATA

The EVENS sample

Ethnic group	Sample size
Asian: Any other Asian background	673
Asian: Bangladeshi	406
Asian: Chinese	664
Asian: Indian	1,288
Asian: Pakistani	866
Black: African	1,049
Black: Any other Black/African/Caribbean background	180
Black: Caribbean	566
Jewish	674
Mixed: Any other mixed/multiple background	378
Mixed: White and Asian	525
Mixed: White and Black African	159
Mixed: White and Black Caribbean	355
Other: Any other ethnic group	270
Other: Arab	152
White: Any other White background	698
White: Eastern European	363
White: English / Welsh / Scottish / Northern Irish / British	4,513
White: Gypsy/Traveller	251
White: Irish	118
White: Roma	73
Total	14,221

Larger sample sizes and more ethnic groups than any other UK social survey

UNWEIGHTED SAMPLE SIZES

Religious group	Sample size
Buddhist	285
Christian	5,080
Hindu	631
Jewish	674
Muslim	1,976
No religion	4,782
Sikh	248
Any other religion	67
Prefer not to say	478
Total	14,221

Region	Sample size
East Midlands	875
East of England	1,262
London	3,576
North East	367
North West	1,415
Scotland	1,170
South East	1,574
South West	843
Wales	902
West Midlands	1,324
Yorkshire and Humber	913
Total	14,221

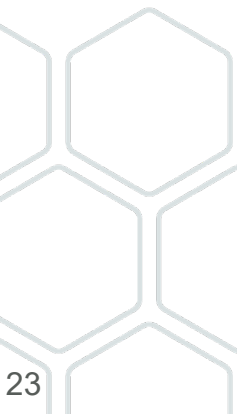
Age Group	Sample Size
18-24	2225
25-34	3227
35-44	2609
45-54	1892
55-64	1386
65-74	952
75+	479
Total	14,221

UNWEIGHTED SAMPLE SIZES

Sample by sex/age/region by ethnic group, % (weighted)

Ethnic group	Sex		Age group					Region											
	F	M	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55+	North East	North West	Yorkshire and Humber	West Mid-lands	East Mid-lands	East of England	South West	South East	London	Wales	Scotland	N (weighted)
White Irish	50.50	49.50	7.40	13.00	24.60	19.50	35.50	2.80	2.10	2.10	9.90	7.10	5.40	4.70	9.30	30.90	4.90	13.10	158.60
White Eastern European	48.60	51.40	14.20	44.30	26.40	8.80	6.30	1.70	4.90	4.90	7.90	8.90	10.50	5.50	13.20	25.10	3.00	12.40	225.70
Gypsy/Traveller	49.60	50.40	18.10	19.50	30.90	18.00	13.40	2.00	2.00	2.00	8.20	5.80	27.90	3.70	21.50	15.30	2.80	0.60	45.70
Roma	49.00	51.00	18.50	20.90	31.30	23.30	6.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.20	36.20	11.30	7.80	0.00	32.40	0.00	0.00	45.00
Jewish	51.90	48.10	10.20	15.70	15.20	15.30	43.60	0.70	3.20	3.20	3.10	1.20	13.60	2.40	7.60	54.10	0.40	2.50	63.30
Any other White background	51.90	48.10	12.50	28.20	33.80	14.40	11.10	1.10	3.90	3.90	3.60	4.60	11.20	5.80	17.40	40.00	1.80	5.30	491.00
Indian	48.70	51.30	11.10	24.10	24.80	15.20	24.80	0.90	4.80	4.80	15.20	11.50	6.40	2.60	11.00	36.10	1.50	2.40	394.90
Pakistani	48.70	51.30	17.70	24.90	24.80	16.00	16.60	1.50	18.70	18.70	20.10	3.90	5.60	0.90	7.90	19.60	0.70	5.60	274.20
Bangladeshi	48.20	51.80	19.60	24.20	25.00	16.70	14.50	1.80	4.60	4.60	11.80	2.00	7.60	2.00	6.70	47.00	5.50	0.90	99.40
Mixed White and Asian	47.90	52.10	24.50	28.20	19.50	13.30	14.50	1.40	8.40	8.40	7.70	5.20	10.30	6.40	16.60	29.90	2.80	1.60	64.30
Chinese	53.30	46.70	17.90	42.20	16.00	9.30	14.60	2.50	6.30	6.30	8.90	5.70	7.60	4.00	13.50	29.10	2.40	7.90	151.00
Any other Asian background	50.70	49.30	13.70	24.60	23.40	19.70	18.60	0.80	4.50	4.50	8.40	5.60	7.00	3.10	14.80	43.20	3.00	2.80	245.90
Black Caribbean	54.60	45.40	10.00	14.20	14.00	20.80	41.00	0.10	4.10	4.10	14.50	5.00	7.10	2.30	7.70	53.10	0.80	0.70	139.20
Mixed White and Black Caribbean	50.90	49.10	28.10	26.60	18.30	13.80	13.10	1.80	9.40	9.40	15.90	11.20	6.50	6.00	11.00	25.10	2.20	1.10	83.50
Black African	50.40	49.60	16.00	23.80	23.40	20.90	16.00	1.20	4.40	4.40	6.80	4.50	8.20	2.60	9.50	52.20	1.30	2.70	263.00
Mixed White and Black African	50.40	49.60	20.30	29.30	22.20	15.20	13.00	0.70	7.50	7.50	3.50	3.70	10.80	3.90	12.00	35.10	1.80	1.00	30.20
Any other Black background	49.50	50.50	19.90	20.80	18.70	20.40	20.10	0.70	0.80	0.80	13.50	2.50	5.20	2.00	13.10	56.60	0.30	1.30	59.20
Arab	39.80	60.20	16.10	27.20	25.80	16.00	14.90	0.70	2.60	2.60	6.50	4.10	5.70	4.40	6.50	34.60	14.50	14.80	62.30
Any other mixed/multiple background	52.70	47.30	19.60	31.00	20.40	13.30	15.70	1.20	6.20	6.20	6.20	4.70	10.00	6.80	12.70	38.60	3.60	1.30	61.50
Any other ethnic group	46.40	53.60	12.00	25.30	25.30	17.80	19.60	1.00	6.20	6.20	8.10	3.80	6.90	4.00	9.90	48.20	3.70	2.20	95.50
White British	51.30	48.70	9.50	14.50	13.80	17.10	45.10	4.80	9.00	9.00	8.90	7.90	9.90	10.10	14.60	7.10	5.70	9.80	11,167.70
Total	51.10	48.90	10.60	17.00	16.10	16.90	39.40	4.00	8.30	8.30	9.10	7.60	9.60	8.70	14.00	13.60	5.00	8.70	14,221.00

