

A group of Black people, including men, women, and children, are gathered around a baby wrapped in a blanket. They are all smiling and looking at the baby with affection. The scene is intimate and joyful, set in a brightly lit indoor space. A semi-transparent green rectangular overlay is positioned in the lower half of the image, containing white text.

CVR Insights

**THE BLACK
COMMUNITY &
HUMAN RIGHTS**



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Authors & Acknowledgements

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We would also like to thank all the people who participated in our interviews and those who completed our poll. Without their views, thoughts and opinions, we would not have the extremely helpful insights to write this report.

We would also like to extend our thanks to our team member: **Burphy Zumu** for his support within this research project, and his commitment to ensuring the project was managed effectively.

Our special thanks goes to **The Rt Hon Harriet Harman QC MP**, Chair of the Joint Committee on Human Rights and by extension the parliamentary clerks; **George Webber**, **Lucinda Maer**, **Katherine Hill** and **Shabana Gulma** for their assistance and ensuring an ease in communication regarding the project.



I'm
rooting
for
everybody
Black.

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POLLING

Polling

ClearView Research were commissioned by the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Human Rights to support the Committee with its aim to better understand the views, attitudes and perceptions of people from the black community in the UK, in relation to their human rights.

Given that there is no strong evidence base to confidently answer the questions that the Committee were interested in asking, this research is the first of its kind in the UK.

We conducted our field work from July 29th to August 12th 2020. Separate to our polling, we also interviewed people from the black community, as part of our fieldwork.



METHODOLOGY

Methodology

Recruitment Approach

In order to achieve our representative sample size, we utilised our existing database which has thousands of people from the black community, who have taken part in previous research studies. We also worked closely with our local partner organisations to support with poll recruitment. All participants completed the poll online in real-time across mobile, desktop and tablet devices.

Population Weighting

In order to ensure that the population polled was an accurate representation of the UK population, we applied sample and statistical weighting.

Sample Weighting

We used known population estimates for England and Wales from the 2011 census data to calculate the proportion of responses we should aim to get from different population groups. We did not apply weighting specific to the nations, as this would attribute greater weight to the responses from these nations and due to smaller sample sizes may skew the data. Instead the weights calculated for England and Wales were applied to all poll responses. We weighted the sample on ethnicity, age and gender.

Ethnicity

	% of total population	% of black population
Black - African	0.70%	23.33%
Black - Caribbean	0.70%	23.33%
Black - Other	1.60%	53.33%
Total	3.00%	100.00%

Due to limited data on the breakdown of ethnicity we were only able to calculate the number of people we needed to recruit from three broad ethnicity groups: Black African, Black Caribbean and Black Other. For the purposes of the poll, we offered a wider range of ethnicity options for people to choose from, but for the purposes of weighting we were limited to these groups.

Age

	Total in black population	% in black population
16 to 17	86,437	5.15%
18 to 24	283,418	16.88%
25 to 29	192,225	11.45%
30 to 39	374,981	22.33%
40 to 49	382,611	22.79%
50 to 59	186,739	11.12%
60 to 69	77,905	4.64%
70 to 79	68,983	4.11%
80 and over	25,853	1.54%
Total	1,679,152	100.00%

The population of each age group in England and Wales was calculated specific to black people.

Methodology

Gender

	Number in black population	% of black population
Males	1,192,800	48.54%
Females	1,264,779	51.46%
Total	2,457,579	100.00%

The population of males and females in England and Wales was calculated specific to black people. Unfortunately, there are no known population figures for other genders and therefore we were not able to apply weighting related to these.

Number of Poll Responses by each Demographic Group

Fig. 1: Ages of the Respondents

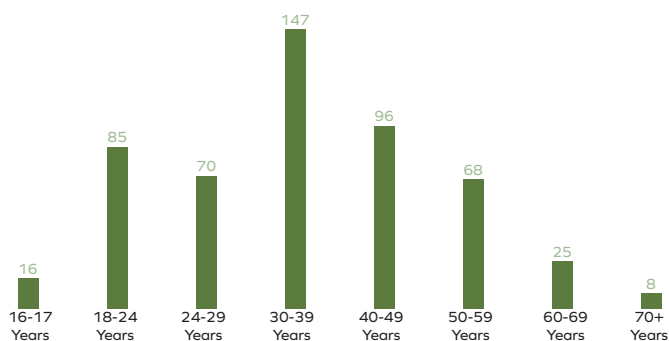


Fig. 2: Respondents with a Disability



Fig. 3: Genders of the Respondents

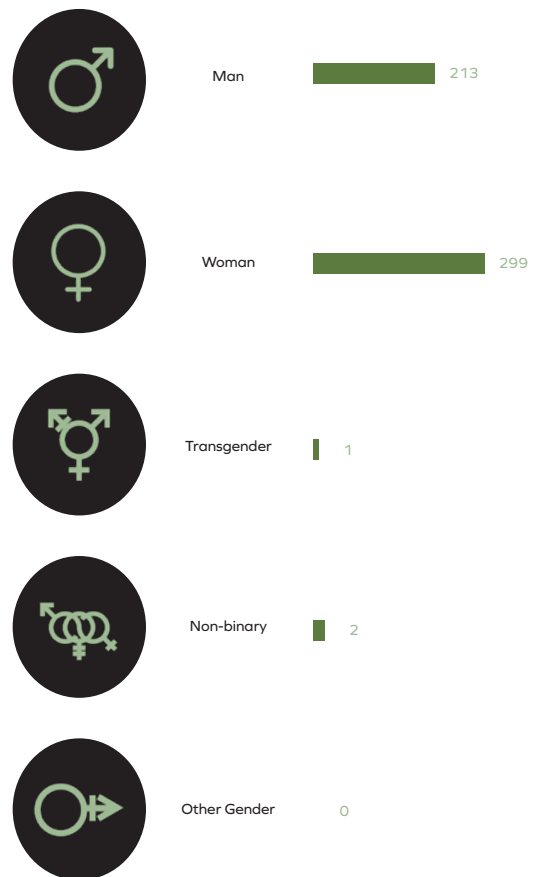
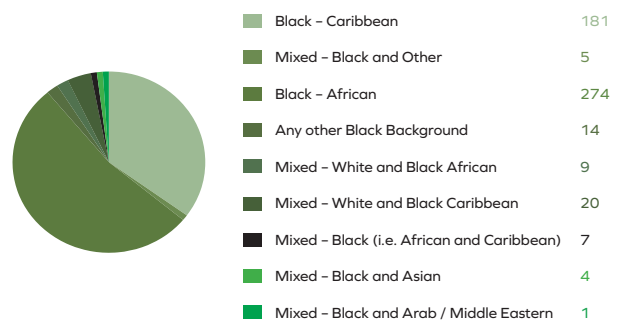


