Research to Assist in the Development of a New Ethnic Group Harmonised Standard

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<div align="center">**Key Messages of Paper**</div>

Purpose

The Government Statistical Service (GSS) Harmonisation team are currently working to update the ethnicity harmonised standard (GSS Harmonisation, 2011). The goal of this update is to make the standard more inclusive; this is largely driven by the Inclusive Data Task Force's recommendation to ensure concepts are being measured clearly and appropriately.

A portion of this work includes reviewing the response options available, and importantly those not available, within the current ethnicity standard. Currently, individuals who cannot self-identify through one of the 18+1 'tick box' response options can 'write-in' their ethnic group within the 'Other' textbox response option. The Harmonisation team are aiming to expand the 'tick box' response options of the current question. This will:

- enable a wider range of people to self-identify through a tick box, as opposed to writing-in their ethnic group at Other
- alleviate feelings of being 'othered'
- increase the inclusivity of the question

The team plan to conduct a review of 'write-in' responses to support the development of recommendations for additional tick boxes. This review will cover write-in responses from census, surveys, and admin data sources employing the harmonised standard ethnic group question across the UK.

This write-in review forms a small component of a larger programme of work that has been ongoing since early 2022 (see Annex 1) to update the ethnicity harmonised standard. Since the work on this topic commenced, potential additions to the standard have been identified through research (e.g., focus groups, in-depth interviewing) and community engagement. In addition to potential tick boxes identified from previous work, the write-in review will provide recommendations for tick boxes that have not yet been identified. Recommendations for additions to the standard will be subject to rigorous question testing with members of the public, for example through cognitive interviewing. It is hoped that a new standard, online mode, will be published in early 2025.

Research Aim

To review write-in responses to ethnic group questions from a variety of data sources across the UK. The results will identify whether there are potential additional tick boxes that should be included in the next phase of question testing for the new ethnicity harmonised standard.

Key Asks of MARP

This paper outlines how the team will conduct this write-in review. This is not a highly technical piece of work, but the work it feeds into is sensitive and will be subject to scrutiny by various stakeholder groups. The team would benefit from the assurances of expert groups who are able to provide insight and feedback on the suitability of our methods, to ensure we are acting in a methodologically rigorous manner.

The team submitted a paper to MaRAG in March 2024 and implemented their feedback in preparation for MARP. In anticipation of seeking further sign off from the UKSA board in

Summer 2024, we are now seeking expert methodological input from MARP committee members.

The team would like MARP's view on the strengths, limitations, and risks of the proposed write-in review.

Executive Summary

The work to develop a new, more inclusive version of the ethnicity harmonised standard is highly anticipated but also highly sensitive. Its importance has been emphasised by Sir Ian Diamond at several stages, and the project is a priority for the Harmonisation team. Many stakeholder and community groups are keen for an updated version of the standard which better meets a diverse set of needs.

While keeping the need to collect inclusive data that is understandable and usable is at the forefront of this work, it is recognised that the standard must also meet the needs of data processors, research teams, and other survey practitioners.

A key consideration to making the question more inclusive is how the Other response options are being used by respondents, data collectors, processors, and users:

- Any other White background
- Any other Mixed or Multiple background
- Any other Asian background
- Any other Black, Black British or Caribbean background
- Any other ethnic group

Write-in responses give respondents the opportunity to fully self-identify in the absence of a tick-box that they feel represents them. However, open-text box data collection can cause a resource burden for teams working on the data collected and the analysis. Moreover, the continued use of write-in options demonstrates further evidence that the response options provided in the current standard, are not sufficient for our changing society. The use of the Other response option has increased over time; a higher proportion of respondents self-identified through a write-in as opposed to a tick box in the 2021 England and Wales census compared with 2011 (Office for National Statistics, 2022).

Because of the high level of interest and the potential for contention and legal challenge, the team has sought advice from various internal parties including the legal and comms teams within the Office for National Statistics.