Finney et al (2023: p20-21)



Data adjustments: weights

- Weights have been created for the EVENS dataset. Applying the weights enables you to use the data as if it were representative of the GB population.
- EVENS weights account for **coverage errors** and **selection bias**
 - Adjustments for coverage error align the EVENS sample with the GB population in terms of key demographic characteristics: ethnic group, age (group), sex, region
 - Adjustments for selection bias correct for the greater likelihood of some people (with particular characteristics) being more likely to take part in a/the survey
 - Propensity score approach (quasi randomisation) is used that links EVENS participation to that from a reference probability sample (Baker et al 2013, Elliot and Valliant 2017), using responses to questions that are asked in the reference data and in EVENS
 - Selection bias was adjusted on the basis of: voting eligibility, interest in politics, subjective general health, participation in religious events, religiosity, citizenship, trust in parliament, trust in the police
 - Supporting data used: Censuses 2011 and 2021, Annual Population Survey, Ethpop estimates (2019), European Social Survey

IT IS VITAL TO USE WEIGHTS WHEN USING EVENS DATA

Several weight variables are provided

For general use, we recommend:
“weight2021propensity_pop”

UKDS and the EVENS team will be offering a Training Session on non-probability survey design with Professor Natalie Shlomo (EVENS Statistical Lead) (coming soon!)

Contents – topics and variables

679 variables covering a number of topics:

- Socio-economic & financial circumstances
- Ethnic/racial identity
- Housing and demographics
- Health and wellbeing
- Black Lives Matter
- Social cohesion and belonging
- Attitudes towards the police
- Covid-19 'compliance'
- Trust in government (local/regional/national)
- Racism and discrimination

Ethnic identity variables

- Write in open response: “We are often asked to record our ethnicity. How would you describe your ethnic background in your own words?”
- Ethnic group (Census 2021 categories)
- Religion
- Which types of synagogue are you currently a member of?
- How important is your ethnic background/religion to your sense of who you are?
- Wearing clothes/participating in activities/eating food “connected with your ethnicity or religion”
- Country of birth

Racism and discrimination variables

- Insulted “for reasons to do with your ethnicity, race, colour or religion”
- Damage to property
- Physical attack
- Treated unfairly
 - In education
 - In your job
 - Out in public
 - By family or friends
 - Housing
 - In general
 - Other
- Neighbours “made life difficult for you or your family”
- Worry about being harassed
- Change in unfair treatment since the coronavirus outbreak

In the past year
Past 5 years
Last 10 years
Over 10 years ago

“How did you respond to these experiences of discrimination or unfair treatment?”

