



Foreign &
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London

INSIGHT UK



Ethnic Diversity

3,700,000 people –
6.5% of the British
population are from
ethnic minorities –
half born in the UK.

One in two black and
Asian Britons are under
25; 41% of Bangladeshis
are under the age
of 16.

The average age of
members of the UK
minority ethnic
population is 27.

The other parent
of four in ten children
with a Caribbean mother
or father is white.

MULTICULTURAL BRITAIN – a LAND of IMMIGRANTS

Timeline: Immigration – the last 200 years

19th Century

- Jewish arrivals fleeing persecution in Russia and Poland
- Irish settlers escaping poverty
- Trade brings Indian and Chinese people to main ports

1930s

- Refugees from Nazi oppression arrive in the UK

1948

- The boat *Windrush* brings 492 Jamaicans to the UK – thousands more follow
- Immigration from Caribbean encouraged to help rebuild post-war Britain

1950s and 60s

- Settlers from other new Commonwealth nations arrive – India, Pakistan and Bangladesh

1970s

- East African Asians and Vietnamese arrive

1980s

- African community expands
- Refugees arrive from Eastern Europe – Romania and former Yugoslavia

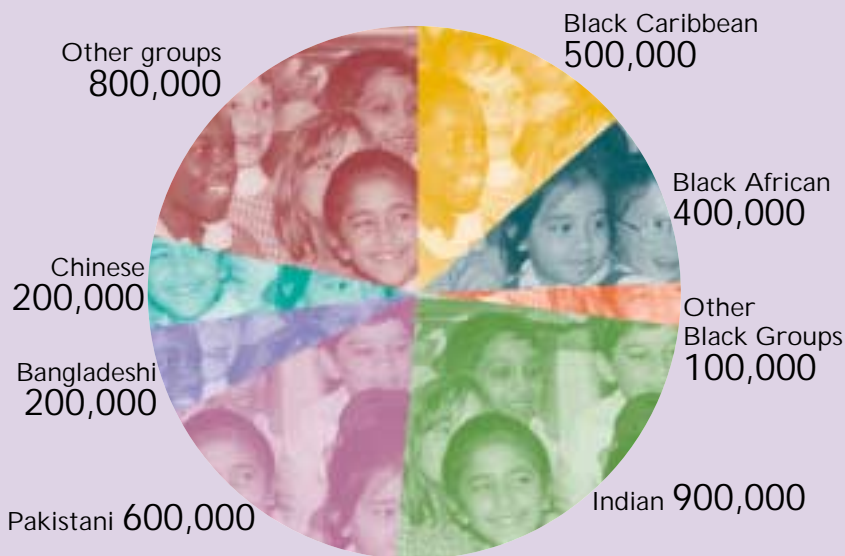


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RICHLY DIVERSE – the UK a CULTURAL KALEIDOSCOPE

British Minority Ethnic Population Pie Chart



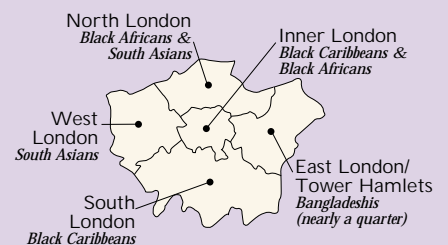
- Karl Marx Political theorist – expelled from Paris in 1849
- Piet Mondrian Artist – fled Paris in 1938 before the Second World War
- Kirit and Meena Patak Manufacturers – arrived in the UK in 1956 after persecution in Kenya
- Mario Stanic Footballer – persecuted during the Bosnian War

POPULATION CONCENTRATIONS

Three fifths of UK minority ethnic population live in cities – four in ten in London.

Nearly 200 languages are spoken across London.

Largest minority ethnic groups in the London Area



IMMIGRATION

1981 Nationality Act and other legislation in 1962, 1968 and 1971 restricts immigration into the UK.

In 1999 55,000 people were granted British citizenship and applications for asylum reached 71,000.

FAMOUS REFUGEES

- Joseph Conrad Writer – came to Britain having experienced internal exile in Russia
- Sigmund Freud Father of psychoanalysis – fled Vienna in June 1938 after Nazi takeover in Austria
- Manubhai Madhvani Businessman – refugee from Uganda in 1972



FAMILY PATTERNS

Two in three elderly Asians live with their adult children (compared with one in ten in the white population).

Most members of ethnic minorities marry within their community. One in a hundred couples are inter-ethnic unions.

CULTURAL IDENTITY

Taking UK South Asians between 16 and 74 years old – three in ten Indians, two in ten Pakistanis and one in ten Bangladeshis speak English as their main language.

One in two minority ethnic adults have visited their family's country of origin in the last five years. Chinese and Pakistanis were the most likely to do this – (60%).

Percentage of women from UK minority ethnic groups always dressing in clothing from country of origin:

- Bangladeshi 85%
- Pakistani 79%
- Indian 43%
- African Asian 27%

EDUCATION

'Help students explore and reflect on the way cultures are represented in the stories and poems ... and how language relates to national, regional and cultural identities.' (From *the National Curriculum for English*)

7% of the UK school population learn English as an additional language to their home language.

21- to 23-year-olds with two A levels (or equivalent) 1993–95

- Indian 61%
- Other Asians 49%
- White 43%
- Black 40%
- Pakistani/Bangladeshi 31%

In 1998 91% of Indian and 82% of black 16-year-olds were in full-time education compared with 67% of white 16-year-olds

12% of full-time students aged 16–25 are young Asian and black people. They are only 8% of this age group.

ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

In 1998 2,300,000 people of working age belonged to minority ethnic groups.

The highest labour market participation of minority ethnic groups is among Indian men aged 24–44.

A survey in September 2000 reveals that black Britons make a collective contribution of £5 billion to the UK economy. Seven in ten people of Caribbean or African origin in the 45–65 age group support family members abroad – to the tune of £500 million a year.

6% of solicitors and 8.2% of barristers in 1997 were from ethnic minorities.

Eight in ten Asians in the UK own their homes

Total sales of ethnic food in the UK – £736 million (1996)

60–70,000 people employed in ethnic food restaurants.



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CULTURAL IMPACT

Members of ethnic minorities play a prominent role in all aspects of British cultural life:

- Yasmin Alibhai-Brown journalist/author
- Ursula Owen writer/co-founder of Virago Press
- Anish Kapoor artist winner of 1991 Turner Prize
- Rachel Weisz actress
- Zaha Hadid architect
- Vanessa Mae violinist
- Carlos Acosta principal dancer, Royal Ballet
- Alek Wek model
- Trevor Phillips broadcaster and politician
- Oswald Boateng clothes designer
- Shami Ahmed clothing manufacturer
- Denise Lewis heptathlete
- Sol Campbell footballer
- Yvonne Brewster artistic director Talawa Theatre Company

PROBLEMS

Crime: Over a tenth of minority ethnic people that are victims of crime consider the offences to have been racially motivated.

One in two people registered as homeless in London are from ethnic minorities.

TACKLING DISCRIMINATION

The Commission for Racial Equality set up by the Race Relations Act 1976 helps fund 93 racial equality councils across the UK.

July 1999 – McPherson report published. It followed the first judicial inquiry into the racist murder of Stephen Lawrence, and makes 70 recommendations – particularly concerning the police and their dealings with minority ethnic communities.

October 2000 - Human Rights Act becomes law.

ARTICLE 14: 'The enjoyment of the rights and freedoms set forth in this Convention shall be secured without discrimination on any ground.'

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