

# British Future Race Relations Poll



Fieldwork: 25th January to 14th February 2021  
Sample: 2,000 ethnic minority and 1,501 white UK adults  
Interview mode: Online

On a scale of 1-10 (with 1 being very badly and 10 being very well), how well or badly do you feel that people of different races and ethnic backgrounds get along in y

	All	White	BME
1 - very badly	3	3	4
2	2	2	3
3	4	4	6
4	5	4	7
5	11	11	12
6	7	7	10
7	13	13	14
8	18	19	15
9	9	9	8
10 - very well	17	17	13
Don't know	10	11	7

On a scale of 1-10 (with 1 being very badly and 10 being very well), how well or badly do you feel that people of different races and ethnic backgrounds get along in B

	All	White	BME
1 - very badly	3	3	4
2	2	2	3
3	6	6	8
4	8	7	12
5	16	16	16
6	16	16	14
7	20	20	15
8	11	11	10
9	4	3	5
10 - very well	7	7	7
Don't know	7	7	6

On a scale of 1-10 (with 1 being very negative and 10 very positive) how positive or negative an impact do you feel that immigration has had on the UK, nationally and

	All	White	BME
1 - very negative	7	8	3
2	3	3	2
3	7	7	6
4	8	8	9
5	14	14	13
6	12	12	10
7	14	14	13
8	12	11	14
9	6	5	9
10 - very positive	10	10	12
Don't know	8	8	9

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Overall, the public's response to the coronavirus crisis has shown the unity of our society mor

	All	White	BME
Strongly agree	9	9	12
Tend to agree	37	38	32
Neither agree/disagree	25	25	26
Tend to disagree	16	17	16
Strongly disagree	8	7	8
Don't know	4	4	7

Looking toward the future, what divisions in the UK, if any, worry you most? (Choose up to 3 and then press the "next" button)

	All	White	BME
Divisions between rich and poor	42	42	42
Divisions between people from different ethnic groups	31	30	40
Political divisions over Brexit	26	26	32
Divisions between those who want independence for Scotland, Wales, England or Northern Ireland and those who do not	26	26	22
Divisions between people who have different religious beliefs	22	22	22
The North-South divide	20	21	12
Political divisions by party politics	19	19	19
Divisions between older and younger people	14	14	11
Divisions by place (between towns and big cities, urban and rural)	10	10	10
None of these	8	8	8
Don't know	7	7	7

Thinking about generally about the UK, which of the following is closest to your view?

	All	White	BME
We have tended to not talk enough about issues of race in British society	32	31	39
We talk about the right amount about issues of race in British society	31	31	28

We have tended to talk too much about issues of race in British society	24	25	15
Don't know	14	13	18

**To what extent did you support/oppose the Black Lives Matter anti-racism protests in the UK?**

	All	White	BME
Strongly support	19	17	32
Tend to support	24	23	26
Neither support nor oppose	29	30	23
Tend to oppose	11	12	6
Strongly oppose	13	14	5
Don't know	5	4	8

**Which of the following is closest to your view?**

	All	White	BME
Race relations are better in Britain than in the USA	57	58	49
Race relations are similar in Britain and the USA	21	20	27
Race relations are worse in Britain than in the USA	6	5	9
Don't know	16	17	15

**Thinking beyond the current Covid social distancing restrictions, how often, if at all, would you say you normally have the opportunity to meet and interact with people from different ethnicities?**

	All	White	BME
Very often	22	21	29
Fairly often	28	28	33
Occasionally	31	32	23
Almost never	14	15	8
Don't know	4	3	6

**How far are you familiar with the following terms?  
"BAME"**

	All	White	BME
I am confident I know what this means	42	41	47
Have heard it, but not sure of the meaning	26	27	24
I don't recognise this term	32	32	29

**How far are you familiar with the following terms?  
"Institutional Racism"**

	All	White	BME
I am confident I know what this means	44	44	51
Have heard it, but not sure of the meaning	33	33	34
I don't recognise this term	23	24	16

