

# East Midlands Life & Work Survey 2003 Themed Summary Report – Ethnicity

Prepared for the East Midlands Observatory

Market Research UK Limited

February 2004

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**EAST MIDLANDS  
LIFE & WORK SURVEY 2003**

**THEMED SUMMARY REPORT -  
ETHNICITY**

**February 2004**

**Prepared For: EAST MIDLANDS  
OBSERVATORY**

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# 1. INTRODUCTION

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## 1.1 Background

The East Midlands Observatory (EMO) represents a network of partner organisations within the East Midlands with an interest and involvement in research and statistics about regional economic, social, environmental and spatial issues. EMO aims to be the primary point of access to research and statistics on the East Midlands.

The purpose of East Midlands Observatory is to enable partners to share research, collaborate on research projects and make findings easily available in order to facilitate the development of evidence based policy.

A key part of the Observatory's activities during 2002 and 2003 has been the commissioning and implementation of a large scale comprehensive Life and Work Survey conducted across the East Midlands Region.

In autumn 2002 Market Research UK Limited (**mruk social research**) was commissioned to design and conduct the survey.

The project builds on the successful collaborative model of research developed through successive household surveys in the region since 1994.

## 1.2 Changing Context

Since the last Household survey was completed in 2000 by a partnership involving TECs, Government Office for the East Midlands (GOEM) and East Midlands Development Agency (emda), the institutional context within which the survey was conducted has changed significantly. TECs have been replaced by a local Learning Skills Council and, Sub-regional Strategic Partnerships have been established covering the vast majority of the region. In addition, the Regional Assembly has taken on a more developed role in monitoring the state of the region.

These changes required a fundamental review of both survey context and sample construction/reporting levels with particular consideration to ensuring data collected would inform LLSC strategic plans and emda Regional Employment Strategy (including the

Framework for Regional Employment and Skills Action - FRESA). The scope of the research was also broadened to reflect the need to inform the East Midlands Integrated Regional Strategy. In this context it is important to note that the survey did not set out to directly replicate previous household surveys or surveys that may cover similar subject areas.

### 1.3 Key Objectives

The key objectives of the household survey were (in summary):

- To provide comprehensive and robust data about the working age (and subsequently extended to third age) population of the East Midlands, to inform policy development and monitor regional performance on a number of related themes.
- Support work in relation to strategic planning for the region.
- Provide opportunities for gathering new data, boosting samples in particular localities and benchmarking.
- Ensure core data is statistically robust at county, SSP and Local Authority District (LAD) levels.

### 1.4 Survey Method

Overall, the survey was designed to collect information from a robust and representative sample of residents including those economically active and economically inactive. Residents from the ages of 16-74 years were interviewed in-home and the inclusion of those aged from 64-74 added a new strata to previous surveys.

The sample itself was selected using a systematic random probability technique to ensure relatively consistent levels of statistical reliability for each County, LSC, SSP and down to LAD level.

A core sample of 14,000 interviews was achieved across the region with samples in Leicestershire and Derbyshire boosted by 2520 and 450 respectively.

More detail on the sampling, survey method including questionnaire design, respondent selection, re-weighting, gathering and processing data is included in the separate comprehensive technical report. However, it is important to highlight that this and other output reports provide summary evaluation of a significant and detailed data set which in turn permits very detailed sub-analysis. Caution must though be exercised in relation to low level sub-analysis where sample sizes may fall outside the parameters of statistical significance.

The Life and Work Survey did not set out to replicate previous household surveys and, whilst some individual questions were framed to replicate previous surveys or other national surveys questionnaire structure was unique to this research project. When aligned with the widened scope of the 2003 survey and change of methodology (compared to previous household surveys) this means direct comparisons with previous (or other) surveys are not always meaningful or in some cases possible.

## **1.5 Theme of this Report - Ethnic Respondents**

The evaluative reporting of the survey features a range of report types. Summary reports have been produced that provide key findings for Learning Skills Council and Sub-regional Strategic Partnerships.

In addition a series of 'themed' reports and short précis style reports will examine specific topics and evaluate the associated key findings to emerge from the survey.

The focus of this particular report is on ethnicity. It looks at findings to emerge from the survey across three specific categories of White, Asian and other "Non-White" ethnic groups. The groupings reflect the samples that materialise within survey findings. The re-weighted figures show that the vast majority of respondents were White (15,943). However 617 Asian respondents were interviewed thus providing a confidence interval of  $\pm 4\%$  which is sufficiently robust to warrant separate analysis. Of the other Non-White groupings none were large enough to provide for accurate sub-analysis so for the purposes of this themed report have been grouped together and comprise a total of 409 respondents.

Readers should note that percentages quoted in the report will most often relate to a sub-set of the overall survey sample. Percentage figures quoted and illustrated are rounded up or down to the nearest full percentage point for ease of presentation and interpretation.

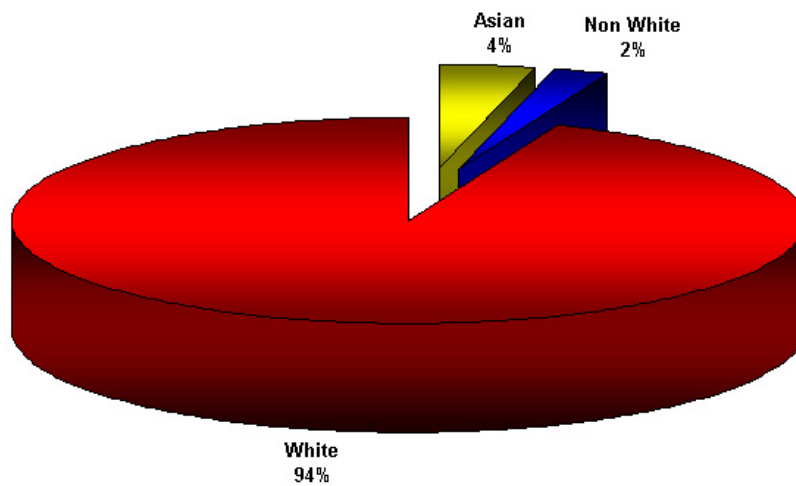
## 2. ETHNIC RESPONDENT BASE/ ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

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### 2.1 Base Analysis

Consistent with the criteria explained in sub-section 1.5 throughout the report survey findings, are analysed comparing White, Non-White and Asian respondents. Figure 1 below graphically illustrates the initial weighted comparison. White respondents account for 94% of the total sample compared to 4% Asian, and 2% other Non-White.

**Figure 1: Ethnicity**



Base: All Respondents: White (15943), Non-White (409), Asian (617)

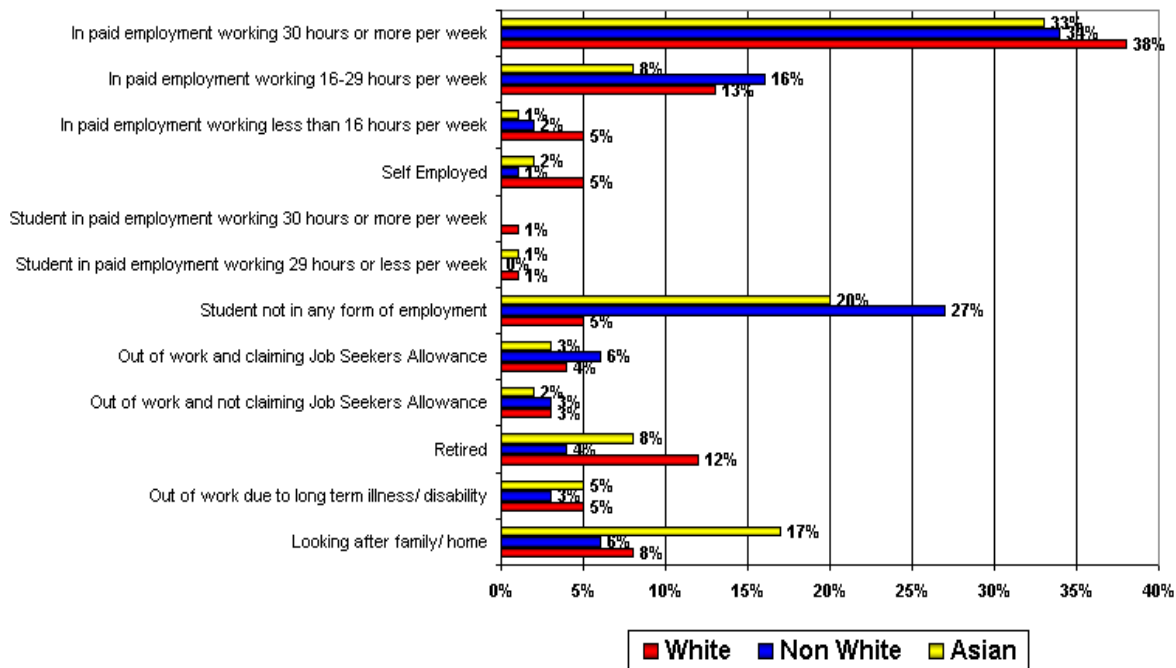
Source: mruk 2003



## 2.2 Economic Activity

As show in Figure 2 below, the employment status of the three ethnic groups varies within an 8% range in relation to full time work. 38% of White respondents are in paid full time employment, 34% of other Non-White respondents are employed full time as are one third (33%) of Asian respondents. Some 5% of White respondents are self employed compared to 2% Asian and less than 1% Non-White. A small percentage of White and Non-White respondents (12% for each) are retired from paid work altogether whereas only 4% of the Asian respondents to the survey are retired from paid employment. 5% of White and 5% of Asian respondents are out of work due to a long-term illness or disability (compared to 3% Non-White). Notably 8% of White and 6% Non-White respondents say they are looking after their family and home compared to some 17% of Asian respondents.

**Figure 2: Employment Status**



Base: All Respondents

Q ref: Q3

Source: mruk 2003

Sub-analysis of white unemployed respondents reveals that 37% of those concerned have been out of work for up to 1 year (although 23% for less than 6 months). Such sub-analysis is meaningful as it is based upon a significantly large base (3061 respondents re-weighted). However similar sub-analysis of Asian and other Non-White ethnic respondents whilst showing a variation (eg 40% Asian and 56% other Non-White unemployed for the same period) is not statistically valid due to the very small respondent base for each sub-group (83 and 50 respectively).

## 2.3 Employment Characteristics

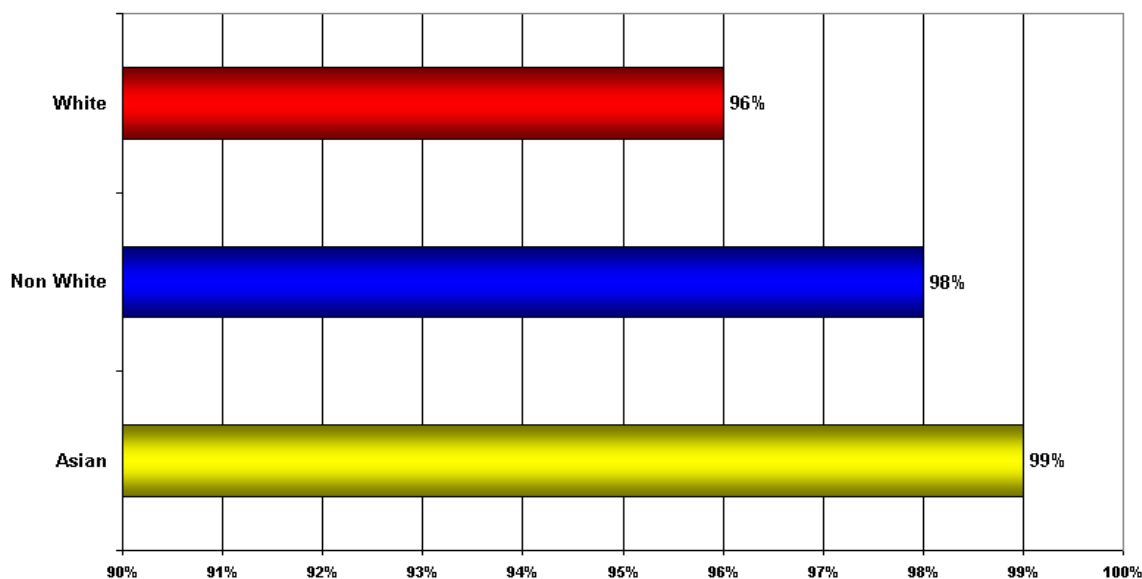
Using the Standard Industrial Classification of Economic Activities as a base-analysis shows that the service sector is estimated to account for just over half of the economic activity in each ethnic group (51% White, 54% Non-White and 64% Asian). By contrast, Manufacturing and Construction is estimated to account for only 13% among Asian respondents, 16% for White respondents, and just over a quarter for Non-White (26%).

In sub-analysing main place of work 5% of White respondents work at home as do 4% of Asian respondents. The equivalent figures for working at a single workplace away from home are 70% and 69% respectively. The figure rises to 77% of Non-White respondents working at a single place away from home.

Modes of transport show some variation with travel by car/ van/ minibus used by 70% of Non-White and Asian respondents and 78% White. By contrast only 4% of White respondents use the bus compared to 12% Asian and 21% other Non-White. Travelling time to work varies only slightly amongst each ethnic group. 20 minutes or less is the most common travelling time for all respondents. Around three quarters of all respondents travel for 20 minutes or less to work.