The Write-In Review: A Review to Assist in the Development of a New Ethnic Group Harmonised Standard

Introduction

GSS Harmonisation Background

The Harmonisation team works to produce guidance on questions that commonly appear in surveys produced across the GSS (GSS Harmonisation, n.d.). The aim of this is to ensure that data produced will be high quality, comparable, consistent, and coherent, and therefore more useful for the public providing their data and the data users alike. There are some topic areas where this may not be possible or appropriate, but where it is useful, standards are developed and distributed as best practice guidance for survey producers to follow.

The priority for the Harmonisation team, as set by the National Statistician in Autumn 2023, is to continue the review of the ethnicity harmonised standard (GSS Harmonisation, 2011). In 2020, the National Statistician created the Inclusive Data Taskforce (IDTF) to improve the inclusivity of data held by government. The nine protected characteristics were core to its considerations, and recommendations were proposed for improving inclusivity across the UK's statistical system. The implementation plan emphasises the need for data producers across government to ensure that well researched and inclusive approaches to data collection are established (UK Statistics Authority, 2022).

Furthermore, ONS undertook extensive ethnicity research and public engagement activities as part of development of the 2021 Census ethnicity question. But ethnicity is a topic that is evolving. Definitions, terminology, and thinking on the topic are changing and developing. The Census 2021 question development was primarily completed before 2020 and new drivers for change have emerged. Events such as the Black Lives Matter movement have affected how people feel about ethnicity. The Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and the disparities in outcomes and prevalence between ethnic groups have demonstrated the need for more granular ethnicity data, which aligns to the IDTF recommendations.

Although the creation of a more inclusive question is at the forefront of this redesign, the new question will also need to retain some level of comparability to the current harmonised standard. It is inevitable that the timeseries will be affected in some capacity following changes to a survey question. It is imperative to minimise the impact of timeseries change as far as possible. Harmonised standards are used not only internally by the Office for National Statistics, but also by survey providers in other government departments and beyond. Creating a survey question that is significantly different to the current design may limit the uptake of the new standard, minimising the comparability, consistency, and coherence of data across the UK. As a result, we are not able to start completely from scratch with the redesign of the ethnicity harmonised standard; instead, we plan to use the current question as a base point to improve upon throughout this work programme.

Our research during the discovery phase of our work (Phase 1 and Phase 2) has highlighted the extent of the issue of inclusivity in the current question, as well as identifying multiple data user needs (GSS Harmonisation, 2023; GSS Harmonisation, 2023):

- Issue 1: selecting a response option
- Issue 2: terminology use and presentation

- Issue 3: the Mixed category
- Issue 4: ethnicity means different things to different people
- Issue 5: conflicting views on whether ethnicity can change over time
- Issue 6: identifying with different ethnic groups can be affected by context

- User need 1: ethnicity data which can be compared across multiple dimensions
- User need 2: a harmonised standard which works for stakeholders
- User need 3: aggregate levels of ethnicity data
- User need 4: change implementation and the need for time
- User need 5: support from stakeholders and partners for change
- User need 6: clearer guidance on what is being measured
- User need 7: output alignment to census
- User need 8: current harmonised standard options are limited and there is a need for more detailed data
- User need 9: it is better to reduce the use of the Other category

In the current harmonised standard, which is aligned to Census 2011 (see Annex 2), respondents can select from 5 high-level categories (White, Black, Mixed, Asian, or Other) and then from a list of low-level categories within these. The low-level categories offer 14 different ethnic group response options as well as 5 Other response options: 19 in total. However, the current design pigeon-holes respondents into selecting a tick-box based on their initial choice at the first 5 high-level responses. If a respondent were to select 'Black' from the initial 5 high-level choices, they then must select between 'African', 'Caribbean', or 'Other'. This further highlights the lack of inclusivity in the question; if a respondent wished to identify as Black British, they would need to select Other and write this in as a response.

