PUBLISHED : JUNE 2017

Briefing Sheet (0,5)

Informal Caring within Scotland's Black and Minority Ethnic Communities





Informal Caring within Scotland's Black and Minority Ethnic Communities

Minimal Scottish research exists which explores the nature and extent of informal caring within Minority Ethnic communities. Netto's study¹ into the needs of Minority Ethnic carers of older people in Edinburgh and the Lothian's remains the most substantive Scottish document.

In common with informal carers within the majority population, self identification as a carer can be problematic. Individuals may prefer to think of themselves as spouses, sons or daughters, parents, relatives or good neighbours where the caring role is subsumed within the preferred identity. However, for BME carers, additional difficulties arise due to the lack of a conceptual framework and the accompanying language of 'informal caring'. Commentators agree that this may lead to significant amounts of under-reporting within BME communities.

Figures provided by Carers Scotland² estimate that 660,000 individuals or 1 in 8 of the population are currently caring for another individual. Each year, approximately 178,000 take on a new caring role and by 2037 they estimate that the total carer population in Scotland will reach approximately one million.

When considering both the actual and potential size of the BME carer population in Scotland, the application of ratios based on the whole population are problematic particularly in relation to the demographic structure of Scotland's Minority Ethnic communities.

For example, Scotland's Minority Ethnic communities have significantly larger numbers of younger people (56.05% aged below 30 compared with 36.6% of the White majority community) and far fewer older people (6.75% aged 60+ compared with 21.3% of the White majority community). As a correlation between the size of the older population and the extent of caring can be assumed, any calculation would have to be adjusted downwards to take into account a much younger population.

However, evidence from Netto's study amongst others suggests that whilst the overall size of the BME carer population may be smaller due to a younger age structure, caring may start earlier than in the White majority population. Support for this argument may be found in the earlier onset of age related conditions as well as the genetic predisposition towards certain conditions that may be found in BME populations (see section on the Health of Scotland's Black and Minority Ethnic Communities). This, in turn, suggests that BME carers may care for longer.

¹ Netto, G (1996) 'No one asked me before'. Scottish Ethnic Minorities Research Unit/MECOPP

² Carers Scotland (2009) *Ten facts about Caring in Scotland* www.carerscotland.org



Research conducted by Netto (out of a sample of 45 BME carers from the Pakistani, Indian, Bangladeshi, Chinese and Afro-Caribbean communities) identified the following characteristics of respondents:

- The peak age of caring was between 21 40 years;
- 76% of carers were female
- 29% were looking after three children or more in addition to caring for an older person;
- 69% of carers were looking after an older family member living with them;
- ▶ 48% of carers were unable to speak English;
- 31% of respondents rated their health as poor or very poor;
- ▶ 36% of carers were in paid employment of which 76% worked 20+ hours;
- ▶ 49% of carers had had their work or chances of employment adversely affected by their caring role;
- 20% of carers were entirely dependent on welfare benefits; and,
- 31% of carers financially supported the person they were providing care for whilst 29% partially supported them.

Netto found that the peak age for caring amongst Minority Ethnic communities is younger than that of the White majority community. This may be due both to the younger age structure of Minority Ethnic communities in addition to the earlier onset of age related illnesses. Research conducted by Carers UK³ also identifies that BME carers are more likely to be caring for a sick or disabled child and in particular, an adult son or daughter aged between 20 – 24 years, which reflects longterm and enduring caring responsibilities. Overall, this suggests that Minority Ethnic carers spend longer caring than other carers. The research also highlighted that BME carers are significantly more likely to be providing between 20 – 49 hours of care per week than their White counterparts.

Similarly, a much larger proportion of Minority Ethnic carers lived with the person they were caring for. Whilst this may be beneficial for the person in receipt of care in terms of the continuous support provided, respondents reported feeling additional pressures associated with continually 'being on call'.

In many instances this was compounded by childcare and having to cater for two sets of very different needs. Many of the younger women reported being housebound and thus isolated from information and potential sources of support. Bowes and MacDonald⁴ in a comparative study examining the sources of support available to older people within their own homes found much lower levels of knowledge and usage of domiciliary care services amongst Minority Ethnic older people and their families. Carers were also more likely to be isolated due to their lack of English language skills.

The reliance on often 'junior' female members of the household to provide care may also be a by product of the type of employment predominant in Minority Ethnic communities. The 2001 Census figures clearly indicate higher levels of self employment amongst Minority Ethnic communities and a concentration of employment in the catering and retail, i.e. small business, sector. Economic activity is highest for males, who due to the nature of their employment, may be required to work long and often unsocial hours.

 $^{^{\}scriptscriptstyle 3}\,$ Carers UK (2012) Half a million voices: Improving Support for BAME carers

⁴ Bowes, A M and MacDonald, C (2000) Support for Majority and Minority Ethnic groups at home – older people's perspectives.

Social Work Research Findings Number 36 Scottish Executive



Research commissioned by Carers UK⁵ similarly found that young South Asian women were more likely to be informal carers between the ages of 16 − 30 although this difference became less marked between different ethnic groups in the 30 − 59 age group and upwards. The research also found that amongst men of working age, defined in this instance as between 16 − 30, young South Asian men were two and a half times more likely to be carers than young White males. This was true of young men in both the Bangladeshi and Pakistani communities whereas young Chinese males were the least likely to be carers.

Netto and others also draw attention to the financial costs of caring which may disproportionately impact on BME carers. Many Minority Ethnic carers remain unaware of their entitlement to financial support and as a consequence fail to claim. Minority Ethnic older people may also have insufficient pension/benefit entitlements due to the nature of their employment.

