

# Electoral Commission 2012 Winter Research: BME Boost Topline Findings

TNS BMRB

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TNS BMRB

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# Technical Details

- The following report contrasts findings from the Mainstage of the 2012 Winter Tracker with findings for the BME Boost, which was conducted in parallel and funded by the Cabinet Office.

## Mainstage

- TNS BMRB interviewed a nationally representative quota sample of 1,200 adults living in the UK and aged 18+. The sample consisted of 998 interviews with people living in Great Britain and a boost of 202 interviews with people living in Northern Ireland.
- The survey was conducted by telephone and took place between 7<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> December 2012.
- Data was weighted to match the profile of the UK population using a range of variables including gender, age, working status, social grade and region.

## BME Boost

- In addition to the mainstage of interviewing, a 'BME boost' was conducted amongst black and minority ethnic groups aged 18+ living in the UK.
- As part of the Boost survey, TNS BMRB interviewed 999 BME respondents living in Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Quotas were set to ensure a representative sample of each target ethnic groups was achieved.
- An additional 94 BME respondents were interviewed as part of the Mainstage were and added to the BME dataset.
- The survey was conducted by telephone and took place between 7<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2012.
- The BME boost used a similar questionnaire to the Mainstage, with some additional questions asked of BME respondents. The BME respondents from the Mainstage sample were not asked the specific BME Boost questions. Throughout this report, base size descriptions should make clear which groups were asked each question.
- Data was weighted to match the profile of the UK BME population using a range of variables including ethnicity, gender, age, region, working status and religion.

## General

- Where results do not sum to 100%, this is because of rounding, multiple response codes or the exclusion of 'Don't know' responses.
- An asterisk (\*) represents results of less than half a percent.
- A dash (-) represents results where a response code was unused by respondents.

- In general data is excluded where the base size is less than 50. Where data is included with a base size below 50 a note has been added to the text to highlight this.

# Summary of Key Results

## Summary of Key Results

- The summary report highlights the key differences between the attitudes amongst the overall UK population and those of the UK's BME population; the main differences between BME groups are also singled out.

## Voting and Registration

- Nearly seven in ten BME respondents (69%) said that they were either very or fairly confident that elections are well run in Great Britain and Northern Ireland but within this there were some significant differences. Nearly eight in ten Black African respondents said that they were confident that elections were well run (78%) compared to just over six in ten Black Caribbean respondents (62%).
- Around half (53%) of BME respondents said that they always vote at general elections, with a quarter (25%) saying they sometimes vote. Nearly twice as many respondents from a mixed background say that they never vote compared to the BME population overall (25% cf. 13%), although this could in part be due to the fact that they have a younger age profile.
- Over two thirds of BME respondents (68%) were satisfied with the actual process of voting at elections. Respondents with a mixed background were the least likely to say that they were satisfied with the process (54%) but this was due to more people within this group saying that they were neutral and the proportion who were actively dissatisfied was in line with the other groups.
- Although they reported a high level of confidence and satisfaction in the electoral system, BME respondents were less confident that they know how to go about casting their vote. Just under half (48%) said they were very confident they knew how they would go about doing this. Black African and Caribbean respondents were found to be the most confident that they know how to go about casting their vote (61% said to be very confident cf. 48% within all BME respondents).
- A similar proportion of BME respondents (51%) said they were very confident that they know how to go about registering to vote and again this confidence was higher among African and Caribbean respondents (65% & 63% compared to 51% of all BME respondents).
- More than nine in ten BME respondents (91%) reported that they were registered to vote either at their current address (87%) or somewhere else (4%). The mixed groups were the least likely to say that they were registered to vote (85%) but again this may be a result of their slightly younger age profile.

- Nearly four in ten BME respondents (39%) said that they were registered for a postal vote with the highest rates being reported for Pakistani (46%) and African respondents (46%).

### **Individual Electoral Registration**

- In June 2011 the government announced plans to introduce Individual Electoral Registration (IER). Under IER individuals would be asked to provide 'identifying information', such as a Date of Birth and National Insurance number, when they apply to register.
- When asked about the impact a requirement to provide additional 'identifying information' would have, Bangladeshi respondents were significantly more likely to say that having to give their National Insurance Number would make them less likely to vote (29% cf. 16% of the overall BME population). There were no significant differences when asked about providing date of birth or signatures.
- Nine out of ten BME respondents (90%) said it would be easy for them to find their National Insurance number if they needed it for official purposes. Bangladeshi respondents were slightly less likely to say it would be easy to provide their National Insurance Number (86%) than the BME population as a whole, but this was not statistically significant and so does not explain the much higher proportion of Bangladeshis saying that having to provide it would make them less likely to register.

