



Blood and Transplant

Annual Report on Ethnicity Differences in Organ Donation and Transplantation

**Report for 2024/2025
(1 April 2020 - 31 March 2025)**



PREFACE

This report has been produced by Statistics and Clinical Research, NHS Blood and Transplant.

This report provides information related to organ donation and transplantation within the white and ethnic minority groups in the UK. It is published as a supplementary report of the *Organ Donation and Transplantation Activity Report 2024/25*.

Data analysed include registrations on the NHS Organ Donor Register (ODR), deceased and living organ donors, transplant recipients, patients and deaths on the transplant lists and waiting times to transplant. Trends in relation to potential organ donors, including donation consent/authorisation rates¹, are also reported. **The categories currently used to collect data on ethnicity are not consistent between these data sources, and the information is provided in as much detail as available data permit.**

The information reported is from the last 5 financial years, unless otherwise stated. One, three and five year post-registration outcomes have been reported from 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020. Median waiting times include all patients joining the list in a given time period, which varies by organ, and the earliest time period was from 1 April 2010.

Median waiting times are determined by using Kaplan-Meier survival estimates of time from joining the list to allow the inclusion of patients not transplanted (as censored waiting times) and thus provide meaningful estimates. However, it should be noted that none of these waiting times are risk-adjusted for other potentially influential factors (e.g. blood group), and thus should be interpreted with a degree of caution.

Ethnicity of people registering on the ODR is only captured as a registration is made and is not linked to the main ODR and any subsequent updates (removal of duplicates and notifications of death). For this reason, ethnicity can only be reported on data that include duplicates and people who have subsequently died. The updated number of registrations as reported elsewhere is also provided for completeness.

Organ donors, transplant recipients and transplant waiting list data capture does not allow for a detailed breakdown of ethnicity. Overall <1% of recipients and donors did not have ethnicity recorded and where numbers are small ethnicities have been grouped. **This report only includes donors and recipients where ethnicity is reported on 1 August 2025.**

Waiting list figures at the 31 March 2020 and 2021 do not accurately reflect the need for an organ transplant due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Different practices have been established across the UK and across organ groups with regards to waiting list management.

Acknowledgement

NHS Blood and Transplant would like to thank all those in the donation and transplantation communities responsible for providing data to the UK Transplant Registry and the Potential Donor Audit, without whom this report would not be possible. Thanks also go to NHS Blood and Transplant staff responsible for data entry and accuracy and completeness of the data.

¹ The consent/authorisation rate is the percentage of eligible donor families or appointed/nominated representatives approached for formal organ donation discussion where consent/authorisation was ascertained.



FOREWORD

This year's Annual Report on Ethnicity Differences in Organ Donation and Transplantation highlights both promising progress and persistent challenges in our collective effort to achieve equity in organ donation and transplantation across the UK.

In 2024/25, 1,201 patients from ethnic minority backgrounds received a transplant, a slight decrease from 1,233 the previous year. This reduction reflects a wider fall in donation overall, including a 10% decrease in the number of white donors, who provide around 80% of organs transplanted into ethnic minority patients.

There was, however, positive progress in donation within ethnic minority communities with 96 deceased donors from ethnic minority backgrounds (a 9% increase) and 144 living donors from ethnic minority backgrounds (a 13% increase).

Despite this encouraging rise, demand continues to exceed supply. As of 31 March 2025, 2,526 ethnic minority patients remained on the active transplant waiting list, the highest number to date. Kidneys account for most of this demand, and outcomes are generally best when donor and recipient share the same ethnicity due to similarities in blood group and tissue type.

People from ethnic minority backgrounds continue to wait longer for a transplant than white patients. On average, Black patients wait up to six months longer, with many facing delays of three to five years for a suitable kidney.

Improving the report and broadening our evidence base

This year, NHS Blood and Transplant (NHSBT) and the National BAME Transplant Alliance (NBTA) undertook a thorough review of this report. We have made improvements including the standardisation of ethnicity terminology and the application of consistent colour-coding throughout. We have agreed that next year we will publish a refreshed, strategic report that will include strengthened data, deeper analysis, and clear updates on actions being taken to reduce inequalities.

Alongside this report, two further publications will also be released:

Report on the work of the Impact Group

Following a national faith-based messaging conference organised by NHSBT and NBTA, the Impact Group was formed to implement ten recommendations arising from that event. A full report of the Group's work is now available alongside this report

Evaluation of the Community Grants Programme (CGP)

Over many years, NHSBT has funded community groups to lead organ donation conversations within their own networks. The CGP is now a well-established and effective model of grassroots engagement. The latest programme evaluation is available alongside this report.

Working in partnership to build trust, knowledge, and confidence

This year saw a significant milestone in strengthening organ donation messaging within diverse communities. NHSBT and NBTA convened a national messaging conference, bringing together representatives from major faith and belief groups to develop accurate, culturally sensitive, and faith-aligned messages about both deceased and living donation. This groundbreaking

collaboration provides a strong foundation for future awareness campaigns and ongoing work to build confidence and understanding within communities where mistrust, misconceptions, and taboos persist. A report from the conference is available at: [NBTA-Conference-Report-June-2024-2.pdf](#)

Our longstanding partnership continues to empower local leaders, faith groups, and community organisations to shape the conversation on organ donation. These partnerships are vital in helping families overcome uncertainty and supporting more people to make informed decisions and to share those decisions with their loved ones.

Closing the gap

Although kidney waiting times have improved significantly for all ethnicities over the past decade, Black and Asian patients continue to wait longer than white patients. The 2019 kidney offering scheme was designed to reduce this disparity by prioritising the patients who have waited the longest, regardless of ethnicity. While initial progress is promising, continued monitoring and evaluation are essential to ensure this policy fulfils its intention and reduces inequity.

Our commitment

Reducing inequalities in organ donation and transplantation remains a core priority for NHSBT and NBTA. Our commitment is clear:

- to strengthen our data and transparency,
- to deepen our partnerships with faith and community organisations,
- to support families in having open conversations about donation, and
- to ensure that every patient, regardless of their ethnicity, has an equitable chance of receiving the transplant they need.

We are profoundly grateful to every donor and every donor family whose generosity saves and transforms lives. We also extend our thanks to the communities, clinicians, faith and voluntary leaders, and partner organisations working alongside us. Together, we can continue to build trust, improve understanding, and increase the number of lifesaving transplants for those who need them most.



Derek Manas
Medical Director – Organ and
Tissue Donation and
Transplantation



Kirit Modi MBE
Hon. President of
NBTA



Orin Lewis OBE
NBTA Chair



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SUMMARY

SUMMARY

Organ Donor Register

- There has been an increase in the proportion of opt-in registrations from ethnic minority groups added to the Organ Donor Register (ODR) over the past 5 years; 9.1% of opt-ins with ethnicity reported in 2020/21 and 12.0% in 2024/25.
- Overall, minority groups were under-represented in ODR registrations; ethnic minorities represent 12% of opt-in registrations compared with 18% of the population for England and Wales. However, there continues to be some variation in the proportion of opt in from different ethnic minority groups with Indian and other Asian groups being over-represented.
- Relative to the English and Welsh population, ethnic minorities have over representation in opt-outs at 34%.
- The number of ODR opt-in registrations with ethnicity reported has fallen – from 20% in 2020/21 to 14% last year. In 2024/25, the proportion of ODR opt-out registrations with ethnicity reported was 79.5%.

Potential organ donors

- Referral rates to specialist nurses of potential white and ethnic minority donors after brain death (DBD) last year were comparable at 99%, but were lower for potential ethnic minority donors after circulatory death (DCD) at 93%.
- Family consent/authorisation is much lower for ethnic minority potential donors (39% DBD, 27% DCD) than for white potential donors (75% DBD, 56% DCD). Overall (DBD and DCD combined) consent rates were 35% for ethnic minority and 67% for white potential donors last year, higher than the previous year.
- The main reasons families from ethnic minority backgrounds gave for declining consent/authorisation for organ donation were that they felt it was against their religious/cultural beliefs or they were unsure whether the patient would have agreed to donation. Survey results of ethnic minority groups show that not knowing enough about organ donation is also a major barrier to organ donation. NHSBT and the National BAME Transplant Alliance (NBTA) have been working in partnership over a number of years to address these barriers. The Community Grants Programme is now established which empowers ethnic minority groups to promote organ donation in targeted groups.

Figure 1.1 UK potential organ donor population, by ethnic minority groups,
1 April 2024 - 31 March 2025



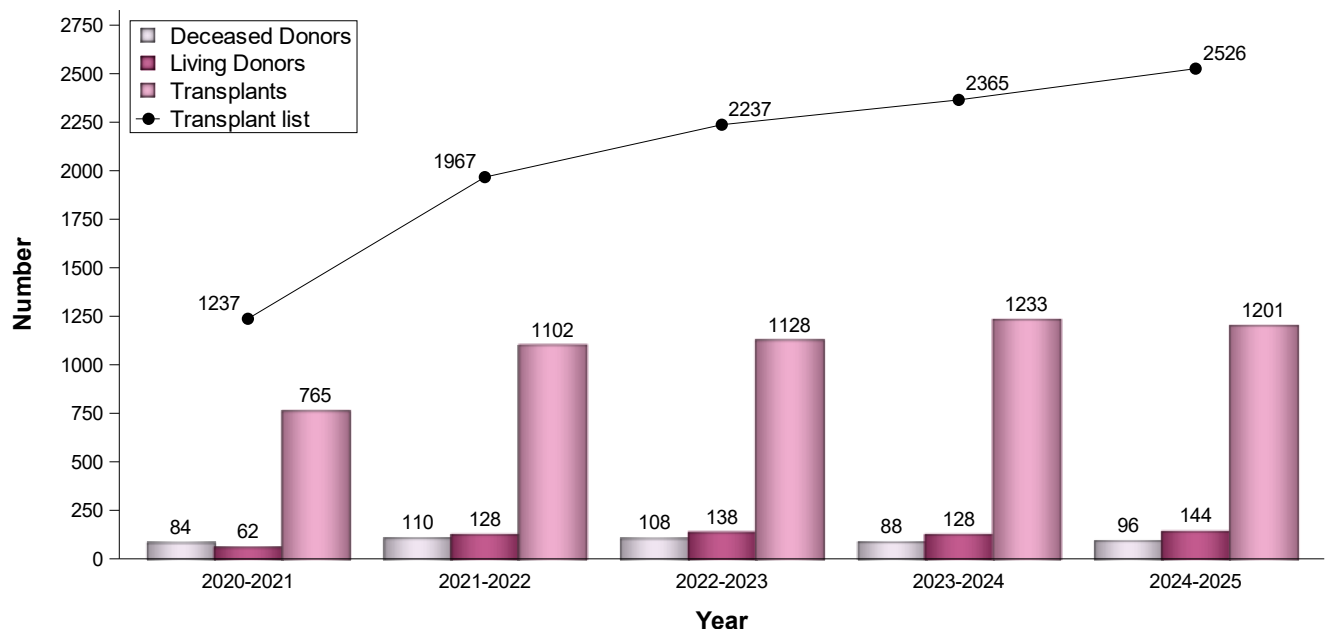
¹ Please note that 144 living donors have been included in this figure

Organ donors, transplant recipients and transplant waiting list

Overview

- The number of ethnic minority deceased organ donors has increased by 9% from 88 in 2023/24 to 96 in 2024/25.
- The number of ethnic minority living organ donors has increased by 13% from 128 in 2023/24 to 144 in 2024/25.
- The number of transplants in people from ethnic minority backgrounds fell by 3% from 1,233 in 2023/24 to 1,201 in 2024/25.
- There were 2,526 people from ethnic minority backgrounds on the active organ transplant list at 31 March 2025, an increase of 7% from 2,365 as at 31 March 2024. This is mostly due to increases in the kidney and liver transplant lists.
- In 2024/25, Asian people represented 4% of deceased donors (DD), 17% of DD transplants and 19% of the transplant waiting list; black people represented 2% of DD, 10% of DD transplants and 11% of the list.
- In 2024/25, Asian people represented 8% of living donors (LD) and 9% of LD transplants; black people represented 3% of LD and 5% of LD transplants.
- One year after being listed for a transplant (all organs), 42% (N=1950) of white and 34% (N=526) of ethnic minority groups have been transplanted. Five years after listing, 73% (N=3385) of white and 71% (N=1108) of ethnic minority groups have been transplanted, while 8% (n=386) of white and 7% (N=110) of ethnic minority groups have died on the list.
- Median waiting times to transplant show that, generally, white patients wait less time than patients from ethnic minority backgrounds. Black patients often wait the longest (**Table 4.3**).
- Approximately 80% of transplants in people from ethnic minority backgrounds are from white donors.

