

# Geographies of diversity in Kirklees

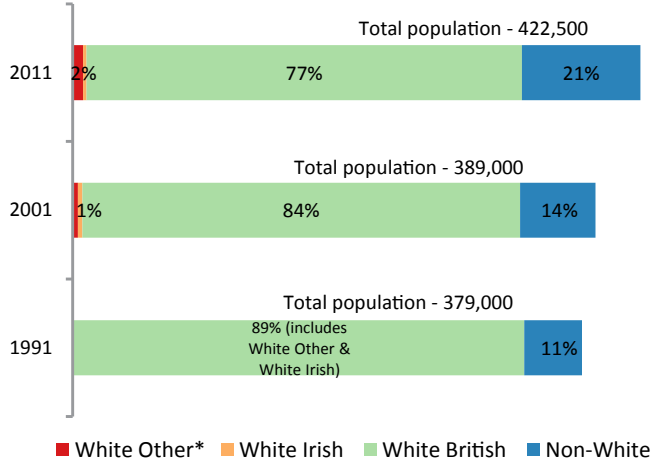


## Summary

- **The ethnic minority population in Kirklees, as measured by non-white residents, increased between 1991 and 2011 by 45,000.**
- Despite this growth, the White British ethnic group, only measured since 2001, remains by far the largest ethnic group in Kirklees.
- Pakistani is the largest ethnic minority group in Kirklees accounting for 10% of the population. The group is clustered in Dewsbury and, to a lesser extent, Huddersfield.
- The second largest ethnic minority group is Indian accounting for 5% of the population. The group is clustered in parts of Dewsbury and Batley.
- The African ethnic group has grown faster than any other comparable group during the past two decades, but accounts for less than 3% of the population in all wards in Kirklees.
- **There is evidence of dispersal of ethnic minority groups from areas in which they have previously clustered in Kirklees.**
- The Pakistani and Indian groups are growing most rapidly in wards neighbouring those in which they are most clustered, including Lindley, Mirfield and Heckmondwike.
- **New measures in the 2011 Census show that Kirklees is not becoming less British: more people report a British national identity than report White British ethnic identity.**
- Poor English language proficiency is greatest in those areas where ethnic minorities are most clustered. This may reflect a difficulty that a small minority of residents face in participating in the wider community.

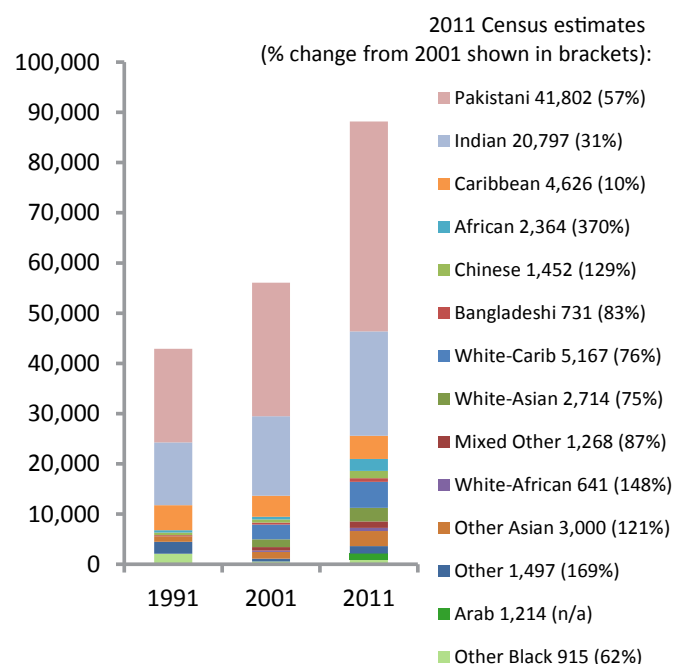
**Figure 1.** Ethnic diversity in Kirklees, 1991-2011

a) Increased ethnic minority share of the population in Kirklees, 1991-2011



Notes: \*includes White Gypsy or Irish Traveller (158 or 0.04%) in 2011. White Irish <1% in 2001 and 2011. Figures may not add due to rounding.