Figure 3 below illustrates that vast majority of Asian and Non-White respondents (99% and 98% respectively) regard their job as "permanent" (96% of White respondents hold the same view).

**Figure 3: Permanence of Employment**



Base: In Employment: White (9968), Non-White (212), Asian (274)

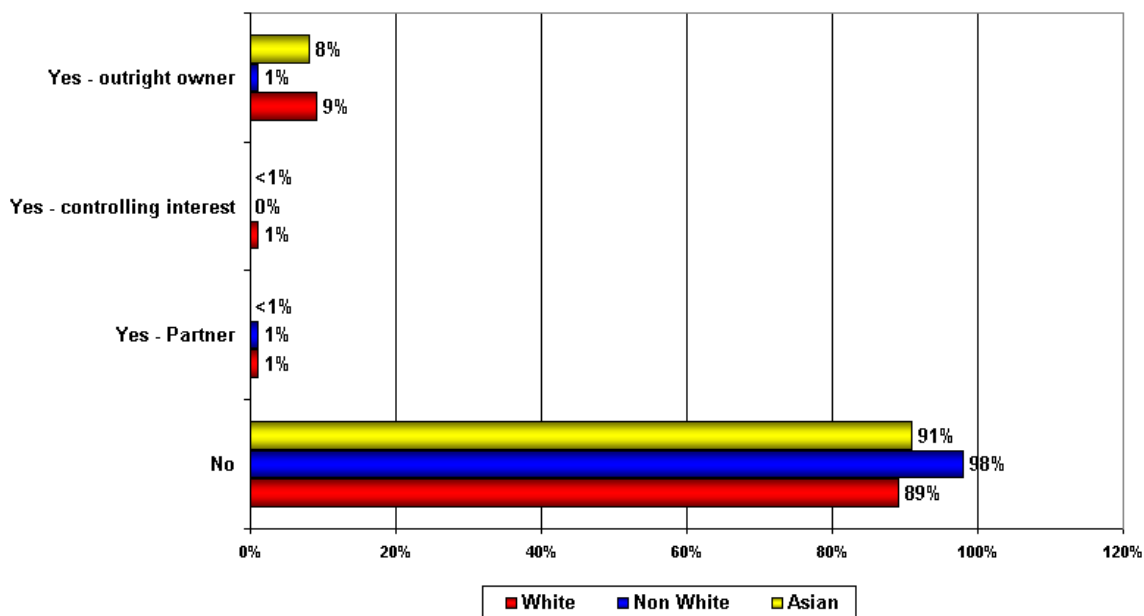
Q ref: Q17

Source mruk 2003

## 2.4 Self Employment/ Business Start Up

9% of White respondents and 8% of Asian respondents are the outright owner in a business enterprise compared to only 1% of other Non-White respondents.

**Figure 4: Owners/ Controlling Interest In Business Enterprise**



Base: In Employment: White (9968), Non-White (212), Asian (274)

Q ref: Q19

Source mruk 2003

The percentage of respondents who have ever considered starting up their own business differs marginally between ethnic groups. However, under 15% of respondents in each group have considered starting up (14% White, 11% Non-White and 9% Asian).

Other than "Nothing" and "Don't know" respondents say that "Help to raise the Finance/ Capital" is the single highest component to help encourage business start up across the three ethnic groups. "Help/ advice on how to start up" follows as second most popular.

Amongst those respondents who say they have considered starting up their own business some 35% of Non-White expect to do so within the next 12 months compared to 10% White and 12% Asian. However, base numbers for Non-White and Asian respondents are too small for such findings to be considered statistically valid and the comparative analysis can only be regarded as indicative.

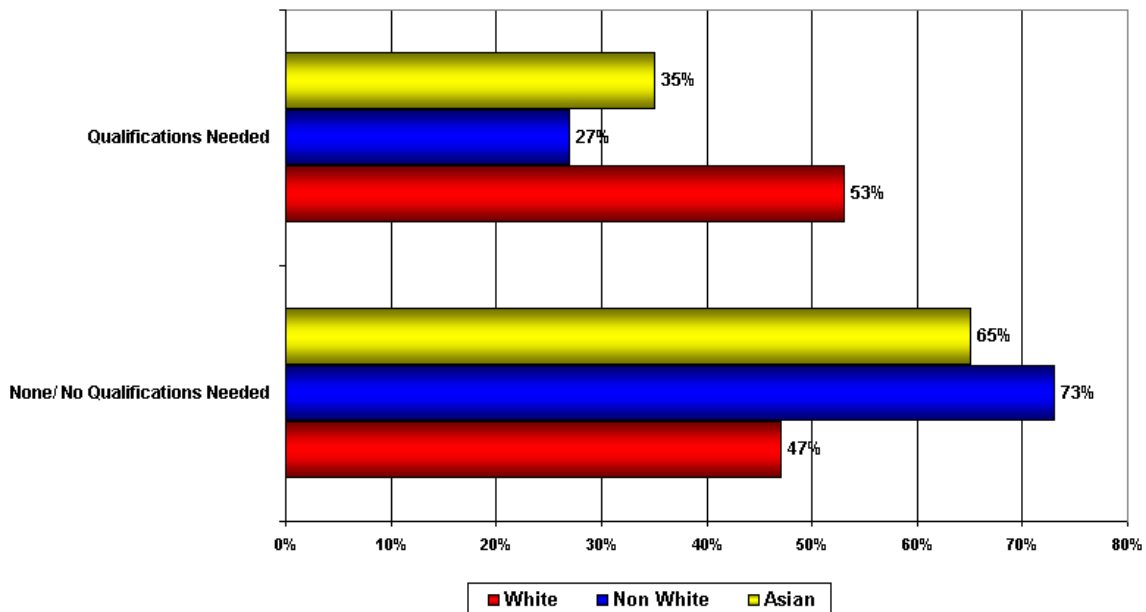
### 3. BROAD MEASURES OF SKILL DEMAND

#### 3.1 Qualifications for Current Employment

In relation to those in employment at the time of the survey, the percentage of respondents who said that no qualifications would be needed to get the type of job they are doing if someone were applying today varied across the three ethnic groups. Just under half (47%) of White respondents felt that no qualifications were needed compared to just under three quarters (73%) of Non-White respondents. The percentage of Asian respondents who said the same was 65%.

Of those specifying qualifications they think are needed to get the kind of job they have at present some 82% of Asian respondents consider those qualifications to be "fairly necessary" or "essential" as do 79% of White and Non-White respondents. Again however this latter sub-analysis should only be regarded as indicative for Asian and other Non-White respondents in view of the small base numbers concerned.

**Figure 5: How Necessary is it to Possess Qualifications to Get Type of Job Currently Doing if Applying Today??**



Base: Have Qualifications: White (9,968), Non-White (212), Asian (274)

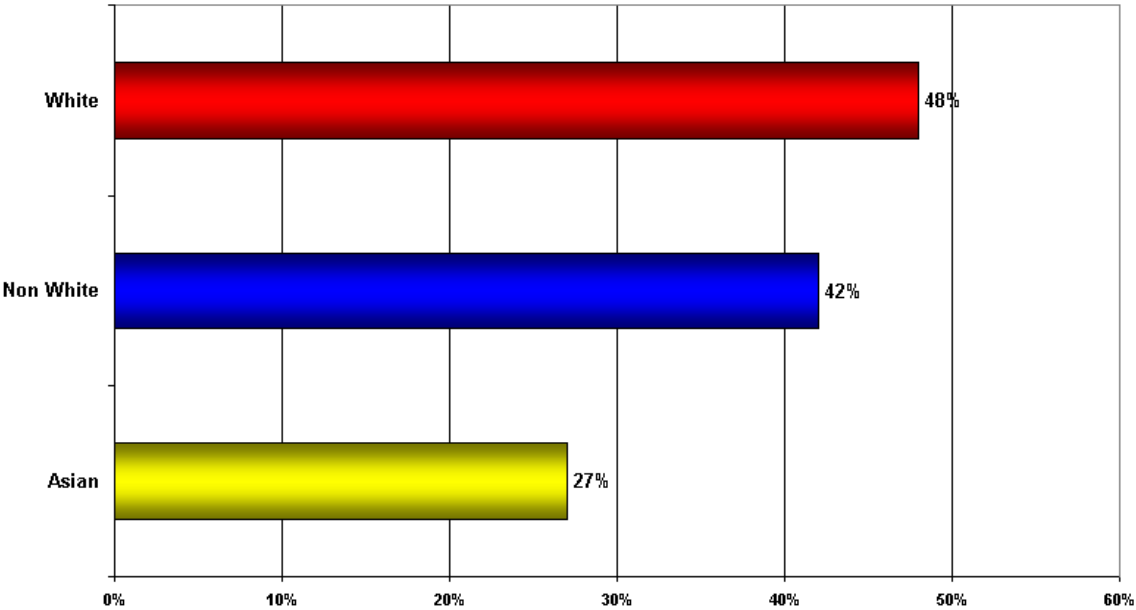
Q ref: Q26

Source: mruk 2003

### 3.2 Training for Current Employment

Just under half of all respondents (in employment) have previously had or are currently receiving training for the type of work they do. However, there are notable variations between the ethnic groups. The survey estimates 48% of White respondents have had/are receiving training compared to 27% of Asian respondents. The equivalent finding for other Non-White respondents is 42%.

**Figure 6: Training Undertaken for Current Type of Work**



Base: In Employment: White (9,968), Non-White (212), Asian (274)

Q ref: Q28

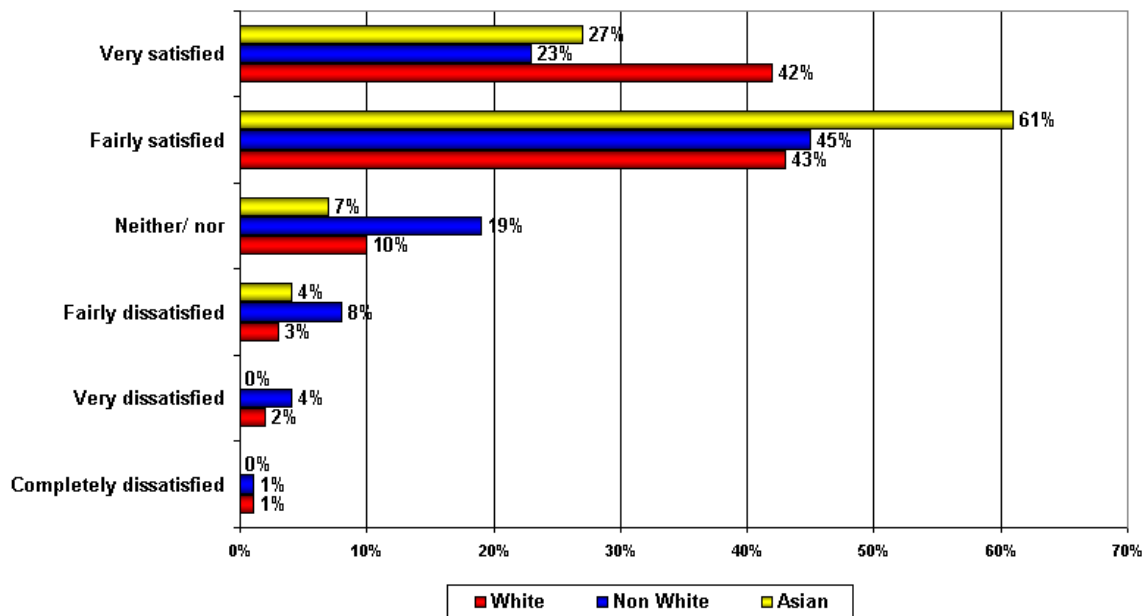
Source: mruk 2003

## 4. JOB SATISFACTION / SECURITY

### 4.1 Satisfaction with Current Job

Overall slightly more Asian respondents (88%) are satisfied with their current job than White respondents (85%). White respondents are the ethnic group which show the most satisfaction with their job at present (42% "Very satisfied"). Overall 68% of Non-White respondents said they were satisfied with their current job and, a significantly higher proportion of that ethnic group (14%) show dissatisfaction when compared to White and Asian groups. Figure 15 illustrates overall findings.

Figure 7: Job Satisfaction



Base: In Employment: White (9,968), Non-White (212), Asian (274)

Q ref: Q31

Source: mruk 2003

## 4.2 Security of Employment

In relation to perceptions of securing an alternative job comparable to current employment, it is notable that only 29% of Asian respondents believe it would prove difficult to find a job as good as their present one if looking for work today. This compares to over 50% of White and Non-White respondents who hold this view.

A lower proportion of Asian respondents (2%) think there is some chance of losing their job and becoming unemployed within the next 12 months compared to White (7%) and Non-White (9%) respondents.