**How far are you familiar with the following terms?  
"Levelling Up"**

	All	White	BME
I am confident I know what this means	25	24	30
Have heard it, but not sure of the meaning	36	36	39
I don't recognise this term	39	41	30

**To what extent, if at all, would you say you feel each of the following?  
I feel a sense of belonging to Britain**

	All	White	BME
Strongly	40	41	31
Somewhat	32	32	36
A little	18	18	20
Not at all	7	7	7
Don't know	4	3	5

**To what extent, if at all, would you say you feel each of the following?  
I feel a sense of belonging to [question("value"), id="234"]**

	All	White	BME
Strongly	44	46	29
Somewhat	30	29	36
A little	16	16	21
Not at all	7	7	10
Don't know	3	3	4

**To what extent, if at all, would you say you feel each of the following?  
I feel a sense of belonging to my ethnic group**

	All	White	BME
Strongly	32	32	36
Somewhat	32	32	32
A little	19	20	18
Not at all	11	11	8
Don't know	5	5	6

**To what extent, if at all, would you say you feel each of the following?  
I feel a sense of belonging to another non-UK national identity**

	All	White	BME
Strongly	11	9	19
Somewhat	16	14	26
A little	14	13	20

Not at all	50	53	25
Don't know	10	10	11

**How important, if at all, is religion or faith in your life?**

	All	White	BME
Very important	17	14	39
Somewhat important	16	15	21
A little important	22	23	17
Not at all important	41	44	17
Don't know	4	4	7

**Policy-makers looking at race and ethnicity on issues like education, health, jobs and policing might collect and analyse different types of data to understand impacts  
Data covering all ethnic minorities (compared to the white majority group)**

	All	White	BME
Essential	25	23	39
Fairly useful	34	34	32
Only a little bit useful	18	19	15
Unnecessary/ irrelevant	10	10	5
Don't know	13	14	9

**Policy-makers looking at race and ethnicity on issues like education, health, jobs and policing might collect and analyse different types of data to understand impacts  
Data on different broad minority groups ,Äi such as Black, Asian, Mixed Race, White**

	All	White	BME
Essential	22	21	33
Fairly useful	34	34	35
Only a little bit useful	21	21	16
Unnecessary/ irrelevant	10	11	6
Don't know	13	14	9

**Policy-makers looking at race and ethnicity on issues like education, health, jobs and policing might collect and analyse different types of data to understand impacts  
Data on people from different faith groups ,Äi eg Christian, Muslim, Sikh, Hindu, Jewish.**

	All	White	BME
Essential	20	18	30
Fairly useful	30	30	33
Only a little bit useful	24	25	20
Unnecessary/ irrelevant	13	14	9
Don't know	12	13	9

**Policy-makers looking at race and ethnicity on issues like education, health, jobs and policing might collect and analyse different types of data to understand impacts  
Data on national origins/family heritage (eg Bangladesh, India, Jamaica, Nigeria, Pakistan, Trinidad, Poland, Ireland, etc)**

	All	White	BME
Essential	19	17	29
Fairly useful	30	30	33
Only a little bit useful	24	24	18
Unnecessary/ irrelevant	13	14	10
Don't know	14	14	10

**There are different views as to whether or not it is useful for public, media and policy debates to discuss ethnic minorities as a whole, as well as more specific minorit**

	All	White	BME
It is still useful to have an overall term of this kind, because there are enough similar experiences across different minority gro	38	38	40
It is outdated to have an overall term of this kind, because the different experiences of different minority groups in Britain are	33	32	36
Don't know	29	30	25

**How do you feel about the following terms being used in discussions of race and ethnicity in Britain?**

**Ethnic minority**

	All	White	BME
Support - I would tend to prefer this as the most appropriate term to use	23	22	30
OK - I would tend to see this term as acceptable to use, where relevant	39	40	38
Indifferent - I have no opinion either way about the use of this term	27	28	19
Opposed - I don't see this as an appropriate term to use	10	10	13