### **Integrity of Elections**

- Just under a third of BME respondents (32%) said that they understood "Nothing at all" about electoral fraud in the UK and only around one in twenty said they understood a lot (7%). Looking between groups, Pakistani respondents were the most likely to say that they knew a lot about electoral fraud but this was still only around one in seven (14%).
- Around a third of BME respondents (34%) said that electoral fraud was a fairly or very big problem in Great Britain/Northern Ireland. This was particularly a concern for Bangladeshi respondents with half (50%) saying that it was a very or fairly big problem.
- While the majority of BME respondents felt that voting at a polling station was safe from fraud or abuse (85%), only around three fifths felt the same about voting by post (57%). There were no significant differences between different groups around perceptions of the safety from fraud of voting either in person or by post.

# Voting

**Q1. In general, how confident, if at all, are you that elections are well run in Great Britain/Northern Ireland?  
Are you ...**

*Mainstage base: All (1,200); BME (1,093); Mixed (170); Indian (152); Pakistani (145); Bangladeshi (123); Caribbean (144); African (134).*

	Mainstage	BME Boost	Mixed	Indian	Pakistani	Bangladeshi	Caribbean	African
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>Very confident</b>	18	25	18	21	30	21	13	32
<b>Fairly confident</b>	43	45	46	46	46	50	50	46
<b>Not very confident</b>	20	18	15	21	15	22	20	11
<b>Not at all confident</b>	14	8	14	10	7	4	11	6
<b>Don't know</b>	5	5	7	2	2	3	6	4
<b>Confident</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>78</b>
<b>Not Confident</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>18</b>

## Q2. Which of these statements best describes your attitude towards voting at General Elections?

Mainstage base: All (1,200); BME (1,093); Mixed (170); Indian (152); Pakistani (145); Bangladeshi (123); Caribbean (144); African (134).

At general elections ...	Mainstage	BME Boost	Mixed	Indian	Pakistani	Bangladeshi	Caribbean	African
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>I always vote</b>	55	53	44	66	58	45	56	60
<b>I sometimes vote</b>	27	25	22	24	30	36	29	22
<b>I never vote</b>	14	13	25	7	6	7	15	10
<b>I've not been eligible in the past to vote</b>	4	8	9	3	5	9	-	7
<b>Don't know</b>	*	1	-	-	*	2	-	2



**Q3. Please tell me how much you agree or disagree with the following statement ...**

*BME Base: Boost only (999); Mixed (149); Indian (140); Pakistani (128); Bangladeshi (123); Caribbean (129); African (123).*

**... I would be seriously neglecting my duty as a citizen if I didn't vote.**

	<b>BME boost</b>	<b>Mixed</b>	<b>Indian</b>	<b>Pakistani</b>	<b>Bangladeshi</b>	<b>Caribbean</b>	<b>African</b>
	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>Strongly agree</b>	29	29	39	33	26	33	30
<b>Agree</b>	40	30	36	42	43	36	48
<b>Neither agree nor disagree</b>	11	16	10	14	13	15	7
<b>Disagree</b>	12	21	11	6	9	11	11
<b>Strongly disagree</b>	5	2	3	4	6	6	4
<b>Don't know</b>	2	3	1	1	3	-	1
<b>Agree</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>78</b>
<b>Disagree</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>15</b>

... People are so busy that they don't have time to vote.

	BME Boost	Mixed	Indian	Pakistani	Bangladeshi	Caribbean	African
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>Strongly agree</b>	8	8	9	9	11	6	10
<b>Agree</b>	30	28	32	35	37	21	23
<b>Neither agree nor disagree</b>	8	10	8	13	10	11	7
<b>Disagree</b>	35	34	29	26	24	38	46
<b>Strongly disagree</b>	17	19	20	16	17	23	14
<b>Don't know</b>	2	1	2	1	1	1	*
<b>Agree</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>Disagree</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>60</b>

**Q4. On a scale from 0 to 10, where 10 means a great deal of influence and 0 means no influence, how much influence do you think you have on politics and public affairs?**

*BME Base: Boost only (999); Mixed (149); Indian (140); Pakistani (128); Bangladeshi (123); Caribbean (129); African (123).*

	<b>BME Boost</b>	<b>Mixed</b>	<b>Indian</b>	<b>Pakistani</b>	<b>Bangladeshi</b>	<b>Caribbean</b>	<b>African</b>
	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>10 – Great deal of influence</b>	4	1	6	7	7	3	4
<b>9</b>	2	*	2	2	2	2	2
<b>8</b>	3	5	1	3	3	7	4
<b>7</b>	6	7	7	4	7	6	8
<b>6</b>	7	7	7	10	5	6	3
<b>5</b>	18	14	19	17	17	22	22
<b>4</b>	10	11	10	7	13	8	7
<b>3</b>	9	11	9	9	7	5	5
<b>2</b>	5	6	6	7	6	5	7
<b>1</b>	3	4	4	1	6	5	4
<b>0 – No influence</b>	27	31	25	27	27	29	27
<b>Mean Score</b>	<b>3.54</b>	<b>3.20</b>	<b>3.71</b>	<b>3.77</b>	<b>3.65</b>	<b>3.61</b>	<b>3.61</b>