b) Growth of ethnic minority groups in Kirklees, 1991-2011



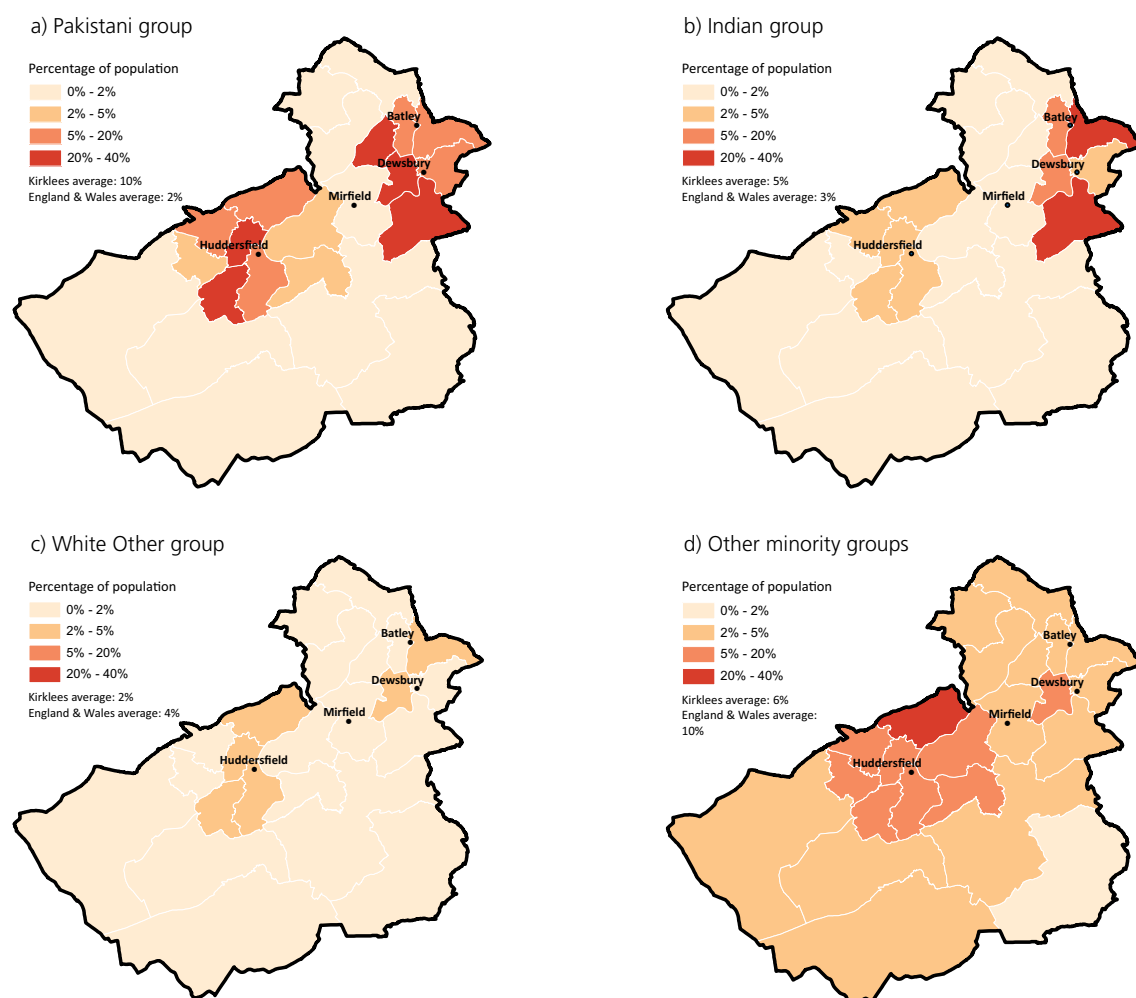
## The growth of ethnic diversity 1991-2011