Figure 1.2 Ethnic minority deceased and living donors and transplants in the UK, 1 April 2020 - 31 March 2025, and patients on the active transplant list at 31 March



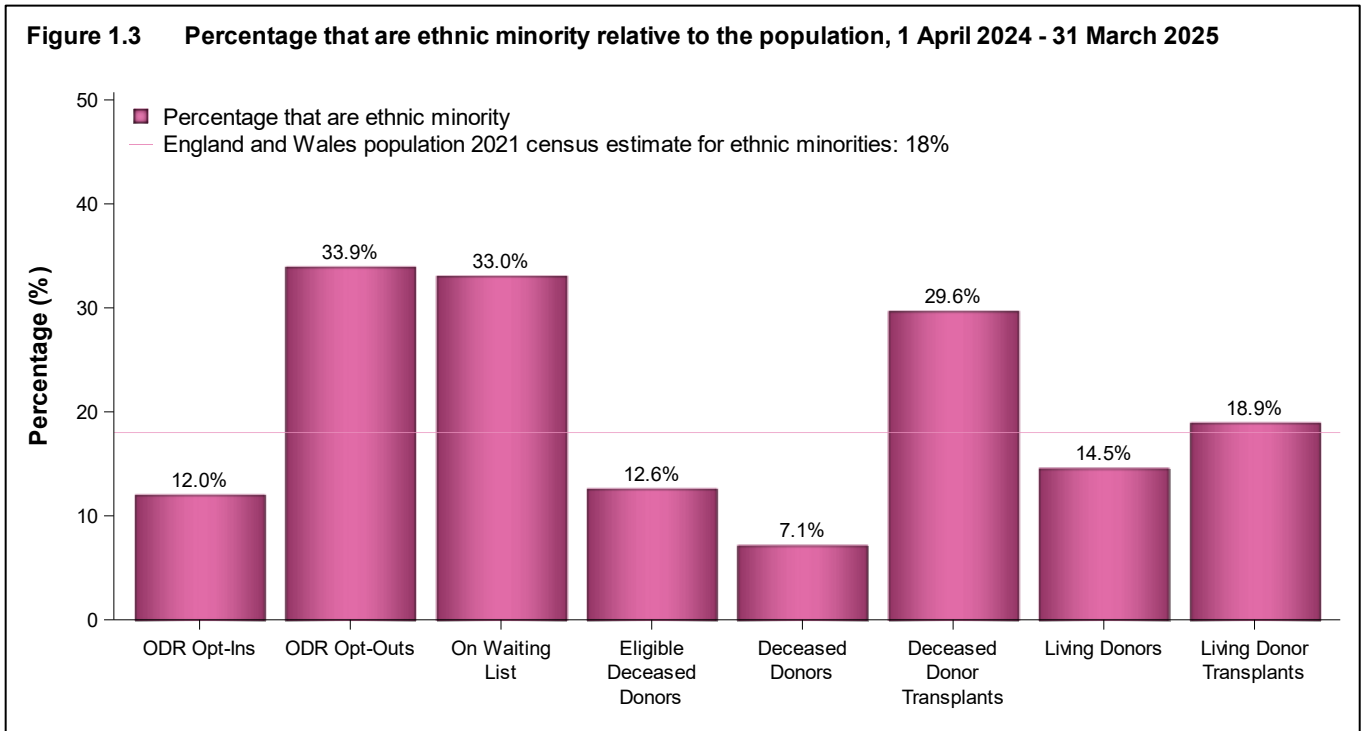
Kidney

- One year after being listed for a kidney transplant, 33% of white and 28% of ethnic minority people have received a transplant. Five years after listing, 75% of white and 71% of ethnic minority people have been transplanted while 8% of white and 7% of ethnic minority people have died on the list.
- There has been an overall decline in waiting times for all ethnicities, although black patients are waiting 3 months longer for a transplant than white patients (median waits are 560 days for black, 592 days for Asian, and 463 days for white people). Over time, it is predicted that the differences in the waiting times across ethnic minority groups will be reduced with the introduction of a revised kidney offering scheme in 2019.
- In 2024/25, Asian people represented 4% of deceased kidney donors (DD), 21% of DD kidney transplants and 19% of the transplant waiting list; black people represented 2% of kidney DD, 13% of DD transplants and 12% of the list.
- The majority of kidney transplants are from white donors across all recipient ethnic groups: approx. 88% of transplants in people from ethnic minority backgrounds are from white donors.
- 61% of Asian and 46% of black kidney transplant recipients receive a kidney from a living donor of the same ethnicity.

Other organs

- One year after listing for transplant:
 - **Pancreas and pancreas/kidney:** 22% of white and 31% of ethnic minority patients have received a transplant, while 4% and 6% have died on the list, respectively.
 - **Liver:** 72% of white and 69% of ethnic minority patients have received a transplant, while 4% and 5% have died on the list, respectively.
 - **Cardiothoracic:** 39% of white and 41% of ethnic minority patients have received a transplant, while 13% and 6% have died on the list, respectively.
- In 2024/25, Asian people represented:
 - **Pancreas and pancreas/kidney:** 5% of donors, 6% of transplants and 6% of the transplant list.
 - **Liver:** 4% of donors, 11% of transplants and 11% of the transplant list.
 - **Cardiothoracic:** 6% of donors, 12% of transplants and 12% of the transplant list.
- In 2024/25, black people represented:
 - **Pancreas and pancreas/kidney:** 2% of donors, 4% of transplants and 8% of the transplant list.
 - **Liver:** 2% of donors, 4% of transplants and 5% of the transplant list.
 - **Cardiothoracic:** 3% of donors, 2% of transplants and 5% of the transplant list.

Figure 1.3 shows an over-representation of people from ethnic minority backgrounds relative to the population of England and Wales for ODR opt-outs, those on the waiting list and deceased donor transplants. Ethnic minority groups are under-represented in deceased donors as well as eligible deceased donors, living donors, living donor transplants and those registering on the opt-in ODR.



ORGAN DONOR REGISTER

2 Organ Donor Register (ODR)

Ethnicity of people registering on the ODR is only captured as a registration is made and is not linked to the main ODR and any subsequent updates (removal of duplicates and notifications of death). For this reason, ethnicity can only be reported on data that include duplicates and people who have subsequently died. The updated number of registrations as reported elsewhere is also provided for completeness.

Most sources of opt-in registration provided by NHSBT's partners do not have an option to record or report ethnicity. Even when the option is available, it is not possible to tell how many people choose not to provide the information when registering via these routes. Consequently, only 14% of people registering on the ODR in 2024/25 have their ethnicity recorded.

Table 2.1 shows the number of opt-in registrations per year by ethnicity from 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2025. In 2024/25, 88% of registrations with ethnicity recorded were by white people, 6% from Asian, and 2% from black.

Table 2.2 shows the number of opt-out registrations per year by ethnicity from 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2025. Most opt-out registrations are entered online and as a result have a higher proportion of people reporting their ethnicity (79% in 2024/25). In the last year, there has been an increase in the number of opt-out registrations. In 2024/25, the majority of opt-out registrations were among white people (66%), followed by Asian people (18%) and black people (9%).

Table 2.1 Ethnicity of all ODR opt-in registrations by year of registration¹, 1 April 2020 - 31 March 2025

		2020/2021		2021/2022		2022/2023		2023/2024		2024/2025	
		N	%	N	N	%	N	N	%	N	%
White	British	174,513	81.2	231,273	77.6	116,666	78.0	92,785	76.8	95,975	76.5
	Irish	3,845	1.8	4,890	1.6	2,106	1.4	1,957	1.6	2,128	1.7
	Other	16,983	7.9	31,229	10.5	13,372	8.9	11,617	9.6	12,345	9.8
	Total	195,341	90.9	267,392	89.7	132,144	88.3	106,359	88.0	110,448	88.0
Asian	Bangladeshi	306	0.1	398	0.1	209	0.1	212	0.2	202	0.2
	Chinese	866	0.4	2,333	0.8	1,360	0.9	997	0.8	847	0.7
	Indian	5,146	2.4	8,643	2.9	5,158	3.4	4,070	3.4	4,027	3.2
	Pakistani	929	0.4	1,276	0.4	757	0.5	627	0.5	702	0.6
	Other	2,800	1.3	4,499	1.5	2,585	1.7	2,213	1.8	2,269	1.8
	Total	10,047	4.7	17,149	5.8	10,069	6.7	8,119	6.7	8,047	6.4
Black	African	1,360	0.6	1,729	0.6	1,127	0.8	1,037	0.9	1,129	0.9
	Caribbean	874	0.4	1,105	0.4	643	0.4	523	0.4	568	0.5
	Other	334	0.2	821	0.3	335	0.2	272	0.2	271	0.2
	Total	2,568	1.2	3,655	1.2	2,105	1.4	1,832	1.5	1,968	1.6
Mixed	White/Asian	1,529	0.7	2,177	0.7	1,154	0.8	1,002	0.8	1,134	0.9
	White/Black African	710	0.3	990	0.3	510	0.3	417	0.3	496	0.4
	White/Black Caribbean	1,328	0.6	1,776	0.6	936	0.6	788	0.7	915	0.7
	Other	1,699	0.8	2,562	0.9	1,407	0.9	1,213	1.0	1,221	1.0
	Total	5,266	2.5	7,505	2.5	4,007	2.7	3,420	2.8	3,766	3.0
Other		1,702	0.8	2,306	0.8	1,276	0.9	1,155	1.0	1,244	1.0
Total reported		214,924	100.0	298,007	100.0	149,601	100.0	120,885	100.0	125,473	100.0
Not reported		860,322	80.0	946,640	76.1	874,033	85.4	729,562	85.8	741,635	85.5
TOTAL OPT-IN REGISTRATIONS		1,075,246		1,244,647		1,023,634		850,447		867,108	

¹ Most sources of registration onto the ODR provided by NHSBT's partners do not have an option to record or report ethnicity

Table 2.2 Ethnicity of all ODR opt-out registrations by year of registration, 1 April 2020 - 31 March 2025

		2020/2021		2021/2022		2022/2023		2023/2024		2024/2025	
		N	%	N	N	%	N	N	%	N	%
White	British	274,165	65.8	133,549	61.9	61,393	58.2	55,578	58.7	52,709	54.9
	Irish	3,327	0.8	1,839	0.9	1,080	1.0	2,731	2.9	1,239	1.3
	Other	25,202	6.0	20,693	9.6	9,547	9.1	7,988	8.4	9,506	9.9
	Total	302,694	72.6	156,081	72.4	72,020	68.3	66,297	70.0	63,454	66.1
Asian	Bangladeshi	12,160	2.9	4,115	1.9	2,201	2.1	2,153	2.3	2,473	2.6
	Chinese	2,413	0.6	5,644	2.6	4,368	4.1	2,066	2.2	1,414	1.5
	Indian	13,094	3.1	8,239	3.8	4,014	3.8	3,424	3.6	3,527	3.7
	Pakistani	32,717	7.9	12,595	5.8	6,859	6.5	6,346	6.7	6,791	7.1
	Other	10,002	2.4	6,191	2.9	3,698	3.5	3,166	3.3	3,286	3.4
	Total	70,386	16.9	36,784	17.1	21,140	20.1	17,155	18.1	17,491	18.2
Black	African	14,541	3.5	6,485	3.0	3,829	3.6	3,670	3.9	5,578	5.8
	Caribbean	9,560	2.3	2,938	1.4	1,535	1.5	1,364	1.4	1,844	1.9
	Other	2,607	0.6	3,593	1.7	1,507	1.4	1,422	1.5	1,488	1.5
	Total	26,708	6.4	13,016	6.0	6,871	6.5	6,456	6.8	8,910	9.3
Mixed	White/Asian	1,955	0.5	1,078	0.5	562	0.5	558	0.6	690	0.7
	White/Black African	1,146	0.3	944	0.4	471	0.4	408	0.4	523	0.5
	White/Black Caribbean	2,784	0.7	1,327	0.6	713	0.7	674	0.7	944	1.0
	Other	3,498	0.8	2,012	0.9	1,246	1.2	1,070	1.1	1,353	1.4
	Total	9,383	2.3	5,361	2.5	2,992	2.8	2,710	2.9	3,510	3.7
Other		7,539	1.8	4,412	2.0	2,386	2.3	2,026	2.1	2,675	2.8
Total reported		416,710	100.0	215,654	100.0	105,409	100.0	94,644	100.0	96,040	100.0
Not reported		85,757	17.1	54,699	20.2	24,505	18.9	19,933	17.4	24,778	20.5
TOTAL OPT-OUT REGISTRATIONS		502,467		270,353		129,914		114,577		120,818	

Given the lack of opt-in registrations for which ethnicity is recorded, it is not meaningful to compare absolute numbers of people registering each year. However, looking at proportions of those with ethnicity reported is meaningful. If it is assumed that the proportions are representative of all ODR opt-in and opt-out registrations, it is possible to see differences relative to the population of England and Wales (Appendix, **Table I**).

The population of England and Wales broken down by ethnicity is reported using the census data from the Office for National Statistics (ONS) and the most recent census reported was 2021.

Table 2.3 shows data on percentage of the ODR opt-in registrations in 2020/21 and 2024/25 against the percentage of the general population for England and Wales. In 2020/21, 8.3% of ODR opt-in registrations of known ethnicity were ethnic minority groups which has increased to 11.0% in 2024/25. It is estimated that 18.3% of the population for England and Wales are from ethnic minority backgrounds, reflecting an under-representation of ethnic minority groups on the ODR opt-in and an over-representation on the ODR opt-out.