**Q5. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the actual process of voting at elections in Great Britain/Northern Ireland?**

*Mainstage base: All (1,200); BME (1,093); Mixed (170); Indian (152); Pakistani (145); Bangladeshi (123); Caribbean (144); African (134).*

	Mainstage	BME Boost	Mixed	Indian	Pakistani	Bangladeshi	Caribbean	African
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>Very satisfied</b>	25	25	18	25	24	18	19	34
<b>Fairly satisfied</b>	39	43	36	46	42	52	46	43
<b>Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied</b>	19	18	29	17	19	18	22	16
<b>Fairly dissatisfied</b>	9	6	4	8	7	8	6	3
<b>Very dissatisfied</b>	7	5	8	3	5	2	7	4
<b>Don't know / no opinion</b>	2	3	4	1	3	2	-	1
<b>Satisfied</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>77</b>
<b>Dissatisfied</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>6</b>

**Q6. Why do you say you are dissatisfied with the actual process of voting at elections in Great Britain/Northern Ireland?**

*Mainstage Base: All those who are dissatisfied with the process of voting (169); BME (115).*

	<b>Mainstage</b>	<b>BME Boost</b>
	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>Voting System</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>24</b>
The voting system is unfair	18	10
Because of the voting system, my vote doesn't count	6	13
I don't agree with the First Past the Post system / I would prefer Proportional Representation (PR)	8	1
The party/candidate I support has no chance of being elected under this voting system	4	5

	<b>Mainstage</b>	<b>BME Boost</b>
<b>Ease / Convenience of Voting</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>29</b>
Difficulty in getting to a polling station	10	14
Voting is too confusing / I don't understand the system	8	7
There should be more choice on how and where to vote	2	5
Should be able to vote online	4	5
<b>Politicians / The Political System</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>19</b>
Don't like/trust politicians	17	12
You never see politicians except at election time	5	2
Politicians do not deliver on what they promise	17	12

	<b>Mainstage</b>	<b>BME Boost</b>
<b>Other</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>36</b>
There is no point in voting / it doesn't make any difference	7	5
The procedure for voting is open to fraud and abuse	8	3
Can't be bothered with it	2	3
General dissatisfaction with politicians and political parties	4	8
I do not know where I can get information about the process of voting	-	1
Not enough information about the candidates /parties	-	8
Other	18	14
<b>Don't know</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>10</b>

**Q9. How confident, if at all, are you that you know how to go about casting your vote at an election?**

*Mainstage base: All (1,200); BME (1,093); Mixed (170); Indian (152); Pakistani (145); Bangladeshi (123); Caribbean (144); African (134).*

	Mainstage	BME Boost	Mixed	Indian	Pakistani	Bangladeshi	Caribbean	African
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>Very confident</b>	69	48	52	41	50	34	62	61
<b>Fairly confident</b>	24	37	31	47	35	57	29	30
<b>Not very confident</b>	4	9	8	6	9	5	7	4
<b>Not at all confident</b>	3	4	5	4	5	2	2	4
<b>Don't know</b>	1	2	4	-	1	3	-	*
<b>Confident</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>91</b>
<b>Not Confident</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>



# Registration

**Q10. How confident, if at all, are you that you know how to go about registering to vote?**

*Mainstage base: All (1,200); BME (1,093); Mixed (170); Indian (152); Pakistani (145); Bangladeshi (123); Caribbean (144); African (134).*

	Mainstage	BME Boost	Mixed	Indian	Pakistani	Bangladeshi	Caribbean	African
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>Very confident</b>	63	51	43	46	55	46	63	65
<b>Fairly confident</b>	28	35	38	39	32	47	27	29
<b>Not very confident</b>	5	8	11	7	7	3	6	5
<b>Not at all confident</b>	2	5	3	7	5	2	2	1
<b>Don't know</b>	2	1	4	1	1	1	3	1
<b>Confident</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>93</b>
<b>Not confident</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>6</b>

**Q11. As far as you know, is your name on the electoral register, that is, the official list of people entitled to vote, either where you are living now or somewhere else?**

*Mainstage base: All (1,200); BME (1,093); Mixed (170); Indian (152); Pakistani (145); Bangladeshi (123); Caribbean (144); African (134).*

	Mainstage	BME Boost	Mixed	Indian	Pakistani	Bangladeshi	Caribbean	African
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>Yes – where living now</b>	91	87	80	97	91	91	94	94
<b>Yes – another address</b>	4	4	5	*	5	4	6	1
<b>No</b>	4	7	9	1	3	1	-	2
<b>Don't know</b>	2	3	6	2	1	4	1	3

**Q12<sup>1</sup>. Why are you not registered to vote (ADD IF 'YES – ANOTHER ADDRESS': where you are living now)?**

*Mainstage Base: All those who are not registered to vote or not registered where they are living now (60); BME (92).*

	<b>Mainstage</b>	<b>BME Boost</b>
	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>Just moved</b>	23	21
<b>Not bothered</b>	6	2
<b>Haven't got round to it</b>	16	9
<b>Not eligible for reason(s) other than age (e.g. nationality)</b>	12	39
<b>Don't know how to register</b>	3	2
	<b>Mainstage</b>	<b>BME Boost</b>

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<sup>1</sup> Minor wording and answer category changes from 2008 to 2009 and changes to wording of the question asking where respondents are registered to vote from 2009 to 2011. Note that comparison with previous years should be viewed as indicative rather than statistically significant due to a different approach.