- Tried to do something about it
- Accepted it as a fact of life
- Worked harder to prove them wrong
- Talked to someone
- Expressed anger
- Prayed

Other variables of note

- Type of accommodation – including mobile
- Access to sanitation and water services
- Outdoor space
- Home working & working arrangements during Covid-19
- Financial circumstances and benefit receipt
- Loneliness
- Specific mental health conditions/feelings
- Specific physical health conditions
- Receipt of care
- Experiences of Covid-19 virus
- Household income
- Immigration status

Sensitive variables from EVENS including gender identity, sub-district geographical indicators (area classifications) will be made available in a Special Licence dataset (available early 2024)

3. USING THE EVENS DATA

Snapshot of findings

- The EVENS book (Finney et al 2023) illustrates the capabilities and key (descriptive) findings from EVENS
- The book is available as a free ebook: www.evensurvey.co.uk

Note: the analyses in the book use V1 weights

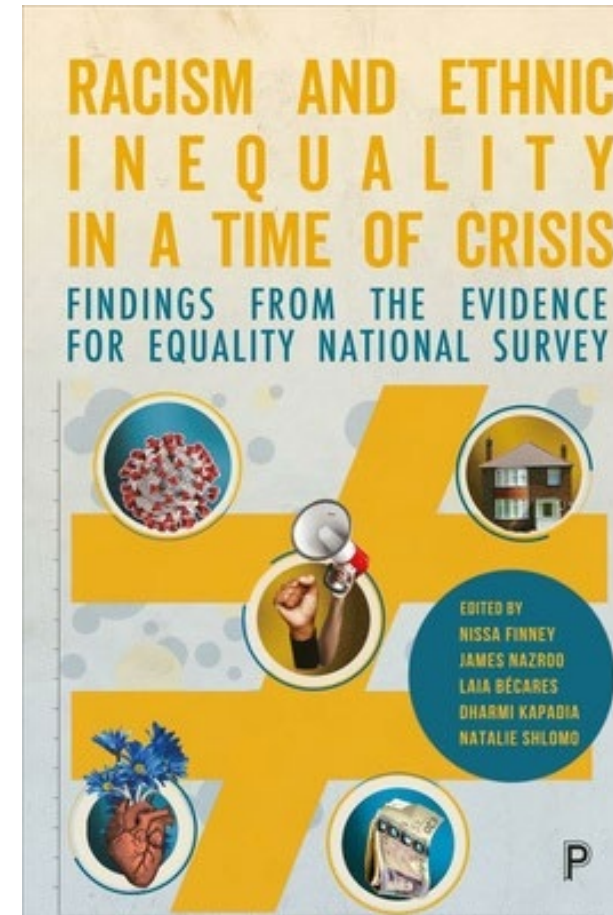
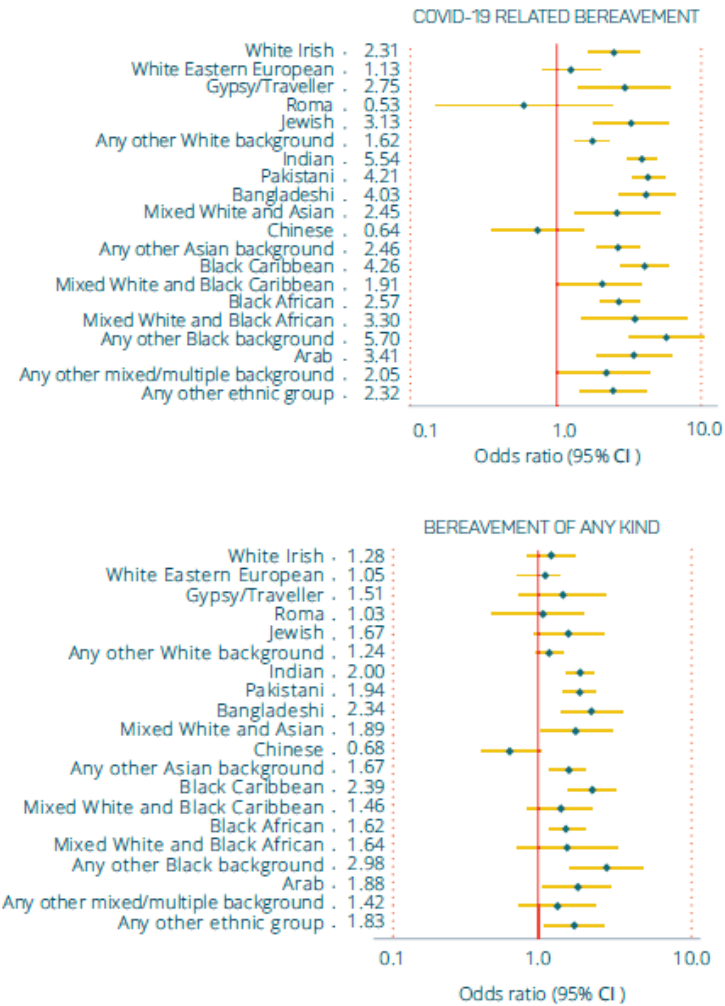