Fig. 4: Ethnicities of the Respondents



Methodology

Fig. 5: Educational Attainment of the Respondents

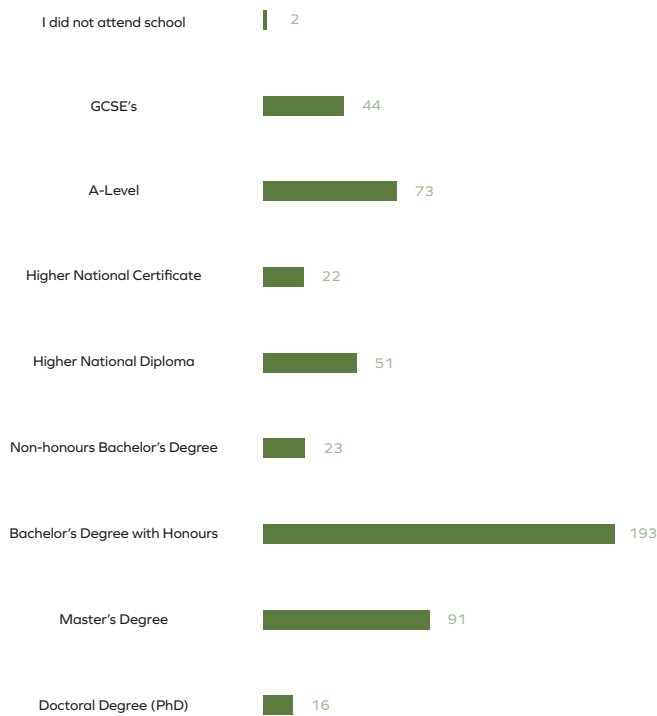


Fig. 7: Location of the Respondents

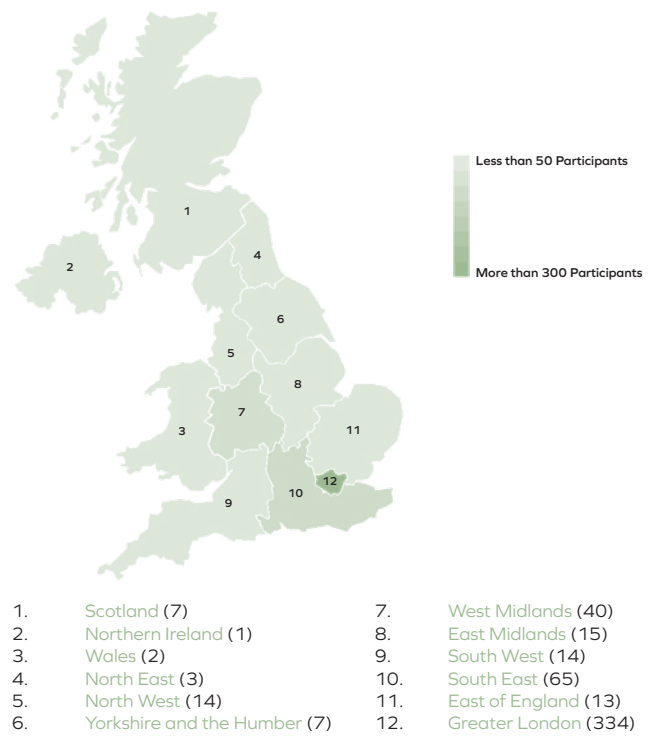
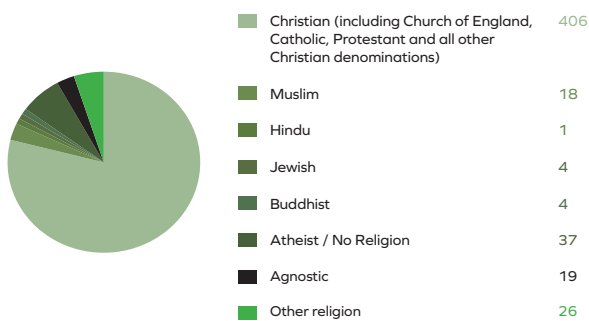


Fig. 6: Religious Beliefs of the Respondents



Statistical Weighting

Our sample (515 unweighted) is of a sufficient size to represent the views of the UK's black community with a statistical margin of error of ± 5 points.

Ethnicity

	% of total population	% of black population
Black - African	0.70%	23.33%
Black - Caribbean	0.70%	23.33%
Black - Other	1.60%	53.33%
Total	3.00%	100.00%

Methodology

	Number in sample	% in sample
Black - African	181	35.00%
Black - Caribbean	274	53.00%
Black - Other	59	11.40%
Total	514	99.4

Adjustment weighting	
Black Caribbean	0.67
Black African	0.44
Black - Other	4.68

Adjustment weighting	
16 to 17	1.66
18 to 24	1.03
25 to 29	0.85
30 to 39	0.79
40 to 49	1.23
50 to 59	0.84
60 to 69	0.97
70 to 79	2.74
80 and over	1

Age

	Total in black population	% in black population
16 to 17	86,437	5.15%
18 to 24	283,418	16.88%
25 to 29	192,225	11.45%
30 to 39	374,981	22.33%
40 to 49	382,611	22.79%
50 to 59	186,739	11.12%
60 to 69	77,905	4.64%
70 to 79	68,983	4.11%
80 and over	25,853	1.54%
Total	1,679,152	100.00%

	Number in sample	% in sample
16 to 17	16	3.10%
18 to 24	85	16.40%
25 to 29	70	13.50%
30 to 39	147	28.40%
40 to 49	96	18.60%
50 to 59	68	13.20%
60 to 69	25	4.80%
70 to 79	8	1.50%
Total	515	99.60%

Gender

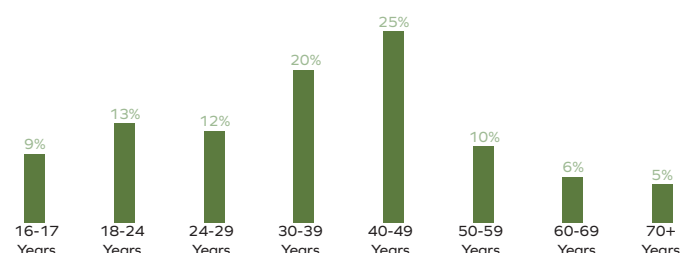
	Number in black population	% of black population
Males	1,192,800	48.54%
Females	1,264,779	51.46%

