

BAME health and wellbeing in the COVID-19 pandemic

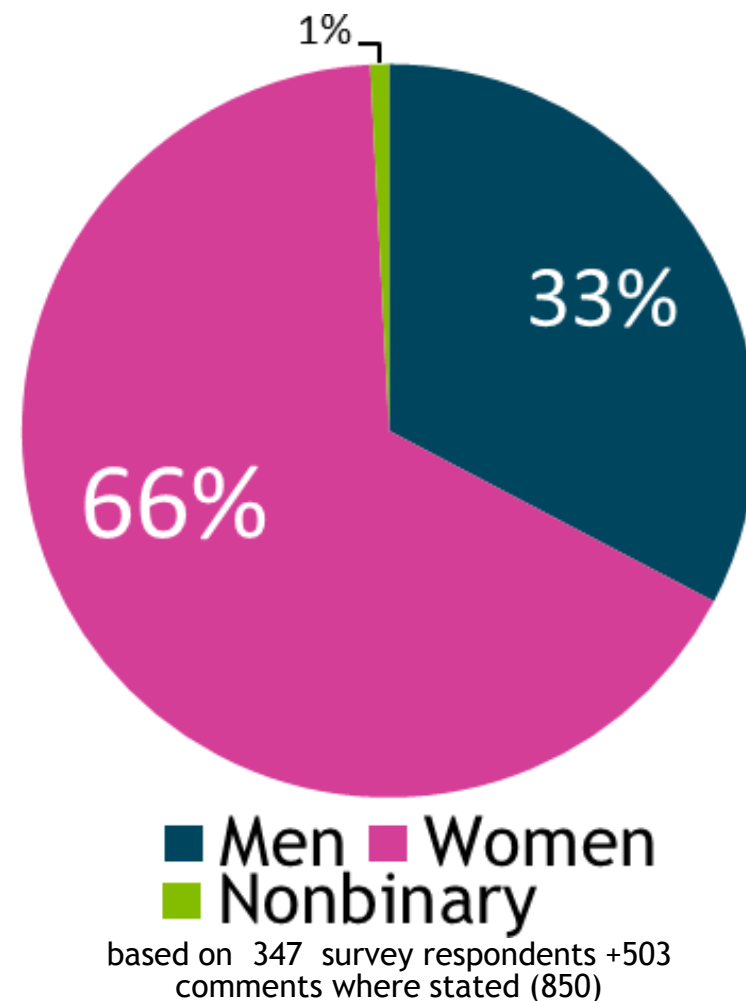
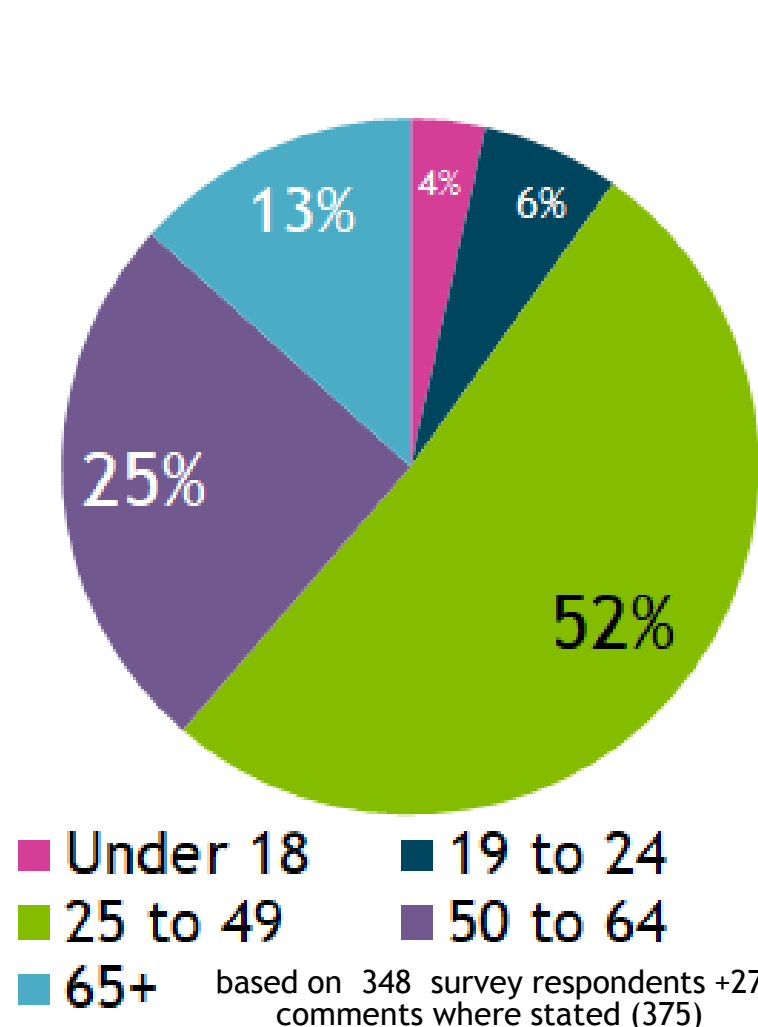