Research commissioned by the Department of Work and Pensions⁶ identified three sets of inter-linked factors – designated personal, local/community and organisational/structural – which adversely affected satisfaction with and the uptake of benefits within the welfare system.

Poorer English language skills, the inadequacy of interpretation and translation services and the use of terminology which was difficult to translate or which had negative cultural resonance were identified as being of particular concern. The researchers also noted the reluctance of some families to seek assistance from local support agencies as an attempt to 'hide' the existence of disability within the family. Concerns were also expressed by respondents of sensitive information being shared between different departments to establish entitlement.

At a local level, specific concerns included the multiple caring roles of young women in the household which made it particularly onerous to navigate the welfare benefit system, negative associations within the family and community of 'welfare' and disability and the under-resourcing of local organisations which limited the extent to which support could be provided or relied upon.

The research also found that structural issues with the DWP itself compounded the problem. An overtly complex system with an over-reliance on translated materials despite limited literacy for some sections of the community, stereo-typing by professionals and a lack of knowledge and experience within the organisation itself were seen as major barriers.

Grassroots experience also highlights that an increasing number of Minority Ethnic older people enter the United Kingdom with no recourse to public funds due to their immigration status. This, in turn, places an even greater financial 'burden' on families who may already be disproportionately affected by poverty/ low income. This exclusion also poses additional difficulties with regard to the entitlement of social work/ care services.

The research commissioned by Carers UK⁷ provides additional evidence that BME carers were 'more likely to struggle financially than their White counterparts'.

⁵ Yeandle S, Bennett C, Buckner L, Fry G & Price C (2007) *Diversity in Caring: towards equality for carers* University of Leeds

⁶ Allmark P, Salway S, Crisp R & Barley R (2010) Ethnic Minority Customers of the Pension, Disability and Carers Service: An Evidence Synthesis Sheffield Hallam University for the Department of Work and Pensions, Research Report 684

⁷ Yeandle S, Bennett C, Buckner L, Fry G & Price C (2007) *ibid*



In common with the majority community, Minority Ethnic carers report their health suffering as a result of caring. Research conducted by Carers UK⁸ demonstrates that a slightly higher proportion (0.6%) of BME carers experience poorer health than their White counterparts. However, similar barriers in accessing healthcare services may exacerbate the negative health impact experienced.

In Netto's study and others⁹, many of the findings refute common preconceptions associated with family structures and dynamics within Minority Ethnic communities. The belief in the 'extended family' as a primary source of support is not consistent with the reality reported by Minority Ethnic carers. For example, Netto found that 47% of respondents received no time off from caring, 44% of those in receipt of care were looked after by a sole carer and 69% had little or no family support. The reliance on one member of the family to provide care with little or no assistance from other family members, even in times of crisis, must question the veracity of such assumptions.

Chahal and Ullah¹⁰ amongst others¹¹ argue that the low take-up of services by BME communities cannot be viewed as evidence that BME communities prefer to 'look after their own'. Instead they point to communication problems as the most significant barrier to effective access to, and use of, services amongst BME carers.

Whilst information is clearly central to an individual's ability to access a service, concerns about the appropriateness of many of the services available also emerge as key themes. Concerns commonly cited include: ongoing language and communication problems; lack of knowledge about cultural norms; an inability to respond to specific dietary, religious and gender requirements; the nature and type of services available; the lack of a diverse workforce; and a fear of racism and discrimination within services.

Recognition of a failure to meet the needs of Minority Ethnic communities has also emerged in a number of studies. A study conducted by Bowes and Dar¹² reinforced earlier findings¹³ that deficiencies in service provision continue to be widely acknowledged by practitioners and policy makers alike.

Despite this, there is considerable evidence of demand for social work/care services from Minority Ethnic carers. Netto's research and others¹⁴ set out clear service preferences which include the availability of same sex staff and staff from the same ethnic, cultural and linguistic background.

Vernon¹⁵ argues that such the current inability of providers to respond to evidence of unmet need both in terms of service provision and policy development also highlights the limitations of current practice.

Additionally, the needs of Minority Ethnic carers living in remote or rural locations pose particular challenges for service providers. Due to the often dispersed nature of the communities and the lack of a robust Minority Ethnic infrastructure, the identification of carers and those requiring care can be problematic.

⁸ Carers UK (2012) ibid

⁹ Hubert J (2006) Family carers' views of services for people with learning disabilities from Black and Minority Ethnic groups: a qualitative study of 30 families in a south London borough, Disability and Society, 21, 3, 259-272. London: Routledge

¹⁰ Chahal K and Ullah A (2004) Experiencing ethnicity: discrimination and service provision, York: Joseph Rowntree Foundation

¹¹ National Assembly for Wales (2003a) Challenging the myth 'They look after their own': Carer Services: – access issues for Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) Carers in Wales. Main Report, Cardiff: National Assembly for Wales

¹² Bowes, A M and Dar, N (2000) Family Support and Community Care: A Study of South Asian Older People. Scottish Executive

¹³ McCluskey, J (1991) Ethnic Minorities and the Social Work Service in Glasgow in Bowes, A M & Sim, D F (eds) Demands and Constraints: Ethnic Minorities and Social Services in Scotland. Edinburgh: Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations

¹⁴ Vernon, A (2002) User-defined outcomes of community care for Asian disabled people in 'Users' views of community care for Asian disabled people', Findings No. 752, Bristol: The Policy Press/Joseph Rowntree Foundation

¹⁵ Vernon, A (2002) *ibid*



Provision of Informal Care

The 2001 Census was the first to capture information on the number of informal carers and the hours spent caring per week. The total number of BME carer identified by the Census is 6,815.