	Number in sample	% in sample
Males	213	41.20%
Females	299	57.80%

Adjustment weighting	
Male	1.18
Female	0.89
Other	1.00

Percentage of Weighted Poll Responses by each Demographic Group

Fig. 8: Ages of the Respondents



Methodology

Fig. 9: Respondents with a Disability



Fig. 10: Genders of the Respondents



Fig. 11: Ethnicities of the Respondents

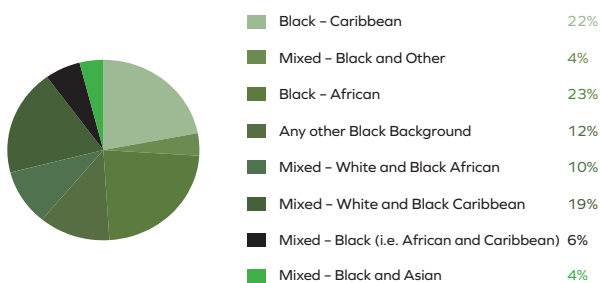


Fig. 12: Educational Attainment of the Respondents

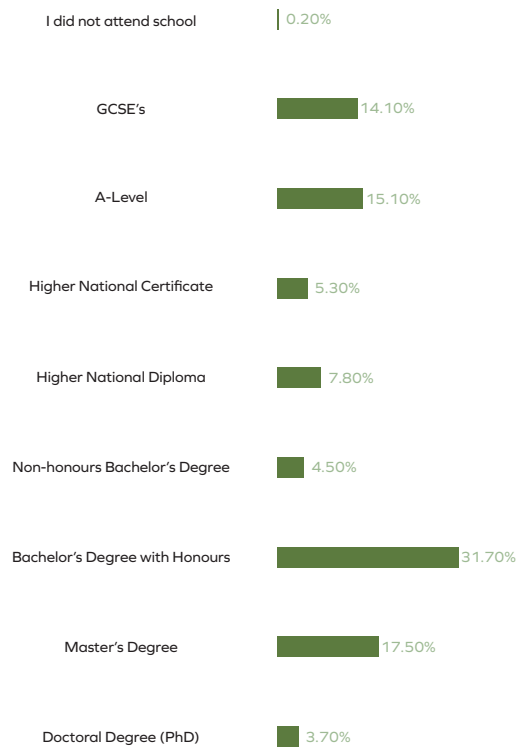
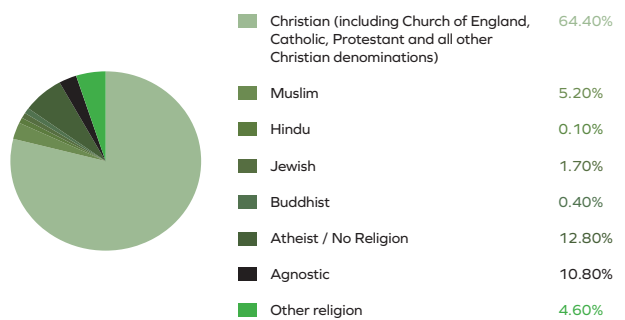
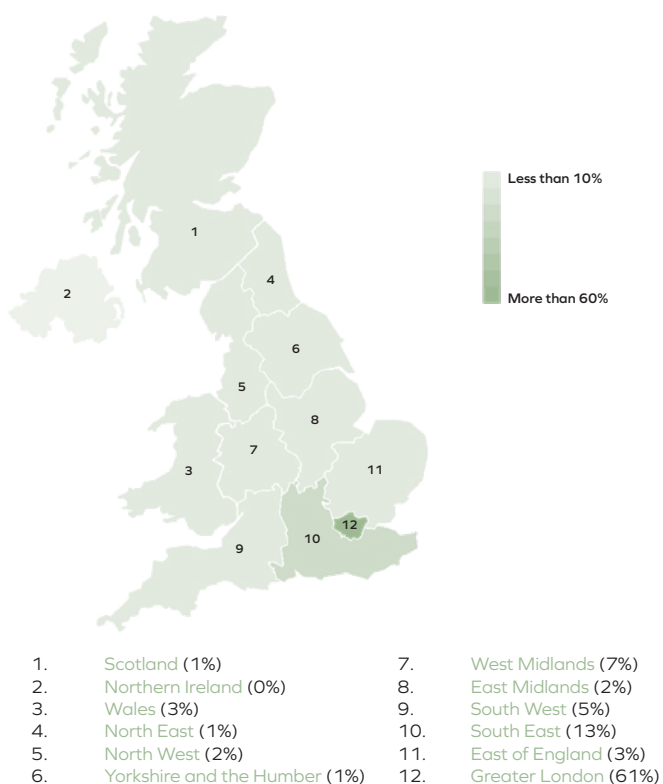


Fig. 13: Religious Beliefs of the Respondents



Methodology

Fig. 14: Location of the Respondents





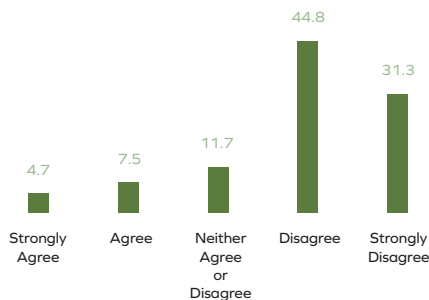
KEY FINDINGS

Key Findings

1. The majority of black people in the UK do not believe their human rights are equally protected compared to white people¹

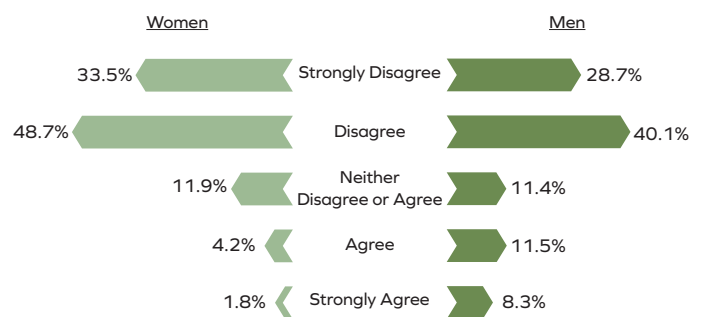
Over 75% of black people do not agree that their human rights are equally protected compared to white people in the UK. Some of the reasons for this were explored in interviews and reasons such as unequal treatment in education, employment and crime were raised.