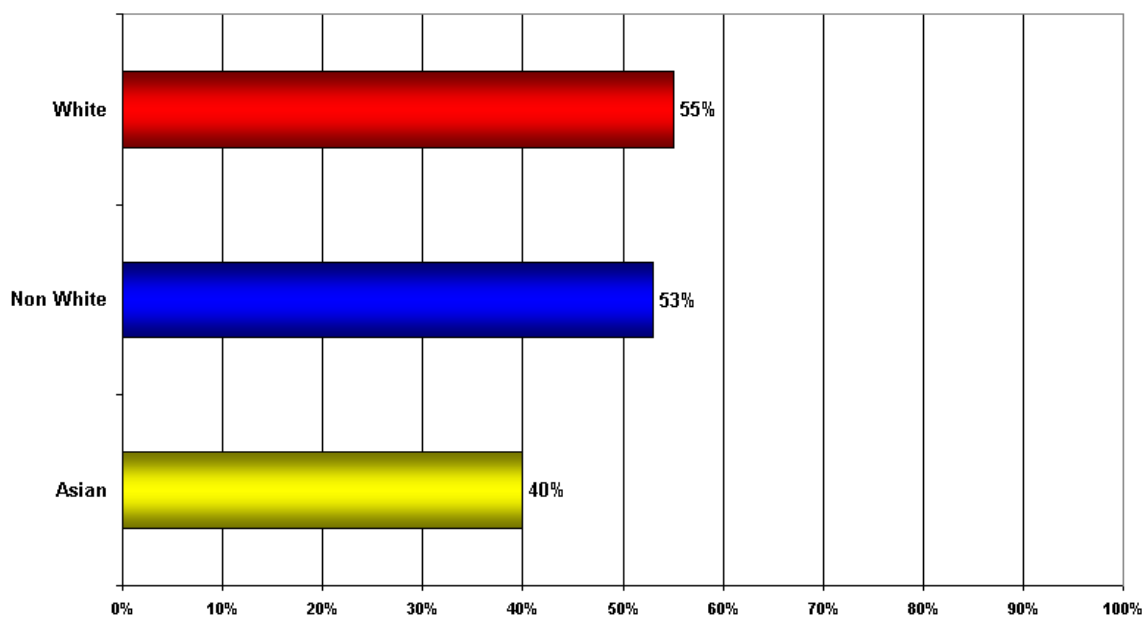
## 5. USE OF ICT AT WORK

### 5.1 Use Computer At Work

Just over half of White (55%) and Non-White (53%) respondents who are working use a personal computer, or another form of computerised equipment in their job at present. This compares to 40% of Asian respondents.

However, of those using a computer at work between 39% - 45% of all groups say their jobs entail using the internet of which the primary tasks include e-mail, searches for information (about organisations, products and services) and providing information to customers/ clients.

**Figure 8: Job Involve Computer Use?**



Base: In Employment: White (9,968), Non-White (212), Asian (274)

Q ref: Q36

Source: mruk 2003



## 6. PARTICIPATION IN TRAINING AND LEARNING

A section of the survey was specifically designed to elicit views and feedback on the extent to which respondents participate in training and learning and have in the past or are now seeking to develop their skills/ knowledge. The questions were asked of all participants irrespective of whether in employment or not.

### 6.1 English/ Mathematical Skills

As a pre-cursor, respondents were asked to rate their reading, writing and mathematical skills (in English) that are needed in their daily life. Figure 9 below illustrates that the vast majority (86%-89%) of White and other Non-White respondents rate their reading and writing skills highly. However, the equivalent findings for Asian respondents is over 10% lower (75%). Notably a slightly higher proportion of Asian respondents (76%) rate themselves "good" or "excellent" at mathematics than those in the other groups. Overall higher proportions of both Non-White groups regard all three skills as "poor" than their white counterparts.

**Figure 9: English/ Mathematical Skills**

	Good/ Excellent %			Moderate %			Poor %		
	White	Non-White	Asian	White	Non-White	Asian	White	Non-White	Asian
<b>Reading</b>	89	83	75	9	10	15	1	8	9
<b>Writing</b>	86	80	71	11	14	18	3	7	10
<b>Mathematical</b>	74	71	76	21	23	14	5	7	9

Base: All Respondents: White (15,943), Non-White (409), Asian (617)  
Source: mruk 2003

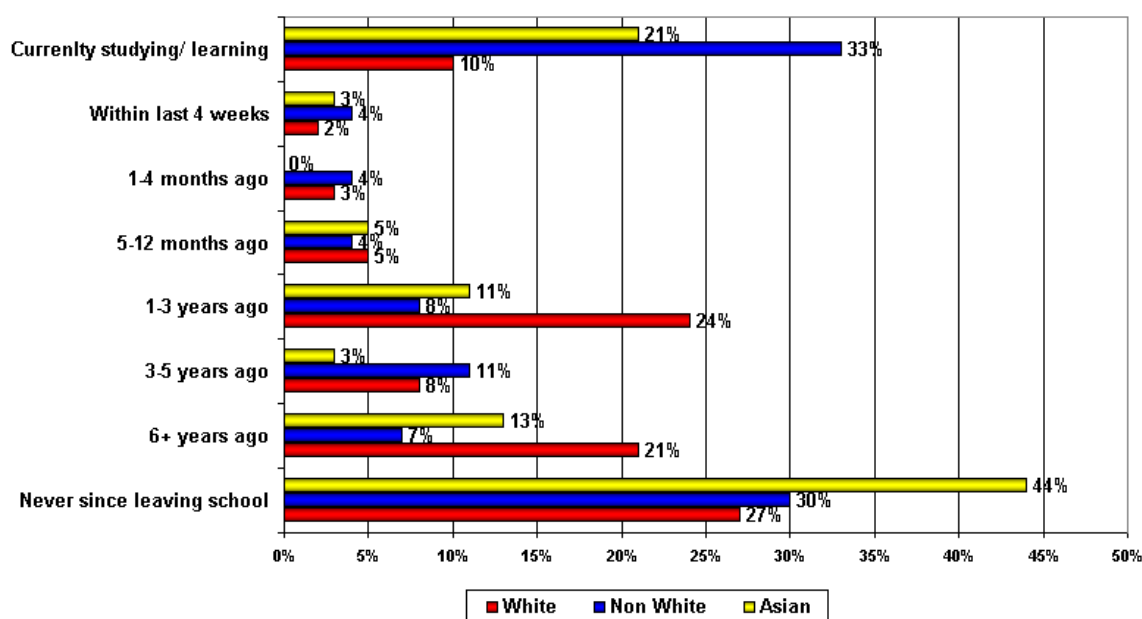
## 6.2 Training/ Learning Last Undertaken

Figure 10 below illustrates how recently respondents concerned **last** undertook any training or learning (which could include attending classes, individual tuition, tutoring etc).

Just under half (44%) of Asian respondents have not undertaken any training/ learning activities since leaving school. This compares to 30% of other Non-White respondents and 27% White respondents.

In proportionate terms a significantly lower percentage of White respondents (10%) are currently engaged in some form of training/ learning when compared to Asian respondents (21%) and other Non-White respondents (33%). However, this will be accounted for by the (proportionately) higher number of students within the overall achieved sample who were of Asian or Non-White ethnic origin.

**Figure 10: Most Recent Participation in Training/Learning**



Base: All Respondents: White (15,943), Non-White (409), Asian (617)

Q ref: Q41

Source: mruk 2003

### 6.3 Types of Training/Learning

Of respondents who have undertaken training or learning in the last 12 months by far the highest proportions are those involving courses that lead to a qualification (delivered by a teacher, lecturer, tutor or instructor) and similarly delivered courses designed to help develop work based skills.

Courses leading to a qualification account for 49% of White respondents and 70% of Non-White. This compares to 86% amongst Asian respondents. Figure 11 provides a comparative profile and also illustrates the extent to which methods such as e-learning, self-teaching and multiple tuition are utilised.

It should be noted that the base numbers for Asian and other Non-White respondents falls to around 180 for sub-analysis purposes. The confidence interval for the two sub-groups concerned (in this context) therefore falls to approximately  $\pm 7\%$  and should be taken into account (when considering comparisons) throughout much of the remainder of this section of the report.

**Figure 11: Types of Training/ Learning Undertaken in Past 12 Months**

	White	Non-White	Asian
<b>Courses which lead to qualification</b>	49%	70%	86%
<b>Courses designed to help develop skills needed in job</b>	43%	30%	20%
<b>Course/ instruction/ tuition</b>	10%	0%	3%
<b>Evening classes</b>	9%	4%	1%
<b>Learning, involving time with teacher and working on own</b>	20%	10%	20%
<b>Any other course delivered by teacher</b>	10%	5%	1%
<b>Studying for qualifications without taking part in course</b>	7%	1%	6%
<b>Supervised training whilst doing job</b>	21%	1%	6%
<b>Reading books, manuals, journals etc</b>	25%	3%	3%
<b>Deliberately trying to improve knowledge without course</b>	19%	3%	1%
<b>E-Learning</b>	15%	1%	4%

Base: Undertaken Training in Last Year: White (3,145), Non-White (183), Asian (180)

Q ref: Q42

Source: mruk 2003

## 6.4 Subject of Training/Learning

Figure 12 below profiles the key subject matter in which training and learning was undertaken.

Notably prominent (over 30% for all groups) is Information Technology skills and use of computer packages. The growth of e-commerce, wider use of ICT and government policies on moving ahead with e-governance represent demands on the workforce which will continue to require significant training and skills development. Amongst White respondents, 30% have undertaken training in Health and Safety while only 5% Non-White and 6% Asian respondents have done so. However, it is notable (taking account of earlier findings relating to reading, writing and mathematical skills) that significantly higher proportions of Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) respondents are involved in basic literacy and numeracy learning than their White counterparts.

**Figure 12: Subject of Training/ Learning**

	White	Non-White	Asian
<b>Health &amp; Safety</b>	30%	5%	6%
<b>Quality standards</b>	12%	0%	0%
<b>IT Skills/ use of computer packages</b>	31%	39%	32%
<b>Developing manual skills but not craft level</b>	9%	27%	3%
<b>Developing manual skills to craft level</b>	5%	0%	4%
<b>Basic literacy skills</b>	5%	8%	18%
<b>Basic numeracy skills</b>	6%	1%	21%
<b>Management training</b>	11%	4%	3%
<b>Supervisory training</b>	8%	1%	3%
<b>Technician training</b>	7%	0%	1%
<b>Business skills</b>	12%	16%	15%
<b>Personal skills</b>	22%	3%	7%
<b>Foreign Language skills</b>	3%	4%	1%
<b>Customer Care skills</b>	13%	2%	3%
<b>Professional Development courses</b>	21%	9%	6%

Base: Undertaken Training in Last Year: White (3,145), Non-White (183), Asian (180)

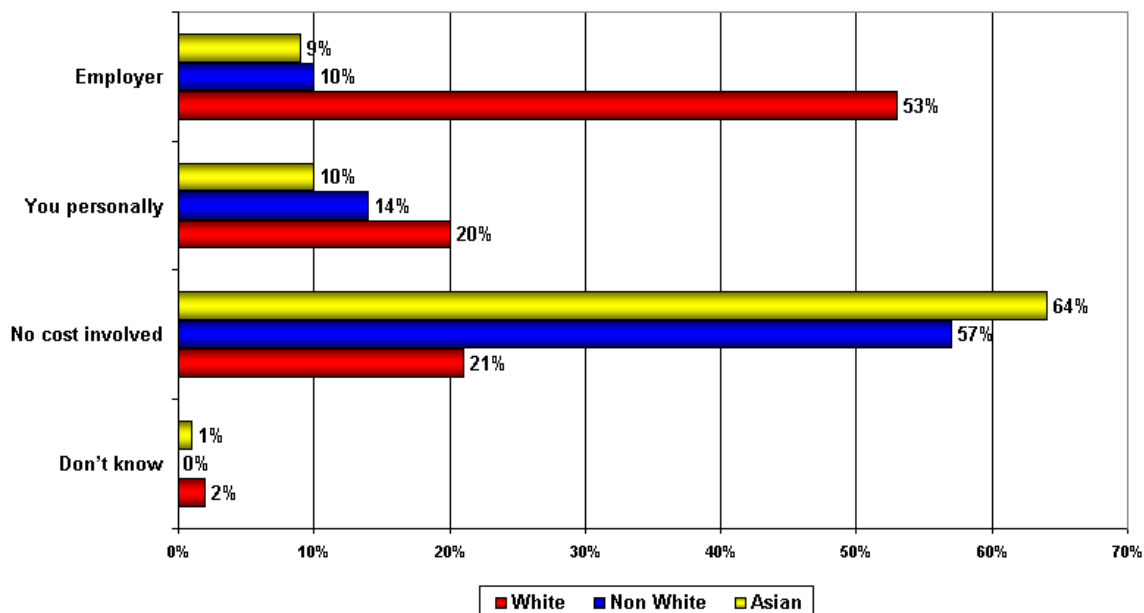
Q ref: Q43

Source: mruk 2003

## 6.5 Financing Training/Learning

In sub-analysing those who have undertaken training or learning within the last 12 months the survey estimates that just over half (53%) of White respondents had their training paid for by their employer. This figure decreases significantly to 10% amongst Non-White respondents and 9% of Asian respondents. Between 10% and 20% of respondents paid for the training/ learning personally. 10% of Asian respondents paid themselves compared to 20% White and 14% Non-White. 64% of Asian respondents had no cost associated with the training or learning, compared to just over half (57%) of Non-White respondents and under a quarter (21%) of White respondents.