Table 2.3 Ethnic minority opt-in registrations on the ODR vs the population for England and Wales				
		2020-2021 % of the ODR registrations¹	2024-2025 % of the ODR registrations¹	2021 % of the population²
Asian	Bangladeshi	0.1	0.2	1.1
	Chinese	0.4	0.7	0.7
	Indian	2.4	3.2	3.1
	Pakistani	0.4	0.6	2.7
	Other	1.3	1.8	1.6
	Total	4.7	6.4	9.2
Black	African	0.6	0.9	2.5
	Caribbean	0.4	0.5	1.0
	Other	0.2	0.2	0.5
	Total	1.2	1.6	4.0
Mixed	White/Asian	0.7	0.9	0.8
	White/Black African	0.3	0.4	0.4
	White/Black Caribbean	0.6	0.7	0.9
	Other	0.8	1.0	0.8
	Total	2.5	3.0	2.9
Other		0.8	1.0	2.2
Total		8.3	11.0	18.3
¹ Where ethnicity is reported ² Source - Office of National Statistics Note some rounding effects				

POTENTIAL ORGAN DONORS



3 Potential organ donors

NHS Blood and Transplant (NHSBT) capture information about potential organ donors through the Potential Donor Audit (PDA). This audit is of all patient deaths in UK Intensive Care Units and emergency departments, excluding deaths on wards and any patients over 80 years of age. The PDA provides information about the organ donation process and identifies potential barriers to organ donation. All data shown in this section use the following definitions:

Neurological death suspected patients who meet all of the following criteria: invasive ventilation, Glasgow Coma Scale 3 not explained by sedation, no respiratory effort, fixed pupils, no cough or gag reflex. Excluding those not tested as cardiac arrest occurred despite resuscitation, brain stem reflexes returned, or below 37 weeks corrected gestational age.

Eligible donors after brain death (DBD) are defined as patients for whom death was confirmed following neurological tests and who had no absolute medical contraindications to solid organ donation.

Eligible donors after circulatory death (DCD) are defined as patients who had treatment withdrawn and death was anticipated, with no absolute medical contraindications to solid organ donation.

The neurological death testing rate is the proportion of patients in whom neurological death was suspected who were tested (DBD donor process only).

The referral rate is the percentage of patients for whom neurological death was suspected, or imminent death was anticipated, that were discussed with the Specialist Nurse - Organ Donation (SN-OD).

The consent/authorisation rate is the percentage of eligible donor families or nominated/appointed representatives approached for formal organ donation discussion where consent/authorisation was ascertained.

Tables II and III in the Appendix show more detailed data by ethnic minority groups from both the DBD and DCD organ donation processes, respectively. The data in these tables are used to produce some of the figures in this chapter.

The neurological death testing rate for white and ethnic minority potential DBD donors has been fairly constant over the past 5 years. Rates of neurological death testing for white and ethnic minority potential donors were comparable in 2022/23 (79.4% and 77.9%, respectively).

Figure 3.1 presents the DBD and DCD referral rates for white and ethnic minority groups. The referral rates for ethnic minority and white potential DBD donors are 99%, and 92% and 93% for DCD donors, respectively.

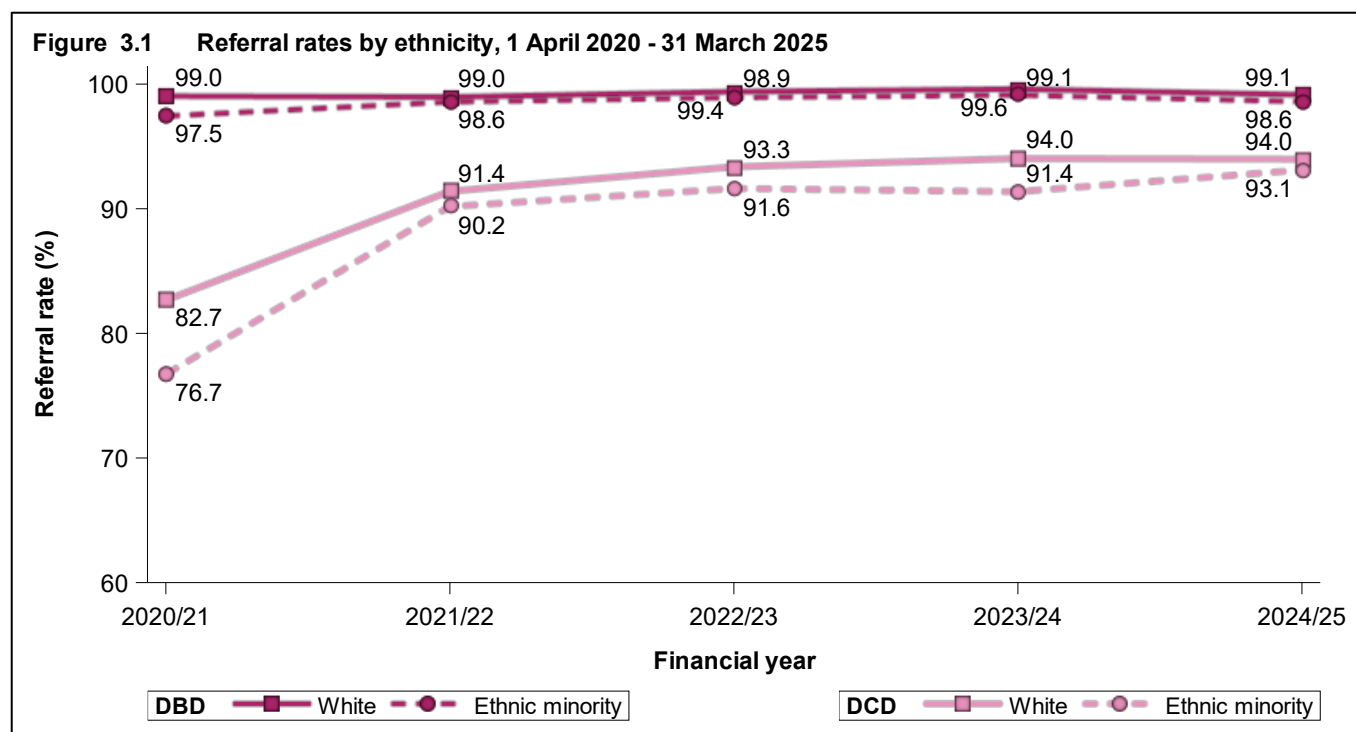


Figure 3.2 shows the number of eligible DBD donors and eligible DBD donors with consent ascertained over time for white and ethnic minority groups, **Figure 3.3** shows the overall DBD consent/authorisation rates. Similarly, **Figure 3.4** and **Figure 3.5** illustrate the same information for DCD donation, respectively.

Figure 3.2 demonstrates that the number of white and ethnic minority eligible DBD donors has fallen to 986 and increased to 256 respectively and that the number of white and ethnic minority eligible consented/authorised DBD donors has fallen to 671 and increased to 74, respectively.

Whilst there is a large pool of eligible DCD donors, additional DCD assessment and screening processes identify those unsuitable for organ donation and preclude them from the donation process. In combination with lower consent/authorisation rates, this results in fewer consented/authorised DCD donors as shown in **Figure 3.4**.

Figure 3.2 Eligible DBD donors and eligible consented/authorised DBD donors, by ethnicity, 1 April 2020 - 31 March 2025

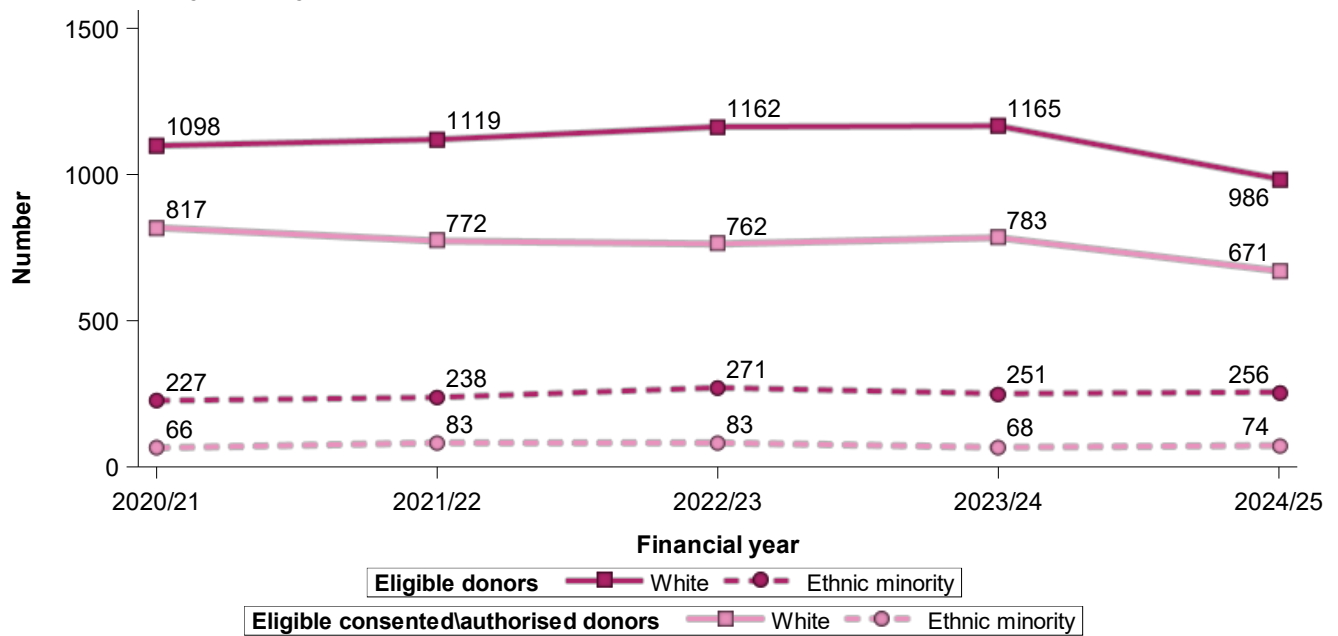
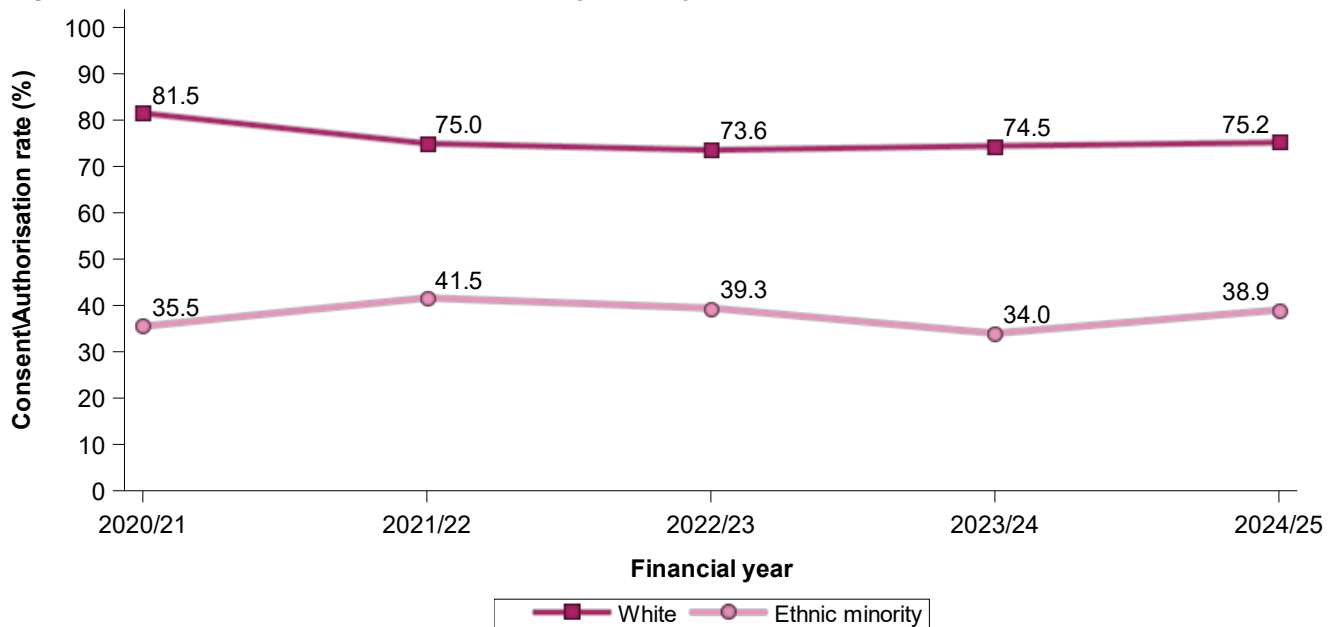


Figure 3.3 DBD consent/authorisation rates by ethnicity, 1 April 2020 - 31 March 2025



Rates should be interpreted with caution due to small numbers of ethnic minority patients' families approached

Figure 3.4 Eligible DCD donors and eligible consented/authorised DCD donors, by ethnicity, 1 April 2020 - 31 March 2025