Table 8: Provision of Informal care by Population Size

Ethnic Group	No. of Carers	Total Population
White Scottish	430,043	4,459,125
Other White British	34,194	373,576
White Irish	4,967	49,607
Other White	5,560	77,955
Indian	1,160	15,186
Pakistani	2,754	31,891
Bangladeshi	145	2,025
Chinese	388	16,198
Other South Asian	766	6,074
Caribbean	136	2,025
African	246	5,062
Black Scottish or Other Black	102	1,012
Any Mixed Background	650	12,655
Other	468	9,618
Total Population	481,579	5,062,011



Table 9: Provision of Informal Care by Ethnic Group and %

Ethnic Group	Provides no care	Provides 1 – 19 hrs care	Provides 20 – 49 hrs care	Provides 50+ hrs care
White Scottish	90.4	6.1	1.2	2.3
Other White British	90.8	6.0	0.9	2.2
White Irish	90.0	6.1	1.2	2.7
Other White	92.9	4.7	0.8	1.7
Indian	92.3	4.6	1.3	1.8
Pakistani	91.3	4.8	1.6	2.3
Bangladeshi	92.7	3.7	1.7	2.0
Chinese	93.7	3.3	1.1	1.9
Other South Asian	95.3	2.9	0.7	1.1
Caribbean	92.4	5.2	1.0	1.4
African	95.2	2.7	1.1	1.0
Black Scottish or Other Black	91.0	3.8	1.9	3.4
Any Mixed Background	94.9	3.3	0.6	1.2
Other Ethnic Background	95.1	2.7	1.0	1.2
All People	90.5	6.0	1.2	2.3



Provision of Informal Care by Ethnicity, Gender and Number of Hours Caring per week disaggregated by Individual Scottish Local Authorities

Ethnic Group	1 – 19 hrs	care pr/wk	20 – 49 hrs	care pr/wk	50+ hrs ca	re pr/wk	Total BME
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
White Scottish	3,984	6,176	669	1,071	1,226	1,928	
Other White British	371	397	48	69	91	141	
White Irish	29	19	5	4	8	11	
Other White	79	108	12	14	25	47	
Indian	24	13	7	1	1	2	48
Pakistani	13	4	2	2	1	4	26
Bangladeshi	2	2	2	3	2	2	13
Other South Asian	5	4	1	0	1	5	16
Chinese	9	15	5	3	3	8	43
Caribbean	2	1	2	2	0	0	7
African	7	5	0	0	2	3	17
Black Scottish or Other Black	1	1	1	0	0	1	4
Other Ethnic Groups	5	7	4	2	4	8	30
Any Mixed Background	3	8	6	2	2	1	22

Aberdeen City (total BME carer population 226)

Informal Caring within Scotland's Black and Minority Ethnic Communities



Aberdeenshire (total BME carer population 66)

Ethnic Group	1 – 19 h <u>rs</u> (care pr/wk	20 – 49 <u>hrs</u>	care pr/wk	50+ hrs ca	re pr/wk	Total BME
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
White Scottish	3,859	5,984	579	972	1,025	1,837	
Other White British	660	884	85	122	256	389	
White Irish	23	25	7	6	10	13	
Other White	40	77	6	15	35	34	
Indian	5	1	1	0	1	0	8
Pakistani	0	1	0	0	1	0	2
Bangladeshi	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other South Asian	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Chinese	0	1	4	2	0	2	9
Caribbean	2	3	0	0	0	0	5
African	1	1	0	0	0	0	2
Black Scottish or Other Black	1	1	0	0	2	0	4
Other Ethnic Groups	2	7	1	4	3	4	21
Any Mixed Background	4	5	1	0	2	2	14

Angus (total BME carer population 56)

Ethnic Group	1 – 19 hrs (care pr/wk	20 – 49 hrs	care pr/wk	50+ hrs ca	re pr/wk	Total BME
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
White Scottish	2,258	3,489	368	600	691	1,093	
Other White British	208	311	38	44	92	100	
White Irish	13	23	0	5	3	8	
Other White	23	38	1	10	10	10	
Indian	1	1	0	1	0	3	6
Pakistani	4	2	1	0	0	2	9
Bangladeshi	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Other South Asian	0	2	1	0	1	0	4
Chinese	3	3	0	1	1	1	9
Caribbean	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
African	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Black Scottish or Other Black	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Other Ethnic Groups	3	4	0	2	0	4	13
Any Mixed Background	0	5	1	0	4	1	11

Informal Caring within Scotland's Black and Minority Ethnic Communities



Argyll & Bute (total BME carer population 56)

Ethnic Group	1 – 19 hrs	care pr/wk	20 – 49 hrs	care pr/wk	50+ hrs ca	Total BME		
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female		
White Scottish	1,855	2,594	312	467	603	956		
Other White British	492	520	52	93	102	205		
White Irish	17	25	2	6	16	16		
Other White	38	36	5	9	18	10		
Indian	3	0	0	0	1	0	4	
Pakistani	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	
Bangladeshi	1	1	0	0	0	0	2	
Other South Asian	2	1	0	1	1	1	6	
Chinese	1	2	0	0	0	1	4	
Caribbean	2	1	0	0	1	0	4	
African	0	2	0	0	0	3	5	
Black Scottish or Other Black	0	0	0	0	1	3	4	
Other Ethnic Groups	1	2	1	0	0	0	4	
Any Mixed Background	4	9	0	2	4	7	26	

