



# Planning research

People in Bolton

2011 Census Factfile no. 1

Ethnicity

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# People in Bolton 2011 Census

## Ethnicity Factfile - October 2013

People in Bolton factfiles provide key facts and figures about people who live or work in the borough of Bolton. These current factfiles are based on information from the most recent Census in 2011.

Other related publications, including more detailed information on a range of topics can be accessed at: [www.bolton.gov.uk/researchandinformation](http://www.bolton.gov.uk/researchandinformation)

The latest census was held on Sunday 27 March 2011, with results released from July 2012 onwards. This briefing note outlines the key issues on ethnicity.

The factfile is set out in the following sections:

<b>1. Summary.....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>2. Introduction .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>3. Ethnic Groups in Bolton .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>4. Changing Ethnic Groups .....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>5. Distribution of Black &amp; Minority Ethnic Groups .....</b>	<b>10</b>

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## 1. Summary

- Ethnicity classifies people according to their own perceived ethnic group and cultural background. Since 2001 Bolton has become more ethnically diverse, however the vast majority (four-fifths) of the population still identified themselves as **White British**.
- The largest minority ethnic groups in Bolton were **Indian** (8%), followed by **Pakistani** (4%) and **White Other** (2%). For the first time further information was also available on more detailed ethnic categories and smaller ethnic groups in Bolton.
- The largest growth in Bolton from 01-11 was from the **Black African** and **Black Other** groups. Further growth was also seen in **Other Asian**, **Other Ethnic Group** and **Chinese** groups, although these remain at quite small numbers overall. Caution is required when comparing change over time in ethnic groups.
- The distribution of minority ethnic groups remains predominantly around the town centre areas of the borough, particularly **Crompton**, **Halliwell**, **Rumworth** and **Great Lever** wards.

## 2. Introduction

The census has collected information about the population every 10 years since 1801 (except in 1941). The latest census in England and Wales took place on **27 March 2011**.

Census statistics describe the characteristics of an area, such as how many men and women there are and their ages. The statistics are used to understand similarities and differences in population characteristics locally, regionally and nationally, and inform policy and planning.

**Ethnicity classifies people according to their own perceived ethnic group and cultural background.**

The 1991 Census first introduced a question on ethnic group to enable organisations to monitor equal opportunities/anti-discrimination policies. Ethnicity is a **subjective**, rather than objective measure, meaning that people are asked which group they perceive themselves belonging too. As such definitions of ethnicity will vary from person to person and undoubtedly change over time. However a person's ethnic identity usually incorporates aspects of race, skin colour, country of birth, nationality or national/regional identification, language spoken and religious identity, amongst other things.