**Figure 13: Who Paid for Training/Learning**



Base: Undertaken Training in Last Year: White (3,145), Non-White (183), Asian (180)

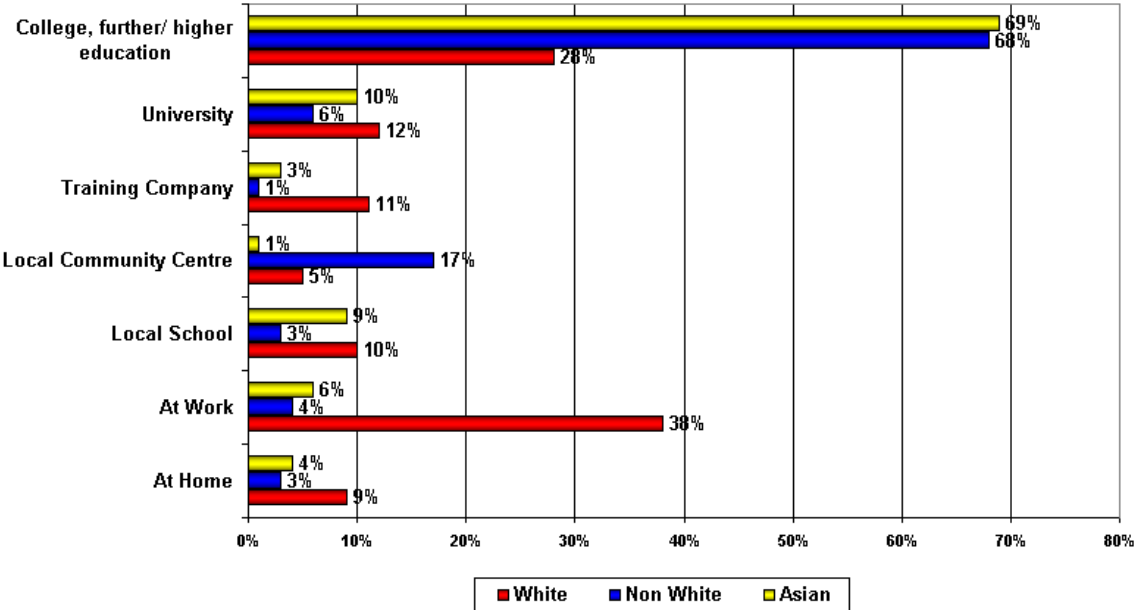
Q ref: Q44

Source: mruk 2003

### 6.6 Where Training/Learning Undertaken

38% of White respondents in employment undertook their training/ learning at work compared to 6% Asian and 4% Non-White respondents. The majority of Non-White (68%) and Asian (69%) respondents carried out their learning at College with a further 6% and 10% respectively at University. 28% of White respondents undertook their training/ learning at College and 12% at University.

Figure 14: Where Training/Learning Undertaken



Base: Undertaken Training in Last Year: White (3,145), Non-White (183), Asian (180)

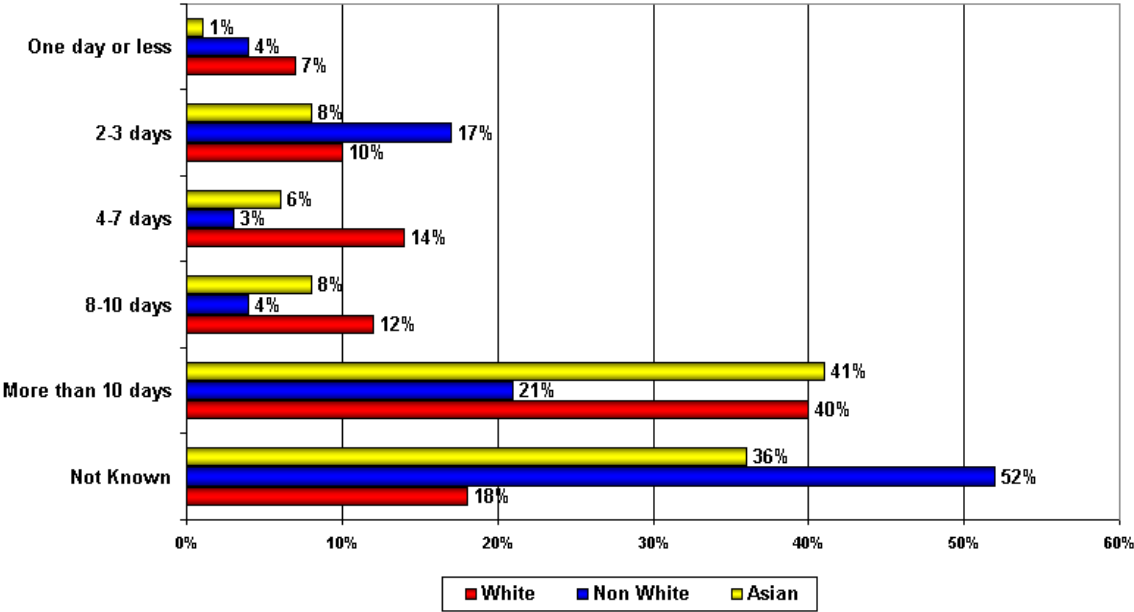
Q ref: Q45

Source: mruk 2003

### 6.7 Time Spent Training/Learning In Last 12 Months

More than 10 days in training or learning accounts for between 40% (Asian) and 41% (White) of respondents concerned. However, only 21% of Non-White respondents spent more than 10 days training in the last year.

**Figure 15: Days Spent Training In Last 12 Months**



Base: Undertaken Training in Last Year: White (3,145), Non-White (183), Asian (180)

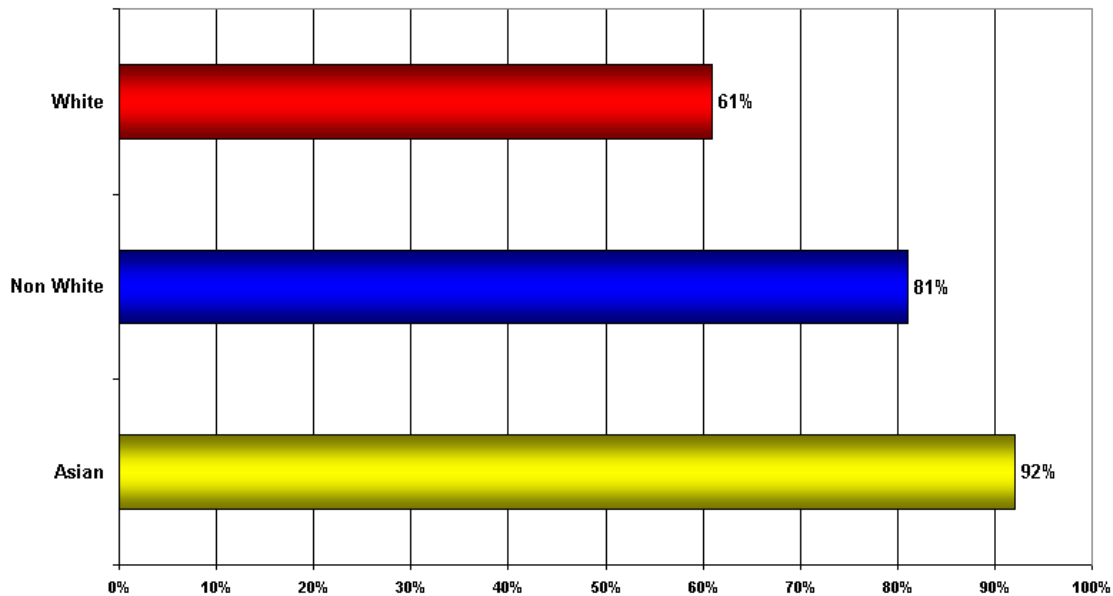
Q ref: Q46

Source: mruk 2003

## 6.8 Leading to Qualification?

61% of White respondents who have undertaken training/ learning in the last 12 months say it has been leading to a qualification. This figure increases amongst Non-White respondents to 81% and amongst Asian respondents to 92%.

**Figure 16: Training/Learning Leading To A Qualification?**



Base: Undertaken Training in Last Year: White (3,145), Non-White (183), Asian (180)

Q ref: Q47

Source: mruk 2003

## 6.9 Skills Needed

At this stage the survey sought to establish from all respondents the type of skills they felt they needed to develop over the next 12 months. The question was designed and framed to examine perceived needs for both work based skills development and personal skills development (ie for leisure or other reasons).

For both White respondents and Asian respondents, IT skills and use of computer packages was the highest work based skill which respondents needed to develop (9% for both). Work based practical skills were the second highest, with a higher percentage of White respondents than Asian (7% and 5% respectively). For Non-White respondents the work



based skill that they felt they needed to develop the most was practical skills (15%), the second most popular amongst Non-White respondents was IT skills and use of computer packages (10%). White and Non-White respondents also mentioned Management skills (6% and 8% respectively). Business skills and Foreign Language skills were suggested by 9% and 7% of Non-White respondents. Only 6% of White respondents felt they needed to develop Health and Safety skills in the work place.

Respondents' views differed only slightly with regard to personal skills they feel they need to develop. Again respondents from White and Asian backgrounds feel IT skills and the use of computer packages is the personal skill which they most need to develop (8% and 14%). 5% of Non-White respondents said this. For Non-White respondents, personal skills were the single highest proportion with 8% saying this, compared to only 1% for White and Asian respondents. Other personal skills respondents feel they need to develop include: Foreign language skills, Arts/crafts skills and Sports/ leisure and recreational skills (although no more than 6% specified any of these).

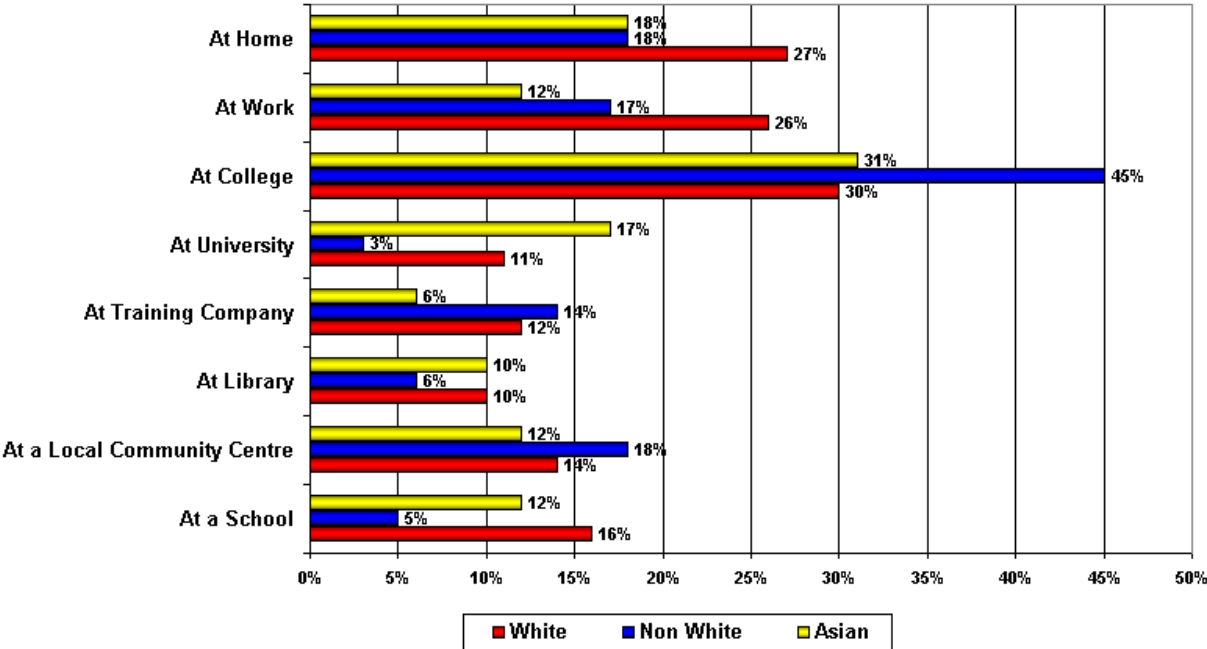
In relation to those who identified the need to develop IT skills/use of computer packages the primary skills requirements are estimated by the survey to include keyboard skills; develop knowledge of operating systems, programming, spreadsheet/accounting packages and database packages.

### 6.10 Where Prepared To Undertake Training/Learning?

All respondents to the survey were asked (thinking about both work and non-work related training or learning) in which of a series of pre-determined locations would they be prepared to undertake training/learning activities?

Taking account of those who said "none" or "don't know" the most popular location for respondents from all ethnic backgrounds is at a college. "At Home" tends to be the second most popular for each group. 26% of White respondents express a preference to undertake training at work, while comparably 17% of Non-White and 12% Asian would consider doing so. Preferences for other locations tend to be less than 18%.

**Figure 17: Where Prepared To Undertake Training/Learning**



Base: All Respondents: White (15,943), Non-White (409), Asian (617)

Q ref: Q51

Source: mruk 2003

## 6.11 Methods of Training/Learning

Respondents were also asked in which of those ways described in Figure 18 they would be prepared to undertake training or learning.

The most popular individual methods appear to be part-time courses (day and evening). For White and Non-White respondents "on the job" work based training or learning is also quite popular with 22% and 19% respectively, whilst only 5% of Asian respondents said the same. Part time courses during the day and evening each account for 24% of White respondents. Preferences for part time courses during the day account for 24% and 23% respectively for Non-White and Asian respondents.