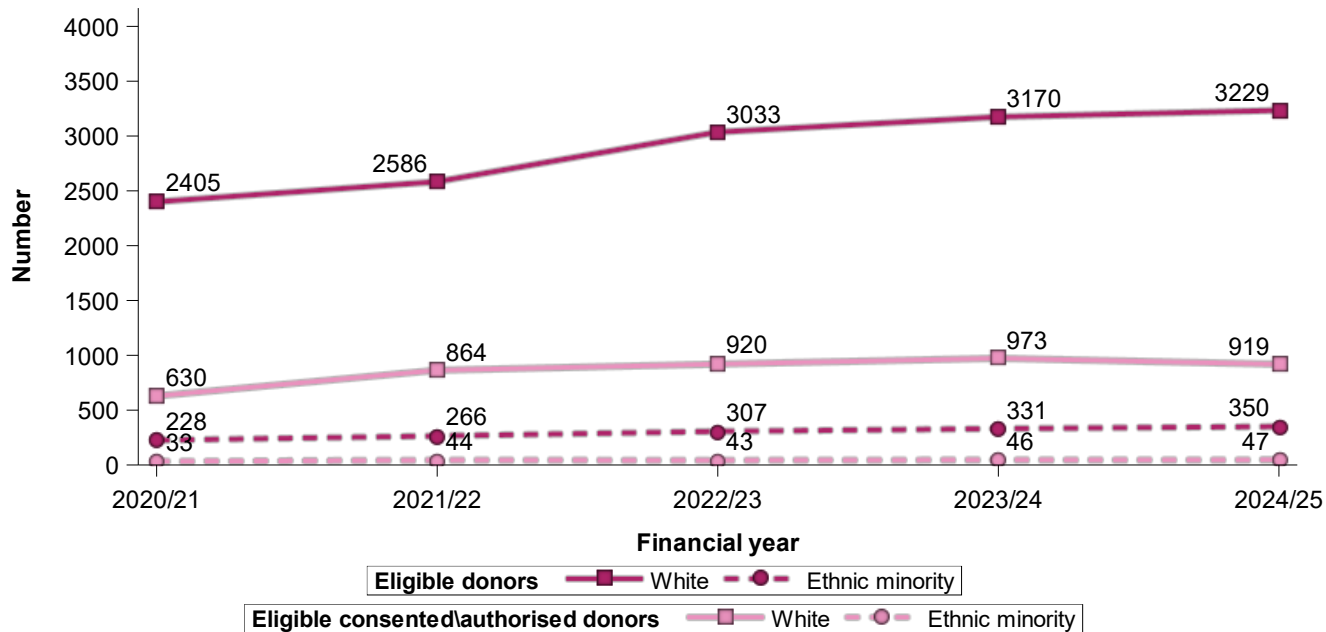
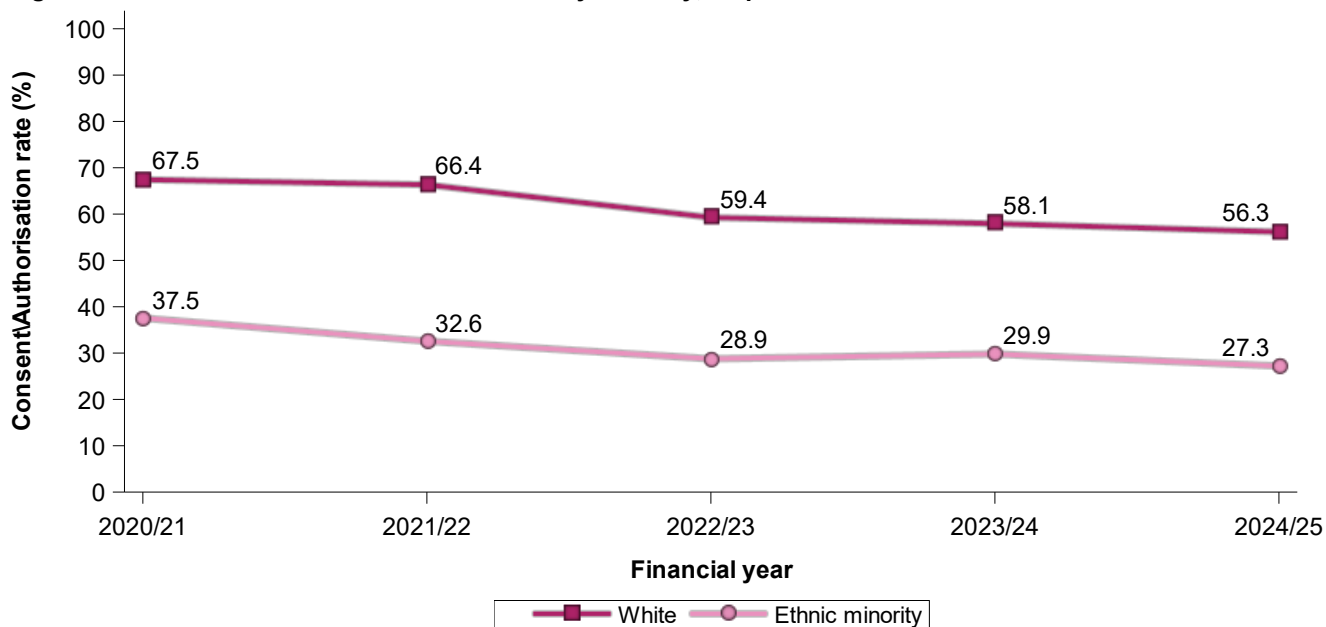


Figure 3.5 DCD consent/authorisation rates by ethnicity, 1 April 2020 - 31 March 2025



Rates should be interpreted with caution due to small numbers of ethnic minority patients' families approached

Table 3.1 shows the consent/authorisation rates separately for white and ethnic minority patients broken down by the Organ Donation Services Teams (ODSTs) in the UK from 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2025. The data reports on a five-year period due to a small number of eligible ethnic minority donors in some regions.

Table 3.1 DBD and DCD consent/authorisation rates from the Potential Donor Audit by Organ Donation Services Team (ODST) and ethnicity, 1 April 2020 – 31 March 2025							
ODST	Number of eligible DBD donors	Number of eligible DBD donors whose family were approached	DBD consent/authorisation rate (%)	Number of eligible DCD donors	Number of eligible DCD donors whose family were approached	DCD consent/authorisation rate (%)	Overall consent/authorisation rate (%)
White							
Eastern	510	473	72.9	2062	1046	60.4	64.3
London	572	517	73.3	986	495	59.2	66.4
Midlands	619	565	71.9	1840	1040	54.2	60.4
North West	681	585	75.9	2321	771	63.0	68.6
Northern	382	339	74.3	1021	423	63.4	68.2
Northern Ireland	261	243	72.8	291	208	65.4	69.4
Scotland	424	374	75.9	840	492	60.4	67.1
South Central	415	394	79.7	1231	577	60.1	68.1
South East	522	474	79.5	1218	640	65.9	71.7
South Wales	249	226	74.3	462	243	52.7	63.1
South West	408	388	85.8	850	502	69.3	76.5
Yorkshire	487	432	75.5	1301	658	58.5	65.2
Total	5530	5010	75.9	14423	7095	60.7	67.0
Ethnic minority							
Eastern	97	78	51.3	184	93	29.0	39.2
London	480	388	35.8	443	221	29.4	33.5
Midlands	197	155	38.7	270	133	31.6	35.4
North West	86	60	31.7	140	39	23.1	28.3
Northern	16	13	46.2	36	12	25.0	36.0
Northern Ireland	13	11	45.5	7	3	33.3	42.9
Scotland	21	16	50.0	19	10	50.0	50.0
South Central	63	50	40.0	95	56	35.7	37.7
South East	152	121	40.5	147	74	33.8	37.9
South Wales	21	18	27.8	20	16	31.3	29.4
South West	24	16	50.0	36	12	50.0	50.0
Yorkshire	73	61	24.6	85	29	17.2	22.2
Total	1243	987	37.9	1482	698	30.5	34.8

Families of ethnic minority eligible donors consent/authorise organ donation at a rate of 38% for DBD donation and 31% for DCD donation compared with families of white eligible donors who consent/authorise organ donation at a rate of 76% for DBD donation and 61% for DCD donation from 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2025.

Table 3.2 shows the consent/authorisation rates for families approached for organ donation by ethnicity and financial year for the same time period. The consent/authorisation rates for white and ethnic minority people were 63% and 33%, respectively, in 2024/25.

Table 3.2 Consent/authorisation (Con/auth) rates for families approached (app) for organ donation by ethnicity and financial year, 1 April 2020 - 31 March 2025										
Ethnicity	2019-2020		2020-2021		Financial year 2021-2022		2022-2023		2023-2024	
	App	Con/auth rate %	App	Con/auth rate %	App	Con/auth rate %	App	Con/auth rate %	App	Con/auth rate %
White	1937	74.7	2331	70.2	2584	65.1	2722	64.5	2525	63.0
Asian	141	31.2	182	33.5	209	33.5	201	32.3	216	32.9
Black	76	27.6	83	36.1	99	29.3	107	26.2	106	30.2
Other	57	59.6	70	51.4	52	51.9	46	45.7	40	45.0
Ethnic minority	274	36.1	335	37.9	360	35.0	354	32.2	362	33.4

Table 3.3 Reasons given why family were not asked to make or support patient's organ donation decision by ethnicity, 1 April 2020 - 31 March 2025									
Consent/authorisation refusal reason	White		Potential donor ethnicity				Other		
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	
Not identified as a potential donor	642	26.8	66	24.7	26	17.3	11	18.6	
Subsequently assessed to be medically unsuitable	354	14.8	38	14.2	28	18.7	13	22.0	
Coroner/Proc Fiscal refused permission	282	11.8	38	14.2	30	20.0	15	25.4	
Family stated they would not consent/authorise prior to donation decision conversation	199	8.3	42	15.7	23	15.3	9	15.3	
Pressure on ICU beds	63	2.6	3	1.1	1	0.7			
Family untraceable - No first person consent (donation cannot proceed)	60	2.5	16	6.0	10	6.7	3	5.1	
Deemed unsuitable by DCD assessment prior to approach	56	2.3	7	2.6	2	1.3			
Cardiac arrest before approach could be made	31	1.3	5	1.9	4	2.7			
First person Consent or Expressed Authorisation / Family untraceable (donation can proceed)	17	0.7	3	1.1	7	4.7	1	1.7	
Other	689	28.8	49	18.4	19	12.7	7	11.9	
Total	2393	100.0	267	100.0	150	100.0	59	100.0	

Table 3.3 and **Table 3.4** show the reasons given why the families of eligible DBD and medically suitable eligible DCD donors were not approached and reason given by a family when declining consent/authorisation for organ donation, by ethnicity from 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2025. The main reasons families from ethnic minority backgrounds gave for refusing consent/authorisation for organ donation was that they felt it was against their religious/cultural beliefs or they were unsure whether the patient would have agreed to donation. It is important to note that the most fitting reason following family discussion is chosen from a list by the attending/facilitating SNOD. Survey results of ethnic minority groups shows that not knowing enough about organ donation is also a major barrier to organ donation. NHSBT and the National BAME Transplant Alliance (NBTA) have been working in partnership over a number of years to address these barriers. The Community Investment Scheme and the Living Transplant Initiative are now well-established programmes which empower ethnic minority groups to promote organ donation in targeted groups.

Table 3.4 Reasons for family's refusal to give consent/authorise to organ donation by ethnicity, 1 April 2020 - 31 March 2025										
Consent/authorisation refusal reason	Potential donor ethnicity									
	White		Asian		Black		Other		Unknown	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Patient had previously expressed a wish not to donate	1055	26.4	122	19.1	81	24.5	20	15.5	4	23.5
Family felt the length of time for the donation process was too long	634	15.9	25	3.9	6	1.8	6	4.7	4	23.5
Family were not sure whether the patient would have agreed to donation	505	12.7	53	8.3	37	11.2	10	7.8		
Family did not want surgery to the body	360	9.0	43	6.7	17	5.1	13	10.1		
Family felt patient had suffered enough	357	8.9	20	3.1	20	6.0	9	7.0	2	11.8
Other	312	7.8	35	5.5	11	3.3	11	8.5	2	11.8
Strong refusal - probing not appropriate	161	4.0	27	4.2	27	8.2	9	7.0	2	11.8
Patient had registered a decision to Opt Out	149	3.7	50	7.8	26	7.9	4	3.1	1	5.9
Family divided over the decision	130	3.3	19	3.0	6	1.8	2	1.6		
Family felt that the body should be buried whole (unrelated to religious/cultural reasons)	97	2.4	17	2.7	15	4.5	8	6.2		
Family wanted to stay with the patient after death	65	1.6					1	0.8		
Family did not believe in donation	63	1.6	22	3.4	7	2.1	5	3.9	1	5.9
Family felt it was against their religious/cultural beliefs	51	1.3	189	29.6	68	20.5	30	23.3	1	5.9
Family concerned that organs may not be transplantable	33	0.8	1	0.2						
Family had difficulty understanding/accepting neurological testing	7	0.2	3	0.5	2	0.6				
Family concerned other people may disapprove/be offended	4	0.1	9	1.4	7	2.1	1	0.8		
Family believe patient's treatment may have been limited to facilitate organ donation	3	0.1			1	0.3				
Family concerned donation may delay the funeral	3	0.1	3	0.5						
Missing	1	0.0								
Total	3990	100.0	638	100.0	331	100.0	129	100.0	17	100.0

ORGAN DONORS, TRANSPLANT RECIPIENTS AND TRANSPLANT WAITING LIST

4.1 Overview

This section contains data on all organ donors (living and deceased), transplants and patients on the transplant waiting list over time. Further information is also included on post-registration outcomes, median waiting times to transplant and donor to recipient ethnicities.

Figure 4.1 shows ethnic minority deceased and living donors, transplants and those patients on the active transplant list as at 31 March every financial year from 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2025. Waiting list figures at the 31 March 2021 dose not accurately reflect the need for an organ transplant due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Different practices were established across the UK and across organ groups with regards to waiting list management.

There were 161 more active ethnic minority patients at 31 March 2025. There was a 3% decrease in the number of ethnic minority transplant recipients in 2024/25 and a 9% increase in the number of ethnic minority deceased organ donors. There is also a 13% increase in the number of living donors.