## 3. Ethnic Groups in Bolton

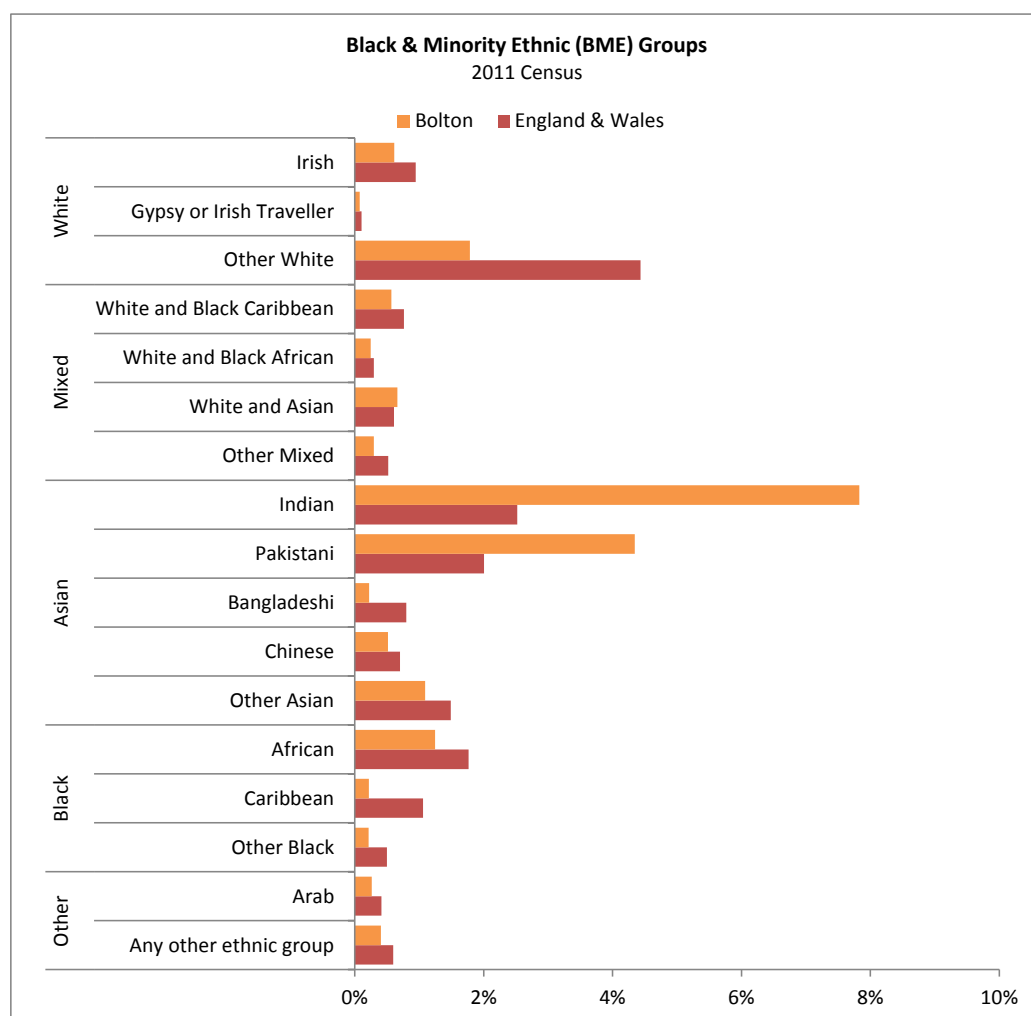
Since 1991 Bolton has become more ethnically diverse, with rising numbers of people identifying themselves as part of a minority ethnic group. However the vast majority (four-fifths) of the population classified themselves as **White British**. Around four-fifths (79%) of the population of Bolton stated they were White British in 2011. 0.6% stated they were **White Irish** and 0.1% stated they were a **Gypsy/Traveller**. Almost 2% stated they were **White Other**; although this was a significant increase from 2001 this was still less than half the national average of 4.4%.

Almost 5,000 people stated their ethnic background was **Mixed** in 2011, making 1.8% of the population. This was slightly less than the England & Wales average of 2.2%. The largest mixed group in Bolton was White & Asian, followed by White & Black Caribbean.

The largest minority ethnic group in Bolton was **Indian** at 8% of the population. (This was almost four times larger than the national average at 2.5%). In 2011 Bolton had the third largest Indian population in the North-West, and the 17<sup>th</sup> largest in the country. **Pakistani** was the second largest minority group, making up 4% of the population. The **Bangladeshi, Chinese** and **Asian Other** populations remained quite small 0.2%, 0.5% and 1% respectively.

Around 4,700 people in Bolton classified themselves as Black in 2011. The vast majority of these were **Black African**, with around 3,500 people or 1.2% of the population. There were slightly smaller numbers of **Black Caribbean** and **Other Black**, (0.2% each). Overall Bolton had a smaller Black population than the national average across all groups in this section.

It is important to note that in 2011 new information was available on **Gypsy & Irish Travellers** and **Arabs**. In 2011 214 people described themselves as gypsies or travellers, making up 0.1% of the population. People describing their ethnic background as Arab made up 0.3% of the population, with approximately 700 people.



Source: 2011 Census, Key Statistics Table KS201EW, Office for National Statistics, Crown Copyright.