<b>More convenient/ prefer to be registered at second home</b>	4	2
<b>Not old enough/not eligible</b>	13	8
<b>Other</b>	18	16
<b>Don't know</b>	6	6

**Q14. If you needed more information on how to go about registering to vote, where would you get it from?**

*BME Base: Boost only (999); Mixed (149); Indian (140); Pakistani (128); Bangladeshi (123); Caribbean (129); African (123).*

	<b>BME Boost</b>	<b>Mixed</b>	<b>Indian</b>	<b>Pakistani</b>	<b>Bangladeshi</b>	<b>Caribbean</b>	<b>African</b>
	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>Contact the local authority / council / town hall /</b>	41	31	47	38	42	62	48
<b>Contact the local community / civic / information centre</b>	2	2	1	1	2	1	5
<b>Local library</b>	6	11	5	6	4	16	7
<b>Citizens Advice Bureau</b>	2	1	-	1	2	-	5
<b>Registration / registry office</b>	1	-	1	1	2	-	2
<b>Electoral roll / register / form</b>	1	3	2	1	2	1	1
<b>MP's office / local MP</b>	1	1	1	-	-	1	1
<b>School / college / university</b>	2	-	2	2	3	*	-
<b>Post Office</b>	2	-	2	3	-	6	3
<b>Would expect to receive a letter explaining what to do</b>	9	5	6	9	6	8	11
<b>Would call someone (unspecified who)</b>	1	1	-	1	1	1	1
<b>Media (TV / Newspapers / Radio)</b>	2	3	3	5	-	2	2

	<b>BME Boost</b>	<b>Mixed</b>	<b>Indian</b>	<b>Pakistani</b>	<b>Bangladeshi</b>	<b>Caribbean</b>	<b>African</b>
<b>Government websites such as DirectGov</b>	3	19	1	4	4	2	-
<b>Council website</b>	3	*	3	2	1	3	3
<b>Google (specific mention)</b>	3	2	1	1	3	4	1
<b>Internet / online (no detail given)</b>	42	52	41	41	47	26	34
<b>Ask a friend or family member</b>	4	9	2	7	9	3	1
<b>Other</b>	7	5	8	6	8	10	10
<b>Don't know</b>	8	7	9	11	5	7	7

**Q15. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the system of registering to vote in Great Britain/Northern Ireland?**

*Mainstage base: All (1,200); BME (1,093); Mixed (170); Indian (152); Pakistani (145); Bangladeshi (123); Caribbean (144); African (134).*

	Mainstage	BME Boost	Mixed	Indian	Pakistani	Bangladeshi	Caribbean	African
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>Very satisfied</b>	39	34	22	26	37	29	31	48
<b>Fairly satisfied</b>	37	43	38	47	43	56	46	34
<b>Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied</b>	15	15	32	15	12	9	18	9
<b>Fairly dissatisfied</b>	3	3	1	10	2	2	1	3
<b>Very dissatisfied</b>	2	2	2	2	4	-	3	1
<b>Don't know / no opinion</b>	3	3	5	1	1	5	1	5
<b>Satisfied</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>82</b>
<b>Dissatisfied</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>

**Q16. Why are you dissatisfied with the system of registering to vote in Great Britain/Northern Ireland?**

*Mainstage base: All those dissatisfied with the system of registering to vote (55); BME (47 – caution small base)*

	<b>Mainstage</b>	<b>BME Boost</b>
	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>Difficult / Confusing</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>39</b>
I don't know how to register to vote	8	12
It is too confusing / I don't understand the system	14	10
It is not easy / they could make it easier	17	13
They do not promote / advertise where / when to register	6	9
<b>It is Inconvenient</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>14</b>
It is cumbersome / takes too long	6	4
	<b>Mainstage</b>	<b>BME Boost</b>



You should be able to register to vote over the telephone	10	-
You should be able to register to vote online	23	7
You should not have to re-register every year	-	3
<b>Mistakes / Problems</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>-</b>
The post is unreliable	9	-
The council makes mistakes with my personal details	2	-
<b>Not Secure</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>2</b>
The system of registering to vote is open to fraud and abuse	7	2
<b>Other</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>40</b>
There should not be a fine for not registering	-	3
	<b>Mainstage</b>	<b>BME Boost</b>