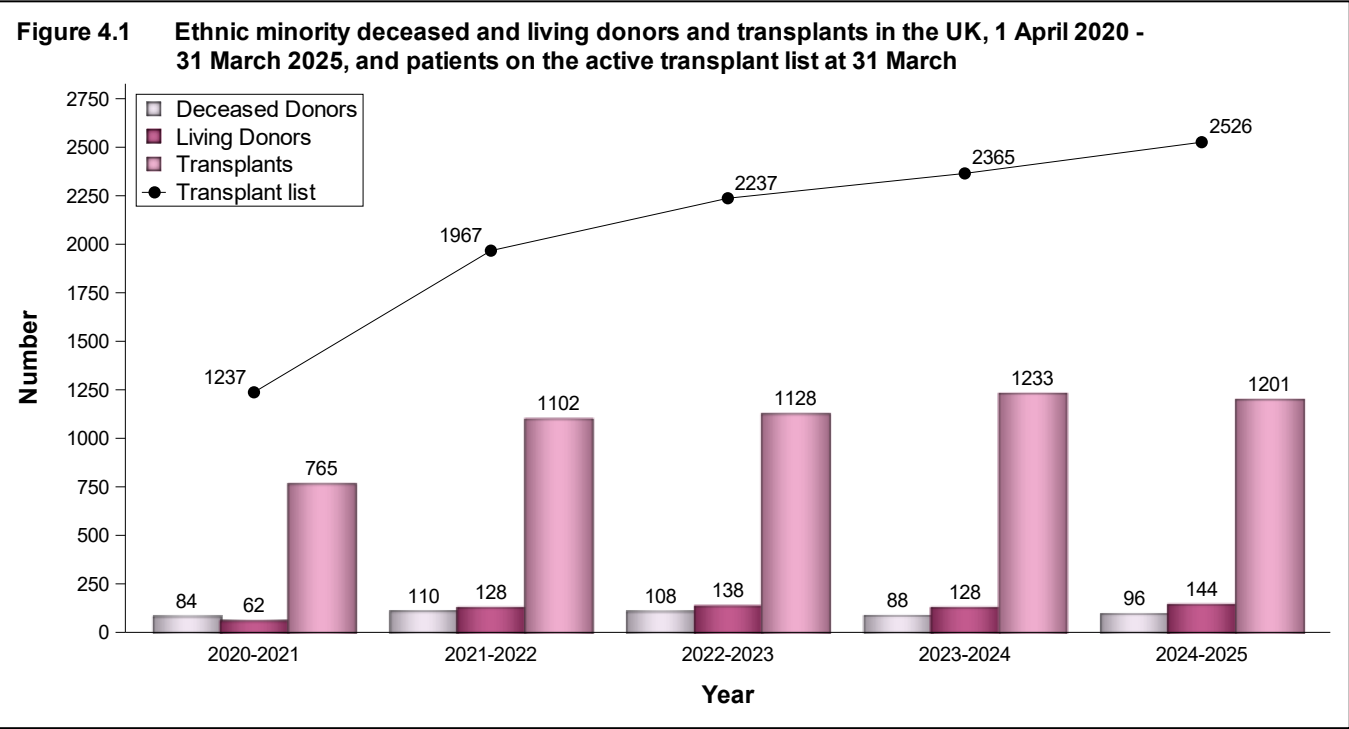
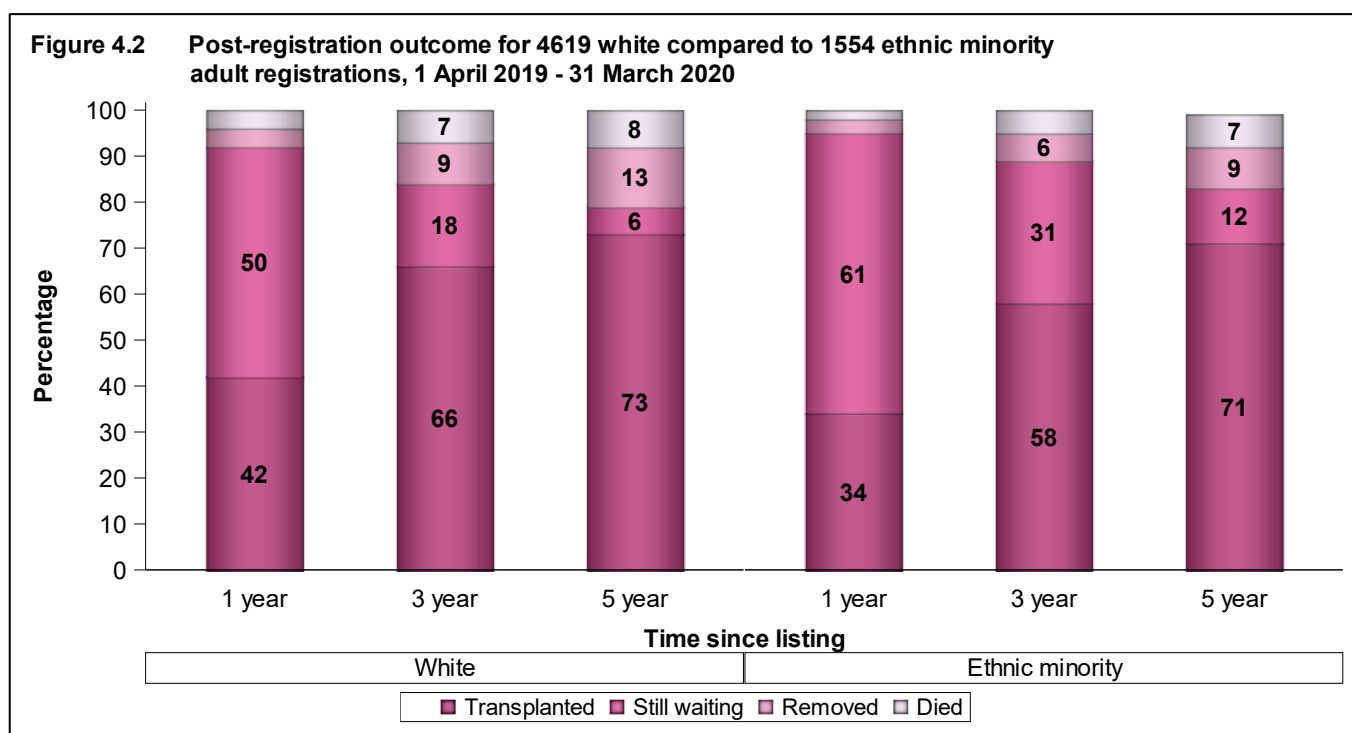


Table 4.1 shows a further breakdown of the number of living and deceased ethnic minority donors, transplants and those on the transplant waiting list from 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2025, where totals exclude those with ethnicity not recorded. Rates per million population (pmp) of the total population are also shown. Last year, patients from ethnic minority backgrounds accounted for a third of patients on the transplant waiting list, a quarter of all transplants and 10% of donors.

Table 4.1	Number of donors, transplants and waiting list in the UK, by financial year, and ethnic minority groups, 1 April 2020 - 31 March 2025				
	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025
Waiting list ¹	4189	6126	6730	7172	7647
Ethnic minority waiting list ¹	1237	1967	2237	2365	2526
Ethnic minority % of waiting list	29.5	32.1	33.2	33	33
Ethnic minority on waiting list per million population of total UK population (pmp)	18.3	29.1	33.1	35	37.4
Total donors	1597	2298	2356	2414	2334
Total ethnic minority donors	146	238	246	216	240
Ethnic minority % of donors	9.1	10.4	10.4	9	10.3
Ethnic minority donors pmp	2.2	3.5	3.6	3.2	3.6
Deceased donors	1145	1363	1397	1470	1343
Deceased ethnic minority donors	84	110	108	88	96
DBD ethnic minority donors	61	75	77	57	436
DCD ethnic minority donors	23	35	31	31	464
Ethnic minority % of deceased donors	7.3	8.1	7.7	6	7.1
Deceased ethnic minority donors pmp	1.2	1.6	1.6	1.3	1.4
Living donors	452	935	959	944	991
Living ethnic minority donors	62	128	138	128	144
Ethnic minority % of living donors	13.7	13.7	14.4	13.6	14.5
Living ethnic minority donors pmp	0.9	1.9	2	1.9	2.1
Total transplants	3348	4265	4415	4511	4385
Total ethnic minority transplants	765	1102	1128	1233	1201
Ethnic minority % of transplants	22.8	25.8	25.5	27.3	27.4
Ethnic minority transplants pmp	11.3	16.3	16.7	18.2	17.8
Deceased donor (DD) transplants	2903	3351	3483	3603	3470
Ethnic minority DD transplants	681	938	949	1080	1028
Ethnic minority % of deceased donor transplants	23.5	28	27.2	30	29.6
Ethnic minority DD transplants pmp	10.1	13.9	14	16	15.2
Living donor (LD) transplants	445	914	932	908	915
Ethnic minority LD transplants	84	164	179	153	173
Ethnic minority % of LD transplants	18.9	17.9	19.2	16.9	18.9
Ethnic minority LD transplants pmp	1.2	2.4	2.6	2.3	2.6
Unknown ethnicity was excluded					
Per million population of total UK population in 2021					
¹ Waiting list as at 31 March					

Figure 4.2 and **Table 4.2** show post-registration outcomes (transplanted, still waiting, removed from the list or died waiting on the list) for all organs after one year, three years and five years for white patients compared to patients from ethnic minority backgrounds registered between 1 April 2019 and 31 March 2020. Liver patients that were removed from the list because their condition deteriorated were grouped with those who died. This figure illustrates that ethnic minority groups tend to wait for an organ longer than white patients, however, proportionally fewer are removed from the transplant list or die waiting for a transplant.



	1 year		3 year		5 year	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
White						
Transplanted	1950	42.2	3044	65.9	3385	73.3
Still waiting	2310	50.0	834	18.1	270	5.8
Removed	186	4.0	414	9.0	578	12.5
Died	173	3.7	327	7.1	386	8.4
Ethnic minority						
Transplanted	526	33.8	902	58.0	1108	71.3
Still waiting	953	61.3	483	31.1	192	12.4
Removed	40	2.6	90	5.8	144	9.3
Died	35	2.3	79	5.1	110	7.1

This pattern is further demonstrated in **Table 4.3** which gives the median waiting time to transplant for adult and paediatric patients for each organ. Generally, white patients wait less time than ethnic minority patients. Black patients or those of other ethnic minority groups tend to wait the longest across organs.

Table 4.3 Median waiting time to transplant in the UK

Ethnicity	Number of patients registered	Waiting time (days)	
		Median	95% Confidence interval
Adult kidney			
White	7340	463	444 - 482
Asian	2073	592	551 - 633
Black	1227	560	512 - 608
Other	396	530	441 - 619
TOTAL	11240	503	487 - 519
Paediatric kidney			
White	158	292	215 - 369
Asian	80	676	583 - 769
Black	30	360	257 - 463
Other	17	729	594 - 864
TOTAL	294	387	293 - 481
Adult pancreas			
White	723	487	443 - 531
Asian	54	464	246 - 682
Black	40	387	149 - 625
Other	15	418	237 - 599
TOTAL	855	478	445 - 511
Adult liver			
White	1574	147	130 - 164
Asian	145	126	50 - 202
Black	53	132	0 - 288
Other	21	162	0 - 365
TOTAL	1892	144	127 - 161
Paediatric liver	157	183	133 - 233
Adult never urgent heart			
White	477	1828	1285 - 2371
Asian	46	-	-
Black	16	-	-
Other	10	1146	0 - 2439
TOTAL	559	2193	-
Adult ever urgent heart			
White	585	51	44 - 58
Asian	71	53	30 - 76
Black	37	32	0 - 68
Other	10	59	11 - 107
TOTAL	711	50	43 - 57
Adult super-urgent heart	227	14	11 - 17
Paediatric never urgent heart	61	754	399 - 1109
Paediatric urgent heart	209	125	85 - 165
Adult never urgent lung			
White	1110	566	496 - 636
Asian	60	-	-
Black	23	1171	687 - 1655
TOTAL	1209	584	518 - 650
Adult urgent lung	188	23	16 - 30
Paediatric never urgent lung	23	225	33 - 417

The number of deaths on the transplant waiting list broken down by financial year, organ type and ethnicity are shown in **Table 4.4**. Over the last year, there has been no change in the number of deaths on the waiting list across all organs, from 462 to 463. Patients from ethnic minority backgrounds accounted for 24% of those who died waiting for a transplant in 2024/25.

Table 4.4 Number of deaths on the transplant waiting list, by financial year, organ and ethnicity, 1 April 2020 - 31 March 2025										
	2020-2021		2021-2022		2022-2023		2023-2024		2024-2025	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Kidney										
White	222	64.7	222	71.2	204	68.2	195	69.9	218	71.0
Asian	76	22.2	50	16.0	57	19.1	41	14.7	51	16.6
Black	41	12.0	34	10.9	30	10.0	34	12.2	25	8.1
Other	4	1.2	6	1.9	8	2.7	9	3.2	12	3.9
Unknown	3		5		4		7		7	0.3
Total	346	100.0	317	100.0	303	100.0	286	100.0	313	100.0
Pancreas										
White	24	92.3	21	87.5	31	93.9	25	83.3	19	82.6
Asian	2	7.7	1	4.2	2	6.1	2	6.7		
Black			1	4.2			2	6.7	2	8.7
Other			1	4.2			1	3.3	1	4.3
Unknown	1								2	4.3
Total	27	100.0	24	100.0	33	100.0	30	100.0	24	100.0
Liver										
White	67	85.9	59	85.5	62	87.3	60	87.0	51	89.5
Asian	8	10.3	4	5.8	3	4.2	7	10.1	4	7.0
Black	3	3.8	3	4.3	4	5.6			2	3.5
Other			3	4.3	2	2.8	2	2.9		
Unknown	1		2		1				1	
Total	79	100.0	71	100.0	72	100.0	69	100.0	58	100.0
Cardiothoracic										
White	78	85.7	72	84.7	73	89.0	63	84.0	57	85.1
Asian	10	11.0	8	9.4	8	9.8	6	8.0	10	14.9
Black	3	3.3	4	4.7			5	6.7		
Other			1	1.2	1	1.2	1	1.3		
Unknown					3		1		1	
Total	91	100.0	85	100.0	85	100.0	76	100.0	68	100.0
Total										
White	385	72.2	372	76.2	369	76.2	344	75.8	344	75.8
Asian	97	18.2	63	12.9	70	14.5	56	12.3	65	14.3
Black	47	8.8	42	8.6	34	7.0	41	9.0	30	6.6
Other	4	0.8	11	2.3	11	2.3	13	2.9	13	2.9
Unknown	5		7		8		8		11	0.4
Total	538	100.0	495	100.0	492	100.0	462	100.0	463	100.0

Figure 4.3 and **Table 4.5** display donor ethnicities for each recipient ethnic group for all transplants in the UK over the last 5 years (1 April 2020 to 31 March 2025). It shows that most ethnicities receive an organ from a white donor (living or deceased). There is also evidence of ethnicity matching between donor and recipient, with the second most common donor ethnicity being the same as the recipient's ethnicity for most ethnic minority groups.