		<b>Bolton (number)</b>	<b>Bolton (%)</b>	<b>England and Wales (%)</b>
<b>White</b>	White English/Welsh /Scottish/Northern Irish/British	219,794	79.4	80.5
	White Irish	1,694	0.6	0.9
	White Gypsy or Irish Traveller	214	0.1	0.1
	Other White	4,943	1.8	4.4
<b>Mixed or Multiple Ethnic Group</b>	White and Black Caribbean	1,576	0.6	0.8
	White and Black African	678	0.2	0.3
	White and Asian	1,826	0.7	0.6
	Other Mixed	812	0.3	0.5
<b>Asian or Asian British</b>	Indian	21,665	7.8	2.5
	Pakistani	12,026	4.3	2.0
	Bangladeshi	614	0.2	0.8
	Chinese	1,423	0.5	0.7
	Other Asian	3,021	1.1	1.5
<b>Black or Black British</b>	Black Caribbean	3,451	1.2	1.8
	Black African	608	0.2	1.1
	Other Black	593	0.2	0.5
<b>Other Ethnic Group</b>	Arab	727	0.3	0.4
	Other Ethnic Group	1,121	0.4	0.6
<b>Total Black &amp; Minority Ethnic Group (BME)</b>		<b>50,141</b>	<b>18.1</b>	<b>14.0</b>

Source: 2011 Census, Key Statistics Table KS201EW, Office for National Statistics, Crown Copyright.

The list of ethnic group categories had been designed by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) to enable the majority of the population to identify themselves in a manageable way. It wasn't feasible to include a separate tick-box for every single ethnic group, therefore a tick-box with a write-in option for '**Any Other background**' was provided within each of the five categories. This would ensure that minority groups were not excluded as they could write in their own individual response.

In 2011 for the first time more information was published concerning people's **write-in answers** for the 'other' categories. It is important to note that these are not fully comprehensive lists of everybody in every ethnic group; much depends on people filling in the form and inputting their answer consistently and correctly. Furthermore there are some people in ethnic minorities that could (or wish to) belong under any of the 'Other' categories, (for instance a Somali person could viably have inputted their ethnicity as 'Black African', 'Black Other – Somali' or 'Other Ethnic Group - Somali'). Therefore each category on the following table is not necessarily a complete and comprehensive list, and should be used for general illustrative purposes only.

The vast majority of people categorising themselves as **Other White** in Bolton came from a Polish or other Eastern European background. Around 1,500 people classified themselves as 'White Polish' in 2011, with a further 500 people from other Eastern European backgrounds. There were also

significant number of people who classed themselves as 'Other Western European' (without reference to a specific country) or "European Mixed' as well as the Baltic States, Italy and Russia.

**Other Mixed** had a variety of responses with no one group being particularly common in Bolton; around 50 people stated they were mixed 'Chinese & White' (although many other people in this group could have also ticked 'Mixed White & Asian' so it is not a complete list). Other common answers also included 'Other Eastern European', 'Black & White', and 'Other Western European', although it is not clear from these answers what specific type of mixed ethnic backgrounds these are referring to.

A large number of people selecting **Other Asian** categorised themselves as 'Afghan' ('Afghan also appears in the 'Other' Ethnic Group category). Just over 500 people entered Afghan and around 350 wrote in their Asian ethnicity as Iranian. There were also small but significant numbers of Filipino, Sri Lankan, Kurdish and 'Other Middle Eastern' people, as well as almost 300 people simply writing 'British Asian'<sup>1</sup>. **Other Black** mostly consisted of Somali and Somalilander, although a large number of people also stated a preference for 'Black British'<sup>2</sup>.

The 1,121 people who selected **Other Ethnic Group** were a varied group, with many people selecting this category (possibly mistakenly) that could also have been categorised elsewhere. The largest group of 'Other' people in Bolton were Kurdish (around 300 people), followed by Iranian (almost 200) and 'Other Middle Eastern' (around 150). Other groups present include Turkish, 'Other Eastern European' and Afghan, (although these ethnicities also appear elsewhere in other categories).