The ethnic minority population (or non-white population) increased by 45,000 or 106% in Kirklees between 1991 and 2011 (see Figure 1a). In 2011, the ethnic minority population in Kirklees represented 21% of the total population of 422,458. The White British ethnic group, only measured since 2001 (see box, right), remains by far the largest group accounting for more than three-quarters of the population. The largest ethnic minority groups are Pakistani (10%) and Indian (5%) (see Figure 1b, Page 1). The Pakistani population has increased by more than a half (or 15,000) and the Indian population has increased by almost a third (or 5,000) since 1991. The African ethnic group has grown faster than any other ethnic group during this period, increasing almost threefold from 500 in 1991 to 1,800 in 2011.

## Census ethnic group question

There has been a question on ethnicity in the UK Census since 1991. The question has changed over time in terms of how it is framed and the pre-defined response categories offered for people to choose from. In 1991, the census asked 'which ethnic group do you descend from: White; Black-Caribbean; Black-African; Black-Other; Indian; Pakistani; Bangladeshi and Chinese.' But in 2001, it asked about 'your ethnic group in terms of cultural background.' There were additional pre-defined categories of Mixed and White Irish in 2001 as well as an 'Other' category for each broad group of White, Mixed, Asian and Black. The 2011 question changed again, simply asking about 'your ethnic group or background' and there were categories added for White Gypsy or Irish Traveller and Arab. The changes in the phrasing of the question and the tick box response categories restrict comparison across censuses.

**Figure 2.** Geographical distribution of the largest ethnic minority groups in Kirklees by ward, 2011



## Geographical spread of diversity

Figures 2a-2d show the clustering of the largest ethnic minority groups in Kirklees in 2011. The Pakistani ethnic group is clustered in wards in Dewsbury and Huddersfield (see Figure 2a, Page 2). A fifth or more of the population in the wards of Dewsbury West (41%), Greenhead (29%), Crossland Moor and Netherton (27%), Heckmondwike (20%) and Dewsbury South (20%) have a Pakistani ethnic identity.

The Indian ethnic group accounts for the highest proportion of the population in the wards in the east of Kirklees, including Batley East (37%) and Dewsbury South (23%) (see Figure 2b, Page 2). The third largest ethnic minority group is Other White. The Other White group accounts for less than 5% of the population in all wards in Kirklees, with the greatest proportion in Greenhead (5%) and Newsome (4%) wards (see Figure 2c, Page 2). More than a third of people in Kirklees who ticked the Other White ethnic group category wrote in on the census form that that they were Polish in 2011.

All other ethnic minority groups account for the greatest proportion of the population in Ashbrow ward (see Figure 2d, Page 2). Ashbrow is one of most ethnically diverse wards in Kirklees where the White British population accounts for more than half the population. The rest of the population comprises a diverse mix of ethnic groups, including Pakistani (9%), Caribbean (7%), Mixed White-Caribbean (5%), Indian (5%), White Other (3%) and African (3%).