**How do you feel about the following terms being used in discussions of race and ethnicity in Britain?**

**People of colour**

	All	White	BME
Support - I would tend to prefer this as the most appropriate term to use	18	17	22
OK - I would tend to see this term as acceptable to use, where relevant	32	33	28
Indifferent - I have no opinion either way about the use of this term	30	31	23
Opposed - I don't see this as an appropriate term to use	20	19	27

**How do you feel about the following terms being used in discussions of race and ethnicity in Britain?**

**Black Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME)**

	All	White	BME
Support - I would tend to prefer this as the most appropriate term to use	20	19	26
OK - I would tend to see this term as acceptable to use, where relevant	33	33	34
Indifferent - I have no opinion either way about the use of this term	32	33	23
Opposed - I don't see this as an appropriate term to use	15	15	17

**How do you feel about the following terms being used in discussions of race and ethnicity in Britain?**

**Non-white**

	All	White	BME
Support - I would tend to prefer this as the most appropriate term to use	16	15	20

OK - I would tend to see this term as acceptable to use, where relevant	25	25	26
Indifferent - I have no opinion either way about the use of this term	29	30	24
Opposed - I don't see this as an appropriate term to use	30	30	30

**And how do you feel about these terms?**

**Black**

	All	White	BME
Support - I would tend to prefer this as the most appropriate term to use	45		45
OK - I would tend to see this term as acceptable to use, where relevant	26		26
Indifferent - I have no opinion either way about the use of this term	17		17
Opposed - I don't see this as an appropriate term to use	8		8
Don't know	4		4

**And how do you feel about these terms?**

**Black British**

	All	White	BME
Support - I would tend to prefer this as the most appropriate term to use	38		38
OK - I would tend to see this term as acceptable to use, where relevant	31		31
Indifferent - I have no opinion either way about the use of this term	17		17
Opposed - I don't see this as an appropriate term to use	8		8
Don't know	5		5

**And how do you feel about these terms?**

**British African**

	All	White	BME
Support - I would tend to prefer this as the most appropriate term to use	31		31
OK - I would tend to see this term as acceptable to use, where relevant	33		33
Indifferent - I have no opinion either way about the use of this term	18		18
Opposed - I don't see this as an appropriate term to use	10		10
Don't know	7		7

**And how do you feel about these terms?**

**British (national origin) - eg Somali, Nigerian, Jamaican, and others**

	All	White	BME
Support - I would tend to prefer this as the most appropriate term to use	32		32
OK - I would tend to see this term as acceptable to use, where relevant	29		29
Indifferent - I have no opinion either way about the use of this term	19		19
Opposed - I don't see this as an appropriate term to use	13		13
Don't know	7		7

**And how do you feel about these terms?**

**British (faith group) - eg Christian, Muslim, etc**

	All	White	BME
Support - I would tend to prefer this as the most appropriate term to use	29		29
OK - I would tend to see this term as acceptable to use, where relevant	26		26
Indifferent - I have no opinion either way about the use of this term	24		24
Opposed - I don't see this as an appropriate term to use	11		11
Don't know	10		10

**And how do you feel about these terms?**

**Asian**

	All	White	BME
Support - I would tend to prefer this as the most appropriate term to use	37		37
OK - I would tend to see this term as acceptable to use, where relevant	36		36
Indifferent - I have no opinion either way about the use of this term	15		15
Opposed - I don't see this as an appropriate term to use	7		7
Don't know	4		4

**And how do you feel about these terms?**

**British Asian**

	All	White	BME
Support - I would tend to prefer this as the most appropriate term to use	39		39
OK - I would tend to see this term as acceptable to use, where relevant	33		33
Indifferent - I have no opinion either way about the use of this term	17		17
Opposed - I don't see this as an appropriate term to use	6		6
Don't know	5		5

**And how do you feel about these terms?**

**British (national origin) - eg Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi, Chinese, and others**

	All	White	BME
Support - I would tend to prefer this as the most appropriate term to use	34		34
OK - I would tend to see this term as acceptable to use, where relevant	36		36
Indifferent - I have no opinion either way about the use of this term	17		17
Opposed - I don't see this as an appropriate term to use	8		8
Don't know	5		5