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<sup>1</sup> 'British Asian' generally includes people who prefer to refer to themselves as 'Asian', without reference to any specific national heritage.

<sup>2</sup> 'Black British' generally includes people who prefer to refer to themselves as 'Black, without reference to any specific African or Caribbean heritage.

White	Mixed or Multiple Ethnic Group	Asian or Asian British	Black African or Caribbean or Black British	Other Ethnic Group					
Polish	1,490	Chinese and White	35	Afghan	524	Somali	194	Kurdish	308
Other Eastern European	600	Other Eastern European	32	Iranian	342	Black British	170	Iranian	194
European Mixed	577	Black and White	26	British Asian	294	Somalilander	96	Other Middle East	154
Other Western European	472	Other Western European	26	Filipino	279	Other Western European	7	Turkish	88
Baltic States	244	Iranian	24	Sri Lankan	252	Multi-ethnic islands	5	Other Eastern European	35
Italian	181	White and Arab	22	Kurdish	146	Nigerian	3	Afghan	25
Commonwealth of (Russian) Independent States	151	Turkish	20	Other Middle East	142	Brazilian	2	Latin/South/Central American	22
North American	100	Kurdish	15	Thai	98	Caribbean Asian	2	North African	18
Turkish	85	White and North African or Middle Eastern	12	Kashmiri	97	North African	2	Burmese	16
Australian/New Zealander	73	White and South Asian	12	Burmese	91	North American	2	Filipino	16
Bosnian	64	British Asian	11	Turkish	68	African/Arab	1	Other Western European	16
Greek	56	Black and Asian	10	Multi-ethnic islands	65	Black European	1	Somali	15
Kosovan	29	White and East Asian	10	Vietnamese	55	Black/African American	1	African/Arab	12
Iranian	26	Filipino	9	East African Asian	46	Cuban	1	Somalilander	9
Kurdish	25	European Mixed	8	Japanese	39	European Mixed	1	Italian	8
Latin/South/Central American	16	Italian	8	Korean	24	Latin/South/Central American	1	Multi-ethnic islands	8
Afghan	14	Afghan	6	Tamil	21	Moroccan	1	Brazilian	6
Brazilian	13	Latin/South/Central American	6	Malaysian	20	<i>Any other ethnic group</i>	103	Bosnian	5
Other Middle East	11	Multi-ethnic islands	6	Nepalese (includes Gurkha)	15			Greek Cypriot	5
Cypriot (part not stated)	10	North African	6	Anglo Indian	14			Malaysian	5
Albanian	8	Polish	6	Caribbean Asian	5			Albanian	4
Greek Cypriot	6	Vietnamese	6	Indonesian	5			European Mixed	4
White African	6	White Caribbean	6	Other Western European	3			Greek	4
British Asian	5	White African	5	Sinhalese	3			Polish	4
Serbian	5	Brazilian	4	Commonwealth of (Russian) Independent States	2			Baltic States	3
Argentinian	4	Commonwealth of (Russian) Independent States	4	Cambodia	1			Mexican	3
North African	4	Anglo Indian	3	North American	1			Moroccan	2
Thai	4	Malaysian	3	Other Eastern European	1			Japanese	1
Croatian	3	Australian/New Zealander	2	Polynesia/Micronesia/Melanesia	1			Kashmiri	1
Multi-ethnic islands	3	Burmese	2	Taiwanese	1			North American	1
Somalilander	3	East African Asian	2	<i>Any other ethnic group</i>	366			Peruvian	1
Anglo Indian	2	Greek	2					Tamil	1
Mexican	2	Korean	2					<i>Any other ethnic group</i>	127
Moroccan	2	Moroccan	2						
Peruvian	2	Baltic States	1						
Sri Lankan	2	Black British	1						
Vietnamese	2	Black/African American	1						
Chilean	1	Caribbean Asian	1						
Filipino	1	North American	1						
Israeli	1	Thai	1						
Tamil	1	<i>Any other ethnic group</i>	453						
<i>Any other ethnic group</i>	639								
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,943</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>812</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>3,021</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,121</b>

Source: 2011 Census, Quick Statistics Table QS211EW, Office for National Statistics, Crown Copyright.