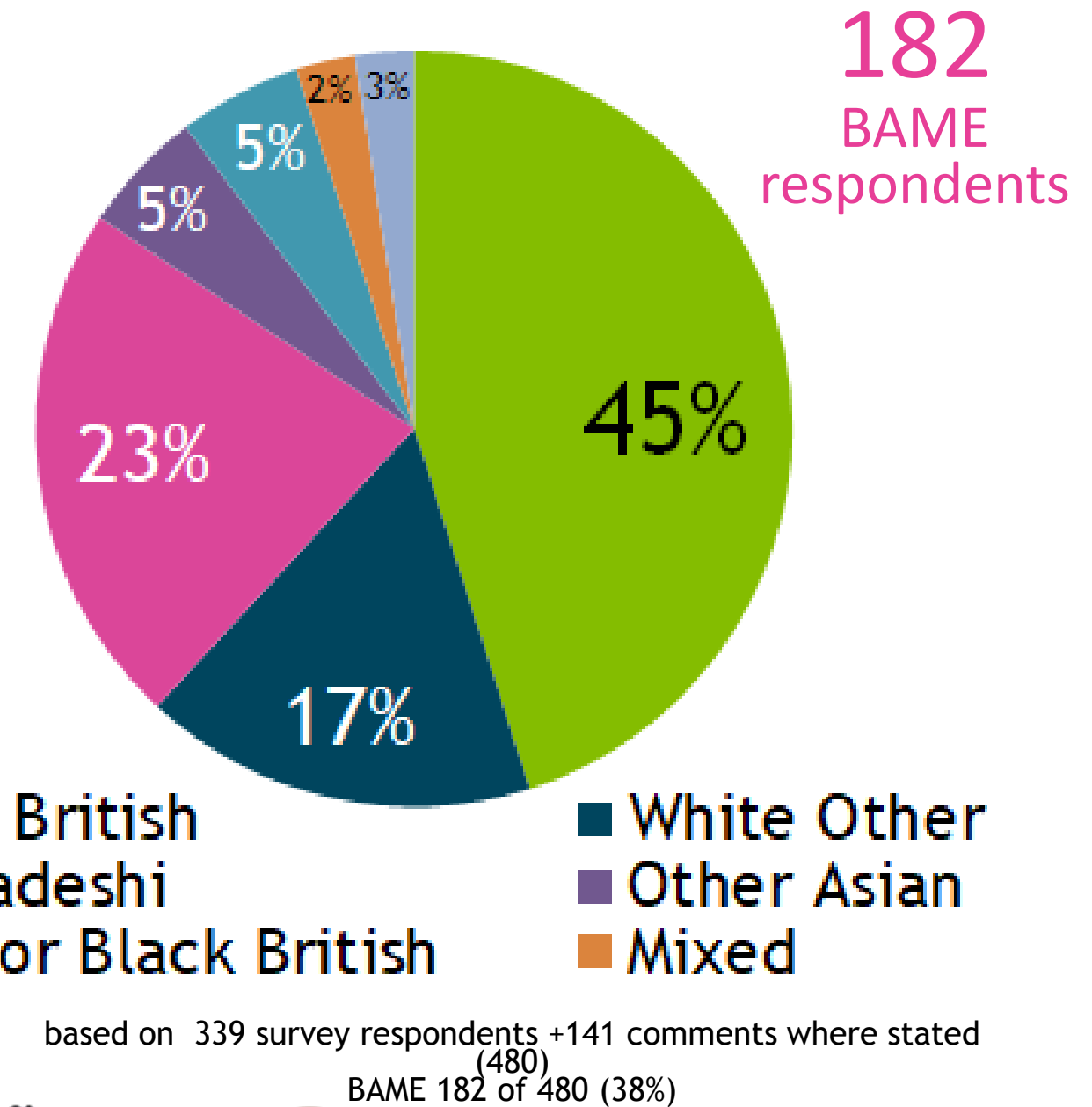
We are in the process of carrying out a survey online and on the phone.