Scottish Borders (total BME carer population 27)

Ethnic Group	1 – 19 hrs o	care pr/wk	20 – 49 hrs	care pr/wk	50+ hrs ca	re pr/wk	Total BME
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
White Scottish	2,129	2,977	295	466	580	888	
Other White British	419	643	66	105	150	244	
White Irish	15	21	5	11	5	9	
Other White	23	58	4	5	9	18	
Indian	1	3	2	0	0	0	6
Pakistani	1	0	0	0	2	0	3
Bangladeshi	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other South Asian	0	2	0	1	0	0	3
Chinese	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
Caribbean	0	1	0	1	0	1	3
African	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Black Scottish or Other Black	1	1	1	0	0	0	3
Other Ethnic Groups	1	2	0	0	0	0	3
Any Mixed Background	0	3	1	0	0	0	4

Informal Caring within Scotland's Black and Minority Ethnic Communities



Clackmannanshire (total BME carer population 37)

Ethnic Group	1 – 19 hrs (care pr/wk	20 – 49 hrs	care pr/wk	50+ hrs ca	re pr/wk	Total BME
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
White Scottish	1,068	1,616	247	352	486	659	
Other White British	81	99	16	16	17	48	
White Irish	7	5	0	1	5	3	
Other White	10	17	1	5	7	9	
Indian	3	2	1	1	0	3	10
Pakistani	3	2	0	2	0	2	9
Bangladeshi	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Other South Asian	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Chinese	2	1	0	0	0	0	3
Caribbean	3	1	0	0	0	0	4
African	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Black Scottish or Other Black	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Other Ethnic Groups	0	2	0	0	1	0	3
Any Mixed Background	4	0	1	0	0	0	5

West Dunbartonshire (total BME carer population 46)

Ethnic Group	1 – 19 hrs o	care pr/wk	20 – 49 hrs	care pr/wk	50+ hrs ca	re pr/wk	Total BME
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
White Scottish	2,177	3,370	503	774	982	1,466	
Other White British	77	91	9	17	41	41	
White Irish	56	53	11	17	23	40	
Other White	24	34	3	2	11	11	
Indian	2	2	1	0	1	0	6
Pakistani	5	5	2	0	4	5	21
Bangladeshi	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other South Asian	0	1	0	0	0	1	2
Chinese	1	0	1	0	1	2	5
Caribbean	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
African	2	0	0	1	0	0	3
Black Scottish or Other Black	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Ethnic Groups	0	0	1	0	1	0	2
Any Mixed Background	1	1	0	2	0	3	7

Informal Caring within Scotland's Black and Minority Ethnic Communities



Dumfries & Galloway (total BME carer population 61)

Ethnic Group	1 – 19 hrs o	care pr/wk	20 – 49 hrs	care pr/wk	50+ hrs ca	re pr/wk	Total BME
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
White Scottish	2,782	4,190	568	863	1,113	1,758	
Other White British	537	890	130	198	269	428	
White Irish	20	32	2	5	12	15	
Other White	46	60	8	12	23	21	
Indian	0	1	2	0	1	2	6
Pakistani	1	1	0	0	2	0	4
Bangladeshi	1	1	0	0	0	0	2
Other South Asian	1	0	0	0	2	0	3
Chinese	2	4	2	2	1	2	13
Caribbean	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
African	1	1	0	0	0	0	2
Black Scottish or Other Black	0	2	0	0	2	0	4
Other Ethnic Groups	2	4	0	2	1	1	10
Any Mixed Background	6	5	0	0	0	5	16

Dundee City (total BME carer population 347)

Ethnic Group	1 – 19 hrs (care pr/wk	20 – 49 hrs	care pr/wk	50+ hrs ca	re pr/wk	Total BME
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
White Scottish	3,115	4,599	635	950	1,424	1,929	
Other White British	161	245	25	40	69	104	
White Irish	22	26	5	6	13	19	
Other White	46	70	12	20	29	31	
Indian	14	17	4	4	8	15	62
Pakistani	37	62	20	17	14	36	186
Bangladeshi	0	0	0	0	4	0	4
Other South Asian	5	6	4	2	3	7	27
Chinese	5	8	0	2	4	3	22
Caribbean	0	2	0	0	2	2	6
African	4	5	0	0	0	0	9
Black Scottish or Other Black	0	0	1	2	1	1	5
Other Ethnic Groups	3	5	0	0	0	0	8
Any Mixed Background	4	7	0	0	3	4	18

Informal Caring within Scotland's Black and Minority Ethnic Communities



East Ayrshire (total BME carer population 45)

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Ethnic Group	1 – 19 hrs o	are pr/wk	20 – 49 hrs	care pr/wk	50+ hrs ca	re pr/wk	Total BME
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
White Scottish	2,852	4,179	592	1,031	1,245	1,887	
Other White British	111	166	21	30	58	79	
White Irish	16	28	4	4	13	24	
Other White	13	26	5	5	5	15	
Indian	2	1	1	1	0	0	5
Pakistani	2	5	0	1	2	2	12
Bangladeshi	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Other South Asian	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Chinese	3	3	2	0	1	1	10
Caribbean	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
African	0	1	1	0	0	0	2
Black Scottish or Other Black	0	0	0	0	1	1	2
Other Ethnic Groups	2	3	0	0	1	1	7
Any Mixed Background	3	0	0	0	0	1	4

East Dunbartonshire (total BME carer population 303)