Fig. 15: Percentage of respondents who believe as a black person, their human rights are equally protected compared to white people in the UK



2. Black women are less likely to believe their human rights are protected²

Fig. 16: “As a black person, I believe that my human rights are equally protected compared to white people in the UK”



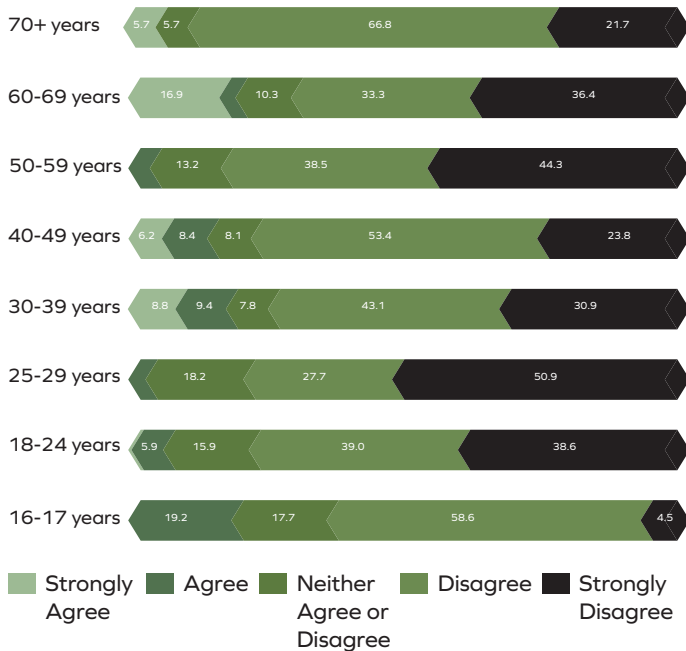
While the majority of both men and women do not believe their human rights are equally protected compared to white people in the UK, this is felt more strongly by women. **More men (over 15%) are likely to agree that their human rights are equally protected compared to women (less than 5%).**

3. The majority of black people across all ages do not believe their human rights are equally protected compared to white people in the UK

While there is variation across age groups, over 50% of those within each age group disagree or strongly disagree with the statement ‘As a black person, I believe that my human rights are equally protected compared to white people in the UK.’

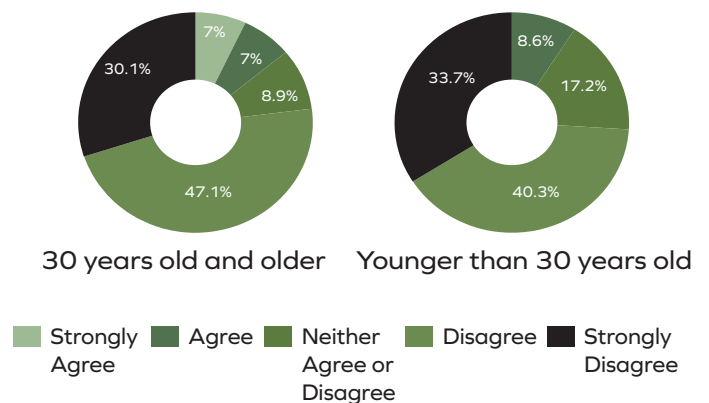
Key Findings

Fig. 17: Percentage of respondents who believe as a black person, their human rights are equally protected compared to white people in the UK (by age)



4. Older age groups are more likely to believe their human rights are equally protected compared to younger age groups³

Fig. 18: Comparison of respondents who feel their human rights are equally protected compared to white people in the UK (by age split)

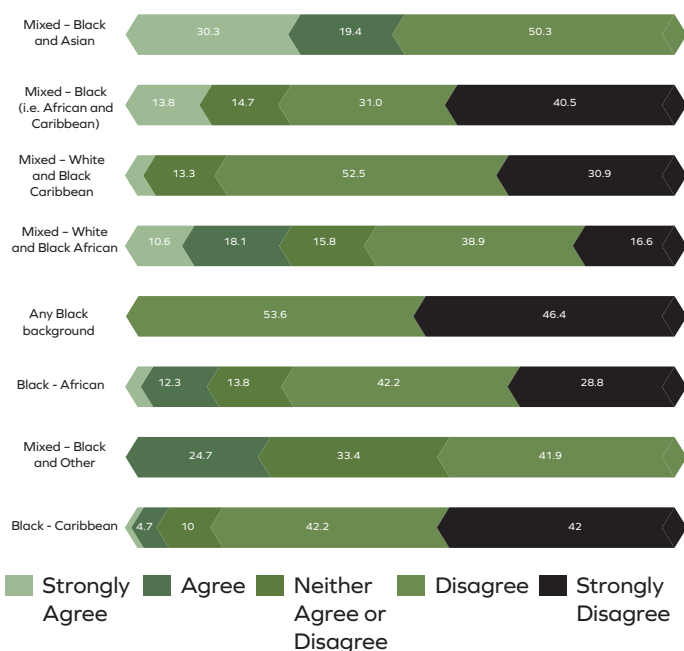


While the majority of black people both under 30 years of age (74%) and over 30 years of age (77%) do not believe that their human rights are equally protected compared to white people in the UK, **those over 30 years of age (7%) are more likely to say that they strongly agree their human rights are equally protected compared to those under 30 years of age (0.2%).**

5. In some ethnic groups approximately 50% do believe their human rights are equally protected compared to white people in the UK

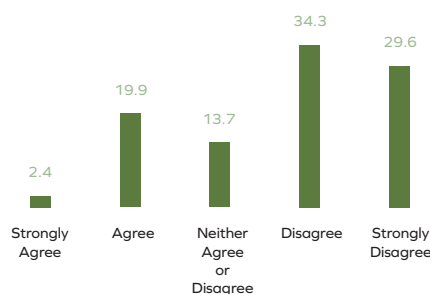
Key Findings

Fig. 19: Percentage of respondents who believe as a black person, their human rights are equally protected compared to white people in the UK (by ethnicity)



Over 60% of black people in the UK do not believe their health is as equally protected by the NHS compared to white people.