We also analysed comments received from local people via telephone and email, NHS Choices, patient opinion and social media.

This is a non-representative opportunity sample; data collection using disseminating links on online support groups on Facebook and WhatsApp; and the snowball method through community and fith groups.

354
respondents to date

1237
further comments



What we've learned



**BLACK BRITISH
RESPONDENTS**

more likely to look up their symptoms somewhere other than 111

more likely to be digitally excluded

less likely to work full time

more likely to be in economic precarity

more likely to have telephone GP consultations, less likely to have online consultations

more likely to feel worried about their health

less likely to exercise outdoors

less likely to work from home

more likely to use 111

less likely to join online mutual support groups


more likely to feel socially isolated

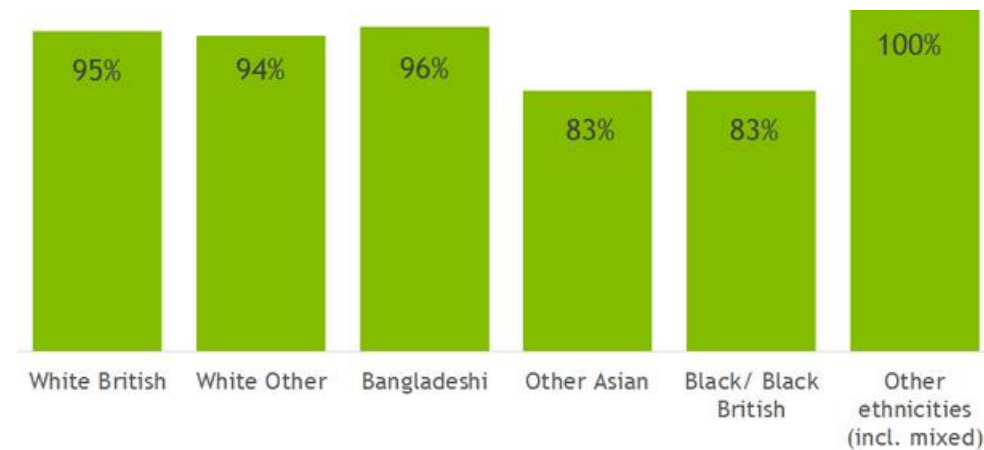
more likely to worry about their job or finances



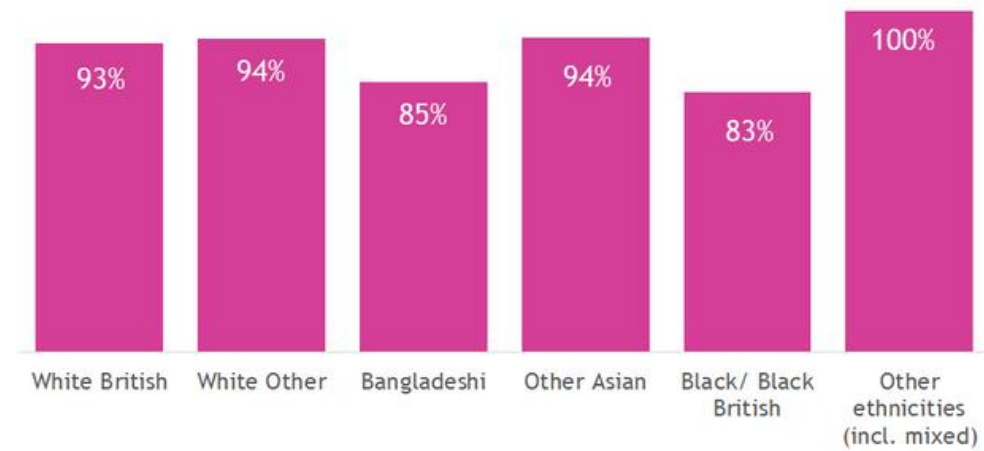
**BANGLADESHI
RESPONDENTS**

Digital inclusion and the pandemic

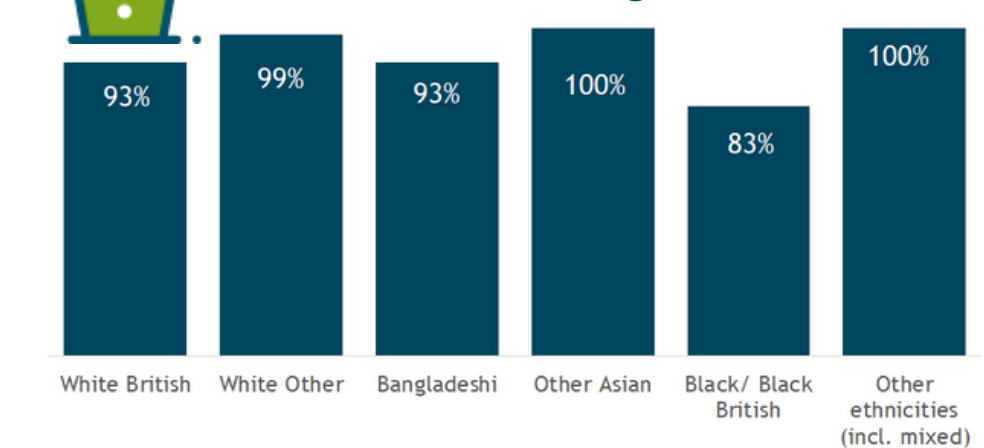
 Has access to a device that can access the internet



