

Population Estimates by Ethnic Group: 2001 to 2003: Commentary

This paper provides initial comments on the population estimates by ethnic group released in January 2006. The methodology used to produce the estimates is described in a separate paper. Tables referred to in the text are found at the end of the paper.

Changes in the population by ethnic group in England

Table 1 shows total population estimates for each ethnic group for mid-year 2001, 2002 and 2003, together with the average annual growth rate for each group between mid-2001 and mid-2003. Table 2 provides a summary of the components of change¹ between 2001 and 2003.

While the White British and White Irish groups decrease in size over the period (largely due to net international emigration but also reflecting natural decrease in the relatively old White Irish population), this is more than offset by the increase in other ethnic groups, with the rises in Black African and Other White groups making the largest contributions to growth. High growth in the Chinese and Other Ethnic Group categories is largely attributable to net international in-migration, with a substantial contribution to the Other Ethnic Group in-migration coming from people born in the Philippines. Growth in the Black African group is primarily driven by net flows of asylum seekers of, in particular, Zimbabwean and Somalian nationalities.

Sub-national patterns of development

In addition to patterns of growth seen at the England level, the estimates provide detail on developments within smaller areas, down to the level of the Local Authority District. Table 3 shows growth rates, along with the contributions of the different components of change of the non-White British groups by the standard geography of Government Office Regions.

London retains great concentrations of the non-White British ethnic groups, though its proportion of the total non-White British population has fallen from 44.7% in 2001 to 42.5% in 2003. Indeed, amongst the GORs, London shows the lowest annualised growth rate of the non-White British population over the period (although its absolute increase is more than 68 thousand). In general, GORs with a small base of non-White British population show the highest growth rates. The components of change columns illustrate a pattern of natural growth and strong net international in-migration of these groups in all areas, but a pattern of net internal migration from London, and into other GORS. Indeed, the estimated flow of non-White British from London to elsewhere in England is very similar in size to the flow from outside the UK into London. Flows to other parts of the UK are relatively small, though the North East, notably, shows a net inflow of non-White British.

An interesting perspective is also supplied by using a (non-standard) separation of LADs into three categories: London LADs; Unitary Authorities and Metropolitan Districts; and County Districts. Very broadly, the latter two categories may be thought to reflect differences between urban concentrations outside London and more rural areas, although it is acknowledged that this

¹ Components of change shown will not add exactly to total change. Changes in special populations (Armed Forces, prisoners and school boarders) and small adjustments made to constrain to the Mid-Year Population Estimates are included in the total change figure.

distinction is approximate. Estimates for these geographies are shown in Table 4. Not surprisingly, for each type of authority overall population growth is outstripped by growth of the non-White British groups: figures for migration suggest that there is generally a pattern of non-White British population growth in London and in the Unitary Authorities and Metropolitan Districts being driven by international in-migration, while growth in the County Districts is largely attributable to migration from those, typically more urban, areas.

The pattern of faster growth of non-White British populations in areas with smaller starting populations is also clear in the results for individual local authorities. Table 5 shows the LADs with the highest and lowest rates of increase for the non-White British population. The high growth rate for East Cambridgeshire is primarily explained by an increase in the number of US Armed Forces in the area. In general, however, the highest growth rates are seen in those areas with small starting populations of non-White British, with, conversely, the lowest growth rates associated with high proportions. 13 LADs, all in Inner London, and Inner London itself, show a fall in the proportion of the total population belonging to a non-White British group, and this reflects a rise in the number of White British people, due largely to natural growth, but also partly due to net migration from elsewhere in England and the rest of the UK (in contrast, all other ethnic groups showed net flows from Inner London to elsewhere in England and the rest of the UK).

Comparison with other sources

Chart 1 provides a comparison of population estimates by ethnic group for 2001 taken from the 2001 Census, the Labour Force Survey (LFS), and the Population Estimates by Ethnic Group (as the LFS does not separately identify White: Irish, this group has been added to 'White: Other' for the Census and Population Estimates by Ethnic Group shown in the chart).

Unsurprisingly the Census and the (Census-based) Population Estimates show similar distributions, though the adjustments for under-enumeration made in the Mid-Year Estimates (which are reflected in the Population Estimates by Ethnic Group) do have a proportionately greater effect on those ethnic groups with relatively more young men and a greater concentration in urban areas.

Some reasons for differences between Census-based estimates and LFS results are discussed in *Comparison of 2001 Census and Labour Force Survey labour market data*, available at <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/cci/article.asp?ID=1037&Pos=1&ColRank=1&Rank=1>. In addition to the sampling variability inherent in LFS estimates for small groups, the differences in the estimates for the Mixed groups between the Census-based estimates and the LFS may also be partly attributable to differences in coding rules for the two data sources. Aggregation of the White Irish group may explain the discrepancy in the White Other estimate.