**Figure 18: Methods of Training/Learning**

	White	Non-White	Asian
<b>Correspondence Course</b>	10%	9%	7%
<b>On Line</b>	12%	4%	2%
<b>Other Computer Based Learning</b>	9%	9%	8%
<b>Short Term, Full Time Course</b>	13%	6%	9%
<b>Full Time Course over longer period</b>	9%	15%	14%
<b>Seminars</b>	7%	4%	4%
<b>Part Time Course during the day</b>	24%	24%	23%
<b>Part Time Course in the evening</b>	24%	19%	10%
<b>Part Time Course at Weekend</b>	8%	3%	6%
<b>One the Job, at Work</b>	22%	19%	5%
<b>None</b>	34%	26%	46%
<b>Don't Know</b>	7%	8%	6%

Base: All Respondents: White (15,943), Non-White (409), Asian (617)

Q ref: Q52

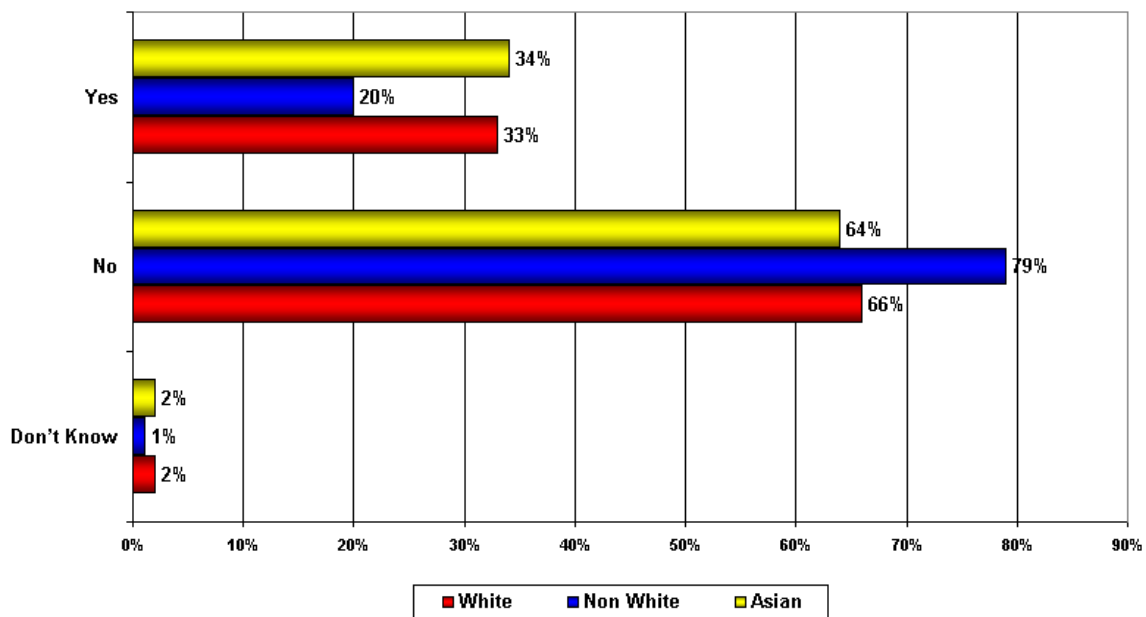
Source: mruk 2003

## 7. QUALIFICATIONS

### 7.1 Courses of Higher Education

The survey estimates that one third (33%) of White respondents and 34% of Asian respondents have at some time started a course of higher education that lasts at least one year full time or two years part time (eg a degree, diploma, HNC or other higher education qualification). This compares to 20% of other Non-White respondents. However, the majority of all ethnic backgrounds have never started a course in higher education and this appears highest among Non-White respondents (79%).

Figure 19: Ever Started Course of Higher Education?



Base: All Respondents: White (15,943), Non-White (409), Asian (617)

Q ref: Q53

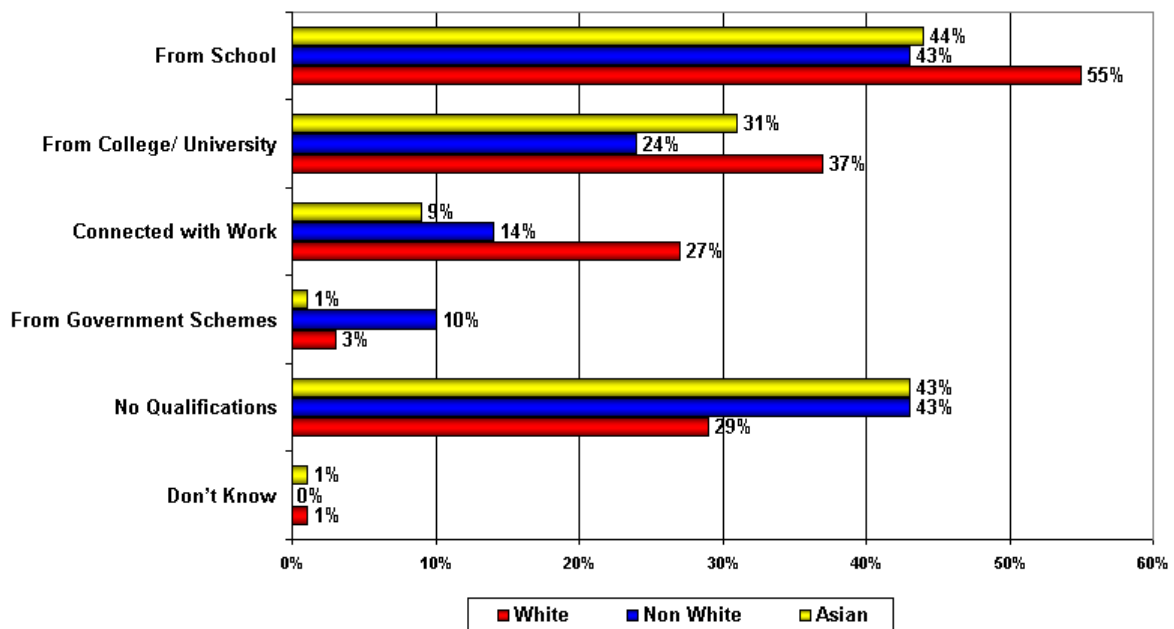
Source: mruk 2003

## 7.2 Current Qualifications

Just over half of respondents from a White background (55%) have a qualification obtained from School. This compares with 44% and 43% (respectively) for Asian and Non-White respondents. 31% of Asian respondents went on to gain a qualification from University or College, compared to 24% of other Non-White and 37% of those White respondents. 31% of Asian respondents went on to gain a qualification from University or College, compared to 24% of other Non-White and 37% of those White respondents.

A higher percentage of Asian and Non-White respondents (43% of each) have no qualifications at all compared to 29% of White respondents. Figure 20 illustrates findings accordingly.

**Figure 20: Current Qualifications**



Base: All Respondents: White (15,943), Non-White (409), Asian (617)

Q ref: Q54

Source: mruk 2003

Based on those who say they do have qualifications Figure 21 goes on to illustrate the range of qualifications held by those concerned within each of the ethnic groups.

**Figure 21: Type of Qualifications**

	White	Non-White	Asian
<b>Degree Level Qualification</b>	8%	13%	15%
<b>Diploma in higher education</b>	4%	2%	4%
<b>HNC/ HND</b>	5%	3%	1%
<b>ONC/ OND</b>	3%	2%	7%
<b>BTEC, BEC or TEC</b>	7%	4%	4%
<b>Teaching Qualification</b>	4%	2%	1%
<b>Nursing/ other medical qualification</b>	2%	2%	2%
<b>Other higher education qualification</b>	2%	5%	5%
<b>A Level/ vocational A Level or equivalent</b>	23%	19%	32%
<b>SCE Highers</b>	1%	-	-
<b>NVQ/ SVQ</b>	17%	28%	10%
<b>GNVQ/ GSVQ</b>	3%	0%	3%
<b>AS Level</b>	3%	0%	5%
<b>Certificate of sixth year studies or equivalent</b>	0%	-	2%
<b>O Level or equivalent</b>	29%	25%	16%
<b>SCE Standard/ Ordinary grade</b>	1%	-	1%
<b>GCSE</b>	40%	49%	48%
<b>CSE</b>	17%	7%	4%
<b>RSA</b>	10%	6%	2%
<b>City &amp; Guilds</b>	20%	10%	5%
<b>YT Certificate</b>	1%	-	2%
<b>Any other professional/ vocational/ foreign qualifications</b>	16%	11%	18%
<b>Don't Know</b>	3%	1%	5%

Base: Respondents With Qualifications: White (11,177), Non-White (234), Asian (348)

Q ref: Q55

Source: mruk 2003

### 7.3 NVQ Equivalence

Figure 22 below illustrates how the levels of qualifications held by the sample in each ethnic group equates to the various NVQ levels.

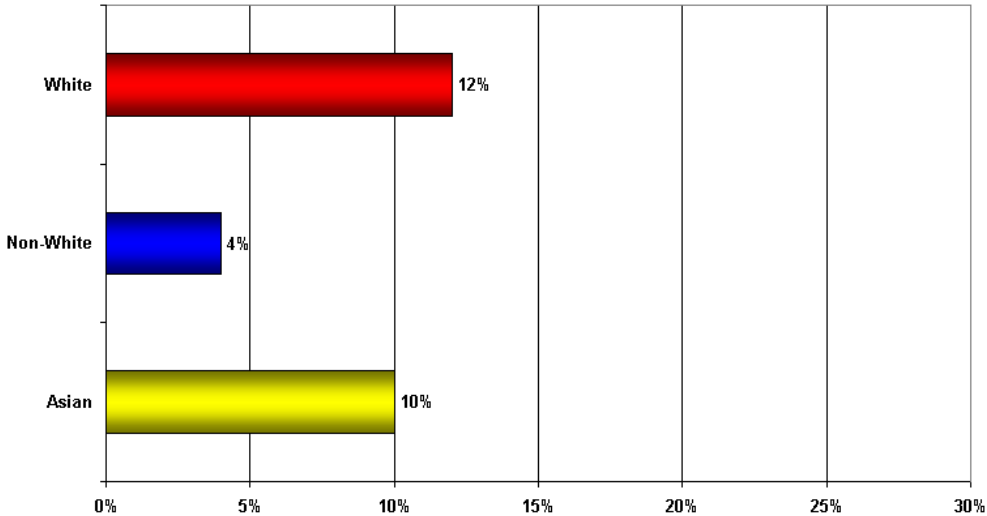
**Figure 22: NVQ Equivalence**

NVQ Level	White %	Non-White %	Asian %
NVQ Level 5	2	1	2
NVQ Level 4	14	13	11
NVQ Level 3	20	7	19
NVQ Level 2	13	14	6
NVQ Level 1	9	9	6
No Level	42	56	56

### 7.4 Trade Apprenticeship

All survey respondents were asked at this point if they are doing or have completed a recognised trade apprenticeship. 12% of White respondents replied in the affirmative compared to 10% Asian and 4% other Non-White respondents

**Figure 23: Doing/ Completed Recognised Trade Apprenticeship?**



Base: All

## 7.5 Language Skills

Nearly all White respondents speak English as their first language compared to 72% of Non-White respondents. This figure drops significantly to 46% among those Asian respondents. However, the table below highlights the most popular other languages spoken, either "fluently" or "quite well" by respondents. French is the single most popular second language for those respondents from a White and Non-White ethnic background. However, a range of Asian languages are spoken reflecting the range of Asian respondents to the survey.

**Figure 24: Other Languages Spoken Fluently or Quite Well**

Language Spoken	White %	Non-White %	Asian %
English	100	90	87
French	6	11	2
German	3	1	1
Gujarati	0	2	37
Urdu	0	0	31
Bengali	0	0	7
Hindi	0	0	42
Punjabi	0	0	26

Base: All Respondents: White (15,943), Non-White (409), Asian (617)

Q ref: Q83

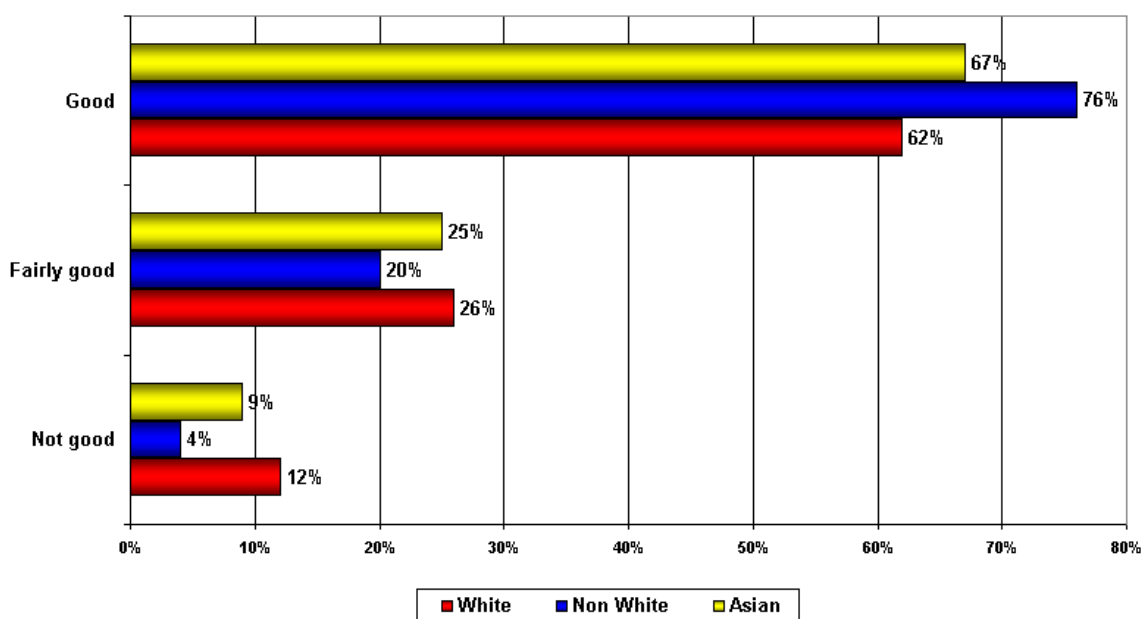
Source: mruk 2003



### 8.1 Respondent's Health

When asked how their health has been over the past 12 months, the majority of respondents replied that their health has been 'Good'. Sub analysis reveals that some 62% of White respondents said this whereas the figure rises amongst Asian respondents to 67% and increases further to 76% for other Non-White respondents. Around a quarter of all respondents replied that their health was "Fairly Good'. Very few Non-White respondents (4%) stated that their health has been 'Not Good', while 9% of Asian and 12% of White respondents replied in this way.