Figure 4.3 Donor to recipient ethnicities for all transplants in the UK, 1 April 2020 - 31 March 2025

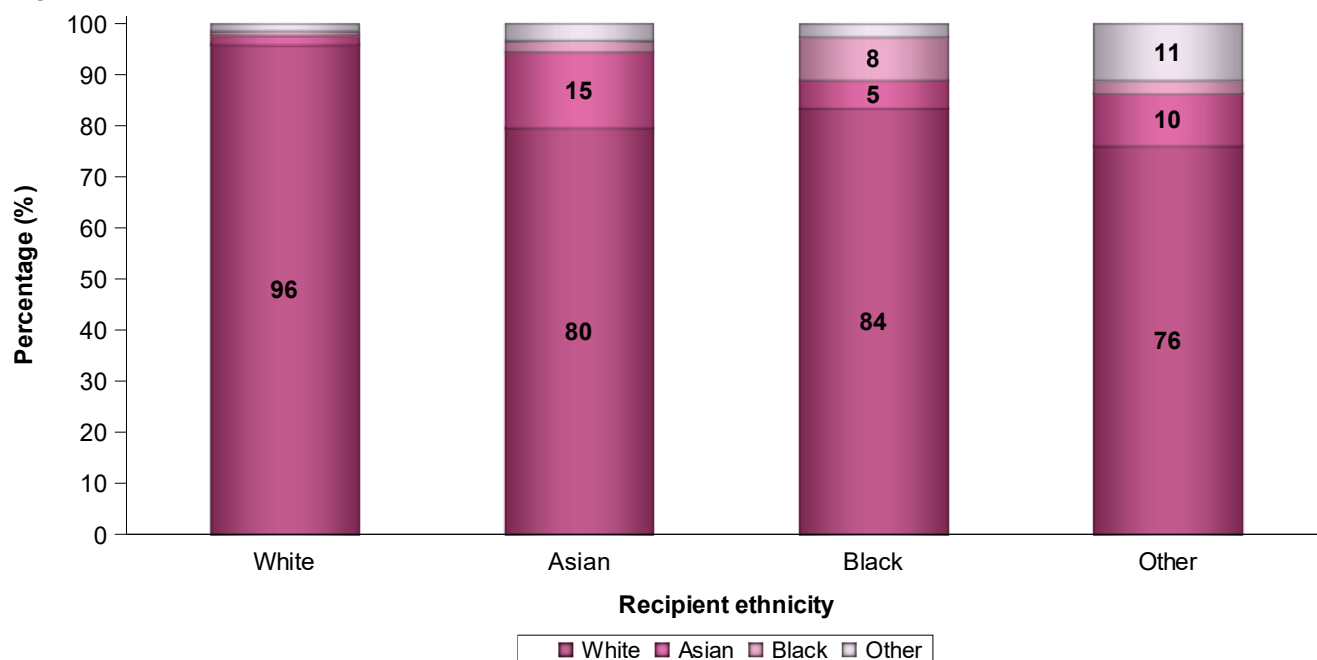


Table 4.5 Donor to recipient ethnicities for all transplants in the UK, 1 April 2020 - 31 March 2025

Donor ethnicity	Recipient ethnicity									
	White		Asian		Black		Other		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
White	9967	95.5	1941	79.5	1201	83.1	376	76.1	13485	91.4
Asian	187	1.8	361	14.8	79	5.5	51	10.3	678	4.6
Black	89	0.9	54	2.2	122	8.4	13	2.6	278	1.9
Other	144	1.4	79	3.2	36	2.5	54	10.9	313	2.1
Total	10387	100.0	2435	100.0	1438	100.0	494	100.0	14754	100.0

Deceased organ donors, deceased donor transplant recipients and patients on the transplant list at 31 March each year are shown by ethnicity from 2020/21 to 2024/25 in **Figure 4.4** and **Figure 4.5** where **Figure 4.4** includes all patients and **Figure 4.5** only includes ethnic minority groups. Similarly, **Figure 4.6** and **Figure 4.7** display this information for living donors and living donor transplant recipients receiving a kidney or liver. Numbers relating to **Figures 4.4 to 4.7** are shown in **Table 4.6**; numbers in these charts are subject to rounding effects.

The figures illustrate that there are proportionally more ethnic minority living donors than deceased donors. There are proportionally more ethnic minority people on the list for transplant than there are among people transplanted, reflecting an inequity of access to transplant for some organs.



Figure 4.4 Deceased donors, deceased donor transplants and patients on the waiting list
(as at 31 March each year), 1 April 2020 - 31 March 2025

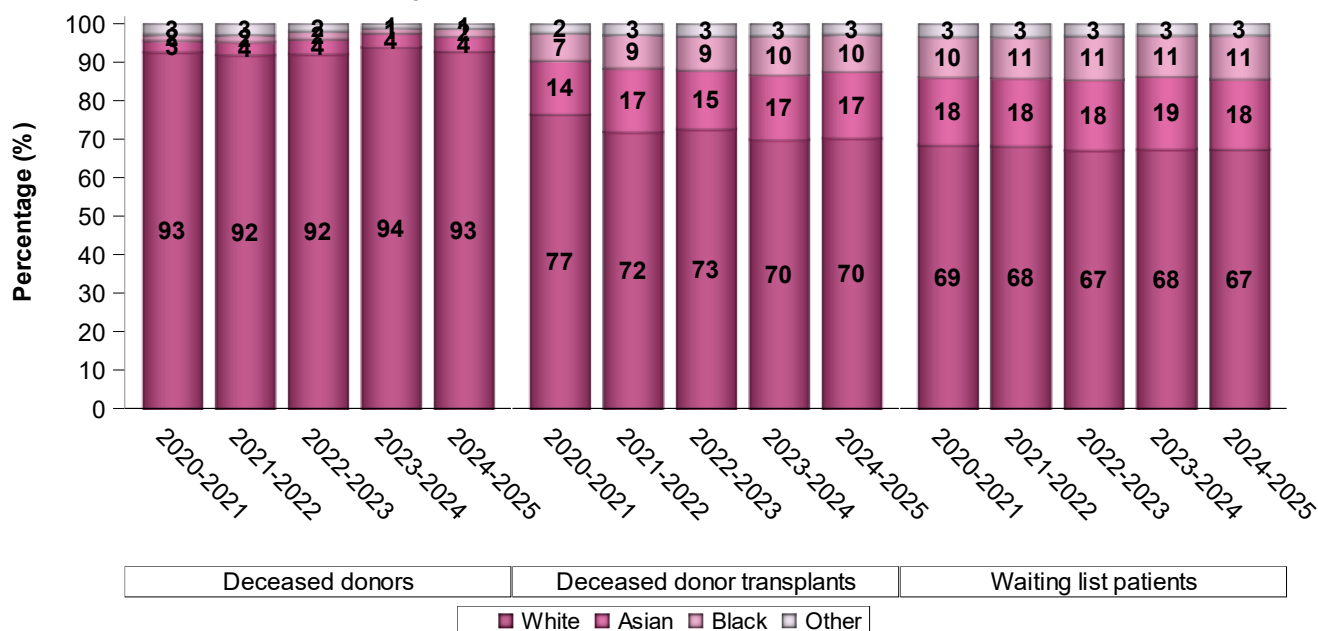


Figure 4.5 Ethnic minority groups - Deceased donors, deceased donor transplants and patients on the waiting list
(as at 31 March each year), 1 April 2020 - 31 March 2025

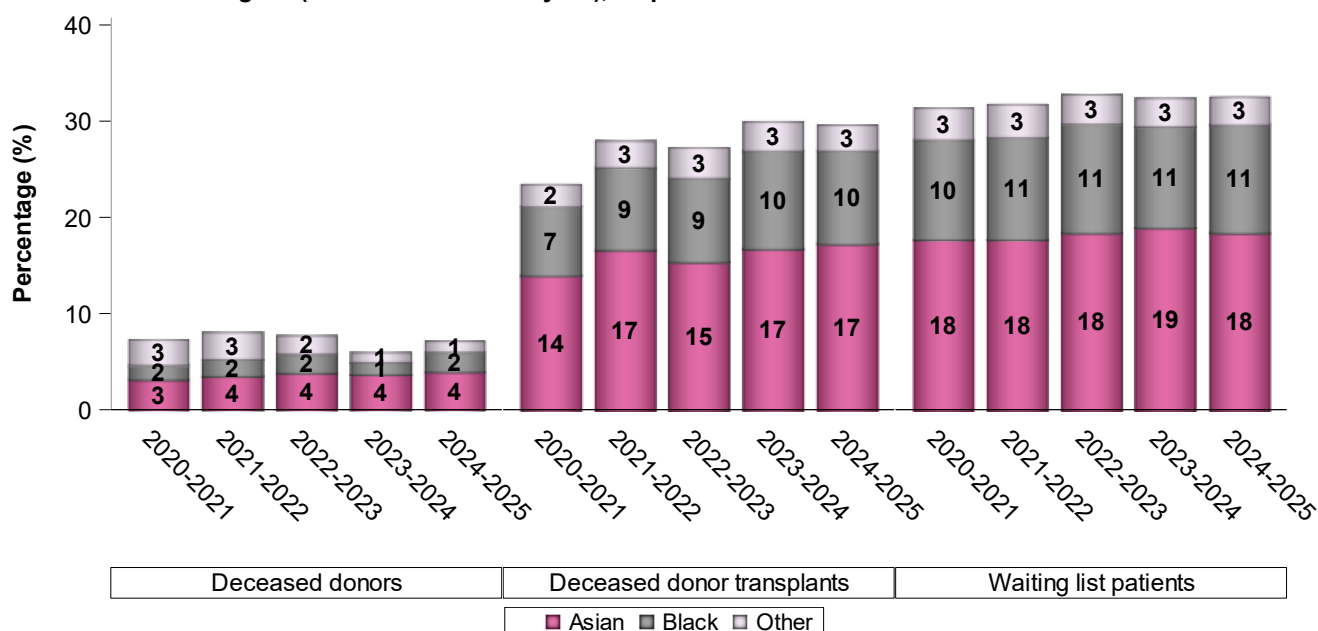


Figure 4.6 Living donors and transplants 1 April 2020 - 31 March 2025

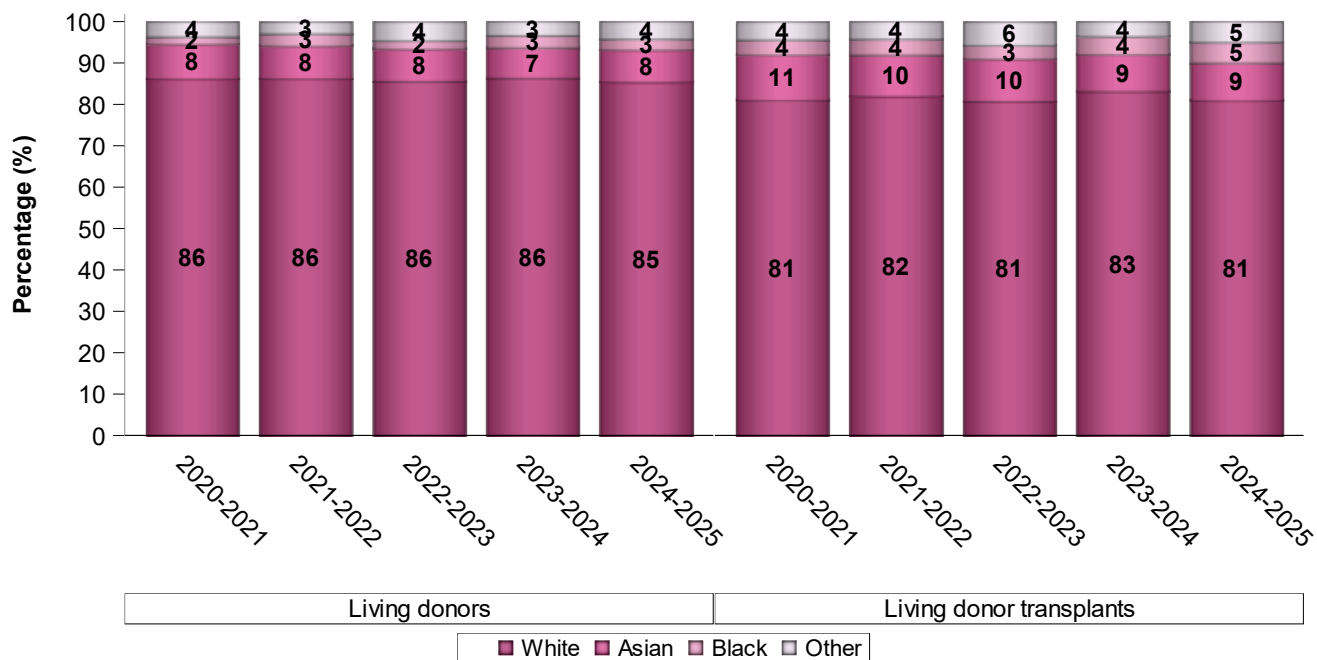


Figure 4.7 Ethnic minority groups - Living donors and transplants, 1 April 2020 - 31 March 2025