Ethnic Group	1 – 19 hrs (care pr/wk	20 – 49 hrs	care pr/wk	50+ hrs ca	re pr/wk	Total BME
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
White Scottish	3,015	4,520	414	661	761	1,119	
Other White British	174	226	30	27	41	66	
White Irish	57	63	4	10	15	11	
Other White	34	61	10	4	12	18	
Indian	56	64	10	14	12	17	173
Pakistani	18	17	2	6	2	4	49
Bangladeshi	1	1	0	2	0	0	4
Other South Asian	3	4	1	0	3	1	12
Chinese	5	14	3	2	1	4	29
Caribbean	0	2	0	1	0	0	3
African	2	1	1	0	0	1	5
Black Scottish or Other Black	0	1	0	0	0	1	2
Other Ethnic Groups	6	2	2	1	0	1	12
Any Mixed Background	3	10	0	0	1	0	14

Informal Caring within Scotland's Black and Minority Ethnic Communities



East Lothian (total BME carer population 36)

Ethnic Group	1 – 19 hrs o	care pr/wk	20 – 49 hrs	care pr/wk	50+ hrs ca	re pr/wk	Total BME
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
White Scottish	2,071	3,129	360	578	682	1,048	
Other White British	215	332	24	37	75	84	
White Irish	14	22	5	6	4	7	
Other White	22	45	6	4	8	16	
Indian	0	1	0	1	0	0	2
Pakistani	3	4	1	2	0	2	12
Bangladeshi	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other South Asian	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Chinese	1	2	1	0	0	0	4
Caribbean	1	1	0	0	0	0	2
African	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Black Scottish or Other Black	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Other Ethnic Groups	3	1	0	0	0	0	4
Any Mixed Background	2	3	0	1	1	3	10

East Renfrewshire (total BME carer population 266)

Ethnic Group	1 – 19 hrs (care pr/wk	20 – 49 hrs	care pr/wk	50+ hrs ca	re pr/wk	Total BME
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
White Scottish	2,433	3,627	283	508	556	882	
Other White British	100	174	10	20	33	50	
White Irish	40	52	7	7	12	23	
Other White	45	49	9	1	8	11	
Indian	20	14	2	4	4	13	57
Pakistani	48	56	6	10	8	23	151
Bangladeshi	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other South Asian	3	4	0	0	0	1	8
Chinese	9	7	3	0	0	6	25
Caribbean	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
African	2	0	0	1	1	1	5
Black Scottish or Other Black	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Ethnic Groups	4	3	2	2	0	3	14
Any Mixed Background	3	2	0	0	1	0	6

Informal Caring within Scotland's Black and Minority Ethnic Communities



City of Edinburgh (total BME carer population 1,125)

Ethnic Group	1 – 19 hrs o	care pr/wk	20 – 49 hrs	care pr/wk	50+ hrs ca	re pr/wk	Total BME
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
White Scottish	9,108	13,671	1,374	2,024	2,669	4,151	
Other White British	1,063	1,527	126	141	217	384	
White Irish	106	202	19	26	26	48	
Other White	246	395	35	48	53	92	
Indian	58	58	14	17	18	25	190
Pakistani	78	90	23	39	18	62	310
Bangladeshi	19	9	6	10	1	15	60
Other South Asian	22	20	9	6	12	14	83
Chinese	58	66	9	8	18	23	182
Caribbean	5	10	1	1	1	4	22
African	15	17	7	6	4	5	54
Black Scottish or Other Black	2	2	2	0	3	2	11
Other Ethnic Groups	27	29	7	5	6	10	84
Any Mixed Background	33	62	3	11	4	16	129

Falkirk (Total BME carer population 105)

Ethnic Group	1 – 19 hrs o	care pr/wk	20 – 49 hrs	care pr/wk	50+ hrs ca	re pr/wk	Total BME
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
White Scottish	3,675	5,166	695	1,197	1,308	1,931	
Other White British	169	208	26	43	83	105	
White Irish	28	19	7	5	8	15	
Other White	32	36	9	11	14	19	
Indian	1	0	2	1	1	5	10
Pakistani	11	12	4	5	2	17	51
Bangladeshi	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Other South Asian	2	3	1	0	2	0	8
Chinese	1	3	4	0	2	3	13
Caribbean	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
African	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Black Scottish or Other Black	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Other Ethnic Groups	3	1	0	0	2	0	6
Any Mixed Background	5	4	1	2	1	1	14

Informal Caring within Scotland's Black and Minority Ethnic Communities



Fife (total BME carer population 263)

Ethnic Group	1 – 19 hrs	care pr/wk	20 – 49 hrs	care pr/wk	50+ hrs ca	re pr/wk	Total BME
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
White Scottish	7,870	11,697	1,419	2,382	2,718	4,038	
Other White British	872	1,021	108	151	259	401	
White Irish	51	92	10	13	21	26	
Other White	103	155	14	22	35	67	
Indian	5	3	3	3	3	3	20
Pakistani	33	26	8	7	7	18	99
Bangladeshi	2	0	0	2	3	2	9
Other South Asian	2	1	0	2	2	2	9
Chinese	11	14	2	2	3	3	35
Caribbean	2	3	0	0	1	0	6
African	0	1	3	1	0	0	5
Black Scottish or Other Black	0	5	0	2	0	2	9
Other Ethnic Groups	6	11	2	3	4	5	31
Any Mixed Background	12	20	0	5	2	1	40

Glasgow City (total BME carer population 2,377)