Figure 25: Respondent's Health Over The Past 12 Months



Base: All Respondents: White (15,943), Non-White (409), Asian (617)

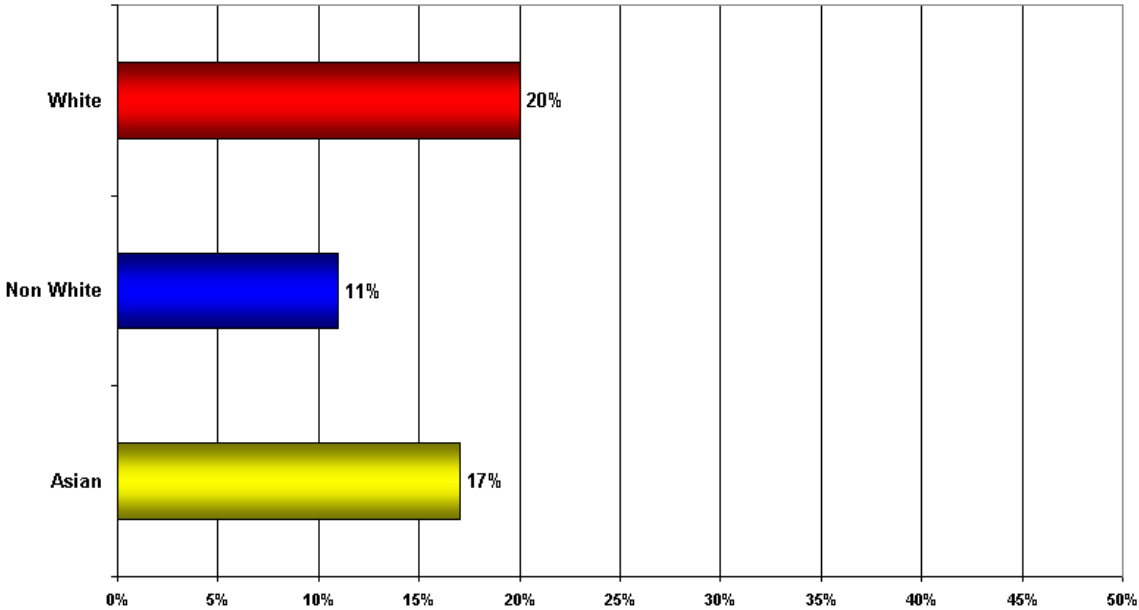
Q ref: Q84

Source: mruk 2003

## 8.2 How Respondent’s Health Affects Daily Activities and Work Undertaken

Respondents were asked if they have any long-term illness, health problems, or disability, which limits their daily activities or the work they can do. Some 20% of White respondents replied in the affirmative. This response falls to 17% in Asian respondents. The level of long-term illness/ disability appears to be lowest in Non-White respondents (11%).

**Figure 26: Long Term Illness or Health Problems that Limits Daily Activities or Work Undertaken**



Base: All Respondents: White (15,943), Non-White (409), Asian (617)

Q ref: Q85

Source: mruk 2003

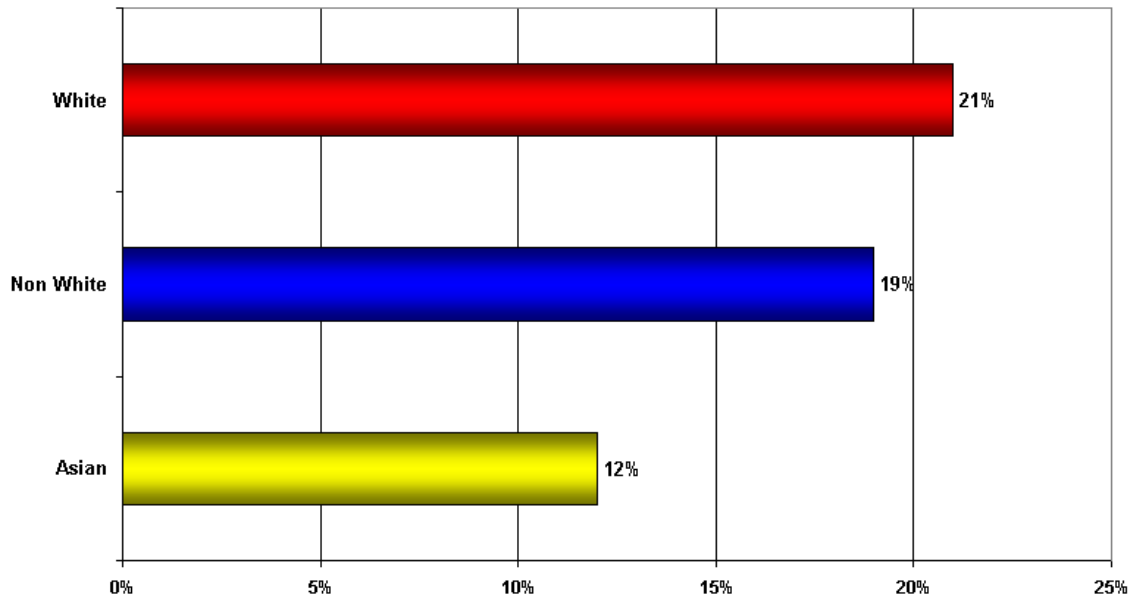
The survey estimates that between 5% - 11% of respondents experience problems (in terms of mobility) walking about. Similarly only 4% - 12% of the groups have any problems performing their "usual activities" (4% among Non-White respondents 11% White and 12% Asian respondents).

Questions with a relationship to mental health revealed 11% of White respondents suffering some degree of anxiety or depression compared to 12% Asian and 6% of other Non-White ethnic groups.

### 8.3 Smoking Prevalence

When asked whether they "smoke cigarettes at all nowadays" between 19% - 21% of both White and Non-White groups replied in the affirmative. This compares to a lower 12% of Asian respondents.

**Figure 27: Smoke Cigarettes Nowadays**



Base: All Respondents: White (15,943), Non-White (409), Asian (617)

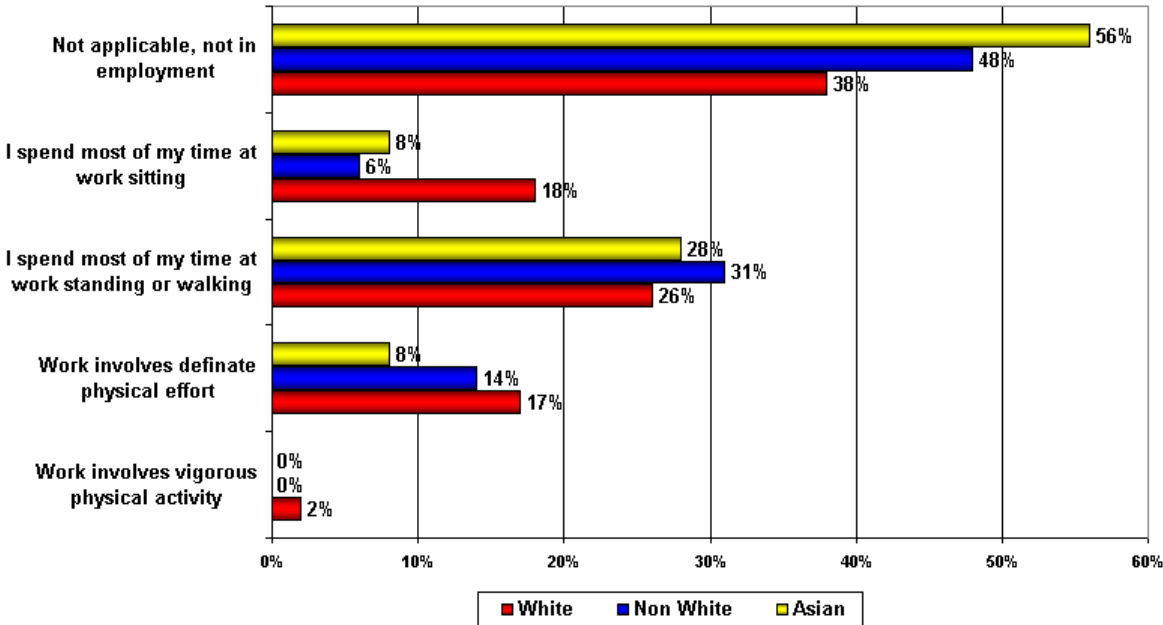
Q ref: Q88

Source: mruk 2003

### 8.4 Amount Of Physical Activity Involved In Work

As shown below, taking account of those who are not in employment, the highest proportion of overall respondents 'spend most of their time standing or walking at work'. 18% of White respondents 'spend most of their time at work sitting' compared to 8% Asian and 6% Non-White respondents. 17% of White respondents say their work involves 'definite physical effort', with only 2% undertaking 'vigorous activity'. Fewer Asian respondents' work involves definite physical exercise (8%) when compared to White or other Non-White respondents.

**Figure 28: Amount Of Physical Activity Involved In Work**



Base: All Respondents: White (15,943), Non-White (409), Asian (617)

Q ref: Q92

Source: mruk 2003

## 9. SOCIAL CAPITAL/ COMMUNITY ISSUES

### 9.1 Importance of criteria for securing safe community in area

When asked to list criteria in order of importance for securing a safe community in their local area, of the total responses ‘dealing with anti-social behaviour’ and ‘good employment opportunities’ are most commonly stated. The following figures provide tabular analysis of respondents for 1st, 2nd and 3rd priorities. Whilst perceptions of the White and Asian sub-groups are broadly similar there is a notable variation in some of the views expressed by the other Non-White groups.

**Figure 29: Importance for securing safe community in area - 1st Priority**

	White	Non-White	Asian
<b>Good employment opportunities</b>	15%	33%	16%
<b>Strong sense of community</b>	10%	10%	11%
<b>Dealing with Anti Social behaviour</b>	26%	22%	16%
<b>Schooling</b>	11%	6%	13%
<b>Safe well lit streets</b>	9%	6%	7%
<b>Local health provision</b>	5%	5%	5%
<b>Decent housing</b>	6%	11%	14%
<b>Land use and planning decisions</b>	1%	0%	1%
<b>Sport and leisure facilities for young people</b>	7%	6%	5%
<b>Safe roads</b>	8%	1%	8%

Base: All Respondents: White (15,943), Non-White (409), Asian (617)

Q ref: Q94

Source: mruk 2003

‘Dealing with anti-social behaviour’ and ‘good employment opportunities’ were also prominent in relation to the second priority. However ‘safe well-lit streets’, ‘Strong sense of community’, ‘local health provision’ and ‘Schooling’ also featured fairly highly with regard to the second priority.

**Figure 30: Importance for securing safe community in area – 2nd Priority**

	White	Non-White	Asian
<b>Good employment opportunities</b>	10%	16%	7%
<b>Strong sense of community</b>	8%	11%	12%
<b>Dealing with Anti Social behaviour</b>	18%	20%	8%
<b>Schooling</b>	11%	7%	16%
<b>Safe well lit streets</b>	11%	18%	13%
<b>Local health provision</b>	6%	8%	14%
<b>Decent housing</b>	8%	6%	9%
<b>Land use and planning decisions</b>	1%	1%	2%
<b>Sport and leisure facilities for young people</b>	9%	5%	6%
<b>Safe roads</b>	9%	6%	4%

Base: All Respondents: White (15,943), Non-White (409), Asian (617)

Q ref: Q94

Source: mruk 2003

A similar profile emerges for the most common overall 3rd priority. However 'dealing with 'anti-social behaviour' was only regarded as a high priority for White and Asian respondents. White and Non-White respondents regarded 'Sport and leisure facilities for young people' as a relatively important third priority for securing a safe community in the area (12% and 28% respectively). This was mentioned by only 4% of Asian respondents. 'Safe roads' and 'decent housing' were also regarded fairly highly as a third priority across the three ethnic groups.