FIGURE 5.2: EXPERIENCE OF COVID-19-RELATED BEREAVEMENT AND BEREAVEMENT OF ANY KIND COMPARED WITH THE WHITE BRITISH GROUP

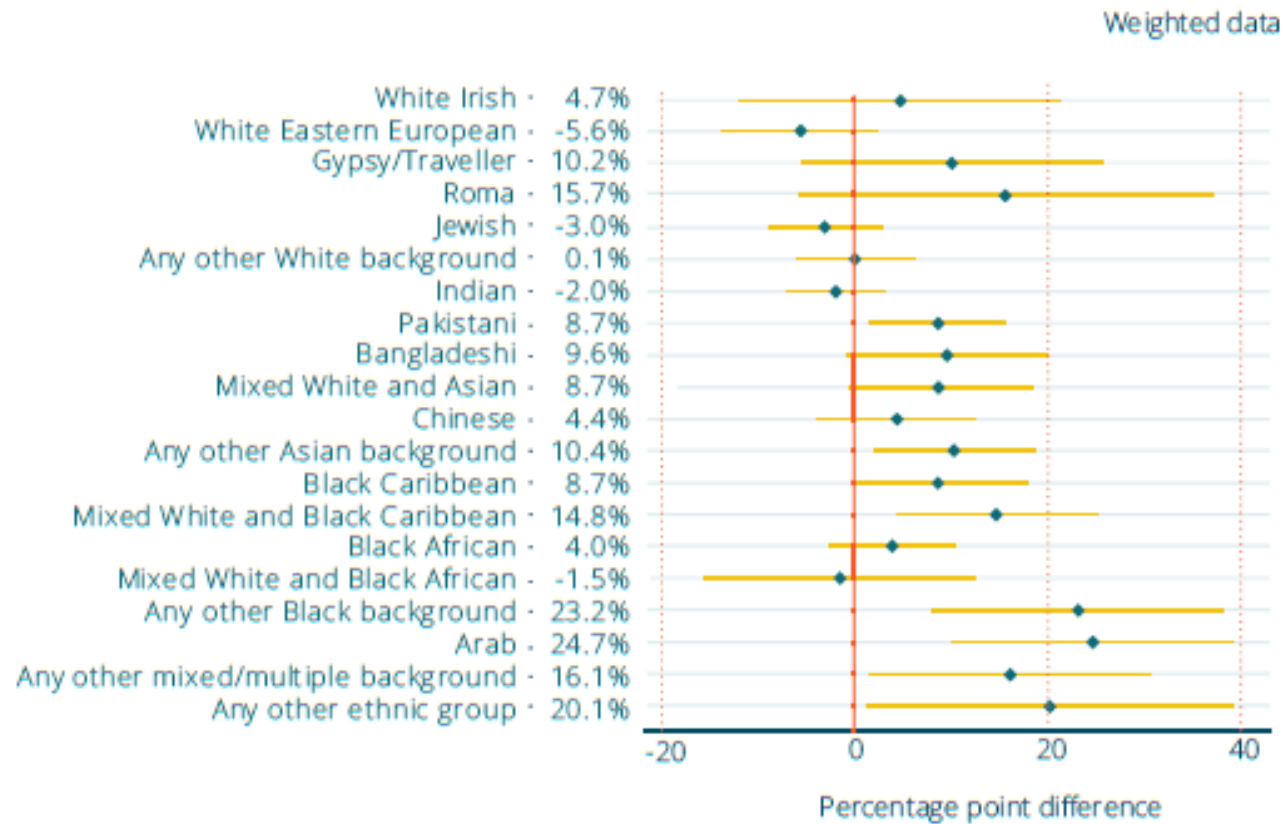


Note: Chart shows odds ratios with 95% confidence intervals, adjusted for age, age squared, and sex. The White British rates were 8.1% (N=13,389) for COVID-19 related bereavement and 22.7% (N=13,675) for bereavement of any kind, both with an odds ratio of 1 (represented by the solid line).

Ethnic minorities have a higher likelihood that the general (White British) population of having been recently bereaved, particularly in relation to Covid-19

Ethnic minority groups have higher rates of experiencing financial difficulties (during the pandemic) than White British

FIGURE 8.5: RATE OF EXPERIENCING FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC COMPARED WITH THE WHITE BRITISH GROUP



Note: Chart shows age- and sex-adjusted percentage point difference, actual rates can be found in Table 8.4

Across Britain, ethnic minorities have higher levels of trust in UK Parliament than White British