Ethnic Group	1 – 19 hrs c	are pr/wk	20 – 49 hrs	care pr/wk	50+ hrs ca	re pr/wk	Total BME
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
White Scottish	10,910	17,326	2,960	4,663	6,036	9,138	
Other White British	390	440	81	88	159	187	
White Irish	292	380	70	67	152	227	
Other White	186	238	39	44	64	97	
Indian	99	109	16	37	26	59	346
Pakistani	384	379	108	154	109	276	1,410
Bangladeshi	10	11	0	3	4	4	32
Other South Asian	25	36	7	11	16	17	112
Chinese	55	54	15	8	22	26	180
Caribbean	2	7	2	5	0	1	17
African	19	18	8	11	10	13	79
Black Scottish or Other Black	7	5	0	1	1	3	17
Other Ethnic Groups	17	17	16	9	11	17	87
Any Mixed Background	26	31	6	10	8	16	97

Informal Caring within Scotland's Black and Minority Ethnic Communities



Highland (total BME carer population 102)

Ethnic Group	1 – 19 hrs	care pr/wk	20 – 49 hrs	care pr/wk	50+ hrs ca	re pr/wk	Total BME
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
White Scottish	4,147	5,954	661	1,036	1,188	2,012	
Other White British	831	1,058	127	199	332	504	
White Irish	26	48	2	10	12	17	
Other White	57	104	10	17	24	27	
Indian	5	1	2	2	3	1	14
Pakistani	0	3	1	1	1	0	6
Bangladeshi	4	1	2	0	0	1	8
Other South Asian	6	1	2	2	0	0	11
Chinese	2	3	2	1	0	2	10
Caribbean	3	3	0	0	0	2	8
African	1	2	0	1	1	0	5
Black Scottish or Other Black	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Other Ethnic Groups	2	8	0	0	0	3	13
Any Mixed Background	9	12	0	1	3	1	26

Inverclyde (total BME carer population 56)

Ethnic Group	1 – 19 hrs	care pr/wk	20 – 49 hrs	care pr/wk	50+ hrs ca	re pr/wk	Total BME
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
White Scottish	1,756	2,756	363	732	827	1,274	
Other White British	66	96	15	16	27	33	
White Irish	26	32	2	6	15	11	
Other White	11	23	4	3	7	10	
Indian	5	3	0	0	2	1	11
Pakistani	0	1	0	0	1	1	3
Bangladeshi	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other South Asian	1	1	2	0	3	0	7
Chinese	9	0	0	1	1	2	13
Caribbean	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
African	2	0	1	0	0	0	3
Black Scottish or Other Black	0	1	0	0	1	0	2
Other Ethnic Groups	6	1	0	0	1	0	8
Any Mixed Background	0	2	1	1	3	1	8

Informal Caring within Scotland's Black and Minority Ethnic Communities



Midlothian (total BME carer population 51)

	- 	-					
Ethnic Group	1 – 19 hrs	care pr/wk	20 – 49 hrs	care pr/wk	50+ hrs ca	re pr/wk	Total BME
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
White Scottish	1,913	2,889	322	615	691	1,089	
Other White British	127	199	25	26	35	78	
White Irish	11	18	2	6	6	8	
Other White	18	31	5	5	9	8	
Indian	4	1	0	0	2	1	8
Pakistani	6	6	1	4	0	2	19
Bangladeshi	2	1	0	0	0	0	3
Other South Asian	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
Chinese	0	1	0	1	0	1	3
Caribbean	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
African	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Black Scottish or Other Black	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Other Ethnic Groups	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Any Mixed Background	1	5	0	2	4	1	13

Moray (total BME carer population 51)

Ethnic Group	1 – 19 hrs	care pr/wk	20 – 49 hrs	care pr/wk	50+ hrs ca	re pr/wk	Total BME
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
White Scottish	1,426	2,212	246	385	451	820	
Other White British	313	384	69	81	104	183	
White Irish	9	8	1	3	4	5	
Other White	17	42	3	2	7	9	
Indian	2	1	0	1	1	0	5
Pakistani	3	2	0	1	0	1	7
Bangladeshi	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other South Asian	4	4	0	0	0	0	8
Chinese	3	3	0	0	0	1	7
Caribbean	0	1	0	0	0	1	2
African	2	1	0	0	0	0	3
Black Scottish or Other Black	0	0	0	2	0	0	2
Other Ethnic Groups	2	1	0	2	0	0	5
Any Mixed Background	1	5	1	2	0	3	12

Informal Caring within Scotland's Black and Minority Ethnic Communities



North Ayrshire (total BME carer population 66)

Ethnic Group	1 – 19 hrs	care pr/wk	20 – 49 hrs	care pr/wk	50+ hrs ca	re pr/wk	Total BME
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
White Scottish	2,876	4,601	601	1,073	1,270	2,023	
Other White British	199	248	33	46	81	133	
White Irish	30	42	11	12	11	25	
Other White	26	33	7	9	13	17	
Indian	4	2	0	3	0	0	9
Pakistani	4	4	0	1	1	0	10
Bangladeshi	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other South Asian	2	1	0	0	1	0	4
Chinese	1	4	0	1	4	4	14
Caribbean	1	1	0	0	0	0	2
African	1	0	0	1	1	0	3
Black Scottish or Other Black	1	2	1	0	0	0	4
Other Ethnic Groups	2	2	0	1	0	2	7
Any Mixed Background	7	3	1	2	0	0	13

North Lanarkshire (total BME carer population 288)