**Figure 31: Importance for securing safe community in area – 3rd Priority**

	White	Non-White	Asian
<b>Good employment opportunities</b>	10%	7%	9%
<b>Strong sense of community</b>	10%	5%	3%
<b>Dealing with Anti Social behaviour</b>	13%	5%	12%
<b>Schooling</b>	9%	19%	8%
<b>Safe well lit streets</b>	8%	11%	10%
<b>Local health provision</b>	6%	4%	8%
<b>Decent housing</b>	9%	11%	11%
<b>Land use and planning decisions</b>	2%	0%	1%
<b>Sport and leisure facilities for young people</b>	12%	28%	4%
<b>Safe roads</b>	11%	8%	16%

Base: All Respondents: White (15,943), Non-White (409), Asian (617)

Q ref: Q94

Source: mruk 2003

## 9.2 Ease of Access To Amenities

The extent to which respondents in each of the ethnic groups find it easy or difficult to access a range of key services and amenities is illustrated in Figure 32 below.

The difference with the respondent categories is fairly minor with regard to access all key services and amenities. In the broadest terms therefore, findings do indicate that the majority of respondents (in each category) find it relatively easy to access the services/ amenities specified. No more than 6% of each ethnic group find it difficult to access any of the services or amenities.

**Figure 32: Ease of Getting To...**

<b>Doctors Surgery</b>	<b>White</b>	<b>Non-White</b>	<b>Asian</b>
<b>Very difficult</b>	2%	1%	0%
<b>Fairly difficult</b>	4%	1%	6%
<b>Neither/ nor</b>	2%	1%	1%
<b>Fairly easy</b>	24%	19%	27%
<b>Very easy</b>	68%	78%	66%
<b>Don't know</b>	0%	0%	1%

<b>Post Office</b>	<b>White</b>	<b>Non-White</b>	<b>Asian</b>
<b>Very difficult</b>	1%	1%	0%
<b>Fairly difficult</b>	2%	1%	1%
<b>Neither/ nor</b>	1%	0%	1%
<b>Fairly easy</b>	21%	19%	22%
<b>Very easy</b>	75%	79%	77%
<b>Don't know</b>	0%	0%	0%

<b>Public Transport</b>	<b>White</b>	<b>Non-White</b>	<b>Asian</b>
<b>Very difficult</b>	2%	0%	3%
<b>Fairly difficult</b>	4%	1%	5%
<b>Neither/ nor</b>	5%	5%	2%
<b>Fairly easy</b>	22%	18%	20%
<b>Very easy</b>	63%	76%	69%
<b>Don't know</b>	5%	1%	1%

<b>Library</b>	<b>White</b>	<b>Non-White</b>	<b>Asian</b>
<b>Very difficult</b>	2%	1%	1%
<b>Fairly difficult</b>	5%	3%	3%
<b>Neither/ nor</b>	5%	2%	3%
<b>Fairly easy</b>	26%	21%	27%
<b>Very easy</b>	59%	71%	60%
<b>Don't know</b>	3%	2%	6%

<b>Fresh Fruit &amp; Veg Shop</b>	<b>White</b>	<b>Non-White</b>	<b>Asian</b>
<b>Very difficult</b>	1%	1%	0%
<b>Fairly difficult</b>	3%	3%	1%
<b>Neither/ nor</b>	2%	0%	1%
<b>Fairly easy</b>	22%	19%	23%
<b>Very easy</b>	72%	77%	74%
<b>Don't know</b>	0%	0%	1%

Base: All Respondents: White (15,943), Non-White (409), Asian (617)

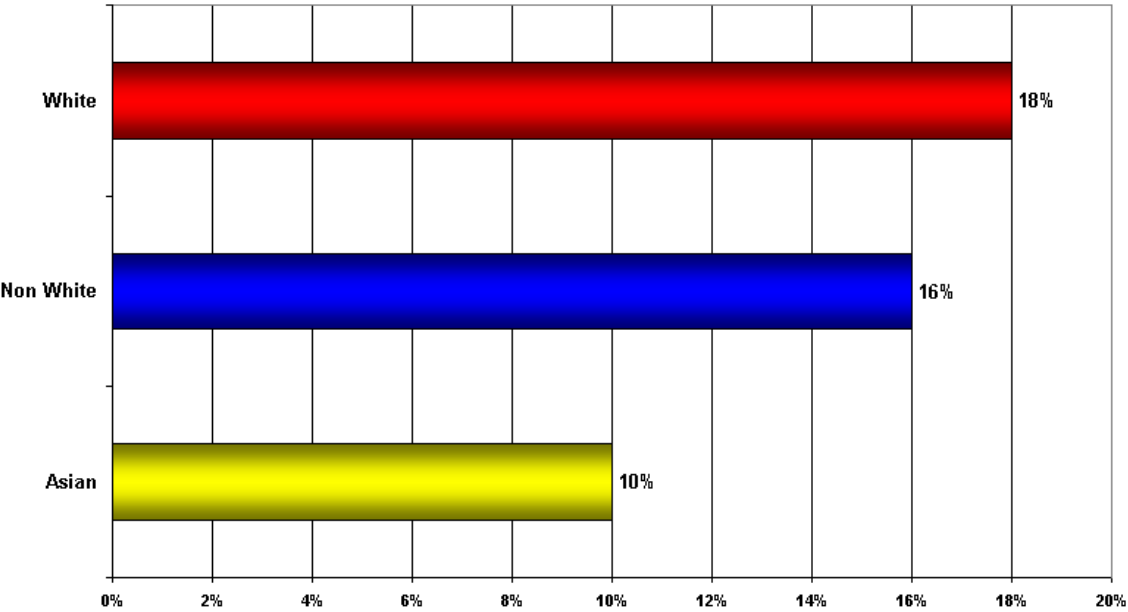
Q ref: Q95

Source: mruk 2003

### 9.3 Unpaid Voluntary Work

As illustrated below, between 10% and 18% of each of the respondent groups were involved in unpaid, voluntary work during the past year. This figure is the highest amongst White respondents (18%) and drops to 16% for Non-White. This figure is lowest amongst Asian respondents at 10%. Voluntary, unpaid or community activities were deemed to include charity work; church activities; play groups; resident associations; school related associations or other types of activity for voluntary organisations.

**Figure 33: Involved in Unpaid, Voluntary Work Last Year**



Base: All Respondents: White (15,943), Non-White (409), Asian (617)

Q ref: Q96

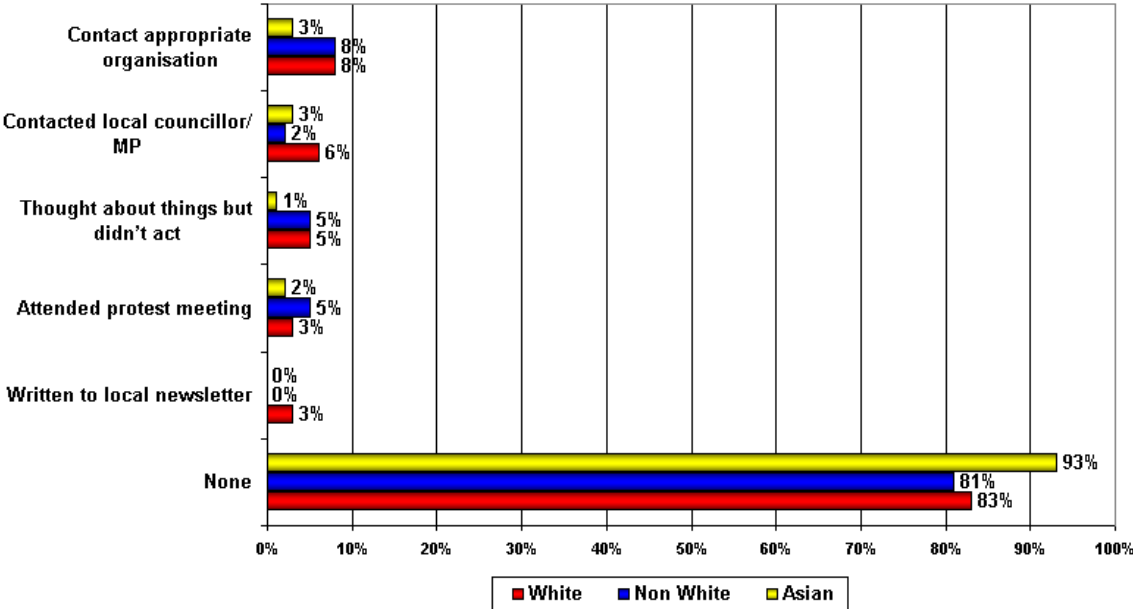
Source: mruk 2003



### 9.4 Local Problem Solving

Overall the majority of respondents have not taken or considered taking specific actions in an attempt to solve a local problem. Between 81% and 93% of respondents did nothing in an attempt to solve a local problem. The figure was highest amongst Asian respondents (93%), followed by White respondents (83%) and slightly less for Non-White respondents (81%). Of those who have attempted to solve a problem, the most common action among White and Non-White respondents is to contact an appropriate organisation (8% for both). Other actions do not feature so prominently although provide indicators over how respondents do react to local problem solving.

**Figure 34: Attempt to Solve Problem**



Base: All Respondents: White (15,943), Non-White (409), Asian (617)

Q ref: Q97

Source: mruk 2003

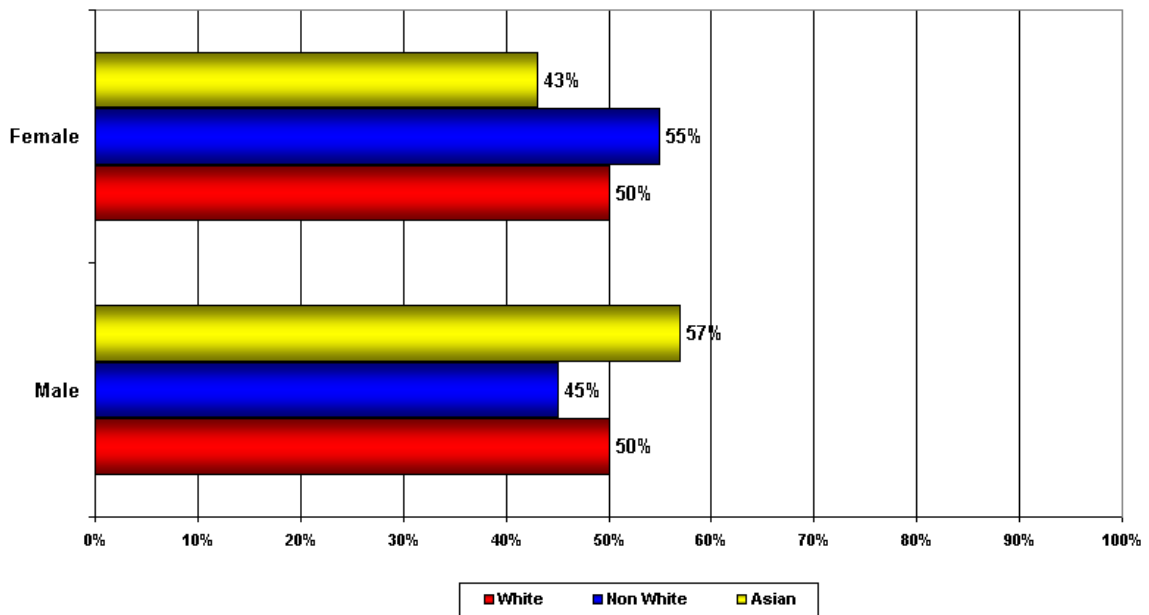
# 10. RESPONDENT CHARACTERISTICS

## 10.1 Respondent Gender

The key characteristics of survey respondents overall is illustrated in the principal regional summary reports. However, for purposes of comparison between the sub-groups key characteristics are sub-analysed in this section.

The gender of individual respondents varied slightly between each ethnic group. The split between male and female respondents was even at 50/50 for White respondents. More Asian male respondents took part in the survey than female. This compares to Non-White respondents, where 55% of the respondents were female and only 45% were male.

**Figure 35: Gender of Respondent**



Base: All Respondents: White (15,943), Non-White (409), Asian (617)

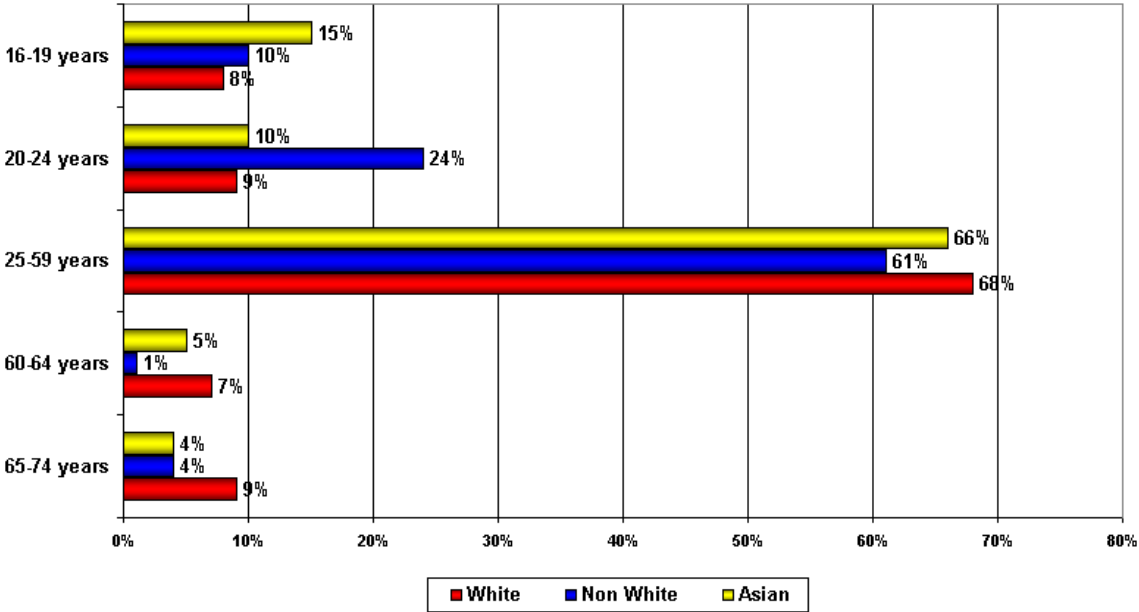
Q ref: Q100

Source: mruk 2003

## 10.2 Age of Respondent

Figure 36 below provides an analysis of the age bands into which respondents fall. Invariably, the vast majority of all respondents fall into the 25-59 years age band. However, in proportionate terms (as indicated earlier in this report) a higher level of Asian and other Non-White respondents aged under 24 years took part than the equivalent White age group.