**And how do you feel about these terms?**

**British (faith group) - eg Muslim, Sikh, Hindu, etc**

	All	White	BME
Support - I would tend to prefer this as the most appropriate term to use	29		29
OK - I would tend to see this term as acceptable to use, where relevant	35		35

Indifferent - I have no opinion either way about the use of this term	19	19
Opposed - I don't see this as an appropriate term to use	12	12
Don't know	6	6

**To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements:  
"Britain is a systematically racist country"**

	All	White	BME
Strongly agree	9	8	17
Somewhat agree	21	20	26
Neither agree nor disagree	26	26	23
Somewhat disagree	22	23	16
Strongly disagree	16	17	10
Don't know	5	5	7

**To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements:  
"People's outcomes in life primarily depend on their own efforts and the steps they choose to take"**

	All	White	BME
Strongly agree	24	24	23
Somewhat agree	40	40	36
Neither agree nor disagree	21	21	20
Somewhat disagree	9	9	10
Strongly disagree	2	2	4
Don't know	4	4	6

**To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements:  
"People's outcomes in life depend primarily on circumstances that are beyond their control"**

	All	White	BME
Strongly agree	10	10	13
Somewhat agree	27	27	33
Neither agree nor disagree	32	33	26
Somewhat disagree	21	21	15
Strongly disagree	6	6	6
Don't know	4	3	7

**Thinking about racial and class background, which do you think people's outcomes in life depend on more?"**

	All	White	BME
Race is much more important	5	5	8
Race is somewhat more important	10	9	13
Race and class are equally important	44	45	39
Class is somewhat more important	14	14	15
Class is much more important	9	9	9
Don't know	17	17	16

**When policy-makers are planning an agenda for equal opportunities in Britain, they may have to consider how far it is possible to bring together approaches to differ**

	All	White	BME
Policy-makers should seek to link-up a fairness agenda that covers all of these factors, including class and race, because in practice it will be more difficult to do so	52	51	56
Policy-makers should choose a fairness agenda that focuses on specific factors, such as class or race, because in practice it will be easier to do so	21	21	22
Don't know	27	28	21

**Census figures show a significant increase in the number of children born to parents of different ethnic backgrounds. Which of the following comes closest to your view**

	All	White	BME
This growth of mixed race relationships is positive. By showing how people can and do mix across ethnic groups, it is good for society	49	48	58
This growth of mixed race relationships is negative. It may dilute the identity and culture of white majority and ethnic minorities	24	25	18
Neither of these	15	15	12
Don't know	12	12	12

**Different people may make different personal choices. We are interested in your view as to whether the government, schools, the media or others should try to encourage**

	All	White	BME
I feel hyphenated identities, overall, can help to make national identity feel more inclusive of people from different backgrounds	43	42	54
I feel hyphenated identities, overall, risk fragmenting a sense of common identity among people of different backgrounds	30	31	23
Don't know	26	27	24

**Which of the following comes closest to your view?**

	All	White	BME
They should encourage hyphenated identities, as part of their role in promoting inclusive identities	15	14	19
They should discourage hyphenated identities, as part of their role in avoiding dividing a sense of common identity	20	20	21
They should not take either view, as they can leave people to make their own choices	45	46	39
Don't know	20	20	20

**National and local policy-makers are considering how to approach debates about statues linked to the era of Empire. Which of the following approaches would you like to see**

	All	White	BME
Review and remove statues with problematic links to Empire	16	15	24
Put up some new statues recognising historic ethnic minority contributions, and keep most old statues, adding information where appropriate	35	35	41
Leave things as they are, without adding new statues or making changes to old ones	34	36	19
Don't know	15	15	17

**The UK government will shortly (this Spring) be considering what proposals it should adopt on race and fairness. To what extent do you support or oppose the following proposals:  
Publish an up-to-date public database of employers who lose racial and religious discrimination cases**

	All	White	BME
Strongly support	20	18	30
Tend to support	25	24	31

Neither support nor oppose	33	35	21
Tend to oppose	8	8	5
Strongly oppose	5	6	2
Don't know	10	10	10

