

Ethnic Inequalities in Manchester

A need for local partnerships and solutions

Summary

This Briefing draws on data from the 2001 and 2011 Censuses and workshop discussions of academic researchers, community representatives and service providers, to identify patterns and drivers of ethnic inequalities in Manchester, and potential solutions. The main findings are:

- Manchester performs better than England and Wales in terms of ethnic inequalities in education, housing and health but worse on employment.
- There is considerable variation in ethnic inequalities between ethnic groups and across districts of Greater Manchester.
- Employment inequality is particularly marked for the Black African, Black Caribbean and Bangladeshi groups in Manchester.
- Housing inequality is severe in Manchester and has worsened over the 2000s.
- Minority advantage and reduction of inequalities in education has been seen in Manchester since 2000.
- Ethnic minorities generally have a health advantage compared to their White peers in Manchester. This is not the case, however, for Pakistani, Bangladeshi and Mixed groups.
- Local stakeholders in Manchester identified reasons for inequalities which included lack of understanding of housing, employment, education and health systems, racism and discrimination, and lack of recognition of foreign qualifications.
- Examples of what works included local community support groups and charities, English language courses and mentoring schemes.
- To address inequalities there is a need for collaboration between researchers and community groups to generate local understandings and group- and place-specific initiatives.

Introduction

Research undertaken by the ESRC Centre on Dynamics of Ethnicity (CoDE) in association with the Runnymede Trust¹ using data from the 2001 and 2011 Censuses evidenced persistent ethnic inequalities within and across districts in England and Wales.

A series of workshops were held to identify the drivers of inequalities in different localities and ways of addressing

Measuring Local Ethnic Inequalities

Inequality for ethnic minorities in relation to the White British in education, employment, health and housing has been calculated for districts in England and Wales using data from the 2001 and 2011 England and Wales Census. Ethnic inequality is calculated as the absolute difference in the proportion of the White British group and a particular ethnic minority group who experience disadvantage on key social indicators. The indicators of inequality are: percent aged 16-24 with no qualifications (Education); percent aged 25 and over who are unemployed (Employment); percent with a limiting long term illness (LLTI indirectly age standardized) (Health); percent living with an occupancy rating of -1 or below, indicating overcrowding (Housing). A negative value indicates inequality (disadvantage) for the minority group. Inequality was calculated for nine ethnic minority groups: White Irish, White Other, Mixed, Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi, Chinese, Black African, Black Caribbean. For full details see the national report.¹

them. Workshop participants in Manchester included academic researchers and representatives from a range of organisations including BHA for Health and Social Care, Jobcentre Plus, Northwards Housing, Wai Yin, Manchester BME Network, SEVA, Migrants Supporting Migrants, Reclaim, and the Ahmed Iqbal Ullah Race Relations Resource Centre.

The purpose of this briefing is to identify patterns of ethnic inequalities across Greater Manchester, their drivers and potential solutions to alleviate them.

What next? The need for research and community collaborations

National and local data can be used in conjunction with local needs based assessments and knowledge produced by community groups to give greater insight into what shapes local ethnic inequalities, and what is needed to alleviate them. Ethnic inequalities should be addressed through targeted local understandings and initiatives.

"What is needed is a project with local communities and people on the front line. This should not only be in the form of information but also set a plan to tackle the issues. One of the problems is that there is not impact. We need structures to tackle inequalities on a practical level."

What works to address ethnic inequalities?

Examples of initiatives across Manchester that are addressing ethnic inequalities:

- Provision of information by community groups and service providers on how to access and navigate education and employment systems
- Longitudinal mentoring of young people in industry
- Support for community groups working with ethnic minorities
- Vocal employer champions who advocate for more multicultural employment environments
- In-work support projects
- Provision of English classes by charities and community groups

education gap between ethnic minorities and the White British decreased in six out of ten districts, particularly in Bolton, Rochdale and Tameside where the educational disadvantage of ethnic minorities disappeared over this period (Figure 2).