Fig. 20: Percentage of respondents who believe as a black person, their health is as equally protected by the NHS compared to white people



7. Black women are more likely to feel like their health is not equally protected by the NHS⁵

Similar to the question on human rights, **women (78%) are more likely than men (47%) to not believe that their health is equally protected by the NHS compared to white people.** This was also reflected in the interviews, as more men reported good or fair experiences, while more women reported experiences of unequal treatment.

One interviewee stated “we [black people] are not seen as a priority, we are dealt with on the basis that they have to, but they give us [black people] the minimal standard of what they can give to say ‘well we have done our part’ but they do not go to the point of actually executing the full range with us. [It’s all about whether] they have done that little bit that they can tick off.”

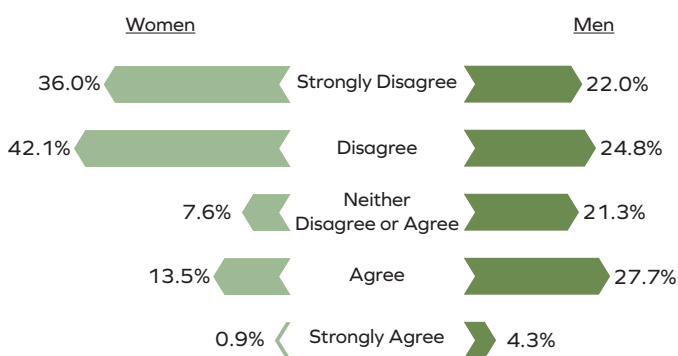
In some ethnic groups, only 50% of people do not believe their human rights are equally protected compared to white people in the UK, namely;

- Mixed - Black and Asian, and
- Mixed - Black and Other

6. The majority of black people in the UK do not believe their health is as equally protected by the NHS compared to white people⁴

Key Findings

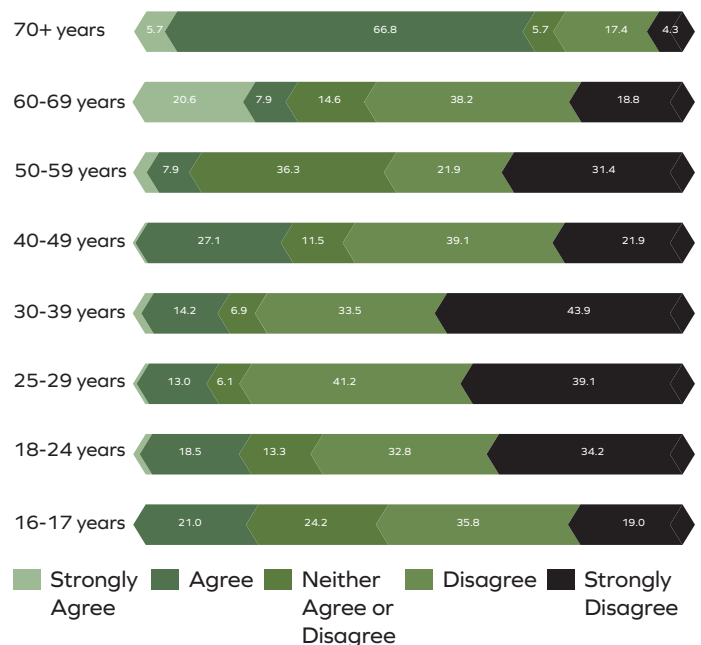
Fig. 21: “As a black person, I believe that my health is as equally protected by the NHS compared to white people”



8. Black people who are aged 70 or older are most likely to agree that their health is equally protected by the NHS⁶

Over 65% of black people in the UK aged 70 or older agree that their health is as equally protected by the NHS compared to white people. While over 50% of all other age groups either disagree or strongly disagree.

Fig. 22: Percentage of respondents who believe as a black person, their health is as equally protected by the NHS compared to white people (by age)



9. When grouped together, the majority of people both under 30 years of age and over 30 years of age believe that their health is not treated equally by the NHS compared to white people

Key Findings

Fig. 23: Comparison of respondents who feel their health is as equally protected by the NHS compared to white people (by age split)

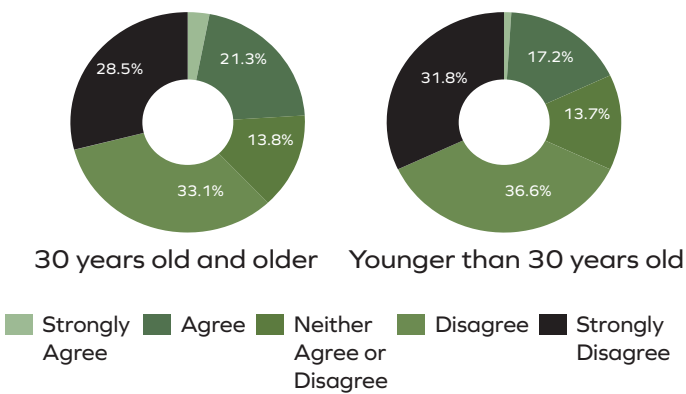
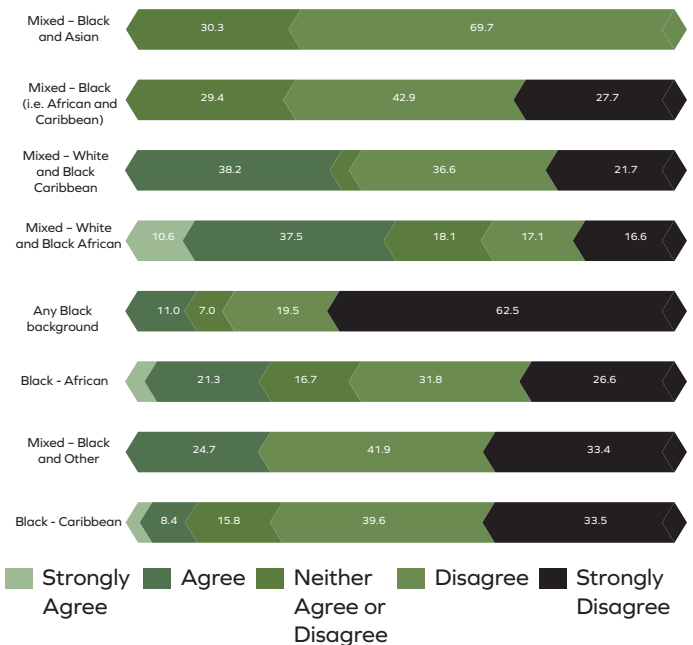


Fig. 24: Percentage of respondents who believe as a black person, their health is as equally protected by the NHS compared to white people (by ethnicity)



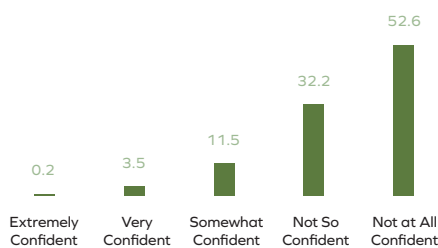
10. There are some variations in ethnic group views of how their health is equally protected by the NHS compared to white people

11. The majority of black people in the UK are not confident that they would be treated the same as a white person by the police⁷

85% of black people do not believe that they would be treated the same as a white person by the police.