Within each of the high-level categories, an Other response option is available to select. Dependent on the data collection tool and capability, individuals can either just 'select' other, or they may be able to write-in free-text, or even be able to use search-as-you-type. In Census 2021, 10.6% of respondents selected one of the Other response options in the mandated ethnicity question, leading to them identifying through search-as-you-type and write-in responses (Office for National Statistics, 2022). Mandated ethnicity questions often result in a higher percentage of Other responses than non-mandated ethnicity questions, as respondents are unable to skip without providing an answer. Adding additional response options, as well as improving the overall format of the ethnicity standard, should reduce the percentage of respondents having to identify through Other response options.

The design of the current ethnicity standard causes some individuals to experience a sense of marginalisation; this is particularly felt amongst minority ethnic groups (GSS Harmonisation, 2023). The absence of inclusive response options can lead to individuals feeling 'othered', overlooked and/or forgotten. In 2022, we commissioned a collaborative ethnicity project with the Cabinet Office Race Disparity Unit. This research provided evidence that the absence of inclusive responses not only cause frustration and confusion, but also places particular burden on respondents who cannot identify through a tick-box. As a result of this, oftentimes individuals are compelled to select one of the existing response options that 'best fits' in an effort to avoid the burden of having to write-in at an Other

response option. This suggests that the percentage of participants that cannot identify with one of the response options in the current design, may be higher (GSS Harmonisation, 2023).

Feedback from consultations during our discovery work indicated a desire for a greater number of response options to increase visibility for particular groups, as well as concerns regarding how relatable the present response options are. These concerns are not unique and have been reported elsewhere. For example, researchers looking at health survey responses in the United States found that the ethnicity response options that appear on their surveys do not sufficiently capture the multifaceted nature of their population, especially for respondents from Mixed or minority ethnic groups (Woolverton & Marks, 2021).

Our research has also shown that data collectors and processors often encounter technical or financial limitations and are therefore unable to conduct analysis of the write-in responses. Thus, the analysis of this data is not only cumbersome, but has implications for:

- data quality
- the ability to aggregate data
- comparability with other data sources
- the inclusivity of ethnicity outputs if write-in responses are omitted

We conducted a survey with data collectors and processors across the GSS. This research highlighted that 45% of GSS data collectors and processors cannot implement write-in responses within their survey design. Further, only 24% of GSS data collectors and processors reported that their organisation was able to process or analyse any write-in data they collected. The other 76% reported they would be unlikely to be able to process or analyse write-in data due to a lack of capacity or expertise. The inability to accurately process this write-in data may lead to incomplete or unreliable results, undermining the integrity of these data collection tools (GSS Harmonisation, 2023). Therefore, to meet user need, we aim to minimize the necessity for write-in responses in our updated ethnic group data collection tool, by increasing the number of response options.

An additional issue with the current question arises in the context of the greater use of administrative data to produce population statistics. We see similar issues regarding the processing of write-in data in admin data settings. Often, admin data ethnicity questions allow respondents to identify through a write in, but analysts are unable to store or process such responses. Insufficient processing of write-in responses across administrative data settings may cause difficulty when it comes to comparability between admin data sources and sources such as the Census. This issue is also seen when considering comparability between different admin data sources, where the consistency of data recorded in health-related administrative settings is lowest for all Other ethnic groups (Office for National Statistics, 2023).

By improving the format of the question and increasing the availability of response options, respondents should be able to record their ethnicity as they see fit. Further, whilst this approach keeps 'improving the inclusivity of the question' core and forefront to the question development, it also aims to overcome issues faced by survey owners, data users, and interviewers alike.

Therefore, to improve inclusivity, the harmonisation team are working to update the ethnicity harmonised standard by question redesign and reviewing the potential of adding new response options. The 'write-in review' will inform our recommendations for the responses options we could add to the ethnicity harmonised standard and take forward for question testing.

Data

Identifying Datasets

To identify the datasets we aim to use in our review, we conducted an implementation review in which >50 surveys from across the ONS and Other Government Departments were checked to see whether they employ the current ethnic group harmonised standard in their questionnaire (see Annex 3). We recorded parameters such as the extent of harmonisation, sample size, and mode. We aim to select a purposive sample of surveys and datasets which ask an ethnicity question which closely aligns to the harmonised standard in terms of the response options, question stem and guidance, and offers an open-text write-in option.