Ethnic Group	1 – 19 hrs (care pr/wk	20 – 49 hrs	care pr/wk	50+ hrs ca	re pr/wk	Total BME
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
White Scottish	7,273	10,907	1,768	3,036	3,487	5,093	
Other White British	181	216	41	66	92	125	
White Irish	121	135	22	34	57	68	
Other White	58	64	14	13	25	35	
Indian	5	12	4	3	2	9	35
Pakistani	37	32	7	17	13	23	129
Bangladeshi	1	0	0	0	0	1	2
Other South Asian	3	1	3	0	3	5	15
Chinese	13	10	3	1	5	5	37
Caribbean	5	1	0	0	0	0	6
African	2	1	0	1	0	1	5
Black Scottish or Other Black	1	0	1	0	1	3	6
Other Ethnic Groups	4	9	0	4	1	2	20
Any Mixed Background	5	10	4	4	5	5	33

Informal Caring within Scotland's Black and Minority Ethnic Communities



Orkney Islands (total BME carer population 6)

-							
Ethnic Group	1 – 19 hrs	care pr/wk	20 – 49 hrs	care pr/wk	50+ hrs ca	re pr/wk	Total BME
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
White Scottish	419	606	44	68	94	147	
Other White British	85	96	14	21	31	51	
White Irish	1	1	0	0	0	0	
Other White	5	11	2	1	0	3	
Indian	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pakistani	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bangladeshi	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other South Asian	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Chinese	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Caribbean	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
African	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Black Scottish or Other Black	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Ethnic Groups	1	0	0	1	1	0	3
Any Mixed Background	1	1	0	0	0	0	2

Perth & Kinross (total BME carer population 76)

Ethnic Group	1 – 19 hrs (care pr/wk	20 – 49 hrs	care pr/wk	50+ hrs ca	re pr/wk	Total BME
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
White Scottish	2,896	4,222	419	702	777	1,238	
Other White British	445	610	43	81	122	177	
White Irish	36	40	7	15	8	15	
Other White	55	88	12	11	15	24	
Indian	1	3	0	0	0	2	6
Pakistani	1	2	2	0	0	0	5
Bangladeshi	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other South Asian	3	1	1	1	0	0	6
Chinese	7	8	0	3	3	0	21
Caribbean	2	2	0	0	1	1	6
African	1	0	0	1	1	0	3
Black Scottish or Other Black	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Other Ethnic Groups	4	3	4	1	0	2	14
Any Mixed Background	3	8	1	1	1	0	14

Informal Caring within Scotland's Black and Minority Ethnic Communities



Renfrewshire (total BME carer population 175)

Ethnic Group	1 – 19 hrs care pr/wk		20 – 49 hrs	care pr/wk	50+ hrs ca	re pr/wk	Total BME
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
White Scottish	4,329	6,591	757	1,306	1,588	2,391	
Other White British	154	194	30	41	47	75	
White Irish	56	72	17	11	21	34	
Other White	36	54	11	9	17	15	
Indian	8	6	7	3	6	8	38
Pakistani	7	16	3	6	0	10	42
Bangladeshi	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Other South Asian	4	2	1	0	1	2	10
Chinese	3	8	1	1	1	2	16
Caribbean	2	5	0	2	1	0	10
African	4	4	4	1	2	0	15
Black Scottish or Other Black	0	1	0	1	2	0	4
Other Ethnic Groups	1	4	5	3	1	0	14
Any Mixed Background	8	6	0	2	3	6	25

Shetland Islands (total BME carer population 10)

Ethnic Group	1 – 19 hrs	care pr/wk	20 – 49 hrs	20 – 49 hrs care pr/wk		re pr/wk	Total BME
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
White Scottish	517	752	52	78	86	153	
Other White British	99	98	17	17	23	32	
White Irish	2	1	1	0	1	1	
Other White	8	12	1	2	1	4	
Indian	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pakistani	1	2	1	0	0	0	4
Bangladeshi	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other South Asian	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Chinese	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Caribbean	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
African	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Black Scottish or Other Black	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Other Ethnic Groups	0	1	0	0	0	1	2
Any Mixed Background	3	0	0	0	0	0	3

Informal Caring within Scotland's Black and Minority Ethnic Communities



South Ayrshire (total BME carer population 47)

Ethnic Group	1 – 19 hrs care pr/wk		20 – 49 hrs	care pr/wk	50+ hrs ca	re pr/wk	Total BME
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
White Scottish	2,655	3,965	493	793	961	1,522	
Other White British	201	262	31	38	90	120	
White Irish	24	33	6	4	10	17	
Other White	31	39	8	8	10	17	
Indian	4	2	0	2	3	1	12
Pakistani	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bangladeshi	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other South Asian	0	0	1	0	0	1	2
Chinese	1	0	5	5	1	1	13
Caribbean	0	2	0	0	1	0	3
African	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Black Scottish or Other Black	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Other Ethnic Groups	1	1	0	0	0	2	4
Any Mixed Background	4	4	0	0	2	1	11

South Lanarkshire (total BME carer population 262)

Ethnic Group	1 -19 hrs ca	are pr/wk	20 – 49 hrs	care pr/wk	50+ hrs ca	re pr/wk	Total BME
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
White Scottish	7,438	11,198	1,467	2,580	2,926	4,382	
Other White British	282	350	53	79	129	170	
White Irish	112	128	15	24	37	43	
Other White	55	72	10	15	25	44	
Indian	13	16	5	3	5	5	47
Pakistani	48	13	1	8	10	18	98
Bangladeshi	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other South Asian	3	4	1	2	2	2	14
Chinese	7	13	2	0	2	5	29
Caribbean	3	3	1	0	3	1	11
African	2	5	3	1	1	0	12
Black Scottish or Other Black	1	0	2	0	1	0	4
Other Ethnic Groups	3	7	0	3	2	3	18
Any Mixed Background	5	10	0	2	6	6	29