There should be more limitations on who can vote	5	3
There is no point voting / voting makes no difference	10	12
I do not know where I can get information about the process of registering to vote	6	-
<b>Other answer</b>	14	25
<b>Don't know</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>17</b>

**Q17a. As you may know, forms are sent out to households every year to keep the electoral register up to date. This form requires someone to provide or confirm the names of all people living in the household who are eligible to vote. Did you or your household receive a form this year?**

*Mainstage base: All in GB (998); BME (1,078); Mixed (169); Indian (148); Pakistani (144); Bangladeshi (123); Caribbean (143); African (132).*

	Mainstage	BME Boost	Mixed	Indian	Pakistani	Bangladeshi	Caribbean	African
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>Yes</b>	89	85	82	90	84	75	90	84
<b>No</b>	6	11	10	6	10	17	7	12
<b>Don't know / can't remember if received the form</b>	5	5	7	4	6	8	4	4

**Q17b. PROBE IF YES: And did you, or someone else in your household, provide or confirm your details?**

*Mainstage base: All in GB who remember receiving a form (921); BME (903);Mixed (143); Indian (134); Pakistani (120); Bangladeshi (92); Caribbean (128);African (111).*

	Mainstage	BME Boost	Mixed	Indian	Pakistani	Bangladeshi	Caribbean	African
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>Yes – me</b>	78	73	63	72	75	69	85	81
<b>Yes – someone else in household</b>	19	22	24	28	16	27	20	19
<b>Yes – but no-one completed/confirmed</b>	1	4	6	2	1	2	2	3
<b>Yes - Don't know / can't remember who filled in</b>	7	7	8	6	10	6	1	2

**Q18. Thinking about the system of registering to vote in Great Britain / Northern Ireland, how confident are you that ...**

*Mainstage base: All (1,200); BME (1,093); Mixed (170); Indian (152); Pakistani (145); Bangladeshi (123); Caribbean (144); African (134).*

**Q18\_1) ... in general, voters' personal details are held securely?**

	Mainstage	BME Boost	Mixed	Indian	Pakistani	Bangladeshi	Caribbean	African
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>Very confident</b>	20	24	17	23	29	24	9	34
<b>Fairly confident</b>	47	47	39	55	44	50	52	40
<b>Not very confident</b>	21	17	25	12	14	16	19	15
<b>Not at all confident</b>	9	8	13	10	7	7	15	7
<b>Don't know</b>	4	5	5	*	6	2	5	4
<b>Confident</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>74</b>
<b>Not confident</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>22</b>

Q18\_2) ... your own personal details are held securely?

	Mainstage	BME Boost	Mixed	Indian	Pakistani	Bangladeshi	Caribbean	African
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>Very confident</b>	19	27	15	26	33	33	13	32
<b>Fairly confident</b>	48	44	46	48	41	49	43	38
<b>Not very confident</b>	20	18	26	15	11	11	25	20
<b>Not at all confident</b>	9	8	10	9	9	7	16	5
<b>Don't know</b>	3	4	3	2	6	1	3	6
<b>Confident</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>70</b>
<b>Not confident</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>25</b>

**Q18\_3) ... the system prevents people who should not be on the register from registering?**

	Mainstage	BME Boost	Mixed	Indian	Pakistani	Bangladeshi	Caribbean	African
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>Very confident</b>	12	17	15	8	21	20	12	27
<b>Fairly confident</b>	41	39	39	47	35	45	34	33
<b>Not very confident</b>	24	19	22	21	19	19	24	17
<b>Not at all confident</b>	8	9	8	11	10	6	12	8
<b>Don't know</b>	14	15	15	13	15	10	19	14
<b>Confident</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>61</b>
<b>Not confident</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>25</b>

**Q19. Thinking about the last time you registered to vote, how easy or difficult did you find it to provide or confirm the details (you may have done this using a paper form, on the Internet or by telephone)?**

*BME base: All respondents aged 18+ (999); Mixed (149); Indian (140); Pakistani (128); Bangladeshi (123); Caribbean (129); African (123).*

	<b>BME Boost</b>	<b>Mixed</b>	<b>Indian</b>	<b>Pakistani</b>	<b>Bangladeshi</b>	<b>Caribbean</b>	<b>African</b>
	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>Very easy</b>	53	50	50	55	57	60	58
<b>Fairly easy</b>	29	23	34	32	26	29	28
<b>Neither easy nor difficult</b>	5	4	8	5	5	3	3
<b>Fairly difficult</b>	2	2	3	3	2	3	-
<b>Very difficult</b>	1	-	1	1	*	1	1
<b>Don't know/can't remember</b>	1	5	1	2	4	*	-
<b>I have never registered to vote</b>	10	17	3	3	6	3	10
<b>Easy</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>86</b>
<b>Difficult</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>



**Q20. Are you currently registered for a postal vote? That is, registered to send your ballot paper through the post, rather than having to go to a polling station?**