 Has access to an internet connection

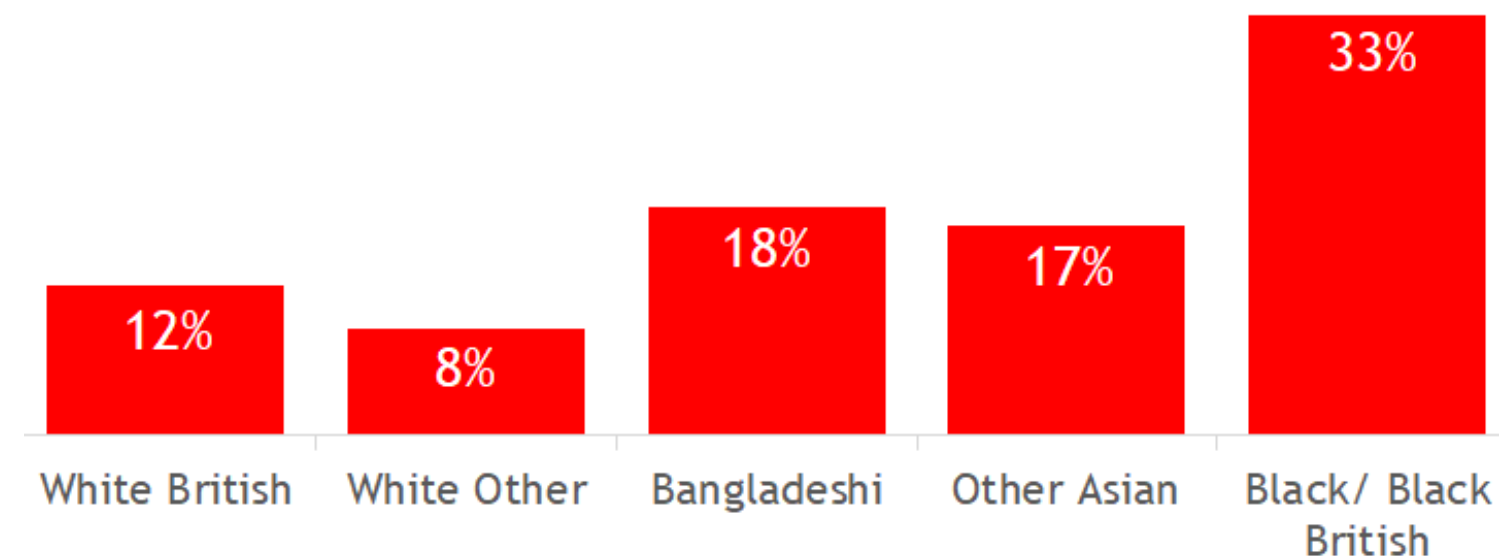


 Feels confident using the internet



Is digitally excluded

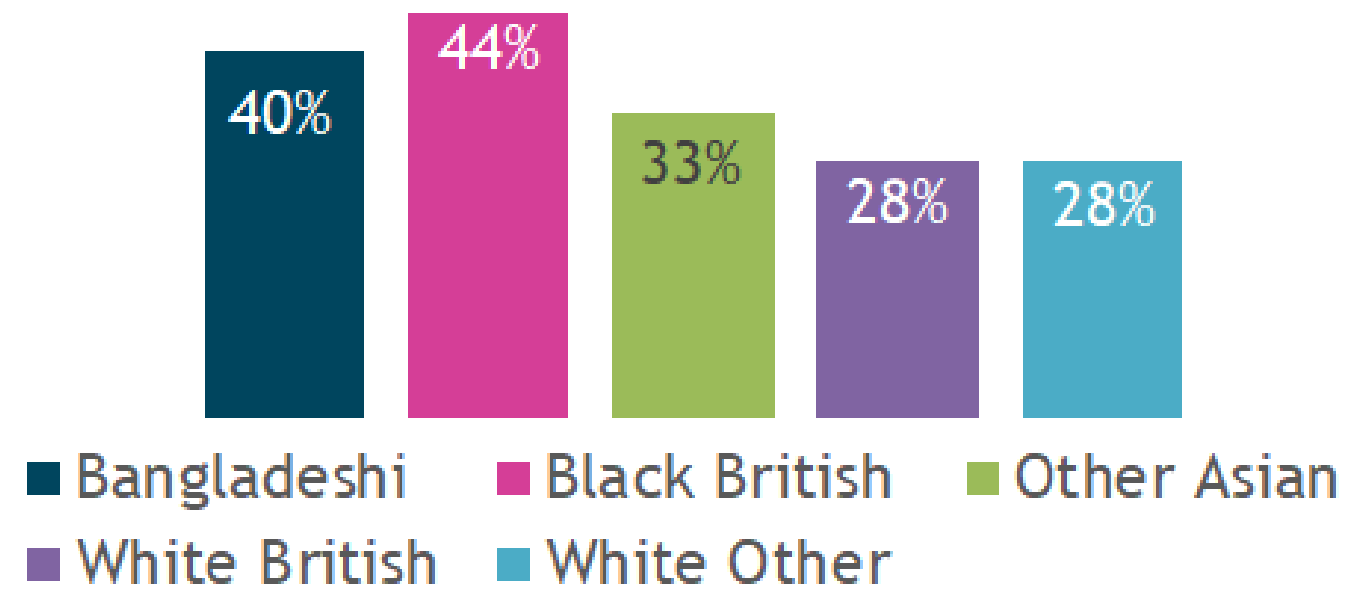
(Either no device, no connection or no knowledge)