Table 1. Ethnic inequalities in Education in Manchester district compared to England and Wales

%	England & Wales	Manchester
BME	1.1	1.4
White Irish	4.5	4.2
White Other	-2.4	1.4
Mixed	-1.1	-2.0
Indian	6.0	6.4
Pakistani	0.6	1.6
Bangladeshi	1.5	2.0
Chinese	5.4	5.1
Black African	2.1	-0.6
Black Caribbean	1.6	0.7

Education

Overall, a higher proportion of ethnic minority young adults in Manchester have an educational qualification compared to their White British counterparts. Ethnic inequalities in education in Manchester are lower than in England and Wales (Table 1). The Mixed group experienced educational inequality in both 2001 and 2011 while the White Other, Indian and Black Caribbean groups were more likely to have qualifications than their White British counterparts (Figure 1).

Across Greater Manchester in 2011, ethnic minority educational advantage was greatest for the Indian in Salford and Tameside; Pakistani in Salford; and the Chinese in Rochdale. The worst ethnic inequalities in education were for the White Other group in Wigan, Bolton, Tameside and Rochdale; and the Black African group in Tameside, Stockport and Bury. Between 2001 and 2011 the

Figure 1. Absolute Inequality Education Manchester LAD

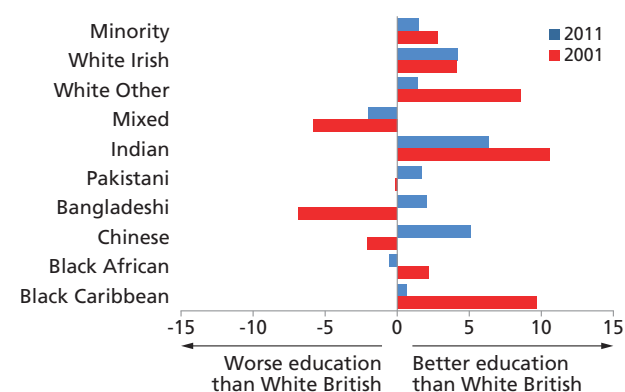
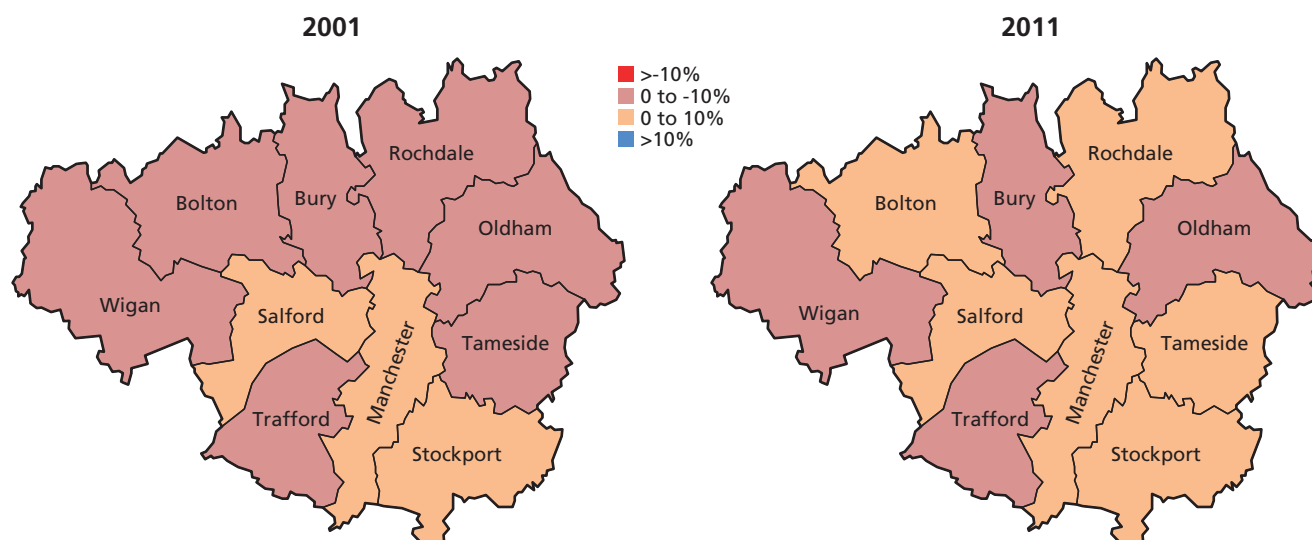