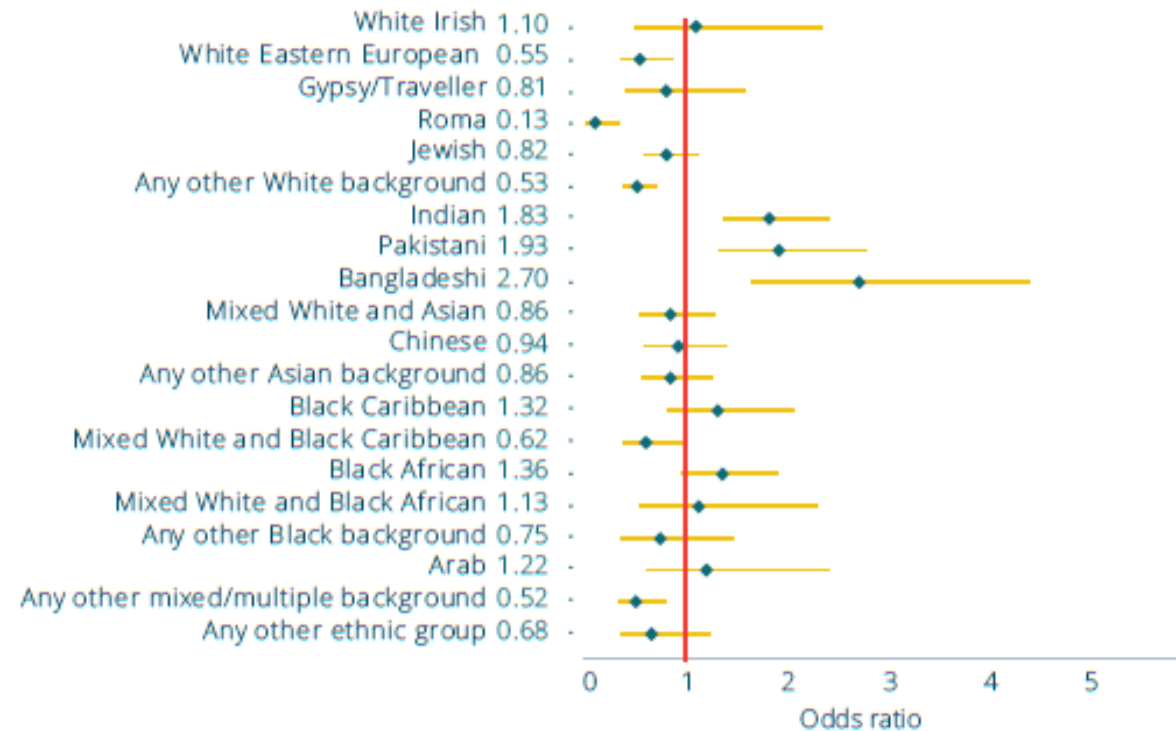
FIGURE 9.2: REGIONAL DIFFERENCES IN THE LEVEL OF TRUST IN THE UK PARLIAMENT IN RELATION TO ITS MANAGEMENT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC, ETHNIC MINORITY RESPONDENTS COMPARED TO WHITE BRITISH RESPONDENTS



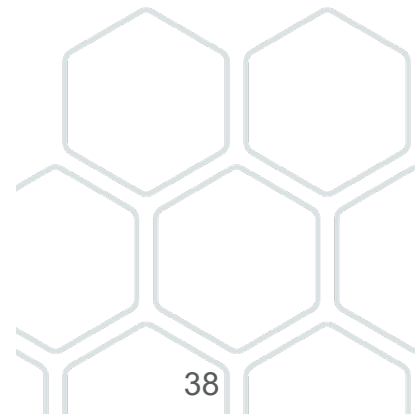
Note: Weighted percentages of responding 'A lot' and 'Fair amount of trust' to the question 'How much do you trust the UK Parliament in relation to its management of the coronavirus outbreak?' England: N=10,830; Scotland: N=1,038; Wales: N=782

People identifying as Indian, Pakistani and Bangladeshi have notably strong sense of local (neighbourhood) belonging