*Mainstage base: All those who are registered to vote (1,162); BME (1,009); Mixed (151); Indian (148); Pakistani (138); Bangladeshi (116); Caribbean (143); African (127).*

	Mainstage	BME Boost	Mixed	Indian	Pakistani	Bangladeshi	Caribbean	African
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>Yes, am registered for a postal vote</b>	29	39	33	43	46	42	32	46
<b>No, am not registered for a postal vote</b>	65	55	59	52	49	53	65	50
<b>Don't know</b>	6	6	8	6	6	5	4	4

**Q21. Please tell me if you think that the following statements about registering to vote in Great Britain are true or false. If you don't know, just say so and we will move on to the next question.**

*Mainstage base: All in Great Britain (998); BME (1,078); Mixed (169); Indian (148); Pakistani (144); Bangladeshi (123); Caribbean (143); African (132).*

**Q21\_1) In order to register to vote everyone must provide their National Insurance Number**

	Mainstage	BME Boost	Mixed	Indian	Pakistani	Bangladeshi	Caribbean	African
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
True	25	32	29	32	31	26	27	35
False	53	51	49	49	55	55	55	51
Don't Know	22	17	22	18	14	19	18	14

**Q21\_2) In order to register to vote everyone must provide their date of birth**

	Mainstage	BME Boost	Mixed	Indian	Pakistani	Bangladeshi	Caribbean	African
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>True</b>	78	81	80	83	77	81	82	79
<b>False</b>	12	12	8	13	13	9	13	14
<b>Don't Know</b>	10	7	11	4	10	10	6	7

**Q21\_3) In order to register to vote everyone must provide their signature**

	Mainstage	BME Boost	Mixed	Indian	Pakistani	Bangladeshi	Caribbean	African
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>True</b>	43	53	51	46	47	56	53	62
<b>False</b>	43	35	38	43	40	33	34	29
<b>Don't Know</b>	14	12	12	11	13	11	13	10

**Q21\_4) People can register to vote, or change their voting registration details such as those on where they live, at most points during the year**

	Mainstage	BME Boost	Mixed	Indian	Pakistani	Bangladeshi	Caribbean	African
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>True</b>	59	60	63	63	64	64	57	58
<b>False</b>	16	13	17	10	15	13	15	15
<b>Don't Know</b>	25	27	19	27	20	24	28	27

**Q22. At the moment, when registering to vote in Great Britain, you are not required to provide a National Insurance number or date of birth and only the person filling in the form must provide their signature. Would a requirement to personally provide your (INSERT A-C IN TURN) when you register to vote make you more likely to register, less likely to register or would it make no difference?**

*Mainstage base: All in Great Britain (998); BME (1,078); Mixed (169); Indian (148); Pakistani (144); Bangladeshi (123); Caribbean (143); African (132).*

**Q22\_1. National Insurance Number**

	Mainstage	BME Boost	Mixed	Indian	Pakistani	Bangladeshi	Caribbean	African
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>More likely</b>	<b>8</b>	15	6	21	16	13	9	15
<b>Less likely</b>	<b>17</b>	16	19	15	16	29	18	13
<b>It would make no difference</b>	<b>73</b>	65	71	58	62	53	72	69
<b>Not eligible to vote (SPONTANEOUS ONLY)</b>	*	1	1	2	-	-	-	-
<b>Don't know</b>	<b>2</b>	4	2	4	6	5	1	3

**Q22\_2. Date of Birth**

	Mainstage	BME Boost	Mixed	Indian	Pakistani	Bangladeshi	Caribbean	African
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>More likely</b>	<b>9</b>	20	8	27	19	25	11	19
<b>Less likely</b>	<b>6</b>	9	4	11	8	14	7	9
<b>It would make no difference</b>	<b>83</b>	67	85	60	63	58	82	67
<b>Not eligible to vote (SPONTANEOUS ONLY)</b>	*	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Don't know</b>	<b>2</b>	4	2	2	10	2	*	4

**Q22\_3. Signature**

	Mainstage	BME Boost	Mixed	Indian	Pakistani	Bangladeshi	Caribbean	African
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>More likely</b>	<b>9</b>	18	10	23	19	23	13	18
<b>Less likely</b>	<b>5</b>	8	8	10	8	9	10	8
<b>It would make no difference</b>	<b>83</b>	69	79	65	65	63	76	72
<b>Not eligible to vote (SPONTANEOUS ONLY)</b>	*	1	1	-	-	-	-	1
<b>Don't know</b>	<b>2</b>	4	2	3	8	5	1	1

**Q23. Why would a requirement for you to provide your [National Insurance number or date of birth or signature] when registering to vote make you less likely to register?**

*Mainstage base: All those who answer that providing NI, DOB or Signature would make them less likely to register (197); BME (270).*