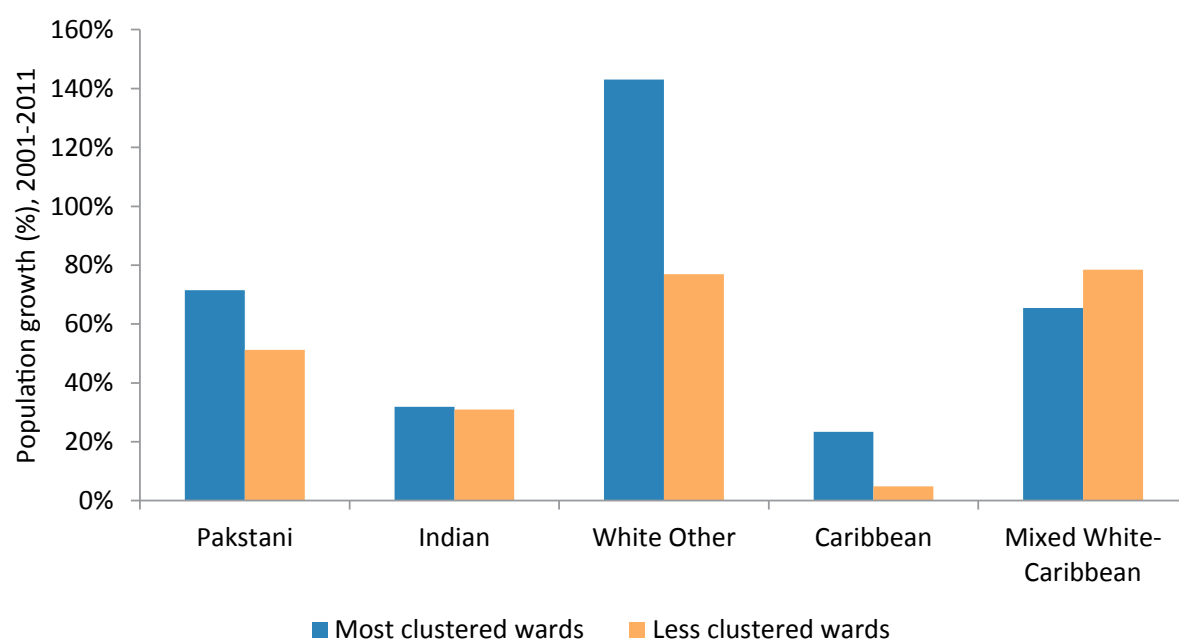
## Dispersal of ethnic diversity

Although ethnic minority groups are clustered in the most urban parts of Kirklees, there is evidence of dispersal towards suburban and rural areas. This is shown in Figure 3, which highlights the percentage change (2001-2011) in the population of the largest ethnic minority groups in Kirklees wards where they are most clustered, and the percentage change in each group in all other less clustered wards.

There is a clear pattern of greater population growth for each ethnic minority group in those wards where they are less clustered, which will reflect a movement of people out of historic settlement areas. The Pakistani population is growing at a faster rate in Lindley (148%), Mirfield (94%) and Ashbrow (88%) wards than in Dewsbury West (79%) and Greenhead (62%) wards, where the group has historically been most concentrated. The Indian population is also growing fastest in relative terms in wards close to historic settlement areas including Dewsbury West (90%), Heckmondwike (77%) and Batley West (71%) wards. The growth in the most concentrated ward, Batley East, was 32%.

The greater growth of the population in the most clustered wards rather than the least clustered wards for the White Other, Pakistani, Indian and Caribbean groups is likely to be a result of in-situ natural growth and new immigration rather than people moving from other parts of Kirklees to resettle in the most ethnically diverse wards. The growth of the

**Figure 3.** Population growth of largest ethnic groups in Kirklees wards where each group is most clustered, and everywhere else, 2001-2011



**Notes:** The 'most clustered wards' for each ethnic group contain a fifth of an ethnic group's population in 2001 in the wards with the highest percentage of the group, and the 'less clustered wards' contain the remaining four-fifths. The most clustered wards are as follows for each group:

**White Other:** Greenhead, Newsome, Ashbrow; **Pakistani:** Dewsbury West, Greenhead; **Mixed White-Caribbean:** Ashbrow; **Indian:** Batley East; **Caribbean:** Ashbrow.

Mixed White-Caribbean group is greater in the less clustered wards suggesting a faster rate of dispersal compared with other ethnic groups. When more data is released from the 2011 Census, it will be possible to determine the relative importance of natural change and migration.

## Indicators of barriers to community participation

Ethnic identity does not provide a clear indication of the assistance some people will require from local authority services to participate in their communities because many ethnic minority residents will have been born in the UK or have lived here for a long period of time. Indeed, Britishness is multiethnic, as information first available in the 2011 Census tells us: in each and every ward in Kirklees there is a higher proportion of the population that reports a British national identity than reports a White British ethnic identity. The 2011 Census provides new information about national identity, year of arrival of people born abroad and English language proficiency.