**The UK government will shortly (this Spring) be considering what proposals it should adopt on race and fairness. To what extent do you support or oppose the following**  
**Introduce a new health disparities unit, to target the most at risk or vulnerable communities**

	All	White	BME
Strongly support	19	17	31
Tend to support	35	35	34
Neither support nor oppose	28	29	19
Tend to oppose	7	7	6
Strongly oppose	3	3	2
Don't know	8	8	8

**The UK government will shortly (this Spring) be considering what proposals it should adopt on race and fairness. To what extent do you support or oppose the following**  
**Appoint a 'family tsar' to ensure families are considered in government decision making**

	All	White	BME
Strongly support	13	12	20
Tend to support	27	27	29
Neither support nor oppose	36	37	28
Tend to oppose	9	10	7
Strongly oppose	5	5	4
Don't know	10	10	12

**The UK government will shortly (this Spring) be considering what proposals it should adopt on race and fairness. To what extent do you support or oppose the following**  
**Promote a shared knowledge of Britain for children as part of their school education - including all ethnicities and faiths, and all nations and regions of the UK**

	All	White	BME
Strongly support	27	26	37
Tend to support	34	34	32
Neither support nor oppose	23	24	18
Tend to oppose	6	6	4
Strongly oppose	2	2	2
Don't know	8	8	8

**The UK government will shortly (this Spring) be considering what proposals it should adopt on race and fairness. To what extent do you support or oppose the following**  
**Publish an annual review of equal opportunities across all ethnic groups, to be debated in parliament**

	All	White	BME
Strongly support	18	16	31
Tend to support	26	26	29
Neither support nor oppose	33	35	23
Tend to oppose	8	9	6
Strongly oppose	6	6	3
Don't know	9	9	9

**The UK government will shortly (this Spring) be considering what proposals it should adopt on race and fairness. To what extent do you support or oppose the following**  
**Ensure that the history of race and Empire, including its controversies and complexity, are taught in British schools**

	All	White	BME
Strongly support	32	31	37
Tend to support	31	32	28
Neither support nor oppose	22	22	19
Tend to oppose	5	5	5
Strongly oppose	3	3	3
Don't know	7	7	8

**The UK government will shortly (this Spring) be considering what proposals it should adopt on race and fairness. To what extent do you support or oppose the following**  
**Ensure all school children have activities where they meet and mix with children from different backgrounds to their own**

	All	White	BME
Strongly support	32	31	43
Tend to support	32	33	27
Neither support nor oppose	21	22	16
Tend to oppose	5	5	5
Strongly oppose	3	3	2
Don't know	6	6	6

**The UK government will shortly (this Spring) be considering what proposals it should adopt on race and fairness. To what extent do you support or oppose the following**  
**Encourage all boards of major companies, NHS Trusts, and large charities to include somebody from an ethnic minority background**

	All	White	BME
Strongly support	23	20	39
Tend to support	26	26	28
Neither support nor oppose	32	33	19
Tend to oppose	8	9	5
Strongly oppose	5	6	3
Don't know	6	6	6

**The UK government will shortly (this Spring) be considering what proposals it should adopt on race and fairness. To what extent do you support or oppose the following**  
**Invest more in spaces where people can meet and mix, for example parks, leisure centres, community centres and attractive high streets**

	All	White	BME
Strongly support	27	26	37
Tend to support	32	32	30
Neither support nor oppose	28	29	19

Tend to oppose	4	4	5
Strongly oppose	2	2	2
Don't know	7	6	7

**The UK government will shortly (this Spring) be considering what proposals it should adopt on race and fairness. To what extent do you support or oppose the following?**  
**Require employers to publish data on working conditions, and to avoid ethnic minorities being disproportionately affected by zero-hours contracts**

	All	White	BME
Strongly support	25	23	39
Tend to support	29	29	29
Neither support nor oppose	28	29	18
Tend to oppose	5	6	4
Strongly oppose	4	4	2
Don't know	8	8	7