	<b>Mainstage</b>	<b>BME Boost</b>
	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>Because of fraud/identity fraud</b>	20	21
<b>Do not like giving personal details out</b>	32	34
<b>No need/already have enough details</b>	12	10
<b>Invasion of privacy/should be kept confidential</b>	17	12
<b>Hard to find National Insurance number</b>	8	6
<b>May fall into wrong hands</b>	8	5
<b>May be used for other purposes</b>	5	1
<b>Too much hassle/time consuming</b>	3	2
<b>Do not want anyone to know my NI number</b>	2	1



	<b>Mainstage</b>	<b>BME Boost</b>
<b>Security risk</b>	12	4
<b>Signature could be copied</b>	1	2
<b>Would prefer to register online/by phone</b>	1	*
<b>Do not like the idea of a data base</b>	2	-
<b>Other</b>	13	10
<b>Don't know</b>	3	12
<b>None of these</b>	1	5

**Q24. How easy or difficult would it be for you to provide your National Insurance number if you needed it for official purposes?**

*Mainstage base: All (1,200); BME (1,093); Mixed (170); Indian (152); Pakistani (145); Bangladeshi (123); Caribbean (144); African (134).*

	Mainstage	BME Boost	Mixed	Indian	Pakistani	Bangladeshi	Caribbean	African
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>Very easy</b>	75	57	65	56	56	52	63	62
<b>Fairly easy</b>	20	33	27	35	37	34	27	29
<b>Fairly difficult</b>	2	5	3	4	5	6	6	4
<b>Very difficult</b>	2	4	2	2	1	6	3	5
<b>Don't know</b>	1	1	3	2	1	2	1	*
<b>Easy</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>91</b>
<b>Difficult</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>8</b>

# Integrity of Elections

**Q25. As you may know, there are many types of fraud such as benefit fraud and insurance fraud. From what you know or have heard, how much do you feel you understand about electoral fraud in the UK, that is fraud relating to elections and voting? Would you say ...?**

*Mainstage base: All (1,200); BME (1,093); Mixed (170); Indian (152); Pakistani (145); Bangladeshi (123); Caribbean (144); African (134).*

	Mainstage	BME Boost	Mixed	Indian	Pakistani	Bangladeshi	Caribbean	African
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>A lot</b>	7	7	6	8	14	10	5	5
<b>A little</b>	32	36	30	40	35	33	34	39
<b>Hardly anything at all</b>	31	22	29	19	18	21	28	16
<b>Nothing at all</b>	29	32	34	29	29	32	31	38
<b>Don't know</b>	1	3	1	4	4	4	2	2

**Q26. How much of a problem, if at all, do you think electoral fraud, that is fraud relating to elections and voting, is in Great Britain/Northern Ireland? Do you think it is ...**

*Mainstage base: All (1,200); BME (1,093); Mixed (170); Indian (152); Pakistani (145); Bangladeshi (123); Caribbean (144); African (134).*

	Mainstage	BME Boost	Mixed	Indian	Pakistani	Bangladeshi	Caribbean	African
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>A very big problem</b>	9	11	11	10	9	21	14	8
<b>A fairly big problem</b>	27	23	21	25	23	30	26	19
<b>Not a very big problem</b>	39	35	39	33	39	23	32	32
<b>Not a problem at all</b>	12	16	12	17	16	16	18	23
<b>Don't know</b>	13	15	17	15	13	11	11	19
<b>A problem</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>Not a very big problem / not a problem at all</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>55</b>

## 27. And why do you say electoral fraud is a problem?

*Mainstage base: All who believe electoral fraud is a problem (450); BME (374); Mixed (56); Indian (51); Pakistani (46 – caution small base); Bangladeshi (58); Caribbean (55); African (35 – caution small base).*

	Mainstage	BME Boost	Mixed	Indian	Pakistani	Bangladeshi	Caribbean	African
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>Fraud does go on / is a problem / is easy</b>	14	20	19	13	32	17	7	23
<b>Issues of fraud with the postal vote</b>	5	3	-	5	9	1	3	-
<b>Wrong people / party getting into power</b>	3	7	7	7	5	8	4	4
<b>Can distort the vote / affect the result</b>	4	4	6	2	4	6	6	8
<b>People being influenced who to vote for / voting within their communities</b>	4	1	1	-	2	-	-	-

	Mainstage	BME Boost	Mixed	Indian	Pakistani	Bangladeshi	Caribbean	African
<b>Dishonest MP's / party's</b>	2	*	*	-	2	-	2	-
<b>People not being honest / being dishonest</b>	2	2	2	-	-	5	7	-
<b>Too many people / government doesn't know who is supposed to be here and who isn't</b>	2	*	-	2	-	-	-	-
<b>Identity / data theft / computer hacking</b>	7	13	15	17	8	22	12	13
<b>Using names of people who have died</b>	*	*	-	-	-	-	2	-
<b>Inventing false names and addresses</b>	2	3	5	4	-	2	9	2