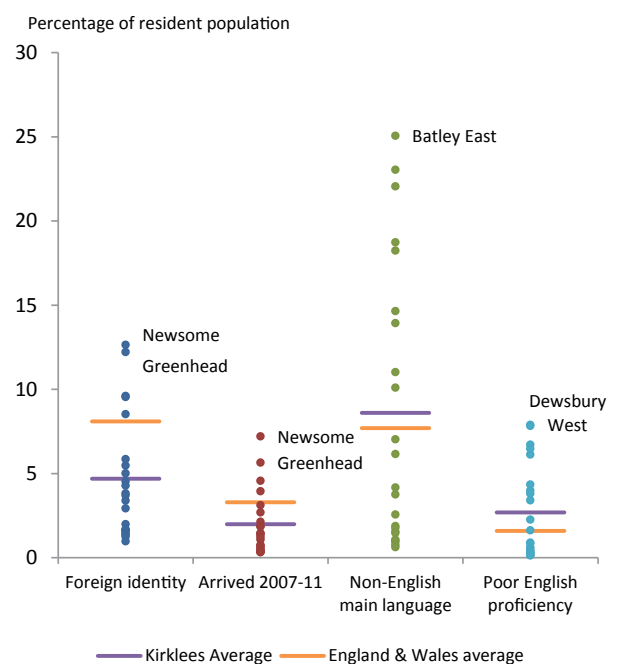
Figure 4 shows the proportion of people in each ward in Kirklees who have a foreign national identity, arrived in the UK recently (2007-11), speak a non-English main language and cannot speak English well. The wards with the highest proportion of residents with a foreign national identity are located in Huddersfield, including Newsome (13%) and Greenhead (12%). The average for Kirklees is 4.7%, below the national average of 8.1%.

The proportion of people with a foreign identity is strongly correlated ( $R=0.97$ ) with the proportion of people who arrived in the UK during 2007-11 across wards in Kirklees. This shows that areas with higher proportions of people with a foreign identity have higher proportions of people who have recently arrived. Newsome ward has the highest proportion of residents who arrived in the 4 years prior to the 2011 Census (7%). Greenhead (6%) and Crosland Moor and Netherton (5%) also have a larger proportion of their population who recently arrived than the Kirklees average of 2%.

The proportion of the population that do not speak English as their main language and the proportion who cannot speak English well are not as strongly correlated with foreign national identity ( $R=0.74$  &  $R=0.73$ ). Thus, English tuition needs are not necessarily greatest in areas of recent immigration. The wards with the greatest proportion of the population who cannot speak English well are Dewsbury

West (8%) and Batley East (8%), which is where South Asian ethnic groups are most clustered. The average for Kirklees is 3%, which is higher than the national average of 2%. This shows that the vast majority of the population in Kirklees, even in the areas where ethnic minorities are clustered, can speak English well.

**Figure 4.** Alternative measures of immigrant history in Kirklees wards, 2011



**Notes:** Base population for 'non-English main language' and 'poor English proficiency' only includes people aged 3 and over.

## Incompleteness of ethnic group data 1991-2001

Non-response (undercount) is thought to have been well-estimated within the 2011 Census, but incompletely estimated in 1991 and 2001. Non-response is concentrated in some ethnic groups. If this bias is not taken into account, comparisons of population can be misleading. In this briefing we have used the complete estimates for 1991 and 2001 available from the [UK Data Archive](#).

This briefing is one in a series, *Local dynamics of diversity: evidence from the 2011 Census*.

**Authors:** Stephen Jivraj & Nissa Finney

**Centre on Dynamics of Ethnicity (CoDE)**

The University of Manchester  
Oxford Road, Manchester  
M13 9PL, UK

**email:** censusbriefings@ethnicity.ac.uk

**www.ethnicity.ac.uk**