Differences between the LFS and the Census-based estimates are more striking when change over time, rather than the absolute level of population, is considered. Chart 2 illustrates estimated change between 2001 and 2003 using the Population Estimates by Ethnic Group and the LFS. Not surprisingly, the cohort-component method of the Population Estimates produces growth rates which accord more with expectation than the comparison of two point estimates from the LFS which show, for example, a decrease in the Asian: Pakistani population over the period.

Table 1: Population Estimates by Ethnic Group, England

	<i>Thousands</i>				
	2001	2002	2003	Absolute change 2001-2003	Average annual growth rate: 2001-2003
All people	49,450	49,647	49,856	406	0.4%
White: British	42,886	42,826	42,785	-100	-0.1%
White: Irish	632	622	613	-19	-1.5%
White: Other White	1,348	1,398	1,438	90	3.3%
Mixed: White and Black Caribbean	235	243	251	16	3.3%
Mixed: White and Black African	79	84	90	12	7.0%
Mixed: White and Asian	188	199	209	21	5.6%
Mixed: Other Mixed	155	163	172	17	5.3%
Asian or Asian British: Indian	1,052	1,079	1,113	61	2.9%
Asian or Asian British: Pakistani	723	742	765	42	2.9%
Asian or Asian British: Bangladeshi	283	292	302	18	3.2%
Asian or Asian British: Other Asian	246	264	280	34	6.6%
Black or Black British: Caribbean	576	579	584	9	0.7%
Black or Black British: African	497	539	587	90	8.7%
Black or Black British: Other Black	98	101	104	6	2.8%
Chinese or other ethnic group :Chinese	228	259	285	57	11.9%
Chinese or other ethnic group: Other Ethnic Group	224	256	278	54	11.4%
<i>Non-White British</i>	6,564	6,821	7,071	507	3.8%
<i>o/w</i>					
<i>White: Irish and Other White</i>	1,980	2,020	2,051	71	1.8%
<i>Mixed</i>	657	689	723	66	4.9%
<i>Asian</i>	2,304	2,377	2,459	155	3.3%
<i>Black</i>	1,171	1,219	1,275	104	4.4%
<i>Chinese and Other Ethnic Group</i>	451	515	562	111	11.6%

Source: Population Estimates by Ethnic Group.

Table 2: Components of Change, England, 2001-2003

Thousands

				Average annual growth rate: mid 2001-2003	Contributions to average annual growth rate		
	Natural growth	Cross-border migration	International migration		Natural growth	Cross-border migration	International Migration
All people	143	-37	308	0.4%	0.1%	0.0%	0.3%
White: British	0	-27	-66	-0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	-0.1%
White: Irish	-13	0	-7	-1.5%	-1.0%	0.0%	-0.5%
White: Other White	8	0	79	3.3%	0.3%	0.0%	2.9%
Mixed: White and Black Caribbean	17	-1	0	3.3%	3.4%	-0.2%	0.1%
Mixed: White and Black African	7	0	5	7.0%	4.0%	-0.1%	3.3%
Mixed: White and Asian	14	0	7	5.6%	3.8%	-0.1%	2.0%
Mixed: Other Mixed	11	0	6	5.3%	3.4%	0.0%	2.0%
Asian or Asian British: Indian	17	-2	47	2.9%	0.8%	-0.1%	2.2%
Asian or Asian British: Pakistani	28	-2	17	2.9%	1.9%	-0.1%	1.1%
Asian or Asian British: Bangladeshi	12	-1	8	3.2%	2.1%	-0.2%	1.4%
Asian or Asian British: Other Asian	6	0	28	6.6%	1.2%	-0.1%	5.5%
Black or Black British: Caribbean	6	-2	5	0.7%	0.5%	-0.2%	0.4%
Black or Black British: African	19	-1	73	8.7%	1.9%	-0.1%	7.1%
Black or Black British: Other Black	5	0	1	2.8%	2.3%	-0.2%	0.6%
Chinese or other ethnic group :Chinese	3	0	55	11.9%	0.7%	0.0%	11.3%
Chinese or other ethnic group: Other Ethnic Group	4	0	50	11.4%	0.8%	-0.1%	10.7%
<i>Non-White British</i>	143	-10	374	3.8%	1.1%	-0.1%	2.8%
<i>o/w</i>							
<i>White: Irish and Other White</i>	-4	0	72	1.8%	-0.1%	0.0%	1.8%
<i>Mixed</i>	48	-1	19	4.9%	3.6%	-0.1%	1.5%
<i>Asian</i>	63	-5	99	3.3%	1.4%	-0.1%	2.1%
<i>Black</i>	29	-4	79	4.3%	1.2%	-0.1%	3.3%
<i>Chinese and Other Ethnic Group</i>	7	0	105	11.6%	0.8%	0.0%	11.0%

Source: Population Estimates by Ethnic Group.