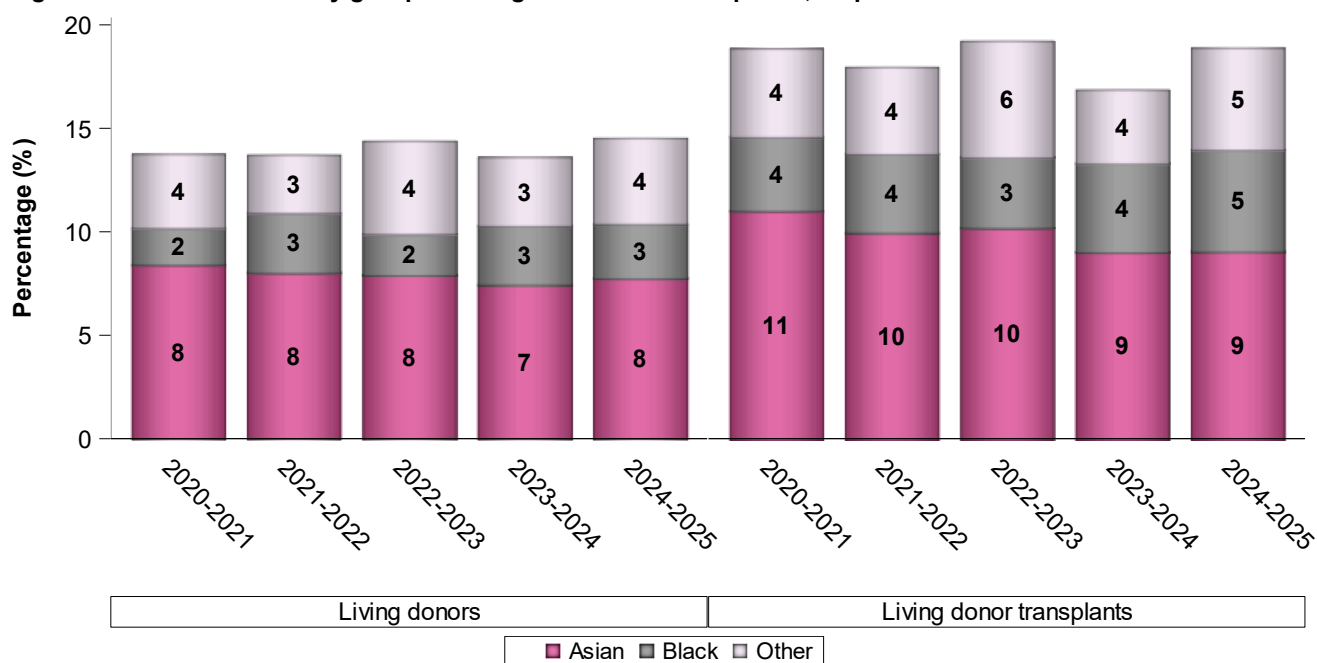


Table 4.6 Number of donors, transplants and waiting list patients in the UK, by ethnicity and, financial year, 1 April 2020 - 31 March 2025										
Ethnicity	2020-2021		2021-2022		Financial year 2022-2023		2023-2024		2024-2025	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Deceased donors										
White	1061	92.7	1253	91.9	1289	92.3	1382	94.0	1247	92.9
Asian	36	3.1	48	3.5	54	3.9	54	3.7	53	3.9
Black	18	1.6	24	1.8	28	2.0	19	1.3	28	2.1
Other	30	2.6	38	2.8	26	1.9	15	1.0	15	1.1
Total	1145	100.0	1363	100.0	1397	100.0	1470	100.0	1343	100.0
Deceased donor transplants										
White	2222	76.5	2413	72.0	2534	72.8	2523	70.0	2442	70.4
Asian	406	14.0	557	16.6	536	15.4	604	16.8	600	17.3
Black	209	7.2	288	8.6	304	8.7	368	10.2	336	9.7
Other	66	2.3	93	2.8	109	3.1	108	3.0	92	2.7
Total	2903	100.0	3351	100.0	3483	100.0	3603	100.0	3470	100.0
Waiting list										
White	2952	70.5	4159	67.9	4493	66.8	4807	67.0	5121	67.0
Asian	759	18.1	1129	18.4	1264	18.8	1388	19.4	1460	19.1
Black	376	9.0	628	10.3	766	11.4	760	10.6	857	11.2
Other	102	2.4	210	3.4	207	3.1	217	3.0	209	2.7
Total	4189	100.0	6126	100.0	6730	100.0	7172	100.0	7647	100.0
Living donors										
White	389	86.3	804	86.3	821	85.6	813	86.4	847	85.5
Asian	38	8.4	75	8.0	76	7.9	70	7.4	77	7.8
Black	8	1.8	27	2.9	19	2.0	27	2.9	26	2.6
Other	16	3.5	26	2.8	43	4.5	31	3.3	41	4.1
Total	451	100.0	932	100.0	959	100.0	941	100.0	991	100.0
Living donor transplants										
White	361	81.1	750	82.1	753	80.8	755	83.1	742	81.1
Asian	49	11.0	91	10.0	95	10.2	82	9.0	83	9.1
Black	16	3.6	35	3.8	32	3.4	39	4.3	45	4.9
Other	19	4.3	38	4.2	52	5.6	32	3.5	45	4.9
Total	445	100.0	914	100.0	932	100.0	908	100.0	915	100.0

Table 4.7 summarises all deceased donor transplants by country of residence, ethnicity of recipient and organ transplanted in 2024/25. Patients in Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland requiring transplants that are not undertaken in that country are referred to another UK country (usually England) for transplantation. If the patient's address was unknown the country of transplant was used instead. Few ethnic minority deceased donor transplant recipients live in Northern Ireland, Scotland or Wales.

Table 4.7 Deceased donor transplants by country of residence, organ and ethnicity, 1 April 2024 - 31 March 2025

Country of residence	Kidney	Pancreas ¹	Kidney/pancreas ²	Transplants (N)		Liver	Intestinal	Multiorgan ³	Total
				Heart	Lung				
ENGLAND									
White	1079	10	80	104	115	578	13	4	1983
Asian	442		8	30	8	83		1	572
Black	281		5	7		29		1	323
Other	61		4	7		11	1	1	85
WALES									
White	80	1	5	9	8	41			144
Asian	9					1			10
Black	1								1
Other	2					1			3
SCOTLAND									
White	114	8	13	32	10	65	2		244
Asian	9			2		2			13
Black	8	1				1			10
Other	2					2			4
NORTHERN IRELAND									
White	27			4	5	19	1		56
Asian						1			1
Black	1					1			2

¹ Includes 14 islet transplants

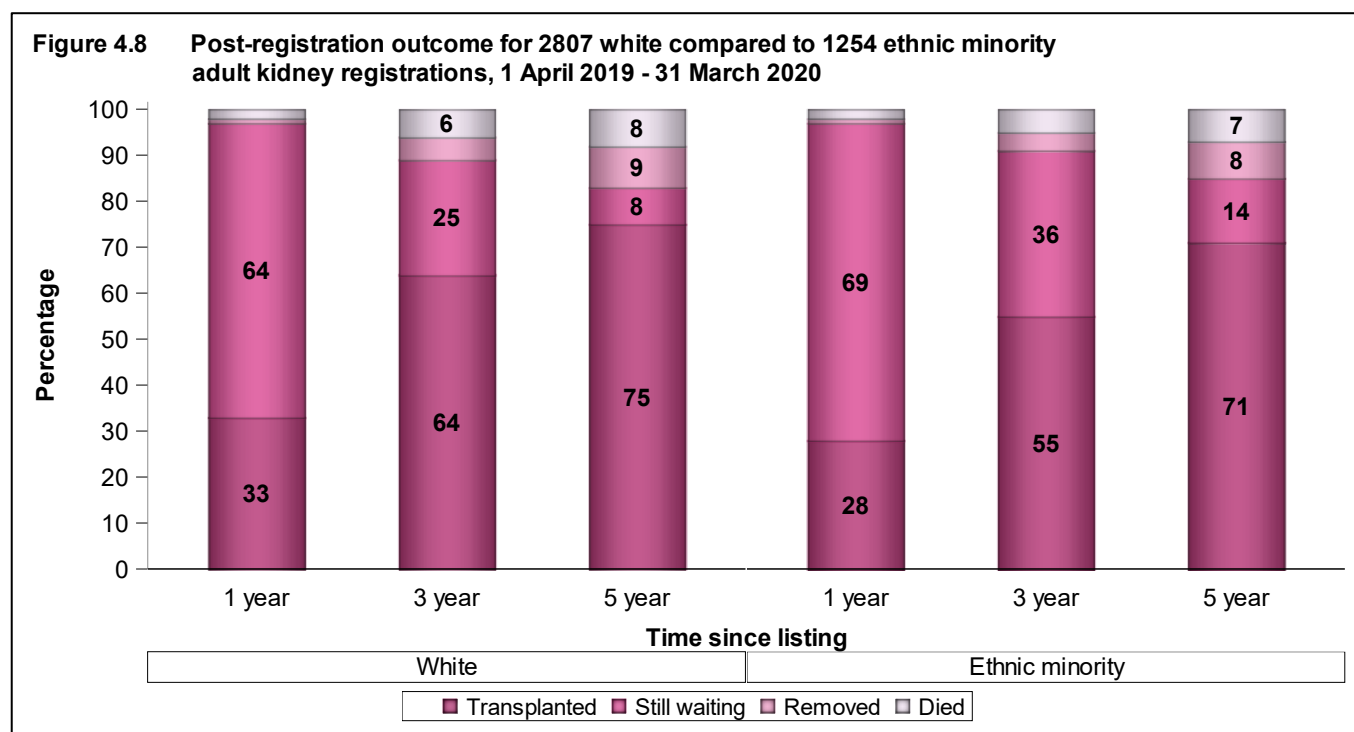
² Includes 9 islet/kidney transplants

³ Includes 7 liver/kidney transplants

4.2 Kidney

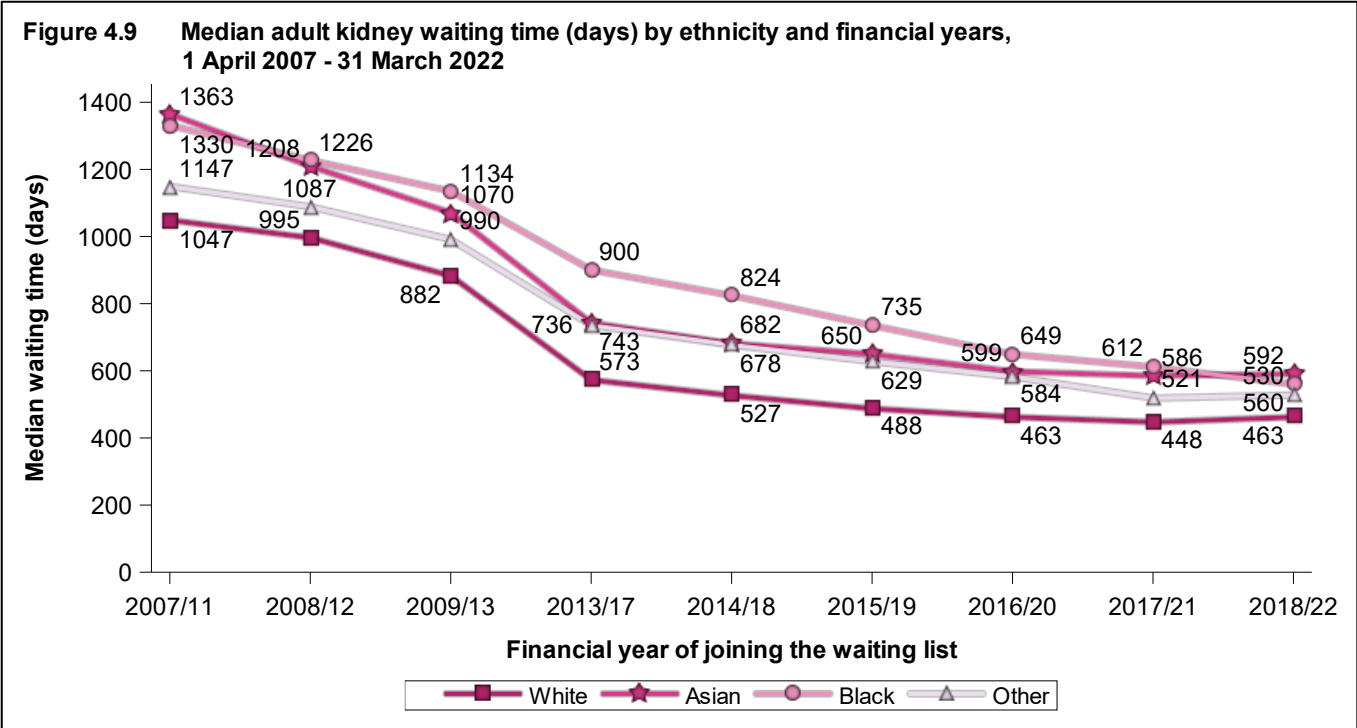
The vast majority of transplants are for patients who require a kidney either from living or deceased donation. Post-registration outcomes, median waiting times, donor to recipient ethnicities, deceased and living donor transplants are detailed in this section.