In line with the broad remit of the harmonised standards, a range of government data sources will be chosen to ensure geographic coverage across all four nations of the UK. In addition, to account for any possible differences in the way people record their ethnicity in different contexts, subject to the availability of suitable sources as defined above, data sources will be chosen that cover:

- different data collection contexts (for example, health, crime, living standards)
- different types of data sources (administrative and survey)
- different modes of data collection (face-to-face, telephone, online)

Potential data sources from which we will seek to acquire frequencies of write-in response data, include:

Data Source	Mode of Collection	Coverage
England and Wales Census 2021	Push-to-web and paper	England and Wales; 59,597,300
Scottish Census 2021	Push-to-web and paper	Scotland; 5,436,600
Northern Ireland Census 2021	Push-to-web and paper	Northern Ireland; 1,903,175
Transformed Labour Force Survey	Push-to-web and telephone	GB; c. 400,000
Living Costs and Food Survey	Face-to-face interviewing	UK; c. 5,500
National Survey for Wales	Telephone interviewing, with online component	Wales; c. 12,000
Crime Survey for England and Wales	Face-to-face interviewing, telephone during pandemic	England and Wales; c. 40,000
Family Resources Survey	Face-to-face interviewing, telephone during pandemic	UK; c. 20,000
English Housing Survey	Face-to-face interviewing, telephone during pandemic	England; c. 10,000
Scottish Crime and Justice Survey	Face-to-face interviewing, includes online element for sensitive data	Scotland; c. 6,000

National Travel Survey	Face-to-face interviewing, telephone during pandemic	England; c. 10,000
Understanding Society Survey	Online	UK; c. 17,500
GP Patient Register Administrative Data	TBC	TBC

Note. We are aware that some of these will include people living in communal establishments.

The data sources we end up utilising in the write-in review will, in part, be dictated by our ability to access the data from survey/dataset owners.

Methods

For each data source selected, we will:

1. Rank the counts and frequencies of the different write-in responses.
2. Where possible, we plan to use survey data weights; this will ensure we avoid potential bias and will allow us to account for the different sample sizes of the surveys. However, to ensure we can consider the potential influence of the data source type, geographic coverage, mode and context of collection, we will examine both weighted and unweighted data.
3. If the data availability supports it, we may also use the weighted data from surveys in combination with census frequencies to produce an additional, combined model of the distribution of write-in responses. This will be carried out with support and guidance from methodological experts.

The unweighted, weighted and (potentially) combined model of write-in frequencies, will each be considered in the analysis to utilise the strengths of each (and in recognition of the limitations of each) in our review.

The intention is to commission data owners to provide the data we require to minimise any data access issues and to take advantage of their familiarity and expertise with their own sources. This will be specified counts and frequencies of write-in responses, along with appropriate weights for survey data following discussion with data owners. We will take advice from data owners as to the most appropriate cut off point to comply with statistical disclosure thresholds, though the data needed is likely to be above these thresholds as the focus of the review is the most frequent write-ins.

Discussion

The review of write-in responses is only one part of the iterative development of a new ethnicity harmonised standard. It is intended to provide further evidence to that we have already collected of where there may be a need for additional tick box response options to improve inclusivity and minimise the use of write-in responses. This is particularly relevant given the fluid, changing nature of ethnic group categories in society. The recommendations from the write-in review will be considered alongside the broader redesign of the question.

Given that the new standard will need to retain a level of comparability to the current design and will need to be useable by survey respondents and data collectors alike, the

number of new tick boxes we can feasibly add to the question may be limited by factors outside of our control. Literature reviews conducted by the harmonisation team have revealed no hard and fast rules as to the maximum number of response options a long list question can feasibly include. It would be impractical to add all possible ethnic groups as tick box responses to the new design, as this would cause burden for participants having to scroll through a particularly long list to find their relevant ethnic group.

Data derived from this review will, along with results from our previous rounds of research, inform the next stage of question testing to identify the utility of potential additional tick boxes. Throughout these rounds of testing, we will explore the suitability of the question design (for example the length of the list of ethnic group tick boxes), alongside the uptake of tick box additions. The team will continue to work iteratively to refine the new standard following each round of question testing.