**Figure 36: Age of Respondent**



Base: All Respondents: White (15,943), Non-White (409), Asian (617)

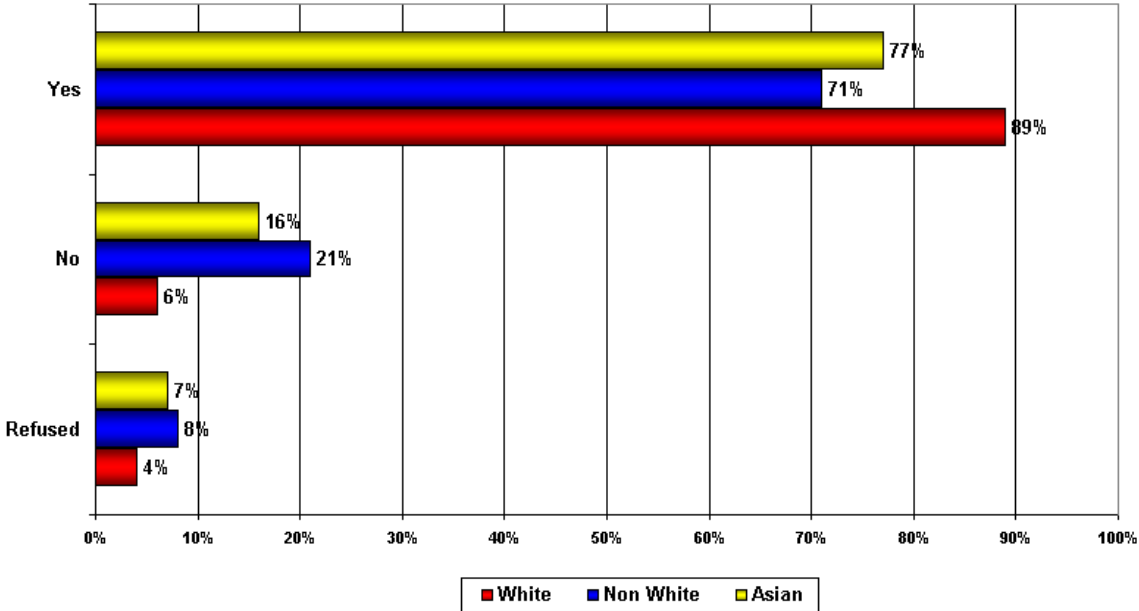
Q ref: Q100

Source: mruk 2003

**10.3 Bank or Building Society Account**

When asked if they have a bank or building society account of any kind, over 70% of respondents in each age group replied in the affirmative. However, there is some variation, and figure 38 below shows that more White respondents (89%) have a bank or building society account than those respondents in the Asian and other Non-White ethnic groups (77% and 71% respectively).

**Figure 37: Bank or Building Society Account**



Base: All Respondents: White (15,943), Non-White (409), Asian (617)

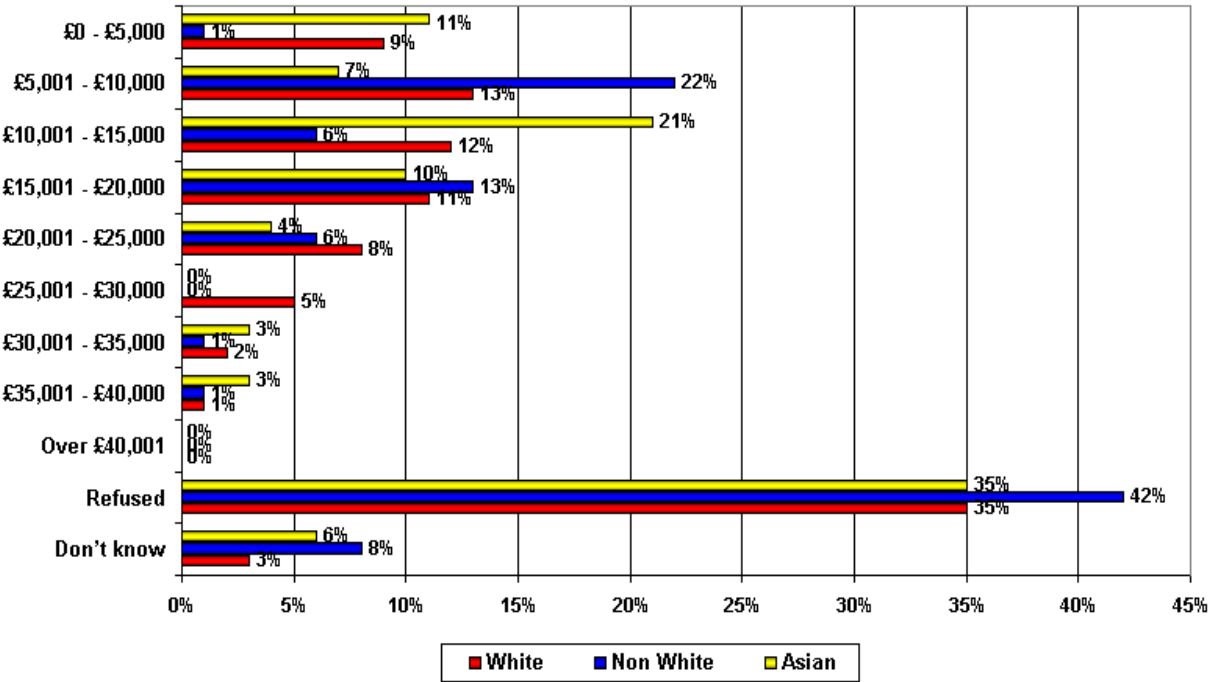
Q ref: Q102

Source: mruk 2003

### 10.4 Gross Annual Income

In examining the income characteristics of the respondent sub-groups who are in employment, the profile does show some variation. Few respondents actually stated that they earned £35,001 or above, and only 7% of White respondents say they earn between £25,001 and £35,000, compared to 1% of Non-White and 3% Asian respondents. A small percentage of respondents did not know their gross annual income. Around one third of White and Asian respondents (35% for both) refused to say which income band they fall into, compared to 42% of Non-White respondents who refused. It is our experience in conducting large scale surveys with income questions that reluctance to divulge income is increasing with higher income levels regularly under represented. However, of those giving income details it is apparent that higher proportions of BME groups fall into lower income bands (ie less than £15,000 per annum) than their White counterparts.

**Figure 38: Gross Annual Income**



Base: All Respondents: White (15,943), Non-White (409), Asian (617)

Q ref: Q103

Source: mruk 2003

## 10.5 Sources of Income In Past Month

As illustrated below, the majority of respondents derive their income from paid employment. The next most common source of income is from Child benefit. However, consistent with income levels it appears that Asian and other Non-White groups have a higher dependency on benefits than the White sub-group.

**Figure 39: Sources of Income**

	White	Non-White	Asian
<b>Paid Employment</b>	58%	50%	38%
<b>Interest/ Dividends on Savings/ Shares</b>	11%	3%	2%
<b>Pension from Employment</b>	10%	1%	4%
<b>Retirement/ Widows Pension</b>	10%	2%	5%
<b>Jobseekers Allowance</b>	3%	6%	3%
<b>Family Tax Credit</b>	5%	6%	11%
<b>Housing Benefit</b>	10%	29%	14%
<b>Council Tax Benefit</b>	12%	27%	19%
<b>Income Support</b>	8%	23%	10%
<b>Incapacity Allowance</b>	3%	3%	2%
<b>Disability Living Allowance</b>	4%	0%	2%
<b>Disability Working Allowance</b>	0%	0%	0%
<b>Attendance Allowance</b>	1%	0%	1%
<b>Childcare Tax Credit</b>	2%	1%	4%
<b>Child Benefit</b>	22%	43%	26%
<b>Other Benefit/ Allowances</b>	4%	7%	14%

Base: All Respondents: White (15,943), Non-White (409), Asian (617)

Q ref: Q105

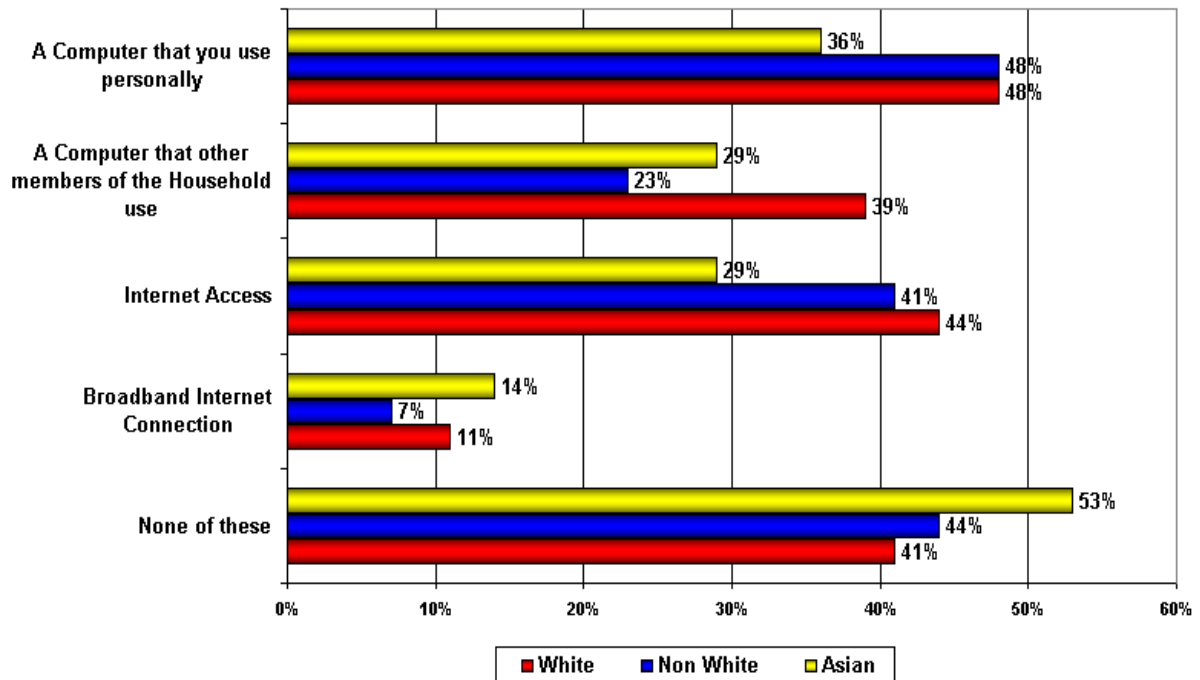
Source: mruk 2003

## 10.6 Computer/ Internet Access In The Home

Finally, in relation to findings in this particular themed report, there is some variation between respondents when examining computer/ internet access in the home. 48% of both White and Non-White respondents say they have ‘a computer that they personally use at home’. Only 36% of Asian respondents have a personal computer at home. The percentage of respondents who have Internet access is highest amongst White respondents (44%). However, 41% of Non-White respondents also have Internet access. With regard to Asian respondents, this figure drops significantly to 29%. Only a small percentage of respondents have a ‘Broadband connection for Internet’, however this is not available in large areas of the East Midlands particularly in rural locations.

It is notable that over half (53%) of Asian respondents do not have any computer based information and communication technology in their homes. This compares to 44% of Non-White respondents and 41% of White respondents.

**Figure 40: ICT Items in the Home**



Base: All Respondents: White (15,943), Non-White (409), Asian (617)

Q ref: Q106

Source: mruk 2003

## 11. CONCLUDING COMMENT

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The purpose of this themed report has been to draw from the survey and present comparative analysis of findings for White, Non-White and Asian respondents. Findings must though be considered in the context of the significantly higher sample of White respondents that does provide for very robust analysis. While overall sample levels of the BME groups provide for acceptable levels of confidence the gap widens when undertaking sub-analysis (for example when examining those employed/ unemployed).

Taking this into account it is possible to identify variations which may warrant further consideration particularly some of those related to training for current employment and wider participation in training and learning.

Further sub-analysis of the BME groups within the context of the survey should be sensitive to age and particularly the higher proportion of younger aged respondents when compared to the White sub-group. This will impact upon variations that are notable in relation to training and qualifications.

Other but nonetheless important variations linked to language, writing and mathematical skills are perhaps more obvious and self evident.

Finally, some evidence also emerges from the survey of support for national trends that indicate BME groups are proportionately more highly represented in lower income categories.