## 4. Changing Ethnic Groups

Since the ethnicity question has been introduced in the UK Census the number of ethnic categories has grown from nine in 1991, to 16 in 2001, and 18 in 2011, with some changes to tick box labels, placement and question instructions. Changes to the questionnaire were made to improve data collection and accuracy of the results, however some improvements will affect direct comparability between 2011 and 2001 statistics. Specifically:

- The re-positioning of the **Chinese** tick box from 'Any other ethnic group' to 'Asian/Asian British'. The 'Asian other' and total 'Asian' populations will therefore not be comparable between 2001 and 2011.
- The introduction of new tick box **Gypsy or Irish Traveller**: Respondents may have identified in 2001 as 'British', 'Irish' or 'Any other White background' but instead use the new tick-box to identify as 'Gypsy or Irish Traveller' in 2011.
- The introduction of new tick box **Arab**: Data from the 2001 Census suggested that many British Arabs ticked one of the 'Other' categories.

Therefore caution is required when comparing change over time in ethnic groups.

While **White British** continued to be the majority ethnic group in Bolton, it has decreased over time. In 2001 the White British ethnic group accounted for 87% of the population; between 2001 and 2011 this decreased eight percentage points to 79%<sup>3</sup>. However the number of people classified as **Other White** has almost doubled, from around 2,500 in 2001 to almost 5,000 in 2011, making almost 2% of the population in Bolton. As was seen earlier it is likely that this is due to an increase in migration from Poland and other Eastern European countries.

The number of people in Bolton stated they had a **Mixed** ethnic background has almost doubled from 2001-2011. Around 2,500 people stated they were of mixed ethnic origin in 2001; in 2011 this was up to almost 5,000.

Bolton continues to have large **Indian** and **Pakistani** populations. Around 8% of the population classed themselves as Indian and 4% Pakistani; this has increased from 6% and 2.5% in 2001 respectively. However the largest increases in this category have been from the **Bangladeshi, Chinese & Other Asian groups**. For instance people who classed themselves as 'Other Asian' have trebled in numbers from 1,000 in 2001 to over 3,000 in 2011, although these remained quite small overall numbers at 1.1% of the population. As seen earlier much of this will have been made up from increases in the Afghan and Iranian populations in Bolton.

There have also been large increases in the Black ethnic categories, and fastest growth in Bolton from 2001-11 was in **Black African** and **Black Other** populations. The number of people identifying as 'Black other' increased five times since 2001, (from just 96 in 2001 to almost 600 in 2011) although