Conclusion

Future Steps

Due to the sensitive nature of this work, the team has been advised to seek sign off from the UKSA Board, which is scheduled to take place following feedback from MARP.

Once feedback on our methodology has been received from all relevant teams, we will begin sourcing our data and commencing the review. After recommendations for additional tick boxes have been formulated, the team will commence our usual process of rigorous question testing which includes multiple rounds of cognitive interviewing for each mode of data collection (e.g., online mode, telephone operator, paper).

We welcome comments and direction about the methodology for this project from the MARP board.
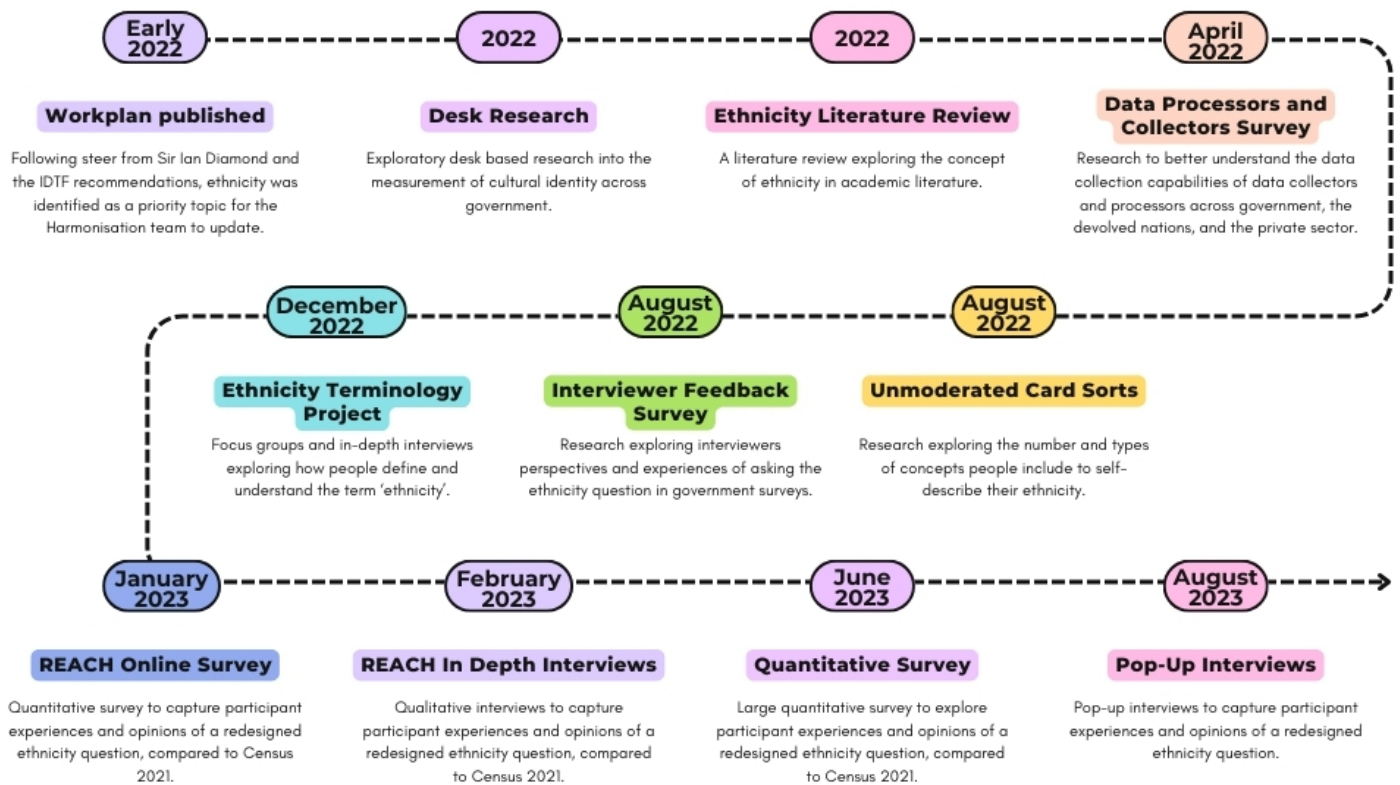
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Annex

Annex 1.
A flow diagram depicting the research that has been completed to date to redesign the ethnicity harmonised standard.

