

Briefing Sheet

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Data Sources



Data Sources

Introduction

This Briefing Paper has been produced jointly by MECOPP and COCIS (Coalition of Carers in Scotland) to assist local authorities and partners in the development and review of their local carer strategy. Recognising the difficulties in sourcing accurate and up to date information to inform the Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA) required by law¹, it sets out a number of data sources which can be drawn upon to inform the information gathering stage and subsequent mitigation of any problems or issues identified. Readers may find it useful to review this paper in conjunction with a paper previously published by MECOPP entitled 'Carers (Scotland) Act 2016 and Equalities'. The link is provided below: <https://www.mecopp.org.uk/mecopp-publications/2018/12/14/briefing-sheet-10-carers-scotland-act-2016-and-equalities>

It will also be of use to local authorities, health board and partners wishing to 'scope' or develop an evidence base in support of undertaking work with Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) carers.

Data Sources

The 2011 Census remains the most substantive source of data on Scotland's carers. Population data set out across a range of indicators can be accessed through the following link: <https://www.scotlandscensus.gov.uk/ods-web/standard-outputs.html>

Information can be disaggregated by a number of area types, for example, by local authority, health board, electoral ward or constituency.

The following list of tables, whilst not exhaustive, will be of particular interest (please note the links provided below are for Scotland as a whole):

- ▶ DC2301SC Ethnic group by provision of unpaid care by general health
<https://www.scotlandscensus.gov.uk/ods-analyser/jsf/tableView/tableView.xhtml>
- ▶ DC3208SC Long-term health condition by language other than English used at home
<https://www.scotlandscensus.gov.uk/ods-analyser/jsf/tableView/tableView.xhtml>
- ▶ DC3209SCca Long-term health condition by ethnic group
<https://www.scotlandscensus.gov.uk/ods-analyser/jsf/tableView/tableView.xhtml>
- ▶ DC6201SC Economic activity by ethnic group by sex by age
<https://www.scotlandscensus.gov.uk/ods-analyser/jsf/tableView/tableView.xhtml>
- ▶ LC3205SC Long-term health problem or disability by ethnic group by age
<https://www.scotlandscensus.gov.uk/ods-analyser/jsf/tableView/tableView.xhtml>
- ▶ LC3206SC General health by ethnic group by age
<https://www.scotlandscensus.gov.uk/ods-analyser/jsf/tableView/tableView.xhtml>
- ▶ LC2101SC Ethnic group by age
<https://www.scotlandscensus.gov.uk/ods-analyser/jsf/tableView/tableView.xhtml>
- ▶ KS201SC Ethnic group
<https://www.scotlandscensus.gov.uk/ods-analyser/jsf/tableView/tableView.xhtml>

¹ Equality Act (2010)

A simple comparison by local authority area of the number of BME carers from the 2001 and 2011 Census' respectively can be found at: <https://www.mecopp.org.uk/mecopp-publications/2018/12/14/briefing-sheet-07scotlands-black-and-minority-ethnic-carers-an-update-informal-caring-within-scotlands-black-and-minority-ethnic-communities>

Specific analyses for information not contained within the standard outputs available on <https://www.scotlandscensus.gov.uk/> can also be commissioned directly from the National Records of Scotland at statisticscustomerservices@nrscotland.gov.uk

A more general introduction into the experience of BME carers can be found at <https://www.iriss.org.uk/sites/default/files/iriss-insight-7.pdf>

Both qualitative and quantitative information on informal caring within specific ethnic groups is limited but the following publications and data sources are available:

- ▶ Statistical information on adults with a learning disability known to local authorities disaggregated by ethnicity
https://www.sclد.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/Learning-Disability-Statistics-Scotland-2018_1.pdf
- ▶ This paper provides an insight into the experience of Scottish Gypsy/Traveller carers across three local authority areas
https://www.basw.co.uk/system/files/resources/basw_30915-8_0.pdf
- ▶ Qualitative information on supporting South Asian people with dementia and their carers
<https://www.mecopp.org.uk/mecopp-publications/2018/12/14/briefing-sheet-09-supporting-south-asian-people-with-dementia-lessons-from-the-jeevan-project>

Information on the health of Scotland's Minority Ethnic communities is collected as part of the Scottish Health Survey. Survey data on equality groups has been combined from four consecutive years (2008-2011) in order to allow for more in-depth analysis of smaller populations which would not be possible for individual survey years. The information can be accessed at: <https://www2.gov.scot/Resource/0040/00406749.pdf>

The SHELS (Scottish Health Ethnicity Linkage Study) Project has published a number of papers which link census records to health information such as records of death, the cancer registry and hospital admissions information to examine the relationship between an individual's ethnic group and health issues affecting the Scottish population. Papers can be found at:

https://www.ed.ac.uk/files/atoms/files/shels_summaries_of_published_papers.pdf

National data, by virtue of its focus, is a useful starting point to gain insight into and reflect on the health and wellbeing of Scotland's BME communities. Analysis of national data can 'flag up' potential issues which may affect local Minority Ethnic residents requiring further thought and investigation. However, the value of direct engagement with BME communities and the organisations that support them cannot be overstated. The gathering of local knowledge and intelligence will be invaluable in ensuring that the specific needs of BME communities are captured, considered and subsequently reflected in the development of carer policy and service development. Such an approach will also assist in meeting the requirements to consult and involve carers set out in the Carers (Scotland) Act 2016.