Table 3: Non-White British population: Government Office Regions, 2003

Thousands

GOR	Total population	Non-White British population	Non-White British as % of total	Average annual growth 2001-2003		Components of change (Non-White British) Contributions to average annual growth rate			
				Total	Non-White British	Natural growth	Internal migration	Cross-border migration	International Migration
A North East	2,539	117	4.6%	0.0%	9.9%	1.2%	2.9%	0.4%	5.7%
B North West	6,805	604	8.9%	0.2%	5.3%	1.0%	1.1%	0.0%	3.2%
D Yorkshire and the Humber	5,009	469	9.4%	0.3%	5.5%	1.4%	0.9%	0.0%	3.2%
E East Midlands	4,252	416	9.8%	0.7%	5.3%	0.9%	2.0%	0.0%	2.4%
F West Midlands	5,320	797	15.0%	0.4%	3.8%	1.2%	0.2%	-0.1%	2.6%
G East of England	5,463	558	10.2%	0.6%	7.4%	1.0%	4.1%	0.0%	2.4%
H London	7,388	3,004	40.7%	0.4%	1.2%	1.2%	-2.7%	-0.2%	2.9%
J South East	8,080	819	10.1%	0.4%	6.3%	0.9%	3.0%	-0.1%	2.5%
K South West	4,999	288	5.8%	0.6%	9.1%	0.7%	5.8%	0.2%	2.4%

Source: Population Estimates by Ethnic Group.

Table 4: Non-White British population: Type of local authority

Thousands

	2001 Population Estimate	Components of change 2001-2003				Average annual growth 2001-2003	Contributions to average annual growth rate			
		Natural change	Internal migration	Cross- border migration	International migration		Natural change	Internal migration	Cross- border migration	International migration
<i>All people</i>										
London local authority districts	7,322	98	-202	-5	182	0.4%	0.7%	-1.4%	0.0%	1.2%
Unitary Authorities/Met. Districts	19,129	51	-65	-13	114	0.2%	0.1%	-0.2%	0.0%	0.3%
County districts	22,998	-6	268	-19	12	0.6%	0.0%	0.6%	0.0%	0.0%
Total	49,450	143	0	-37	308	0.4%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%
<i>Non-White British</i>										
London local authority districts	2,936	69	-158	-10	171	1.2%	1.2%	-2.7%	-0.2%	2.9%
Unitary Authorities/Met. Districts	2,231	51	5	-3	147	4.4%	1.1%	0.1%	-0.1%	3.2%
County districts	1,397	23	152	3	57	8.2%	0.8%	5.3%	0.1%	2.0%
Total	6,564	143	0	-10	374	3.8%	1.1%	0.0%	-0.1%	2.8%

Source: Population Estimates by Ethnic Group.