Research Timeline

Early 2022

Workplan published

Following steer from Sir Ian Diamond and the IDTF recommendations, ethnicity was identified as a priority topic for the Harmonisation team to update.

2022

Desk Research

Exploratory desk based research into the measurement of cultural identity across government.

2022

Ethnicity Literature Review

A literature review exploring the concept of ethnicity in academic literature.

April 2022

Data Processors and Collectors Survey

Research to better understand the data collection capabilities of data collectors and processors across government, the devolved nations, and the private sector.

December 2022

Ethnicity Terminology Project

Focus groups and in-depth interviews exploring how people define and understand the term 'ethnicity'.

August 2022

Interviewer Feedback Survey

Research exploring interviewers perspectives and experiences of asking the ethnicity question in government surveys.

August 2022

Unmoderated Card Sorts

Research exploring the number and types of concepts people include to self-describe their ethnicity.

January 2023

REACH Online Survey

Quantitative survey to capture participant experiences and opinions of a redesigned ethnicity question, compared to Census 2021.

February 2023

REACH In Depth Interviews

Qualitative interviews to capture participant experiences and opinions of a redesigned ethnicity question, compared to Census 2021.

June 2023

Quantitative Survey

Large quantitative survey to explore participant experiences and opinions of a redesigned ethnicity question, compared to Census 2021.

August 2023

Pop-Up Interviews

Pop-up interviews to capture participant experiences and opinions of a redesigned ethnicity question.

Annex 2.

The current ethnicity harmonised.

NB. The current harmonised standard is based on the 2011 Census question for England and Wales. However, the Census question was reviewed and adjusted to be used in the:

- 2021 Census for England and Wales
- 2021 Census for Northern Ireland
- 2022 Census for Scotland

Therefore, the 2021 and 2022 Census questions are the most up to date ways of collecting data about ethnic group.

We are aware that user needs may have changed since the research for the Census 2021 question commenced (in 2015). Therefore, we recommend using the 2021 and 2022 Census questions, shown below.

15 What is your ethnic group?

↪ Choose **one** section from A to E, then **tick one box** to best describe your ethnic group or background

A White

- ☐ English, Welsh, Scottish, Northern Irish or British
- ☐ Irish
- ☐ Gypsy or Irish Traveller
- ☐ Roma
- ☐ Any other White background, write in

☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐

B Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups

- ☐ White and Black Caribbean
- ☐ White and Black African
- ☐ White and Asian
- ☐ Any other Mixed or Multiple background, write in

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☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐

C Asian or Asian British

- ☐ Indian
- ☐ Pakistani
- ☐ Bangladeshi
- ☐ Chinese
- ☐ Any other Asian background, write in

☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐

D Black, Black British, Caribbean or African

- ☐ Caribbean
- ☐ African background, write in below
- ☐ Any other Black, Black British or Caribbean background, write in

☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐

E Other ethnic group

- ☐ Arab
- ☐ Any other ethnic group, write in

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Annex 3.

An excerpt of the implementation review conducted to understand the use of the ethnicity harmonised standard across government departments.

NB. Purple highlights indicate surveys that employ the harmonised ethnicity standard.