FIGURE 6.9: LIKELIHOOD OF REPORTING STRONG OR FAIR LOCAL BELONGING COMPARED WITH THE WHITE BRITISH GROUP

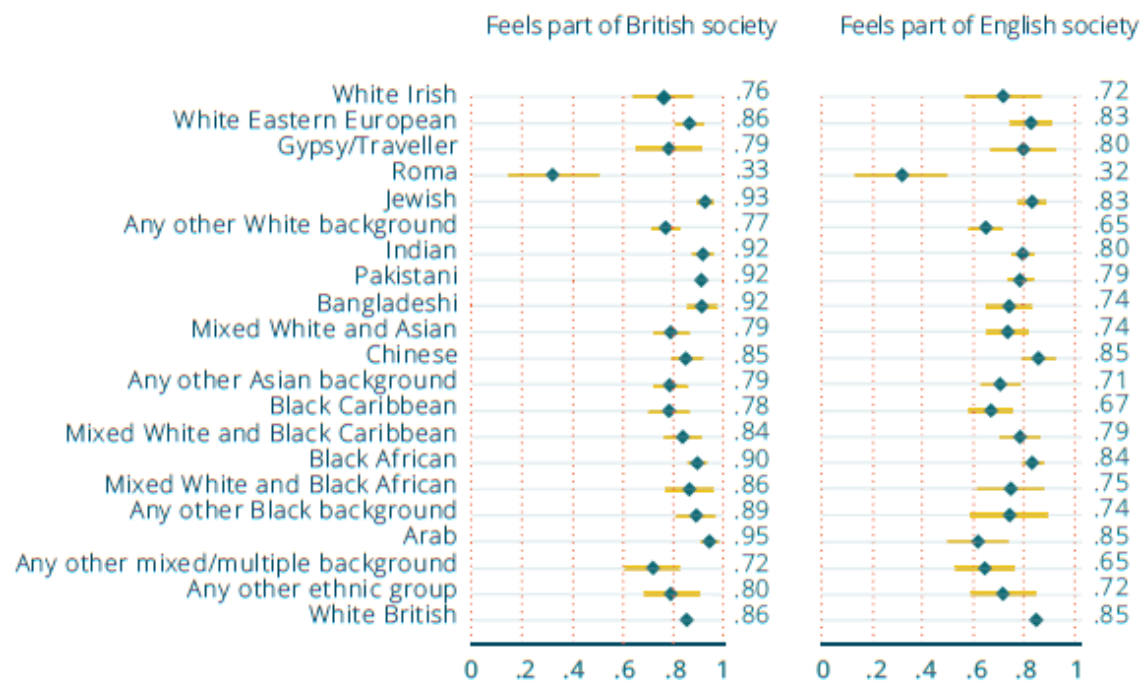


Note: Chart shows odds ratio of responding 'A lot or a fair amount' to the question 'How strongly do you feel you belong to your local area? By area, we mean the area within a 15-minute walk from your home', adjusted for age and region of residence. The White British rates were 76.7% (weighted percentage) with an odds of 1 (represented by the solid line). 95% confidence intervals shown. Base: All respondents aged 18-65. N=12,499



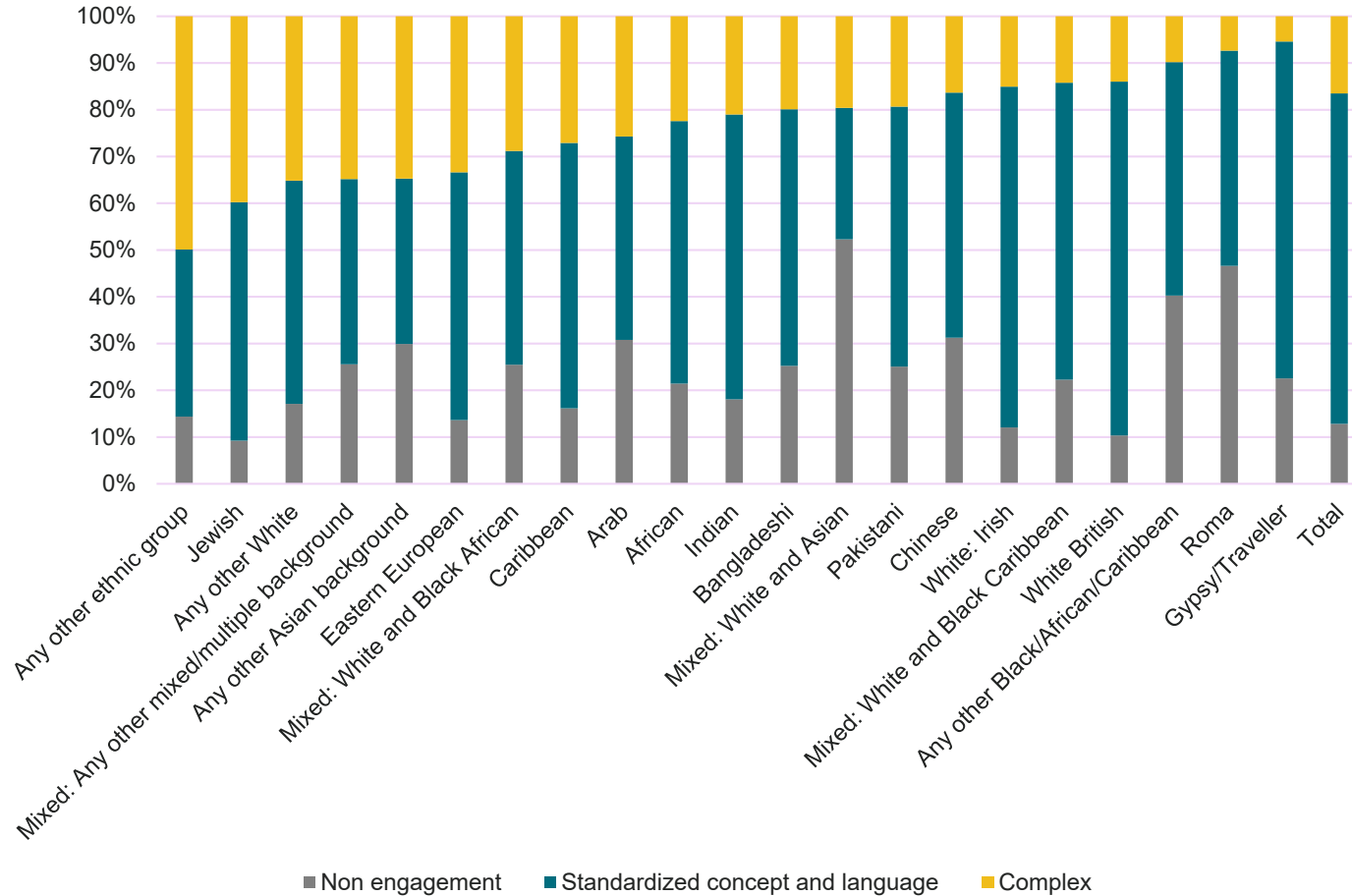
Most ethnic groups have very strong feelings of being part of British and English society