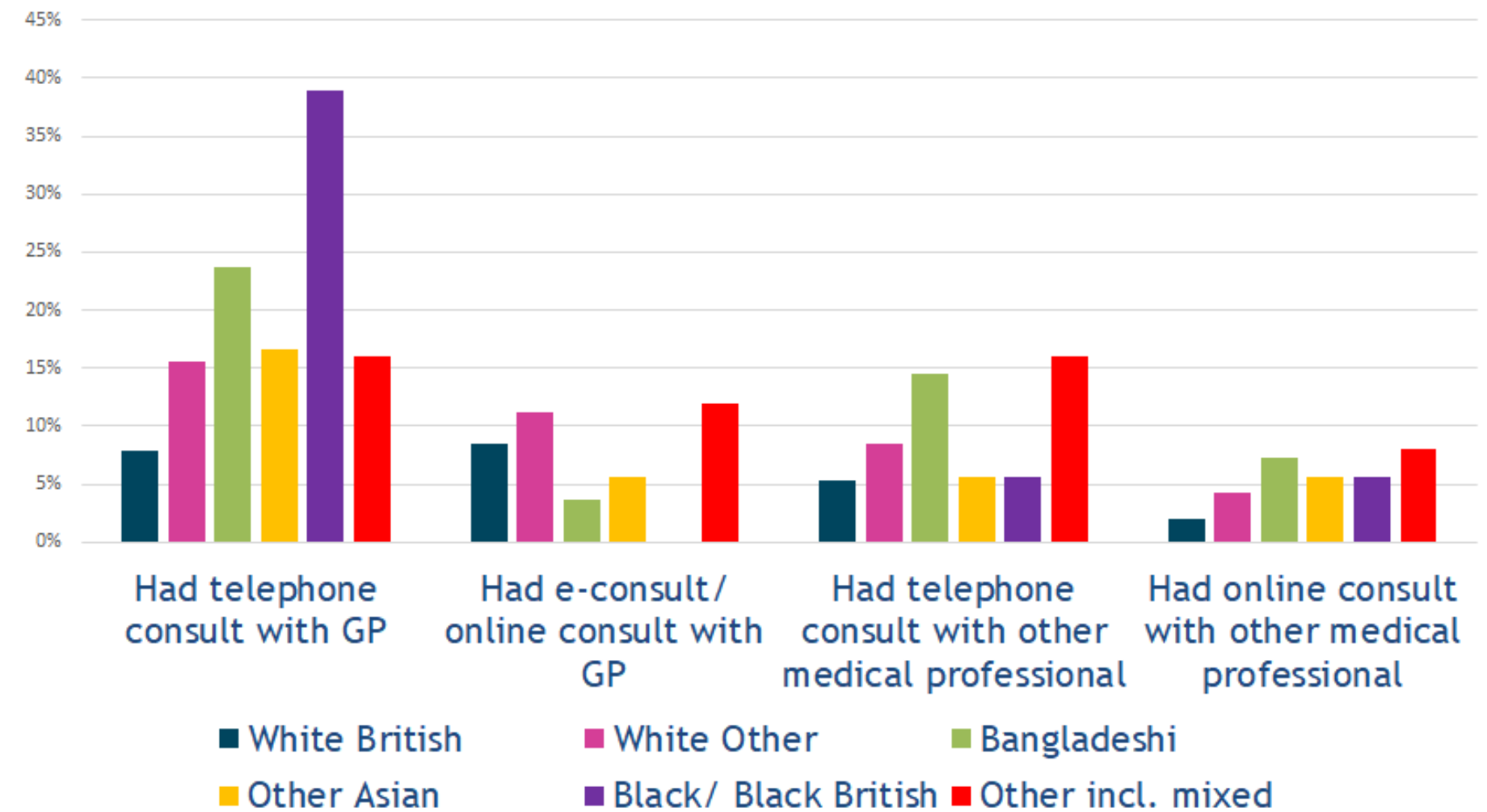
The internet plays a crucial role in how local people cope with the pandemic. Relatively few of those we spoke to are digitally excluded; but BAME communities appeared somewhat more vulnerable to it, especially Black British people. Lack of devices and internet connection was an issue even for some of those who did know how to use the internet.

Health services and the pandemic

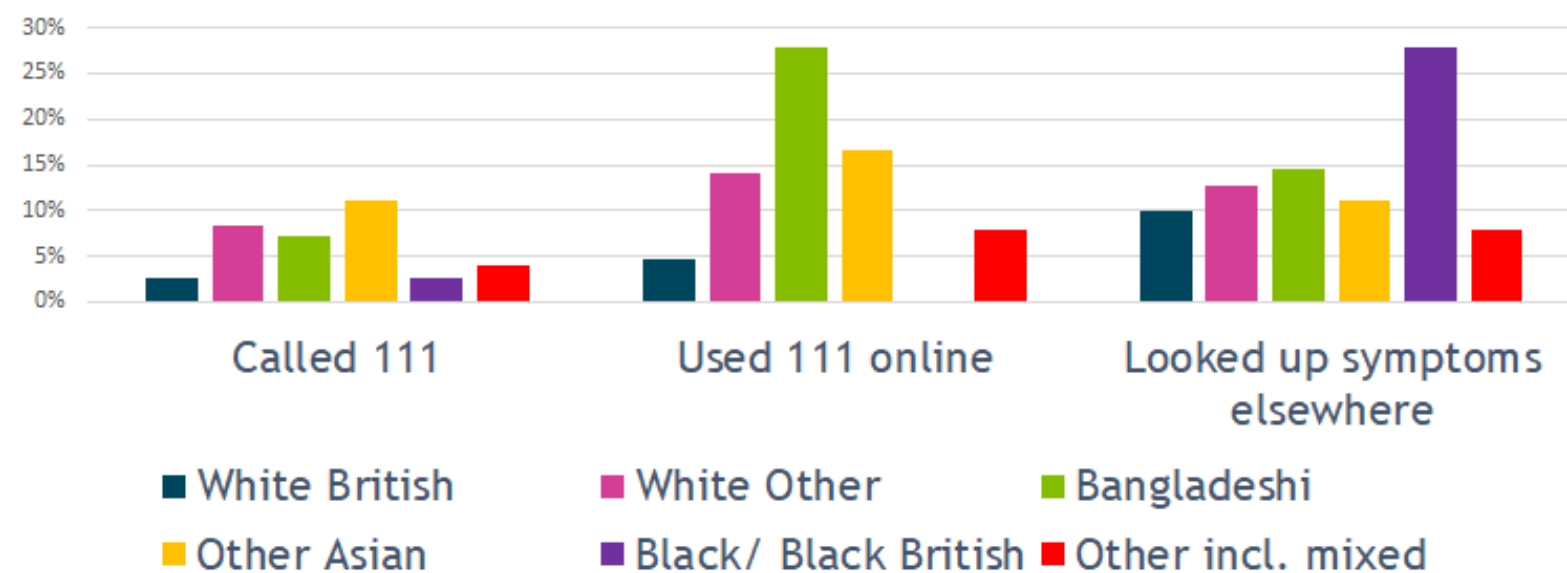
Bangladeshi and Black respondents were more worried about their health than those of White ethnicities.