Implementation Review

											Data source details							Write-in review		
Type	Name	Owner	OSR Accredited? (is a National Statisti	Year/version	Frequency	Geography	Active status	Date reviewed	Hyperlink	Additional Links (Questionnai	Additional Links2	Mode	Sample Size	Additional notes				Write-in option?	Prefer not to say option?	Data user guidance	
Survey	Active Lives Adult - ONLINE	Sport England	No, but Official	20/21	Annually	England	Active	26.9.23	https://beta.uk dataservice.ac. uk/datacatalog	Active Lives April 2019 - Online questionnaire.pd		Self-administered: online; paper	~180,000 (for both online and paper)	Note; online and paper versions have different				Yes	Yes		E
																	Offers open text				
Survey	Active Lives Adult - PAPER	Sport England	No, but Official	20/21	Annually	England	Active	26.9.23	https://beta.uk dataservice.ac. uk/datacatalog ue/studies/stu dy?id=8993#!/	Postal Questionnaire (Adults) (ukdataservice.ac uk)		Self-administered: online; paper available on request	~180,000 (for both online and paper)	Note; online and paper versions have different ethnicity questions				No	Yes		E
Survey	Adult Oral Health Survey	Office for Health Improvement and Disparities	No, but Official	2021	Every 10 years	England	Active	3.10.23	https://www.g ov.uk/govern ment/statistics /the-impact-of- covid-19-on-	Adult oral health Q'!A1		Self-administered: online, supplemented by paper	~6,000	A copy of the full 2021 questionnaire is available on request				Yes	Yes		E
																	Offers write ins after any other X group				
Survey	Adult Psychiatric Morbidity Survey	NHS Digital	Yes, National	2014	Infrequent; surveys carried out in 1993, 2000, 2007 & 2014 using comparable	England	Active	07.11.23	P2550 (digital.nhs.uk)			Face-to-face interview	~7,500					Yes	No		E
Survey	Adults' media use and attitudes report	Ofcom	No, unsure what	20/21	Annually	UK	Active	2.10.23	https://www.o fcom.org.uk/re search-and- data/media- literacy-	Adults' media use and attitudes report 2020-21 - questionnaire (ofcom.org.uk)		Ordinarily face-to-face computer assisted interviewing	~3,000					No / Unclear	Yes	Able to select prefer not to say at two points; before the question is asked	E
Survey	British National Survey of Sexual Attitudes and Lifestyles (NATSAL-3)	NatCen	No, unsure what	2010/2012	Infrequent; Natsal-1 in 1990-1991, and Natsal-2 in 1999-2001	Britain	Active	07.11.23	APPENDIX B.pdf (natsal.ac.uk)			Combination of computer assisted personal interviewing	~15,000					Unclear	No		E
Survey	British Social Attitudes	Department for Work and Pensions		2020	Annually	GB	Active	3.10.23	https://beta.uk dataservice.ac. uk/datacatalog ue/series/serie s?id=200065#	British Social Attitudes Survey, 2020 - The UI Questionnaire (ukdataservice.ac	UK Data Service > Study	Normally face-to-face interview; chaned to an online	~4,000					Yes	Yes	Seems to have a show card that the ppt can see and a showcard that only the	E
Survey	Childcare and Early Years Survey of Parents (CEYSP)	Department of Education	No, but Official	2022	Yearly	England	Active	27.02.24	https://explore- education- statistics.servic e.gov.uk/meth odology/childc	https://doc.ukdat aservice.ac.uk/do c/8603/mrdoc/pd f/8603_ceysp_20 19_published_te		Interviews were conducted by one of three modes: face-to-	~6,000					Unclear	Unclear		E
Survey	Community Life Survey	Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport.	No, but Official	2020/21	Annually	England	Active	26.9.23	https://www.g ov.uk/govern ment/collectio ns/community- life-survey--2	Community Life Survey Technical Report 2020/21 (publishing.servi ce.gov.uk)	Quick start guide: Community Life Survey (CLS) — UK	Self-administered: online and paper mixed methods	~10,000	2021/22 dataset will be available from the UK data service in Spring 2023				Yes	Yes	"Prefer not to say" responses are set as missing values within the dataset and coded as -9	E
																	Asks respondents to specify at 'Any other X				
Survey	Continuous Household Survey	NISRA (& others)	No, but Official	22/23	Annual/Continuous	Northern Ireland	Active	10.10.23	https://www.n isra.gov.uk/sta tistics/find- your- survey/contin			Dual (face to face and telephone)	4,272					No	No		N
Survey	Covid and	ONS		2022	Unclear	UK	Defunct	27.02.24	https://www.o	https://www.od		Questionnaire	~20,000					Yes	No		E