Key Findings

Fig. 25: Percentage of respondents who are confident that as a black person they would be treated the same as a white person by the police



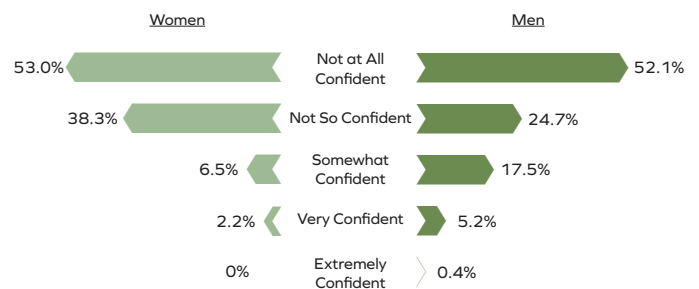
One interviewee said they have “no confidence that they would be treated the same as a white person by the police” and gave an example of a situation where they and a friend had attempted to break up a fight between two white people.

“When the police came, they did not know the full situation and because of this they arrested all of us.” The interviewee and their friend were held overnight and what was most shocking to the interviewee was that “the two (white) gentlemen that were fighting were discharged before we were.”

Another interviewee reported being wrongfully arrested, despite their attire being completely different to the suspect; “they saw me at the train station and they arrested me instead of the person they were looking for. I was around 18... 19... I was at Elephant and Castle Station, I even saw the guy... a bunch of police came up, he was dressed completely different to me... I didn’t think they were going to come up to me... I got defensive... I spoke respectfully but strongly - some may deem that aggressive... then I realised and I spoke more calmly and tried to explain but they still arrested me.”

12. Black women are less likely to believe they will be treated the same as white people by the police⁸

Fig. 26: Percentage of respondents who are confident that as a black person they would be treated the same as a white person by the police (by gender)



Women (91%) are more likely than men (77%) to feel they would not be treated the same as a white person by the police.

13. Black people who are aged 70 or older are most likely to agree that they would be treated the same as a white person by the police⁹

Over 60% of black people aged 70 or older in the UK are somewhat confident that they would be treated the same as a white person by the police. While over 70% of all other age groups are either not so confident or not confident at all.

Key Findings

Fig. 27: Percentage of respondents who are confident that as a black person they would be treated the same as a white person by the police (by age)

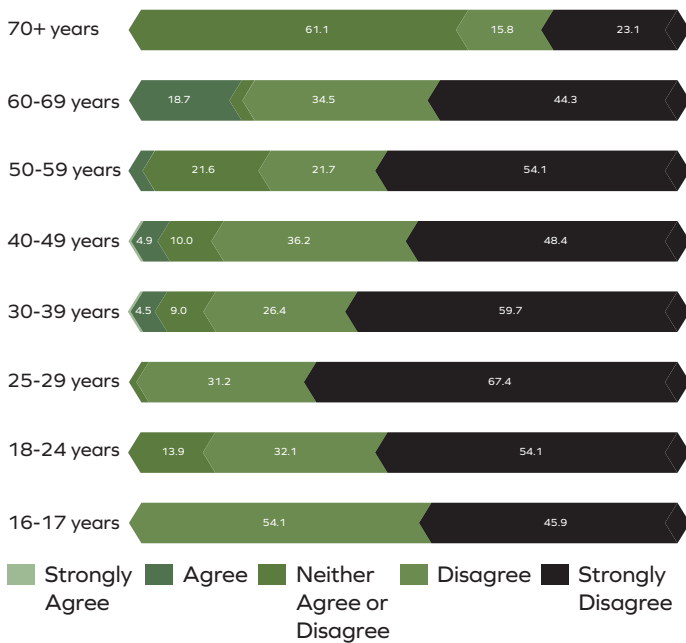
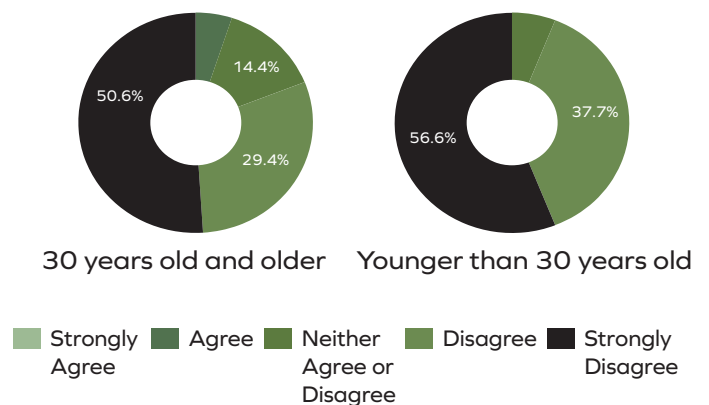


Fig. 28: Comparison of respondents who are confident that as a black person they would be treated the same as a white person by the police (by age split)



14. Older age groups are more likely to be somewhat confident that they will be treated the same as white people by the police¹⁰

The majority of those aged both under 30 years of age (94%) and over 30 years of age (80%) do not feel they would be treated the same as white people by the police. However, the older age group (over 30 years of age, 14.4%) are more likely to be somewhat confident that they will be, compared to those under 30 years of age (5.7%).

15. All black ethnic groups believed that they would not be treated the same as white people by the police

At least 50% of all ethnic groups felt not so confident or not at all confident that they would be treated the same as white people by the police.