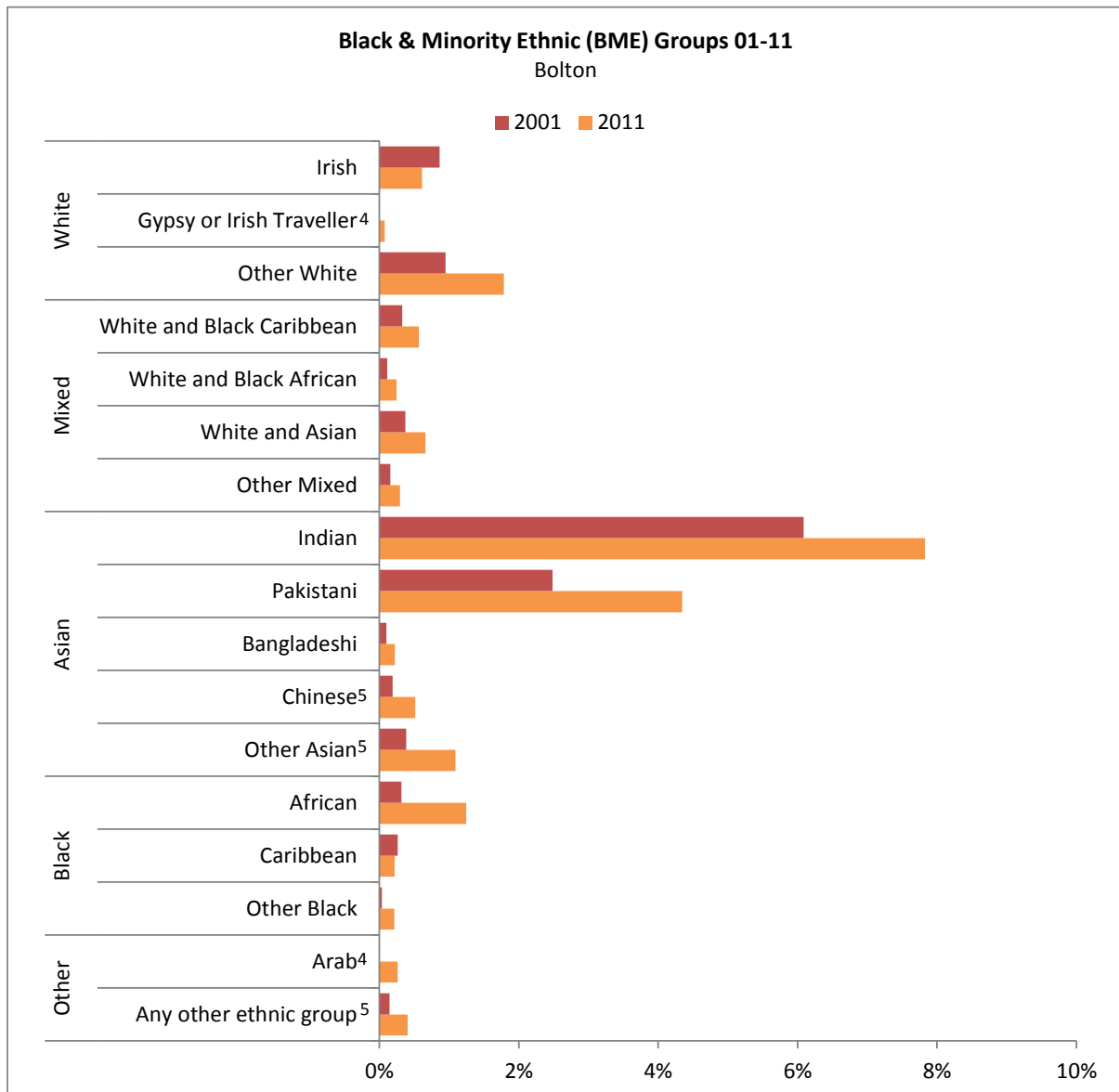
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<sup>3</sup> In 2001 this tick box was simply labelled 'White British'. In 2011 it was 'White English/Welsh/Scottish/Northern Irish/British'.



this still makes an extremely small percentage of people at 0.2%. It is likely that much of the change in both Black African and Black Other can be attributed to increases in the Somali and Somalilander population from 2001-2011.

The **Any Other Ethnic Group** category has also shown substantial increases in Bolton over the past decade. People who classify themselves as 'Other' have almost doubled from 2001-2011, although this still makes up a small percentage of the population at 0.4%. As seen earlier, in Bolton this is predominantly made up of Kurdish, Iranian and other Middle Eastern populations.



Source: 2011 Census Key Statistics Table KS201EW & 2001 Census Key Statistics Table KS06, Office for National Statistics, Crown Copyright.