Figure 2. Ethnic Minority Education Inequality across Greater Manchester, 2001 & 2011



"New arrivals have a problem understanding the school system and the barriers that their children might face. But once the barriers were lifted the children accelerate through the education system."

"There is a large Somali community in Manchester and this makes up most who would qualify as Black African and this differs from the Black African community in London which is mainly made up of migrants from West Africa. This difference in country of origin and who was included in each ethnic category might explain the education difference by area. Hulme and Moss Side could skew these statistics whilst in areas like Moston, Black African young people are doing very well."

"Manchester has a strong history of engagement with the learning of additional language."

"A big problem is getting people outside the central Manchester area to travel to the city for work."

Table 2. Ethnic inequalities in Employment in Manchester district compared to England and Wales

%	England & Wales	Manchester
BME	-3.4	-4.5
White Irish	-0.2	1.4
White Other	-0.3	0.4
Mixed	-5.6	-7.7
Indian	-1.3	0.3
Pakistani	-6.0	-3.7
Bangladeshi	-8.0	-4.6
Chinese	-1.1	-1.5
Black African	-10.2	-10.8
Black Caribbean	-7.2	-5.7

Employment

Considerable employment inequality exists for ethnic minorities in Manchester and this has not improved since 2001. Levels of unemployment of ethnic minority groups compared with the White British are greater in Manchester than in England and Wales as a whole (Table 2). Between 2001 and 2011 employment inequality worsened for the Black African, Black Caribbean and Bangladeshi groups (Figure 3). Employment inequality for the Black African group increased across all districts in Greater Manchester between 2001 and 2011 (Figure 4).

"The largest problem I have noticed is the lack of formal recognition of qualifications in the UK and this inhibits people when they attempt to enter into employment."

"There is a strong sense that discrimination is in existence and that this is a major obstacle for my clients."