Key Findings

Fig. 29: Percentage of respondents who are confident that as a black person they would be treated the same as a white person by the police (by ethnicity)

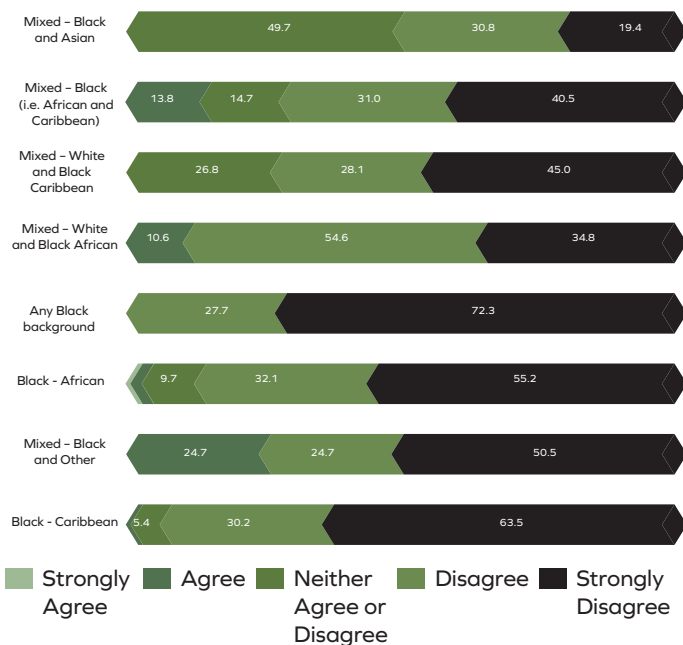


Fig. 30: Comparison of respondents who feel their human rights are equally protected compared to white people in the UK (by voting behaviour)

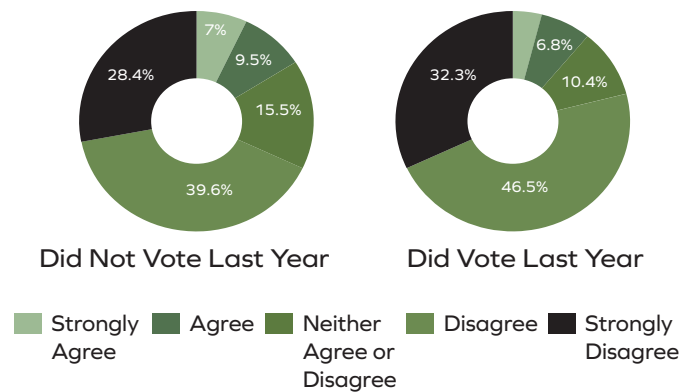
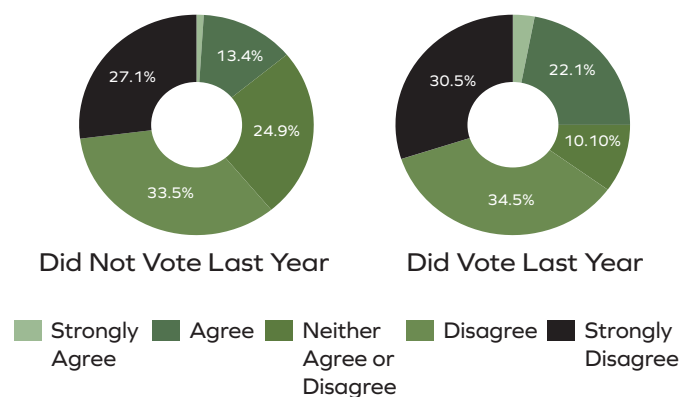


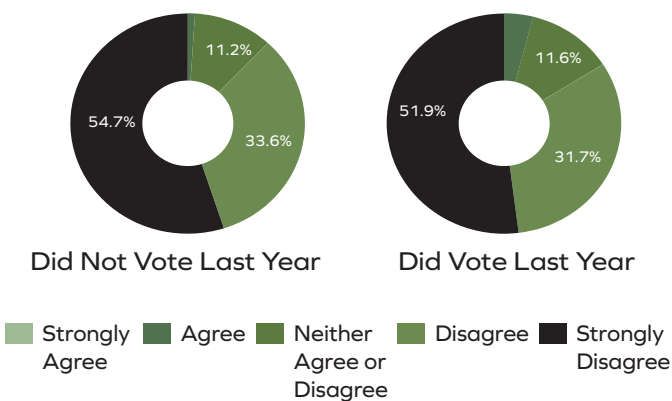
Fig. 31: Comparison of respondents who feel their health is as equally protected by the NHS compared to white people (by voting behaviour)



16. Whether black people vote or not does not appear to affect their views on these issues

Key Findings

Fig. 32: Comparison of respondents who are confident that they would be treated the same as a white person by the police (by voting behaviour)



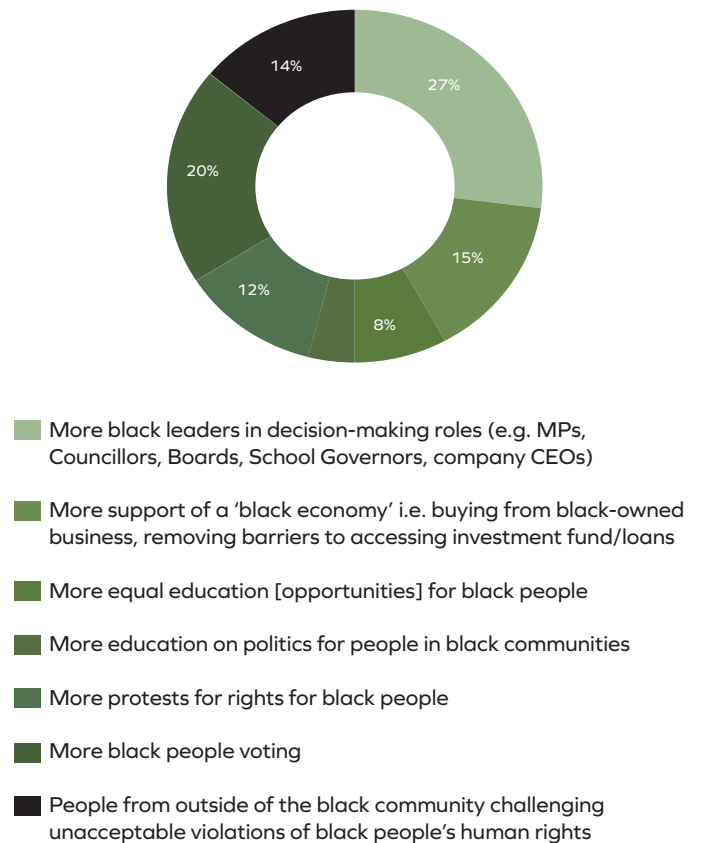
The majority of black people do not believe their human rights, health or treatment by the police are equal to white people’s, regardless of whether they have voted in any election in the last year or not.