Table 5: Growth of non-White British Population: Selected LADs

LADs with Highest and Lowest Growth Rates for non-White British Groups

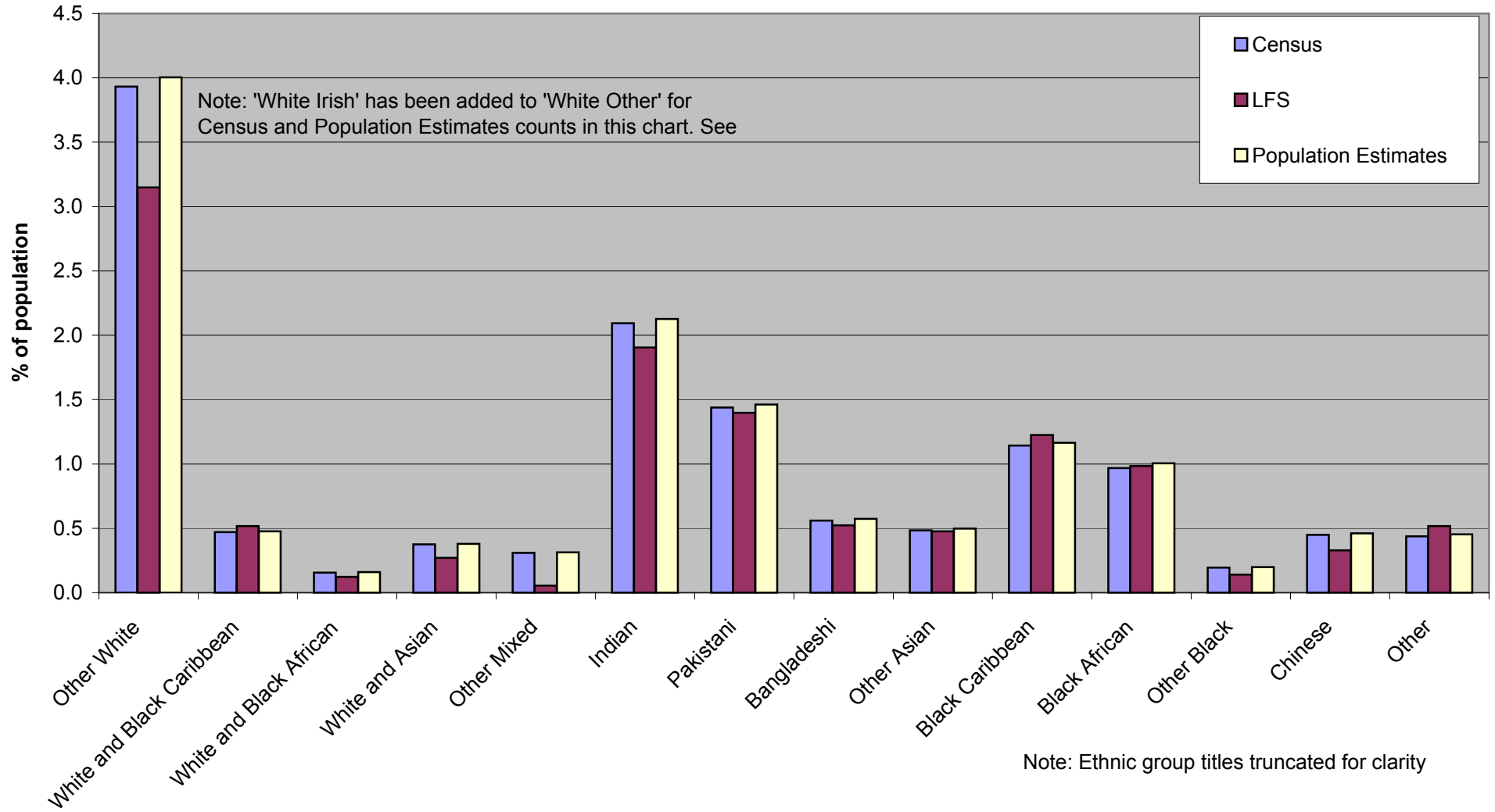
		Annualised growth rate 2001-2003	% of population at mid-2003
12UC	East Cambridgeshire	28%	11%
30UQ	Wyre	21%	4%
18UK	Torridge	18%	4%
35UC	Berwick-upon-Tweed	18%	2%
19UG	Purbeck	18%	5%
36UE	Richmondshire	17%	5%
16UF	Eden	17%	2%
32UB	Boston	17%	4%
32UF	South Holland	17%	4%
32UC	East Lindsey	17%	4%
00MD	Slough UA	0%	42%
00AT	Hounslow	0%	45%
00AJ	Ealing	-1%	54%
00BJ	Wandsworth	-1%	33%
00AM	Hackney	-1%	54%
00AZ	Lewisham	-1%	43%
00AE	Brent	-1%	69%
00AU	Islington	-1%	41%
00BE	Southwark	-1%	46%
00AY	Lambeth	-3%	47%

LADs with highest and lowest proportions of non-White British Groups

		Annualised growth rate 2001-2003	% of population at mid-2003
00AE	Brent	-1%	69%
00BB	Newham	1%	67%
00BG	Tower Hamlets	1%	56%
00AJ	Ealing	-1%	54%
00AM	Hackney	-1%	54%
00AP	Haringey	0%	53%
00AQ	Harrow	1%	51%
00BK	Westminster	4%	50%
00AW	Kensington and Chelsea	4%	49%
00AY	Lambeth	-3%	47%
35UC	Berwick-upon-Tweed	18%	2.4%
16UE	Copeland	13%	2.4%
16UB	Allerdale	14%	2.3%
20UB	Chester-le-Street	9%	2.3%
35UD	Blyth Valley	11%	2.3%
35UG	Wansbeck	11%	2.2%
20UJ	Wear Valley	10%	2.1%
20UD	Derwentside	14%	2.0%
20UG	Sedgefield	13%	1.9%
20UF	Easington	9%	1.7%

Source: Population Estimates by Ethnic Group.

Population by Selected Ethnic Group: 2001, England



Population by Selected Ethnic Group: Annualised Growth: 2001-2003