Figure 3. Absolute Inequality Employment Manchester LAD

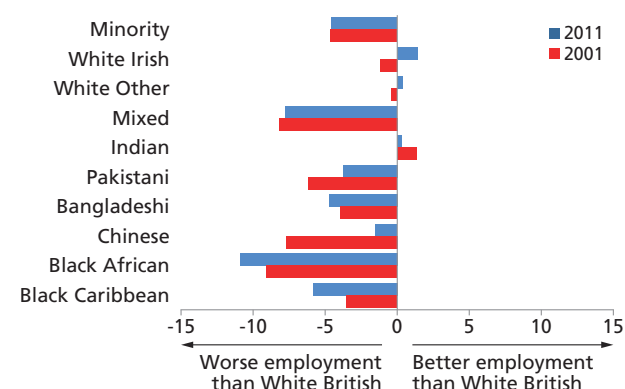
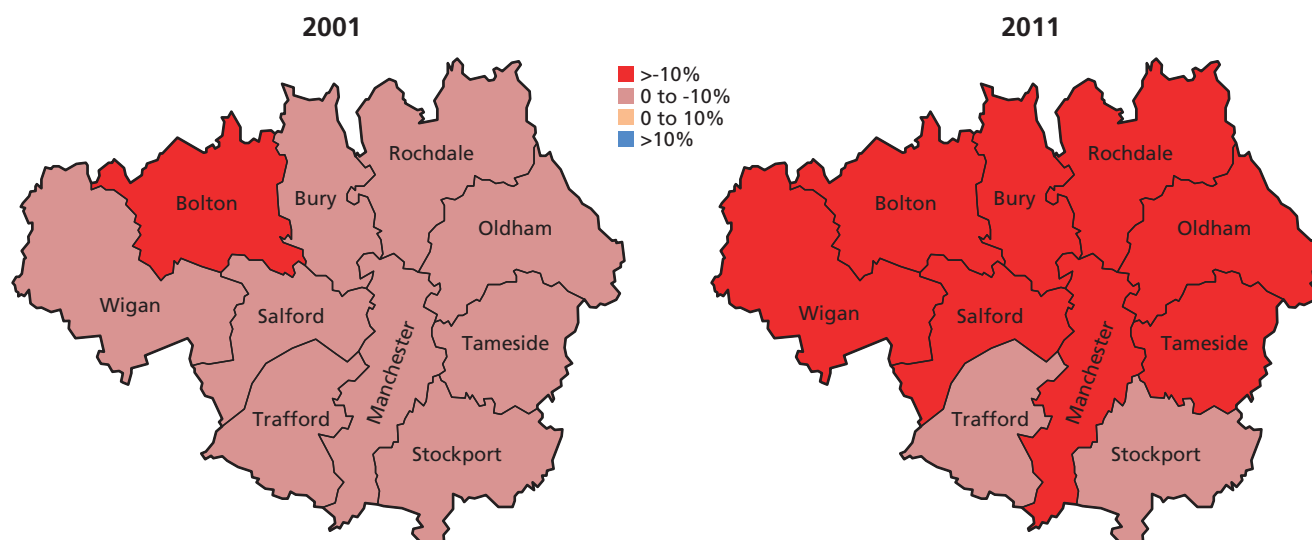


Figure 4. Black African Employment Inequality across Greater Manchester, 2001 & 2011



Health

Most ethnic minority groups, had better health (lower LLTI) than the White British in 2011, controlling for age differences between groups. For most ethnic minority groups, health inequality has reduced (advantage increased) over the 2000s. Overall, ethnic health inequalities in Manchester are less than in England and Wales as a whole (Table 3). However, some ethnic minority groups suffer a health disadvantage: The Pakistani and Bangladeshi groups had poorer health than the White British and the most severe health inequality in 2011 was experienced by the Mixed group (Figure 5). Although the Pakistani group had worse health than the White British group in all but one district in Greater Manchester, the gap in the LLTI rate between the White British group and the Pakistani group narrowed in nearly all districts in Greater Manchester over the 2000s (the exception is Wigan; Figure 6).

"Racism has been found to be an issue when accessing mental health. What is interesting is the disparity between high concentration of a minority groups and the low-recorded access to mental health services."

"The district scale might hide health inequalities. The gap between good and bad health in Trafford is vast. South Asian communities in the area suffer from poor health but they are located in a small area of the district."

Housing

Severe housing inequality exists for ethnic minorities in Manchester and this has worsened since 2001.

However, ethnic inequality in housing was less severe in Manchester than in England and Wales as a whole (Table 4). All ethnic minority groups except the White Irish and

Black Caribbean groups had higher levels of overcrowding compared with the White British group in 2011. Between 2001 and 2011 inequality worsened for the White Other and Chinese groups. For all other ethnic minority groups housing inequality was less severe in 2011 than in 2001,

Table 3. Ethnic inequalities in Health in Manchester district compared to England and Wales

%	England & Wales	Manchester
BME	1.4	3.4
White Irish	-0.2	0.5
White Other	4.5	9.8
Mixed	-3.1	-3.7
Indian	2.7	8.7
Pakistani	-3.4	-1.3
Bangladeshi	-4.1	-2.0
Chinese	8.3	12.5
Black African	6.0	10.6
Black Caribbean	-0.8	2.0