FIGURE 3.8: PROBABILITY OF FEELING PART OF BRITISH AND ENGLISH SOCIETY, BY ETHNIC GROUP



Note: Chart shows predicted probabilities (adjusted for age, age squared, and sex) of responding 'Strongly agree or Agree' to the question 'To what extent do you agree or disagree that you personally feel a part of British society?' and to the question 'To what extent do you agree or disagree that you personally feel a part of English society?'. Base: All respondents. N=12,266 (British Society); N=10,304 (English Society)

And from some current work:



- 1 in 5 people use complex articulations of ethnicity
- respondents used ~2,000 unique words to articulate their ethnic background

(Borkowska, Finney & Nazroo, in preparation; not for citation or circulation)

“I am born in Kenya, great great grand parents from India, brown skinned but of African origin. However, I consider myself British.” (Other group)

“I was born in London so I’m British. But my parents originated from Philippines.” (Asian Other group)

“Cornish, not British not English”
(White Other group)

“A Londoner through & through” (White British group)

“Cornish Bengali” (Bangladeshi group)

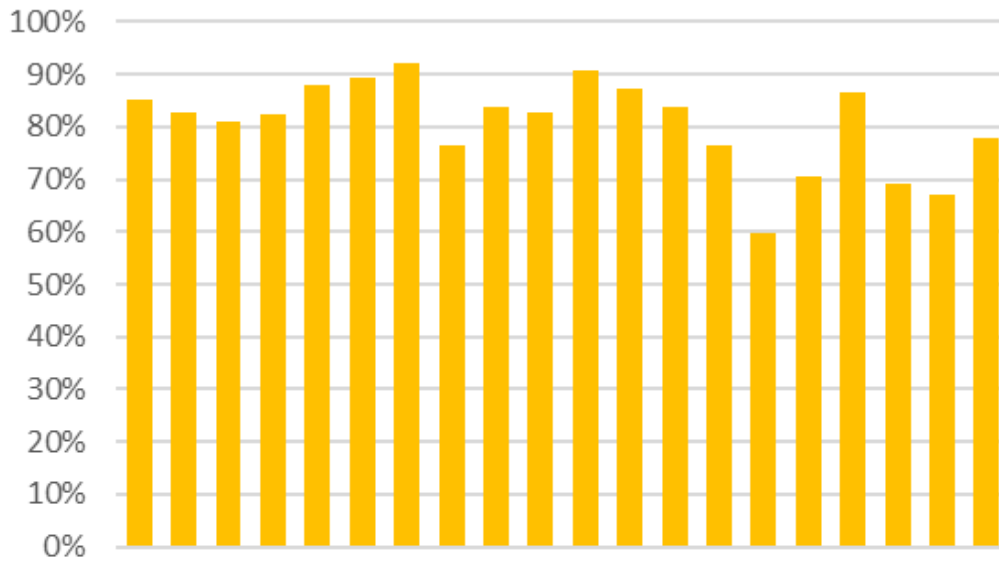
“Hungarian from Transylvania (Romani) – this is an ethnic minority in Romania” (White Eastern European group)

“I am Turkish, but my mother is of Tatar descent and my father immigrated to Turkey from Greece where he was part of a Turkish speaking Muslim ethnic minority.” (Other group)

“Black British of African Caribbean, Arab and Irish heritage” (Black Other group)

“ I would describe my ethnic background as “Latina“ (...) Usually, I don't see any option that I feel describe my ethnic background when I am asked to record my ethnicity. It seems like they forget of the people from the American continent.” (Other group)