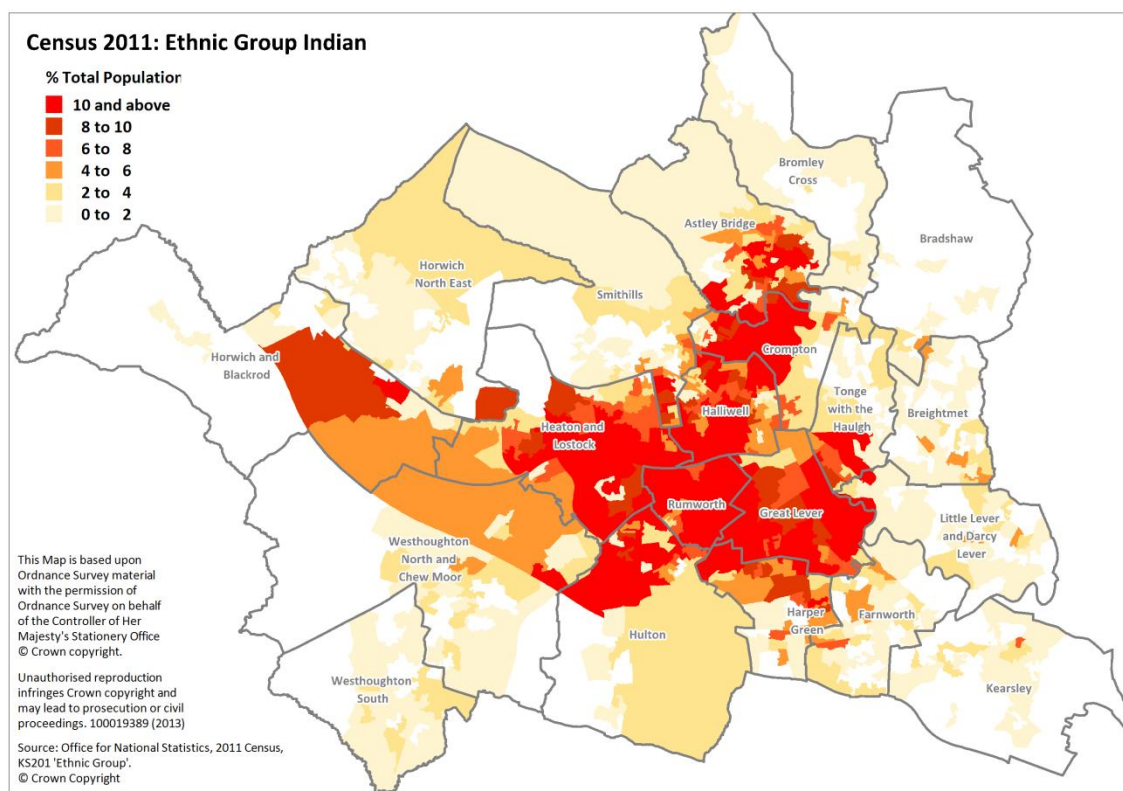
<sup>4</sup> No comparable data exists for these groups in the 2001 Census.

<sup>5</sup> Comparability issues exist for these ethnic groups between the 2001-2011 Census.