	Write-in review			Extent of harmonisation							Question, responses & guidance		
	Write-in option?	Prefer not to say option?	Data user guidance	Which country standard are we comparing to	Question stem	Response options	Guidance/ instruction	Overall	Asked alongside NI / Religion?	Notes on harmonisation	Copy & paste question stem	Copy & paste response options	Copy & paste guidance/ instructions
	Yes Offers open text	Yes		England	No, but similar	Yes, exact	Yes, but not exact	Yes, exact	Yes, but only Religion	Not updated to 21 census, so missing Roma	Which one of the following best describes your ethnic group or background?	WHITE {drop down options below} 1. English/Welsh/Scottish/Northern Irish/British	Select one answer only
	No	Yes		England	No, but similar	No, but similar	Yes, but not exact	Yes, if aggregated	No	Splits White into White British and White Other; splits Asian/Asian British and...	Which one of the following best describes your ethnic group or background?	White British Chinese Other White background Black or Black British Mixed	Please tick one box only
	Yes Offers write ins after any other X group	Yes		England	Yes, exact	Yes, exact	Yes, exact	Yes, exact	No	Not updated to 21 census, so missing Roma	What is your ethnic group?	White 1. English/Welsh/Scottish/Northern Irish/British 2. Irish 3. Gypsy or Irish Traveller	Please select one answer
	Yes	No		England	Yes, exact	Yes, exact	Yes, exact	Yes, exact	Yes, all 3 in other order		Origin SHOW CARD S1 What is your ethnic group?	1 White – English/Welsh/Scottish/Northern Irish/British 2 White – Irish 3 White – Gypsy or Irish Traveller	Please choose your answer from this card.
	No / Unclear	Yes	Able to select prefer not to say at two points; before the question is asked...	England	Yes, but not exact	Yes, exact	Yes, exact	Yes, exact	No	Not updated to 21 census, so missing Roma	Which one of these groups best describes your ethnic group or background?	WHITE English/ Welsh/ Scottish/ Northern Irish/ British 1 Irish 2 Gypsy, Traveller or Irish Traveller 3	Please select one option
	Unclear	No		England	Yes, but not exact	Yes, but not exact	N/A	Yes, but not exact	Yes, but only NI	Choices in White category not exact	Ethnic CARD MM To which of the ethnic groups on this card do you consider you belong?	A. White 1. British 2. Irish 3. Any Other White background	
	Yes	Yes	Seems to have a show card that the ppt can see and a showcard that only the...	England	No	No	No, but similar	No	Yes, all 3 in other order		ASK ALL (ALL VERSIONS) [RaceOri3]$ To which of these groups do you consider you belong? 1 Black of African origin	1 Black of African origin 2 Black of Caribbean origin 3 Black of other origin (please say what) 4 Asian of Indian origin	
	Unclear	Unclear		England	N/A	Yes, but not exact	N/A	Yes, but not exact	Unclear			White: White British White Irish Other White	
	Yes Asks respondents to specify at 'Any other X...	Yes	"Prefer not to say" responses are set as missing values within the dataset and coded as -9	England	No, but similar	Yes, exact	Yes, but not exact	Yes, exact	Yes, but only Religion	Not updated to 21 census, so missing Roma	Which one of the following best describes your ethnic group or background?	WHITE 1. English/Welsh/Scottish/Northern Irish/British 2. Irish 3. Gypsy or Irish Traveller	Please select one option.
	No	No		Northern Ireland	Yes, but not exact	Yes, but not exact	N/A	Yes, but not exact	No	Harm standard responses include options to self-describe which were not included	What is XXXX's ethnic group?	1. White 2. Irish Traveller 3. White and Black Caribbean 4. White and Black African 5. White and Asian	
	yes	no		England	Yes, exact	Yes, exact	Yes, but not exact	Yes, exact	No		What is your ethnic group?	White	(select one)