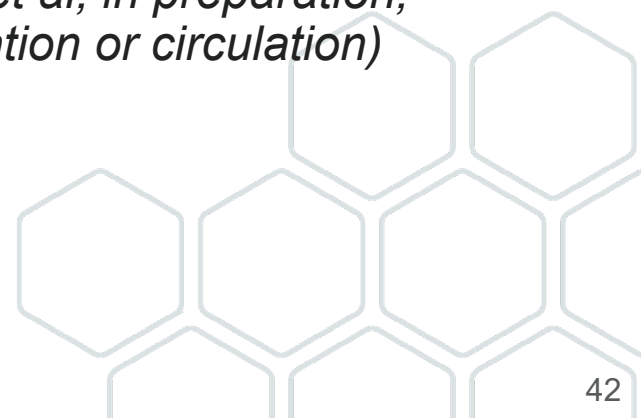
Asian: Any other Asian background (N=673)
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 White: Irish (N=152)
 White: Roma (N=698)
 White: Irish (N=363)
 White: Irish (N=251)
 White: Roma (N=118)
 White: Roma (N=73)



80 %

of EVENS participants from minoritized ethnic groups have experienced some form of racial discrimination at some point in their life

(Becares et al, in preparation; not for citation or circulation)



Example research areas

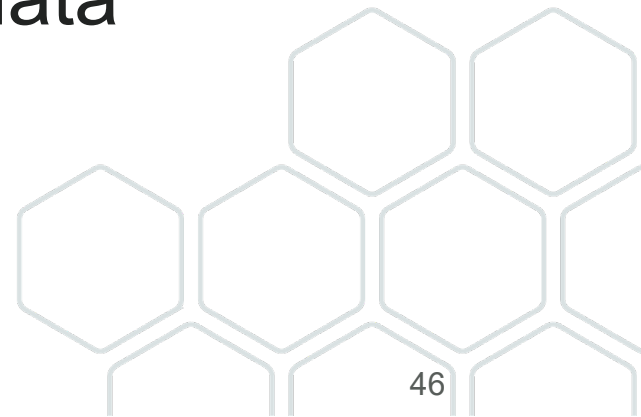
Current projects of the EVENS/CoDE team

- Lifecourse experiences of racism across ethnic groups in Britain
- Connection between experiences of racism, ethnicity and loneliness
- Protective effect of religion for loneliness during the pandemic
- Social connectedness, ethnicity, migration and loneliness
- Prevalence of common mental disorders during the Covid-19 pandemic
- Ethnicity and local neighbourhood belonging
- Articulations of ethnic identity and lessons for official ethnic group categories
- Political trust and compliance with Covid-19 measures
- Producing robust non-probability survey data

Accessing EVENS data

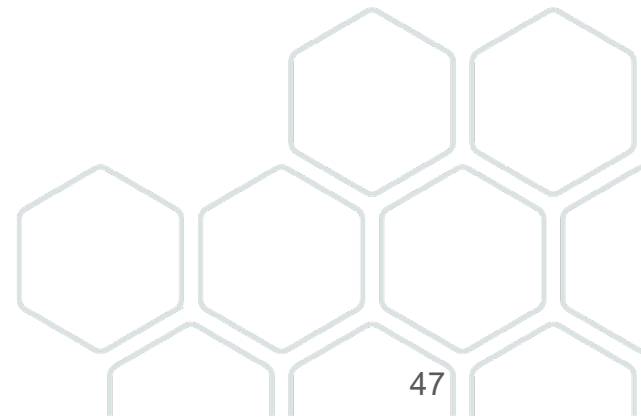
Access to EVENS data

- Freely available from the UK Data Service
- [SN: 9116 Evidence for Equality National Survey: a Survey of Ethnic Minorities During the COVID-19 Pandemic, 2021](#)
- End User Licence - need to register to access data



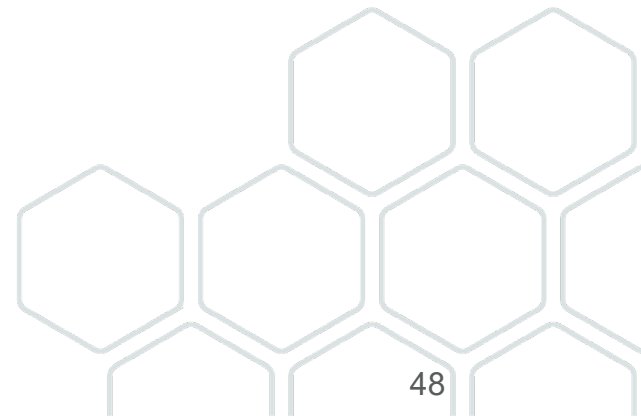
New to the UK Data Service?

- Register with an email address
 - for UK higher education, use institutional username and password
 - for others, you may need to request a username
- Find the data
- Access it
 - Access data via catalogue page
 - Set up a project
 - Allocate data to project
 - Download



What you get

- Details – title, DOI, access type, citation, abstract and coverage
- Documentation – user guide, technical report, data dictionary and codebook
- Resources – book and website links



References

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