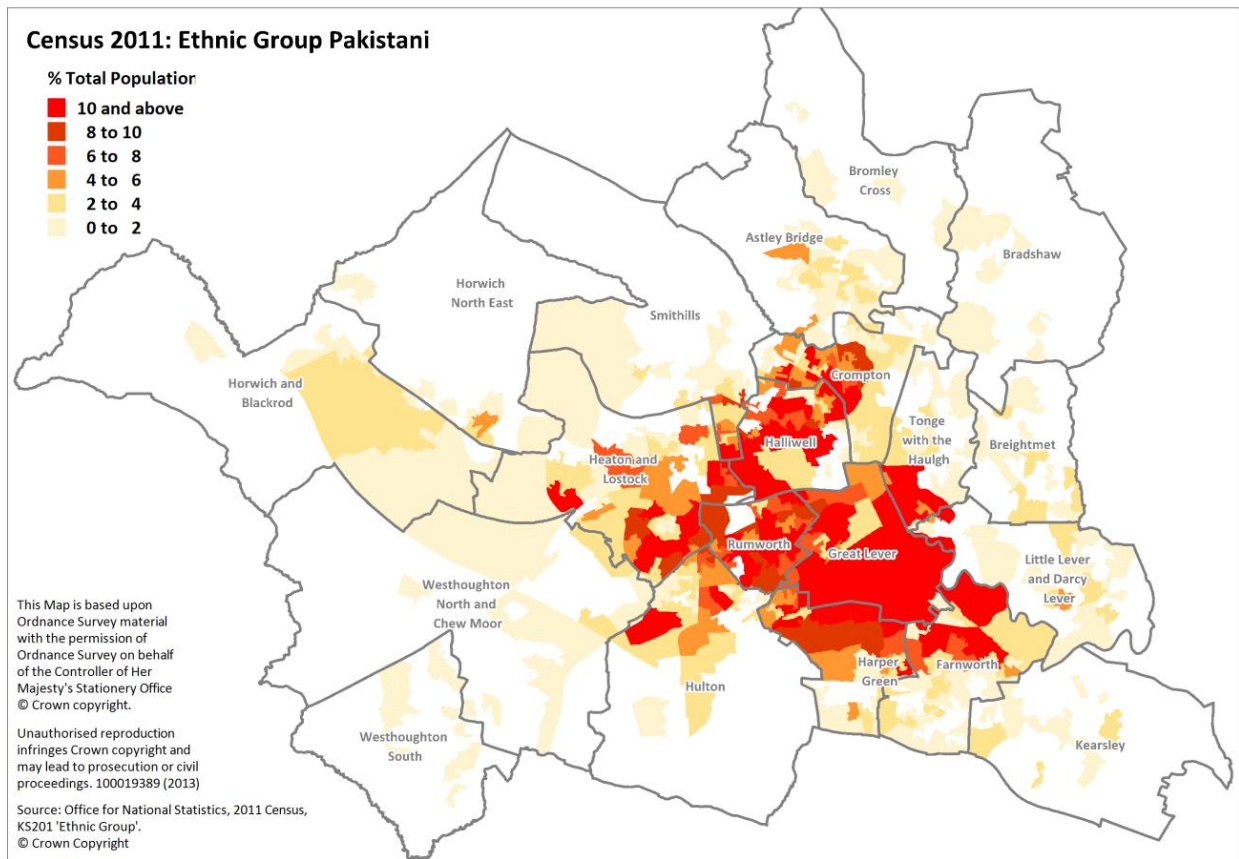
## 5. Distribution of Black & Minority Ethnic Groups

The distribution of Black and Minority Ethnic groups has historically been in wards around the town centre, particularly in areas of Crompton, Halliwell, Rumworth and Great Lever wards. There are also significant BME populations in parts of Farnworth, Hulton, Harper Green, Astley Bridge and Heaton & Lostock Wards.

The largest BME group in Bolton is **Indian** with around 1 in 12 (8%) of the total population. The Indian population is primarily based in Halliwell, Rumworth, Great Lever and parts of Crompton, Astley Bridge and Hulton. Rumworth ward in total is around 40% Indian, with some output areas of the borough coming close to 80%. The areas east of the borough appear to have the lowest levels of Indian population, with Bradshaw and Kearsley having particularly low populations.



**Pakistani** was the second-highest BME group in Bolton. Like the Indian population this was mainly clustered around the town centre, however greater numbers appeared around Great Lever, (where 1 in 5 of the population classed themselves as Pakistani), Rumworth, Halliwell and parts of Farnworth and Crompton. There were only small pockets in areas such as Heaton & Lostock and Hulton. Areas such as Westhoughton, Horwich North-East and Smithills had extremely low numbers.



In 2011 the group **White Other** almost doubled in size from 2001. As we have seen earlier this was primarily due to an increase in Polish and other Eastern European migrants, (although the 'White Other' group is extremely diverse and also consisted of people from Western Europe, the Baltic states plus numerous others, see p7 for more details). Overall the White Other group did not make up more than 2% the total population in 2011 and the group appeared to be fairly dispersed across the borough, with most wards containing a sizable number of 'white others' within their population. However Halliwell, Crompton, Rumworth and Great Lever appeared to have the highest numbers overall.