Figure 5. Absolute Inequality Health Manchester LAD

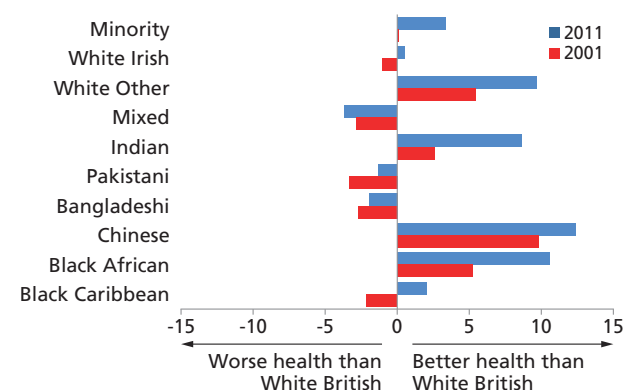
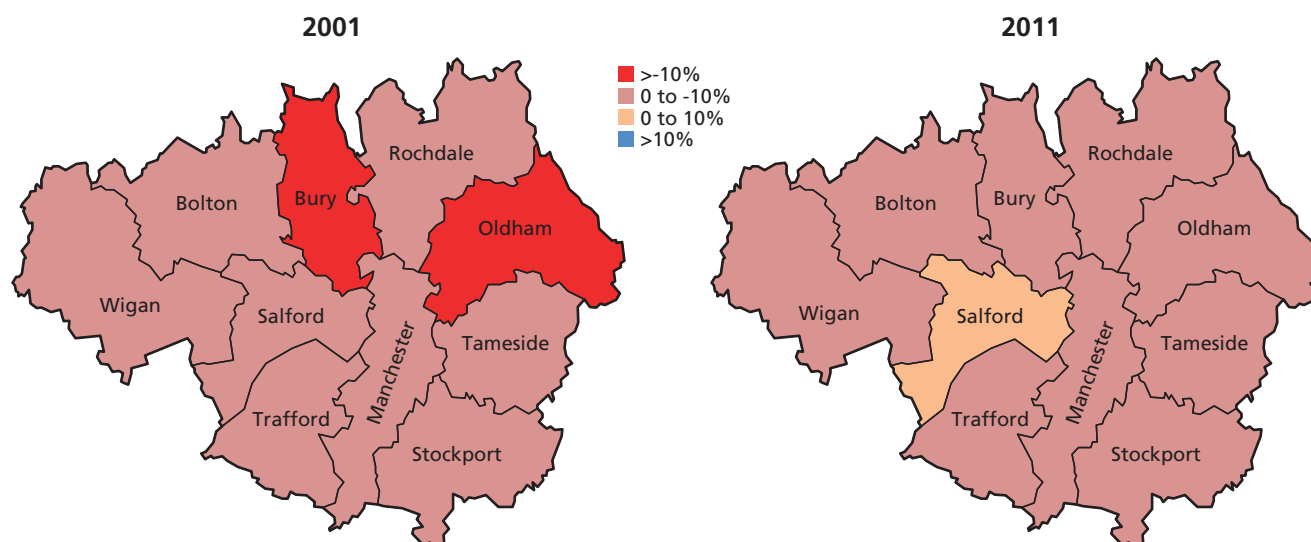


Figure 6. Pakistani Health Inequality across Greater Manchester 2001 & 2011



particularly for the Black Caribbean group (Figure 7). Between 2001 and 2011, housing inequality for the minority group as a whole worsened in Manchester, Salford, Trafford and Wigan (Figure 8). Housing inequality increased the most for the White Other group and inequality for this group increased in every district in Greater Manchester, with the largest increases seen in districts in the north west and south west of Greater Manchester (for example, Salford, Wigan, and Bolton).

Table 4. Ethnic inequalities in Housing in Manchester district compared to England and Wales

%	England & Wales	Manchester
BME	-17.3	-11.7
White Irish	-3.8	1.5
White Other	-18.5	-17.1
Mixed	-13.9	-8.1
Indian	-11.4	-11.2
Pakistani	-16.9	-11.6
Bangladeshi	-28.8	-11.3
Chinese	-17.5	-18.4
Black African	-29.5	-17.4
Black Caribbean	-12.0	0.3

"The insurmountable issue for the Chinese minority group in Greater Manchester is language. There is little knowledge of social housing, what is available and how the community accesses social housing and this is a major issue faced by many of the Chinese community. These data miss a hidden phenomenon of homelessness amongst Black African families in Manchester."