**Should companies publish data on ethnic pay gaps, or not?**

	All	White	BME
Should	46	44	57
Should not	27	28	21
Don't know	27	28	22

**How likely or unlikely would you be to take a vaccine for Covid when offered?**

	All	White	BME
Certain to take it (or have already taken it)	54	57	34
Likely to take it	19	18	26
Unsure whether or not I would take it	12	11	19
Unlikely to take it	6	6	8
Definitely would not take it	5	5	6
Don't know	4	4	7

**Which of the following best describes why you [are unsure about taking it/are unlikely to take it/would not take it]?**

	All	White	BME
I am worried about the side effects	25	25	23
I am worried that vaccines moved through clinical trials too fast	24	24	24
I don't think it will be effective	18	18	19
The risk to me of getting Covid-19 is low	14	14	15
I am against vaccines in general	5	5	5
I do not trust the government	10	10	8
Other	4	4	6

**Which, if any, of the following apply to you? Select all that apply**

	All	White	BME
I have seen or heard people speak in favour of the vaccine, in person, or through family and friends	56	57	50
I have seen or heard people speak against the vaccine, in person, or through family and friends	32	30	45
I have seen or heard people speak in favour of the vaccine, in the media/online	45	45	47
I have seen or heard people speak against the vaccine, in the media/online	33	32	36
None of the above	13	13	13

**And finally, what percentage of the United Kingdom's population do you think ethnic minorities make up?**

	All	White	BME
0	1	1	2
1	3	2	4
2	2	2	4
3	4	4	4
4	3	3	5
5	4	4	5
6	3	3	3
7	2	2	2
8	2	2	2
9	1	1	2
10	7	7	8
11	1	1	1
12	2	3	1
13	1	1	2
14	1	2	1
15	6	6	5
16	0	0	1
17	1	1	1
18	1	1	0
19	1	1	0
20	6	6	7
21	0	0	0
22	1	1	0
23	1	1	1
24	1	1	0
25	5	5	3
26	0	0	0
27	0	0	0
28	0	0	1
29	0	0	0
30	7	7	5
31	0	0	0

32	1	1	0
33	1	1	0
34	0	0	1
35	4	4	2
36	0	0	0
37	0	0	1
38	1	1	0
39	0	0	0
40	8	8	6
41	0	0	0
42	0	0	0
43	0	0	0
44	0	0	0
45	2	2	2
46	0	0	1
47	1	1	0
48	0	0	0
49	0	0	0
50	3	3	3
51	0	0	0
52	0	0	0
53	0	0	0
54	0	0	0
55	1	1	1
56	0	0	0
57	0	0	0
58	0	0	0
59	0	0	0
60	2	2	1
61	0	0	0
62	0	0	0
63	0	0	0
64	0	0	0
65	1	1	1
66	0	0	0
67	0	0	0
68	0	0	0
69	0	0	0
70	1	1	1
71	0	0	0
72	0	0	0
73	0	0	0
74	0	0	0
75	0	0	1
76	0	0	0
77	0	0	0
78	0	0	0
79	0	0	0
80	1	1	1
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83	0	0	0
84	0	0	0
85	0	0	0
86	0	0	0
87	0	0	0
88	0	0	0
89	0	0	0
90	0	0	0
91	0	0	0
92	0	0	0
93	0	0	0
94	0	0	0
95	0	0	0
96	0	0	0
97	0	0	0
98	0	0	0
99	0	0	0
100	0	0	1

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e than its divides

People who are of a different ethnicity from you?

and inform future policy. How useful or not useful do you think collecting statistics in these areas is for research/policy?

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by groups. Which comes closest to your view?



ent factors ,Äi including social class, geography, ethnicity, faith, gender, disability, sexuality and so on ,Äi that might affect fair chances in society. Which of these approa

ow?

ourage or discourage any particular way of thinking about our identities. Some people use hyphenated identities to describe themselves, for example Black-British, Britis

ke to see prioritised:

ing proposals?

ing proposals?

ing proposals?

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ing proposals?













aches comes closest to your own view

h-Asian, Irish-American and so on. Which of the following comes closest to your view?