Black and Bangladeshi respondents were more likely to access medical services (GP or specialist) by telephone; and less likely to have online GP consultations. This could be tied to digital exclusion and to a higher prevalence of certain chronic conditions among BAME communities, relating to systemic health inequalities.



Asian respondents were more likely to use the 111 service, while Black respondents preferred to look up their symptoms elsewhere.

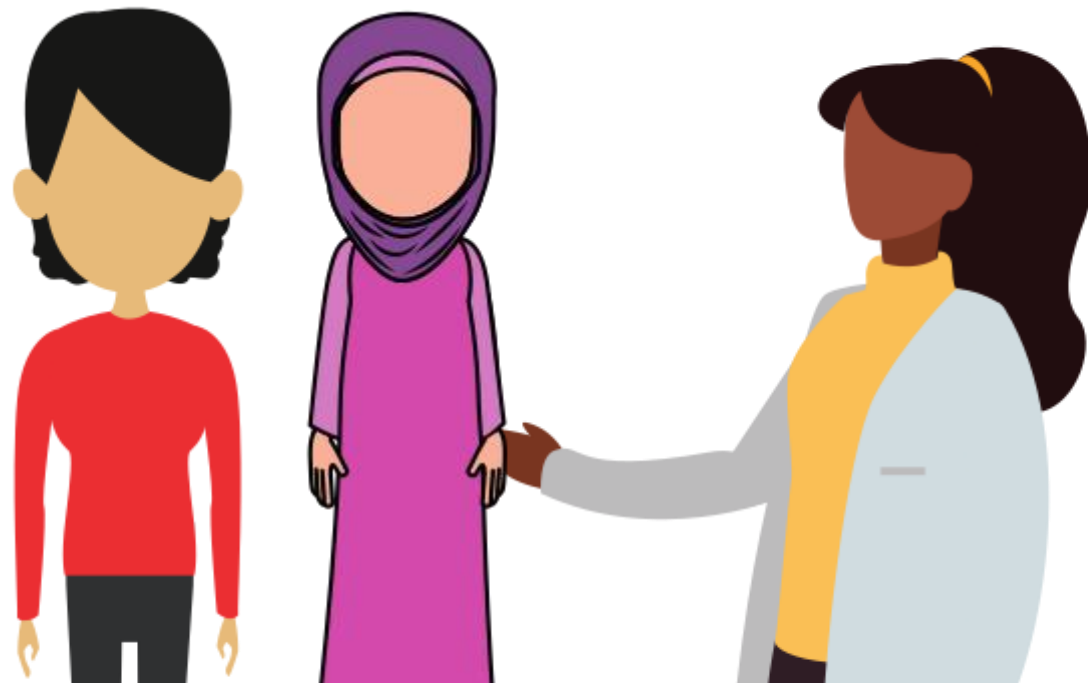


Health services and the pandemic

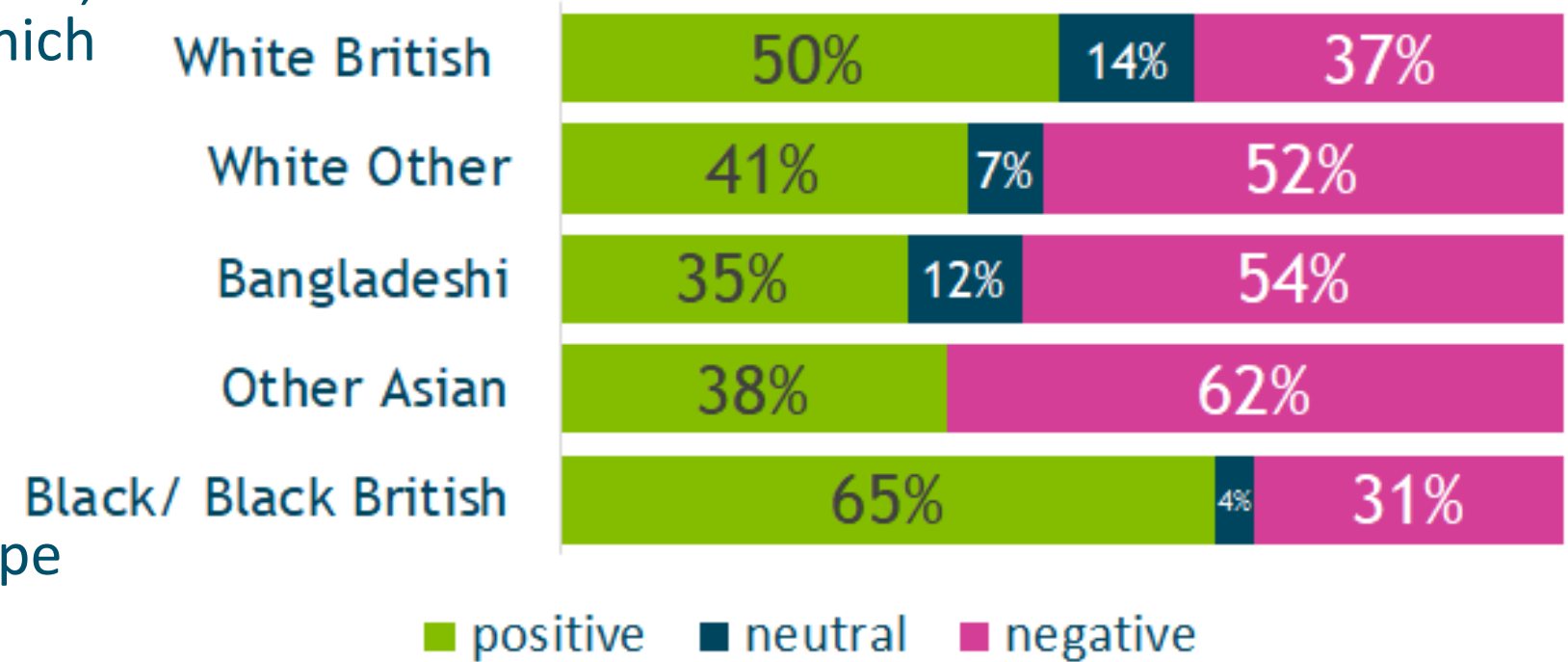
