

2020 REPORTS TO DATE ON THE BLACK, ASIAN AND MINORITY ETHNIC POPULATION IN BRITAIN

1. Beyond the data: Understanding the impact of COVID-19 on BAME groups

The PHE review of disparities in the risk and outcomes of COVID-19 shows that there is an association between belonging to some ethnic groups and the likelihood of testing positive and dying with COVID-19. Genetics were not included in the scope of the review.

This review found that the highest age standardised diagnosis rates of COVID-19 per 100,000 population were in people of Black ethnic groups (486 in females and 649 in males) and the lowest were in people of White ethnic groups (220 in females and 224 in males).

An analysis of survival among confirmed COVID-19 cases showed that, after accounting for the effect of sex, age, deprivation and region, people of Bangladeshi ethnicity had around twice the risk of death when compared to people of White British ethnicity.

People of Chinese, Indian, Pakistani, Other Asian, Caribbean and Other Black ethnicity had between 10 and 50% higher risk of death when compared to White British. Death rates from COVID-19 were higher for Black and Asian ethnic groups when compared to White ethnic groups. This is the opposite of what is seen in previous years, when the all-cause mortality rates are lower in Asian and Black ethnic groups.

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/892376/COVID_stakeholder_engagement_synthesis_beyond_the_data.pdf

2. Charity So White: Racial Injustice in the Covid 19 Response

This position paper provides an overview of the risks and impact of COVID-19 on racial inequalities within the UK. Over a period of 8 weeks this paper was updated to document emerging evidence of the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on BAME communities. It outlines an urgent call to action, including specific recommendations for civil society and its funders, to put BAME communities at the heart of their response to ensure it addresses root issues and maximises impact.

THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON THE BAME COMMUNITIES

Without a purposeful, intersectional approach centring Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) communities, the current outbreak of COVID-19 will lead to severe consequences and will further entrench racial inequalities in our society. We have identified the following key issues in relation to this:

1. **Health inequalities** - BAME groups remain over-represented in the “at-risk” communities identified by the Government, which is concerning given the racialised access and treatment within the UK health system
2. **Emergency measures legislation** - The lack of guidance around emergency measures, such as police powers and school closures is already leading to local variation and disproportionate impact on BAME communities
3. **Risk of destitution** - BAME communities are over-represented in key worker categories, as well as over-represented in low income groups with lower rates of home ownership
4. **Hostile environment** - The Hostile Environment, and particularly No Recourse to Public Funds, is preventing migrants from accessing basic rights during the crisis

5. **Protection and Enforcement** - The concern about increases in domestic violence, the rights of those currently in prison or detention, and increased attacks against East Asians

<https://charitysowhite.org/covid19>

3. ACEVO/Voice 4 Change: Home Truths Report

This project draws on a number of important data sources, including a background literature review; an online survey with almost 500 responses from BAME people in the charity sector; 24 in-depth interviews, 13 with charity leaders (including two BAME) and 11 with BAME charity staff. Two roundtable discussions also took place. The participants sharing their experiences in this project were largely self-selecting rather than drawn up as a 'representative sample'. therefore the research cannot say that their experiences, perspectives and insights reflect those of wider BAME populations in charities.

The online survey of BAME people showed that racism was a significant feature of their charity life: 68% of respondents (335 out of 489 people) said that they had experienced, witnessed or heard stories about racism in their time in the charity sector 50% of respondents (246 people out of 490) felt that they needed to 'tone down' behaviour or to be on their 'best behaviour' in order to fit in in the charity sector In terms of direct experiences of racism: 222 people had been subject to ignorant or insensitive questioning about their culture or religion 147 people had been treated as an intellectual inferior 114 respondents had been subject to excessive surveillance and scrutiny by colleagues, managers or supervisors

<https://www.acevo.org.uk/reports/home-truths/>