	Mainstage	BME Boost	Mixed	Indian	Pakistani	Bangladeshi	Caribbean	African
<b>Issues being in a shared occupancy house / added names to forms</b>	1	*	1	-	-	-	4	-
<b>Immigration issues / illegal immigrants</b>	7	1	2	2	2	2	5	-
<b>People getting benefits that they are not entitled to</b>	2	1	4	2	-	-	1	-
<b>People able to vote who are not eligible / entitled / registered</b>	7	3	9	-	4	5	4	-
<b>People voting multiple times</b>	1	2	-	-	3	2	4	-
<b>People voting who are not the person on the polling card / should show some form of identity (not just the polling card)</b>	12	12	4	9	15	4	8	6

	Mainstage	BME Boost	Mixed	Indian	Pakistani	Bangladeshi	Caribbean	African
<b>Hear about it in the press</b>	5	1	1	4	1	-	-	2
<b>Word of mouth / what I've heard</b>	1	*	-	-	-	1	1	-
<b>General lack of trust in the system</b>	2	1	6	3	-	-	1	-
<b>Don't know</b>	11	16	9	20	16	30	13	10
<b>Other Answer</b>	22	23	36	23	16	7	22	33



**Q28. Can I just check, have you...?**

*Mainstage base: All (1,200); BME (1,093); Mixed (170); Indian (152); Pakistani (145); Bangladeshi (123); Caribbean (144); African (134).*

	Mainstage	BME Boost	Mixed	Indian	Pakistani	Bangladeshi	Caribbean	African
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>Seen stories in the media about electoral fraud happening in Great Britain/Northern Ireland</b>	29	26	22	29	26	24	31	28
<b>Heard from someone you know about electoral fraud happening</b>	9	11	9	10	18	16	11	5
<b>Had first hand experience of seeing electoral fraud happen</b>	2	2	2	1	6	4	3	-
<b>None of these</b>	63	65	71	65	57	63	58	65
<b>Don't know</b>	1	1	-	1	2	3	3	2

**Q31. In general, when it comes to being safe from fraud or abuse, would you say that [INSERT: a, b and c] is very safe, fairly safe, neither safe nor unsafe, fairly unsafe or very unsafe.**

*Mainstage base: All (1,200); BME (1093); Mixed (170); Indian (152); Pakistani (145); Bangladeshi (123); Caribbean (144); African (134).*

**Q31\_1) Voting at a polling station**

	Mainstage	BME Boost	Mixed	Indian	Pakistani	Bangladeshi	Caribbean	African
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>Very safe</b>	41	44	39	40	49	53	35	47
<b>Fairly safe</b>	44	40	42	48	37	36	50	41
<b>Neither safe nor unsafe</b>	4	4	5	2	3	5	5	4
<b>Fairly unsafe</b>	6	5	7	5	3	3	5	4
<b>Very unsafe</b>	3	4	3	4	5	2	2	3
<b>Don't know</b>	2	3	5	2	3	1	3	1
<b>Safe</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>88</b>
<b>Unsafe</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>

**Q31\_2) Voting by post**

	Mainstage	BME Boost	Mixed	Indian	Pakistani	Bangladeshi	Caribbean	African
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>Very safe</b>	13	19	15	16	21	18	10	18
<b>Fairly safe</b>	40	38	38	46	41	39	37	32
<b>Neither safe nor unsafe</b>	8	7	9	6	6	8	15	7
<b>Fairly unsafe</b>	23	19	21	16	12	23	14	22
<b>Very unsafe</b>	9	9	8	8	14	8	9	13
<b>Don't know</b>	6	8	9	9	6	4	15	8
<b>Safe</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>50</b>
<b>Unsafe</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>35</b>

**Q31\_3) Registering to vote**

	Mainstage	BME Boost	Mixed	Indian	Pakistani	Bangladeshi	Caribbean	African
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>Very safe</b>	23	34	22	34	41	37	24	39
<b>Fairly safe</b>	55	47	57	46	41	45	55	38
<b>Neither safe nor unsafe</b>	7	7	7	7	5	6	6	11
<b>Fairly unsafe</b>	8	5	8	6	3	7	7	5
<b>Very unsafe</b>	3	2	2	4	4	1	3	4
<b>Don't know</b>	3	4	4	3	6	3	6	3
<b>Safe</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>77</b>
<b>Unsafe</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>9</b>

**Q36. And can I just check, are you...?**

Mainstage base: All (1,200); BME (1,093); Mixed (170); Indian (152); Pakistani (145); Bangladeshi (123); Caribbean (144); African (134).

	Mainstage	BME Boost	Mixed	Indian	Pakistani	Bangladeshi	Caribbean	African
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>A British citizen or citizen of the Republic of Ireland</b>	93	78	86	83	81	84	88	67
<b>A citizen of a European Union country</b>	2	4	4	1	3	2	1	9
<b>A citizen of a British Commonwealth country</b>	3	8	6	6	3	9	8	16
<b>A citizen of any other country</b>	2	10	4	10	11	5	4	7
<b>Don't know</b>	*	*	-	-	1	-	-	-