There is some evidence that people from BAME backgrounds had more negative experiences with NHS services than White British people ; Asian people in particular were more dissatisfied with their GPs, which was not the case for Black respondents.

The concerns raised by survey respondents included:

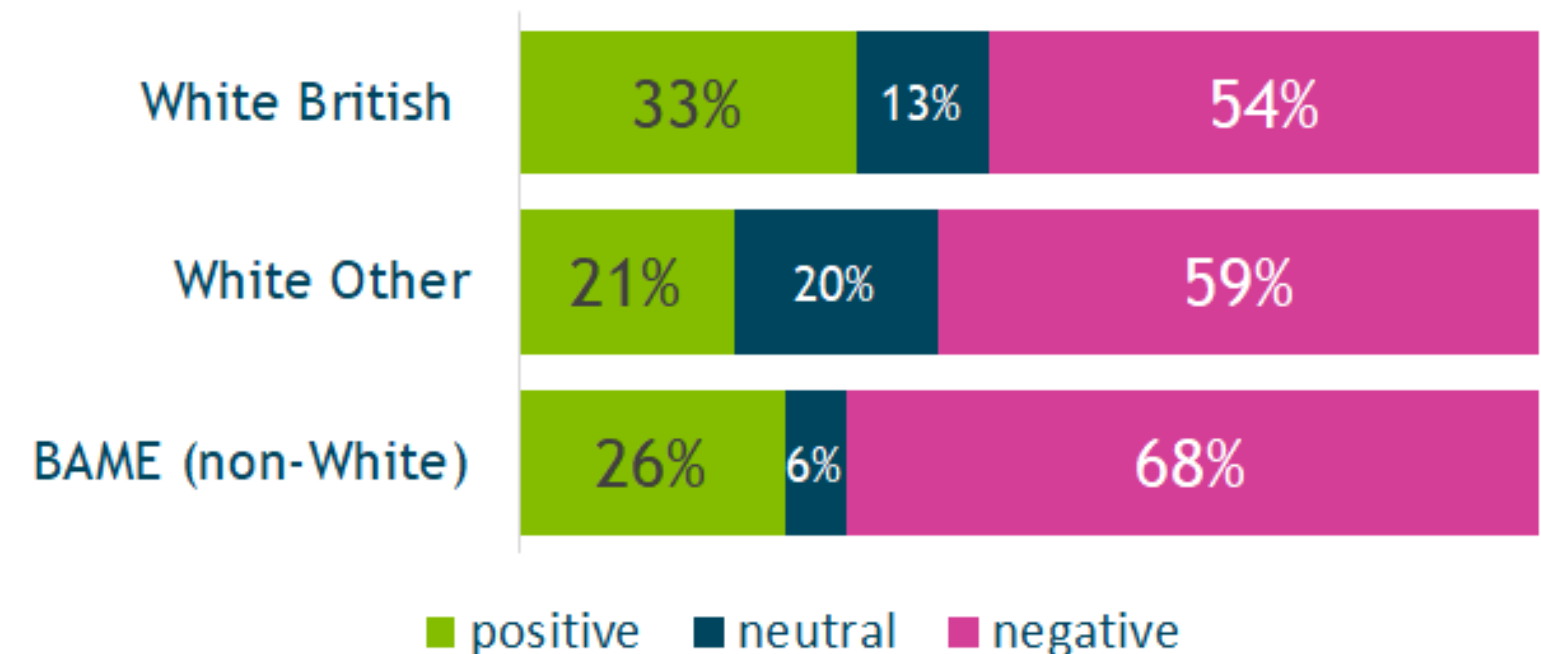
- cancellations of specialist appointments (such as physiotherapy, dental work or routine checkups).
- difficulties in diagnosing and testing while there is a limited scope for face-to-face appointments.