Informal Caring within Scotland's Black and Minority Ethnic Communities



Stirling (total BME population 50)

Ethnic Group	1 – 19 hrs	care pr/wk	20 – 49 hrs	care pr/wk	50+ hrs ca	re pr/wk	Total BME
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
White Scottish	1,807	2,799	338	524	635	1,004	
Other White British	251	323	29	45	62	86	
White Irish	24	23	3	5	6	7	
Other White	25	54	3	9	6	11	
Indian	3	2	1	0	1	0	7
Pakistani	5	6	2	4	0	1	18
Bangladeshi	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other South Asian	2	1	0	0	1	0	4
Chinese	1	4	1	0	0	0	6
Caribbean	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
African	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Black Scottish or Other Black	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Other Ethnic Groups	0	1	0	0	0	1	2
Any Mixed Background	5	5	1	0	0	0	11

West Lothian (total BME carer population 120)

Ethnic Group	1 – 19 hrs	care pr/wk	20 – 49 hrs	care pr/wk	50+ hrs ca	re pr/wk	Total BME
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
White Scottish	3,446	5,175	753	1,069	1,376	2,072	
Other White British	219	321	42	60	109	154	
White Irish	33	36	7	6	13	19	
Other White	38	35	8	7	10	19	
Indian	3	4	1	0	0	1	9
Pakistani	16	17	2	10	4	8	57
Bangladeshi	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Other South Asian	1	3	0	3	1	0	8
Chinese	1	1	2	2	1	0	7
Caribbean	0	2	0	0	0	0	2
African	2	1	0	0	0	2	5
Black Scottish or Other Black	0	1	0	2	1	0	4
Other Ethnic Groups	8	4	0	2	0	2	16
Any Mixed Background	2	6	1	0	1	1	11

Informal Caring within Scotland's Black and Minority Ethnic Communities



Eilean Siar (total BME carer population 9)

Ethnic Group	1 – 19 hrs	care pr/wk	20 – 49 hrs	care pr/wk	50+ hrs ca	re pr/wk	Total BME
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
White Scottish	709	972	97	180	204	382	
Other White British	59	77	3	14	29	36	
White Irish	6	5	0	1	1	7	
Other White	5	14	0	2	0	1	
Indian	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pakistani	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Bangladeshi	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other South Asian	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Chinese	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Caribbean	1	1	0	0	0	0	2
African	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Black Scottish or Other Black	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Other Ethnic Groups	0	2	0	0	0	0	2
Any Mixed Background	0	1	0	0	1	0	2



The White Scottish population recorded the highest level of informal care across all ethnic groups although the data will be heavily influenced by the different age structures of respective communities. As the White majority population has a larger number of older people and a correlation can be drawn with advancing age and the need for care, this is to be expected.

Amongst BME groups, Pakistani's recorded the highest level of informal care although differences were recorded between individual local authorities.

Taking into consideration the markedly different age structures of the majority and minority populations, more accurate information may be gathered by calculating the ratio of care provided by different ethnic groups to those aged 65+.

Ethnic Group	Ratio of people providing care to the number of people aged 65+	Base number of people providing care
White Scottish	1.0	430,043
Other White British	1.0	34,194
White Irish	0.7	4,967
Other White	1.1	5,560
Indian	3.3	1,160
Pakistani	5.5	2,754
Bangladeshi	6.0	145
Chinese	2.5	388
Other South Asian	1.8	766
Caribbean	2.4	136
African	4.5	246
Black Scottish or Other Black	1.6	102
Any Mixed Background	1.8	650
Other Ethnic Background	3.4	488
All people	1.0	481,579

Table 9: Ratio of number of people providing care to the 65+ population¹⁶

This analysis suggests that all BME groups provide a greater amount of care than the White majority population to those aged 65+ with Pakistani's and Bangladeshi's reporting the highest levels at 5.5 and 6.0 respectively.

¹⁶ Office of Chief Statisticians (200?) Analysis of Ethnicity and the 2001 Census: A Summary Report Scottish Government



No de chi	Pro	50	20	H -	Ch All	
No. & % of dependent children	Provides no care	50+ hours care	20 – 49 hrs care	– 19 hrs care	All Dependent Children	
	care	ire	are	ľe	nt	
15,693 1.46%	1,056,976	1,185	1,501	13,007	1,072,669	All Dependent Children
14,192 1.44%	967,714	1,072	1,350	11,770	981,906	White Scottish
638 1.50%	41,696	30	67	541	42,334	Other White British
80 2.5%	3,114	4	N	74	3,194	White Irish
180 1.47%	12,049	24	19	137	12,229	Other White
79 1.97%	3,865	7	6	66	3,944	Indian
266 2.2%	11,777	16	မ္သ	217	12,043	Pakistani
12 1.73%	681	0	N	10	693	Bangladeshi
33 1.73%	1,869	4	4	25	1,902	Other South Asian
60 1.48%	3,983	12	8	40	4,043	Chinese
8 2.32%	336	0	L	7	344	African Caribbean
17 1.28%	1,306	N	N	13	1,323	African
4 1.07%	368	1	0	ω	372	Black Scottish or Other Black
92 1.49%	6,044	œ	4	80	6,136	Any Mixed Background
32 1. 4 5%	2,174	ი	ω	24	2,206	Other Ethnic Group