Figure 7. Absolute Inequality Housing Manchester LAD

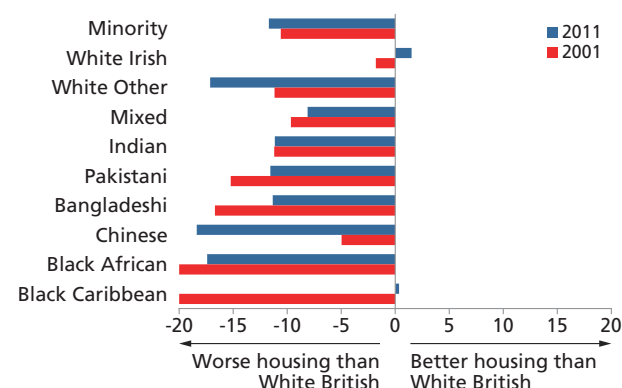
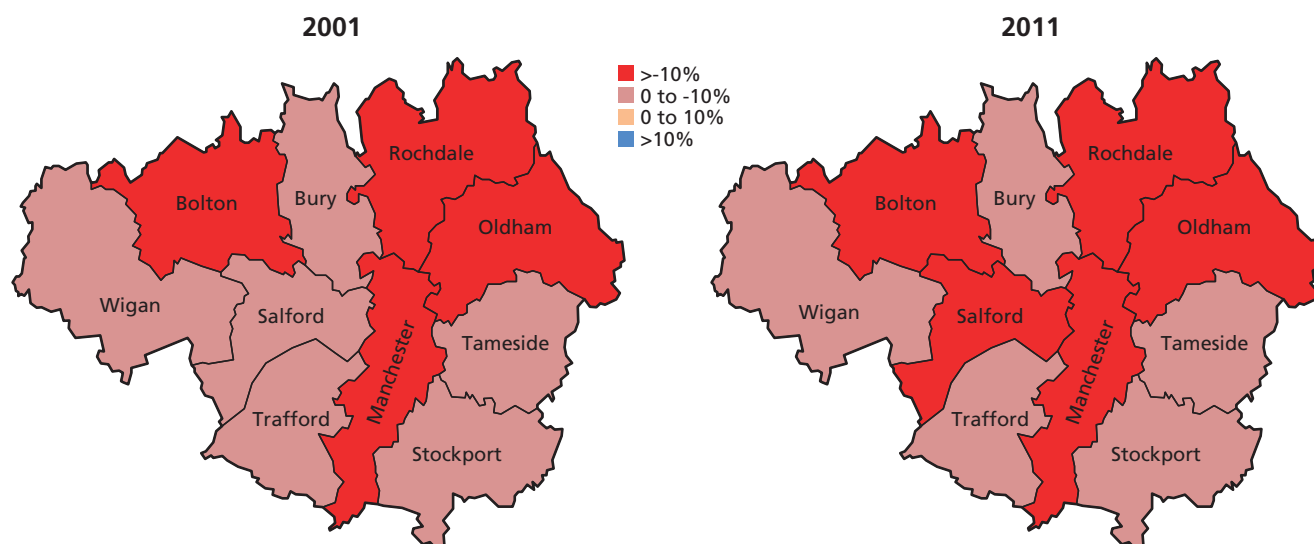


Figure 8. Ethnic Minority Housing Inequality across Greater Manchester, 2001 & 2011



¹ The national report from this project (Finney and Lymeropoulou 2014) is available at: <http://www.ethnicity.ac.uk/research/research-partners/local-ethnic-inequalities/>. Data on ethnic inequalities for all districts in England and Wales can be accessed in Excel format here: <http://www.ethnicity.ac.uk/research/further-research/local-ethnic-inequalities/>

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