Opinion of GP services



Opinion of hospital services



Work and finances during the pandemic

Black and Bangladeshi respondents were less likely to be employed full-time or retired than White British respondents. Asian respondents, overall, were more likely to be stay at home parents, and a relatively high percentage of Bengali respondents were students.

Local people who depended financially on family members (such as stay at home parents or students supported by their parents), those who worked part-time or on a freelance capacity were more likely to be negatively affected financially by the pandemic than those on a stable income such as a full-time salary or a pension.

Black and Bangladeshi respondents were also more likely to be in a financially precarious position.



76%
of respondents of White ethnicities (British and non-British) who were in work worked from home.

Only 33%
of Bangladeshi respondents who were in work worked from home.

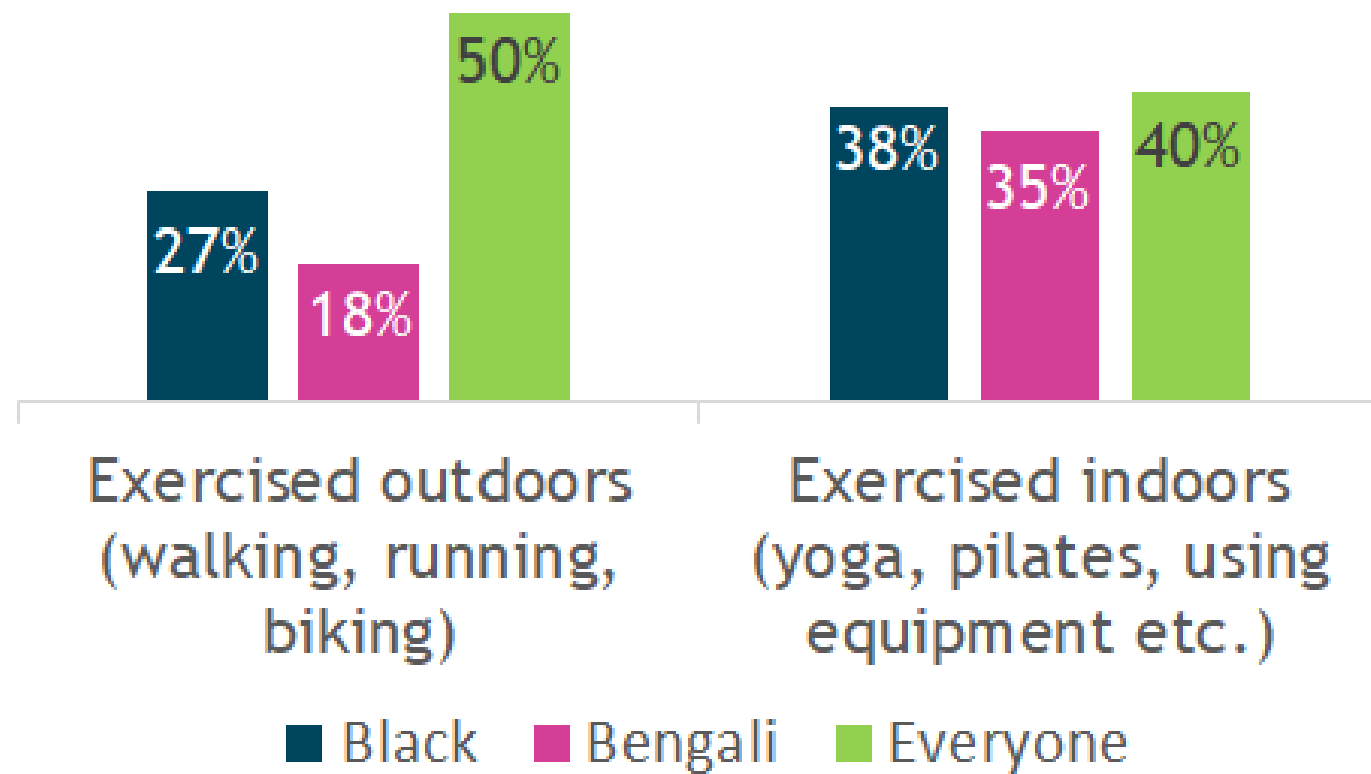
51%
of respondents of Asian ethnicities (including Bengali) were worried about their jobs or finances.

Only 26%
of White British respondents worried about this.



Community and wellbeing during the pandemic

Black and Bangladeshi residents exercised outdoors less than other ethnic groups



Bangladeshi young people (18 to 24) were the most likely to help family members, friends and acquaintances with shopping and errands.



45%

of Bangladeshi residents felt socially isolated; more than any other group.



People of mixed and non-British White ethnicities were more likely to join online mutual support groups; Asian respondents were less likely to do so.