17. We need more black leaders in decision making roles¹¹

When asked what actions they think could have a positive impact on how the human rights of black people are protected, the top three actions selected by black people were:

1. More black leaders in decision-making roles
2. More support of a ‘black economy’
3. More equal education [opportunities] for black people

Fig. 33: “What actions do you think could have a positive impact on how the human rights of black people are protected in the UK?”



When asked what other actions could be taken to improve the protection of the human rights of black people, respondents to the poll provided many excellent suggestions. These answers were grouped according to their main sentiment and can be categorised as the following list of actions:

1. Better anti-racism laws and better record keeping of racists incidents including more investigations into, and the charging of, those guilty of racist offences.

Key Findings

2. More and better job opportunities
3. More positive black role models in different spheres (i.e. in education, the police force, the media etc.)
4. Better education in school and workplaces about human rights, black history, and on equality and diversity
5. More black communities supporting each other
6. Reparations given
7. Purposeful reform and review of the criminal justice system
8. Black focused initiatives by Government & the NHS including mental health support (especially for black women)

The actions suggested the most include increased education, changes to and enforcement of legislation around racism, and black focused initiatives.

The interviewees had similar suggestions highlighted by the following quotes:

“

Tangibly address the many unfulfilled recommendations from countless UK inquiries into racial inequality rather than commissioning new ones.

”

“

Parent/Guardians/ Teachers/Politicians should teach non-black children from birth that everyone is equal and not to prejudge or discriminate on colour.

”

“

All we need is fairness for all, regardless of your race or ethnicity, in policing, and the judicial system.

”

“

Some kind of commissioner who can step in and demand that institutions such as the police investigate injustices and punish people who do wrong.

”



ENDNOTES

Endnotes

1. A majority of black people in the UK Disagree (44.8%, 95% CI [40.54%, 49.06%]) or Strongly disagree (31.3%, 95% CI [27.33%, 35.27%]) with the statement 'As a black person, I believe that my human rights are equally protected compared to white people in the UK.'
2. Men are more likely to Strongly agree (8.3%, 95% CI [5.4%, 12.5%]) or Agree (11.5%, 95% CI [7.9%, 16%]) that they believe their human rights are equally protected compared to white people in the UK compared to Women (1.8%, 95% CI [0.7%, 3.8%] and 4.2%, 95% CI [2.3%, 7%] respectively), $X^2(4, N=523 [515])=24.421, p<0.001$.
3. The majority of those in both age groups either disagree or strongly disagree with the statement 'As a black person, I believe that my human rights are equally protected compared to white people in the UK?', however those aged 30+ years (7%, 95% CI [4.6%, 9.9%]) are more likely than those aged less than 30 years (0.2%, 95% CI [0%, 1.4%]) to say that they Strongly agree with the statement. $X^2(4, N=523 [515])=20.745, p<0.001$.
4. A majority of black people in the UK Disagree (34.3%, 95% CI [30.23%, 38.37%]) or Strongly disagree (29.6%, 95% CI [25.69%, 33.51%]) with the statement 'As a black person, I believe that my health is as equally protected by the NHS compared to white people.'
5. Women are more likely to Strongly disagree (36%, 95% CI [30.5%, 41.6%]) or Disagree (42.1%, 95% CI [36.5%, 47.9%]) that they believe their health is as equally protected by the NHS compared to white people compared to Men (22%, 95% CI [17.1%, 27.6%]) and 24.8%, 95% CI [19.8%, 30.8%] respectively), $X^2(4, N=523 [515])=54.672, p<0.001$.
6. Those aged 70+ years (66.8%, 95% CI [48.5%, 83.6%]) are more likely than all other age groups to agree that their health is as equally protected by the NHS compared to white people; $X^2(28, N=523 [515])=157.298, p<0.001$.
 - 16-18 years (21%, 95% CI [11.2%, 33.8%])
 - 18-24 years (18.5%, 95% CI [10.3%, 28.7%])
 - 25-29 years (13%, 95% CI [6.3%, 22.9%])
 - 30-39 years (14.2%, 95% CI [8.5%, 21.7%])
 - 40-49 years (27.1%, 95% CI [19.7%, 34.7%])
 - 50-59 years (7.9%, 95% CI [2.6%, 17%])
 - 60-69 years (7.9%, 95% CI [1.3%, 18.6%])
7. A majority of black people in the UK are Not so confident (32.2%, 95% CI [28.20%, 36.20%]) or Not at all confident (52.6%, 95% CI [48.32%, 56.88%]) that they would be treated the same as a white person by the police.
8. Men are more likely to say that they are Somewhat confident (17.5%, 95% CI [13%, 22.6%]) that they would be treated the same as a white person by the police compared to Women (6.5%, 95% CI [4.2%, 9.9%]), $X^2(4, N=523 [515])=25.291, p<0.001$.
9. Those aged 70+ years (61.1%, 95% CI [40.6%, 77.3%]) are more likely than all other age groups to be somewhat confident that they would be treated the same as a white person by the police; $X^2(28, N=523 [515])=157.298, p<0.001$.
 - 16-18 years (21%, 95% CI [11.2%, 33.8%])
 - 18-24 years (18.5%, 95% CI [10.3%, 28.7%])
 - 25-29 years (13%, 95% CI [6.3%, 22.9%])
 - 30-39 years (14.2%, 95% CI [8.5%, 21.7%])
 - 40-49 years (27.1%, 95% CI [19.7%, 34.7%])
 - 50-59 years (21.6%, 95% CI [13%, 35.2%])
 - 60-69 years (2.4%, 95% CI [0.3%, 13.7%])
10. The majority of those in both age groups are either Not so confident or Not at all confident that they would be treated the same as a white person by the police, however those aged 30+ years (14.4%, 95% CI [11%, 18.4%]) are more likely than those aged less than 30 years (5.7%, 95% CI [3%, 9.8%]) to say that they are Somewhat confident. $X^2(4, N=523 [515])=20.601, p<0.001$.
11. The options available were; 1. People from outside of the black community challenging unacceptable violations of black people's human rights. 2. More black people voting. 3. More protests for rights for black people. 4. More education on politics for people in black communities. 5. More equal education [opportunities] for black people. 6. More support of a 'black economy' i.e. buying from black-owned businesses, removing barriers to accessing investment funds/loans. 7. More black leaders in decision-making roles (e.g. MPs, Councillors, Boards, School Governors, company CEOs).

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