Figure 4.8 and **Table 4.8** show post-registration outcome comparisons for white and ethnic minority adult kidney patients registered from 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020. Post-registration, 29% of ethnic minority kidney patients compared to 33% of white patients are transplanted in the first year. Patients from ethnic minority backgrounds are waiting longer for a kidney compared to white patients but have a lower death or removal rate, with a higher rate of patients waiting on the list.



	1 year		3 year		5 year	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
White						
Transplanted	930	33.1	1801	64.2	2102	74.9
Still waiting	1787	63.7	693	24.7	227	8.1
Removed	30	1.1	147	5.2	263	9.4
Died	60	2.1	166	5.9	215	7.7
Ethnic minority						
Transplanted	355	28.3	695	55.4	891	71.1
Still waiting	871	69.5	454	36.2	179	14.3
Removed	9	0.7	47	3.7	99	7.9
Died	19	1.5	58	4.6	85	6.8

Figure 4.9 gives the adult median waiting time for a kidney transplant in days, by ethnicity and financial year group from 1 April 2007 to 31 March 2022. It shows an overall decline in waiting times for all ethnicities, although black patients are waiting three months longer for a transplant than white patients.



In the last year, **Figure 4.10** shows that 7% of deceased kidney donors are from ethnic minority groups whilst ethnic minority patients represent 37% of transplants and account for 35% of the kidney transplant waiting list. **Table 4.10** provides the numbers for **Figure 4.10**.

Figure 4.11 and **Table 4.11** display deceased donor to recipient ethnicities for kidney transplants in the UK from 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2025. Likewise, **Figure 4.12** and **Table 4.12** show the living donor to recipient ethnicities. Generally, ethnic minority kidney transplant recipients receive white donor organs. However, for living donor transplants, recipients are much more likely to receive a kidney from someone of the same ethnicity with the exception of mixed ethnic group.

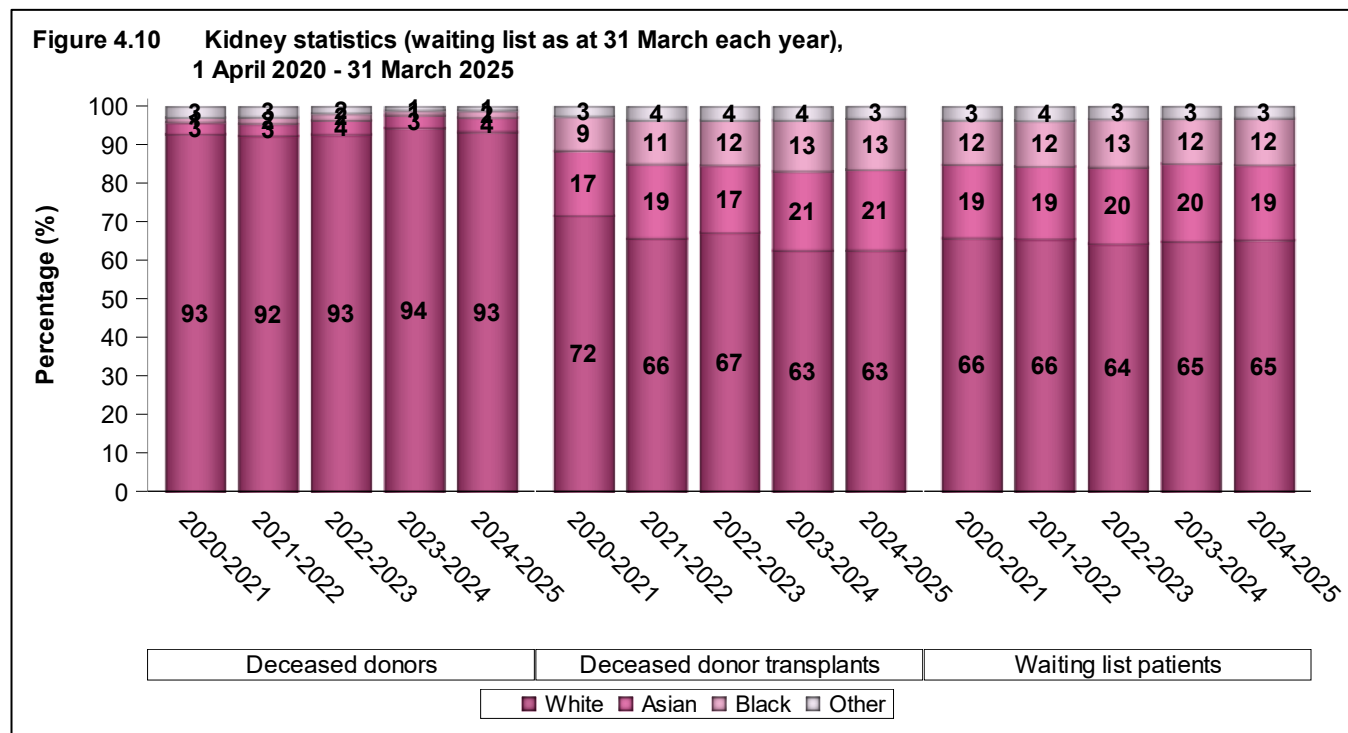


Table 4.10 Kidney statistics (waiting list as at 31 March), 1 April 2020 - 31 March 2025															
Ethnicity	Deceased donors					Deceased donor transplants					Waiting list patients				
	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025
White	997	1200	1233	1330	1217	1366	1463	1554	1487	1408	5341	5651	5781	6104	6536
Asian	32	41	50	48	49	320	427	402	487	470	1537	1621	1773	1902	1951
Black	15	23	24	17	24	170	255	271	316	297	940	1023	1124	1091	1221
Other	30	35	23	14	13	49	78	82	84	70	283	315	293	297	304
Total	1074	1299	1330	1409	1303	1905	2223	2309	2374	2245	8101	8610	8971	9394	10012

Figure 4.11 Deceased donor to recipient ethnicities for kidney transplants in the UK,
1 April 2020 - 31 March 2025

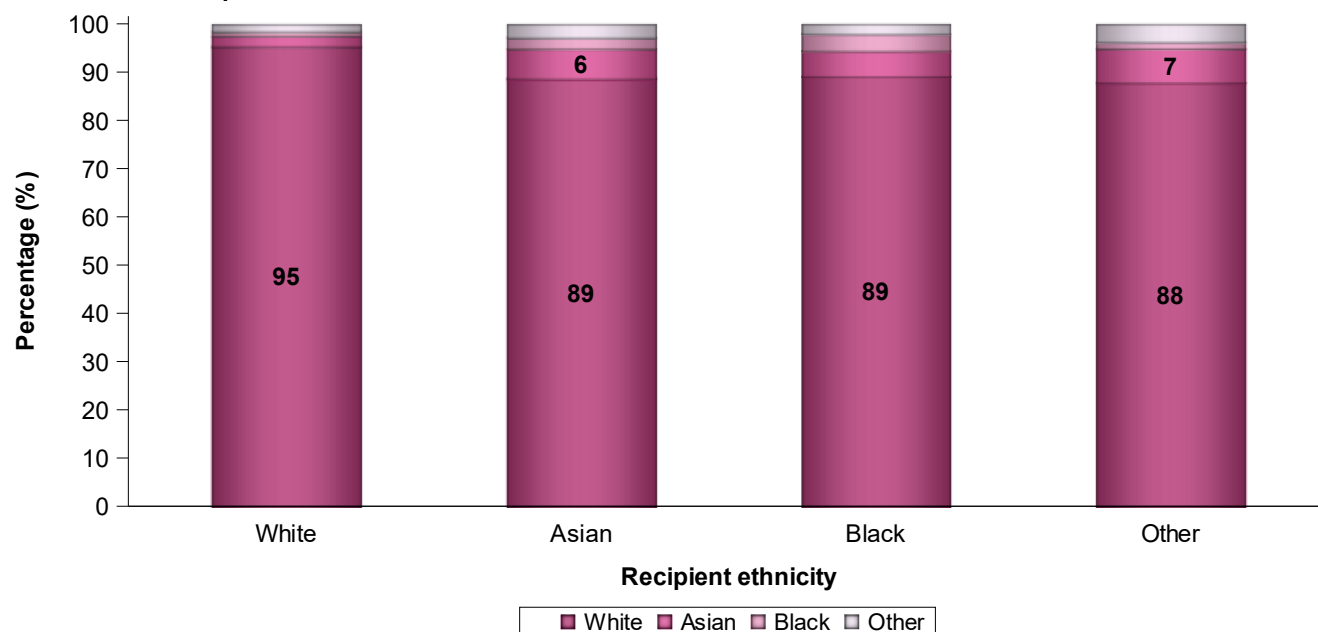


Table 4.11 Deceased donor to recipient ethnicities for kidney transplants in the UK,
1 April 2020 - 31 March 2025

Donor ethnicity	Recipient ethnicity									
	White		Asian		Black		Other		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
White	6686	95.3	1818	88.7	1134	89.2	310	87.8	9948	93.1
Asian	152	2.2	126	6.1	67	5.3	25	7.1	370	3.5
Black	70	1.0	49	2.4	45	3.5	5	1.4	169	1.6
Other	105	1.5	57	2.8	26	2.0	13	3.7	201	1.9
Total	7013	100.0	2050	100.0	1272	100.0	353	100.0	10688	100.0

Figure 4.12 Living donor to recipient ethnicities for kidney transplants in the UK,
1 April 2020 - 31 March 2025

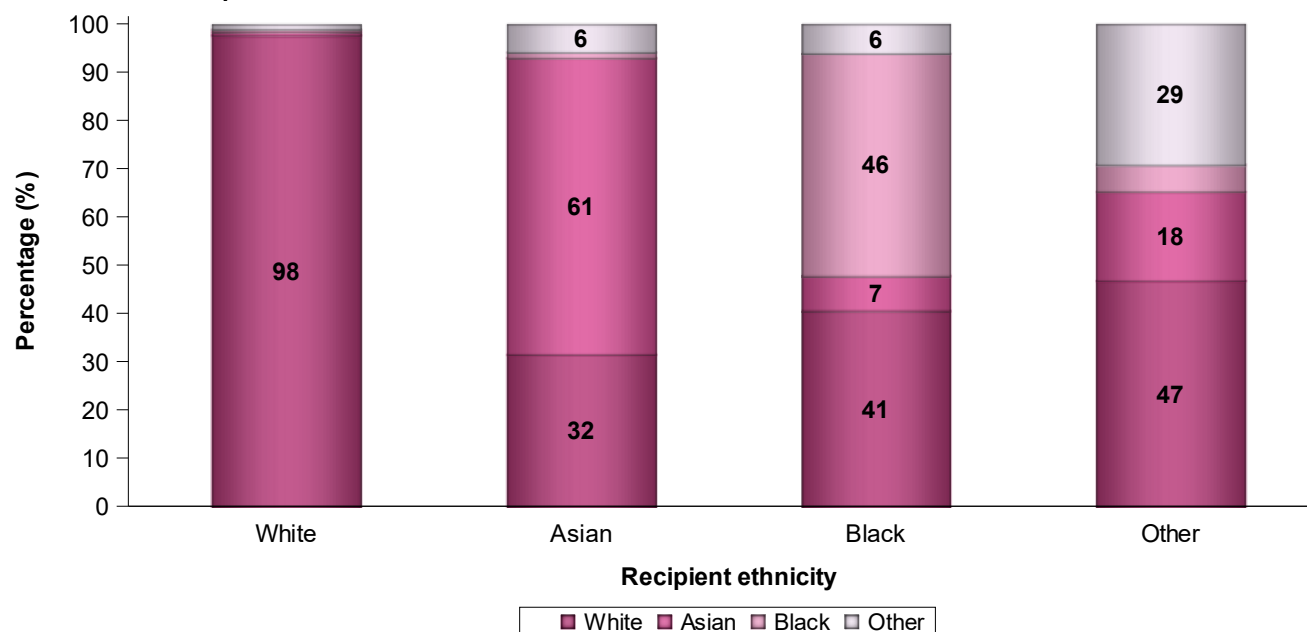


Table 4.12 Living donor to recipient ethnicities for kidney transplants in the UK,
1 April 2020 - 31 March 2025

Donor ethnicity	Recipient ethnicity									
	White		Asian		Black		Other		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
White	3204	97.7	121	31.6	67	40.6	66	46.8	3458	87.1
Asian	28	0.9	235	61.4	12	7.3	26	18.4	301	7.6
Black	17	0.5	5	1.3	76	46.1	8	5.7	106	2.7
Other	32	1.0	22	5.7	10	6.1	41	29.1	105	2.6
Total	3281	100.0	383	100.0	165	100.0	141	100.0	3970	100.0

Figure 4.13 and **Table 4.13** break down adult living donor kidney recipients by transplant type and ethnicity for the same time period from 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2025. Ethnic minority living donor transplant recipients mostly received a kidney from family or friends (related/unrelated). In the last 5 years, there have been 5 Asian, 2 black and 2 other ethnic minority altruistic donors.

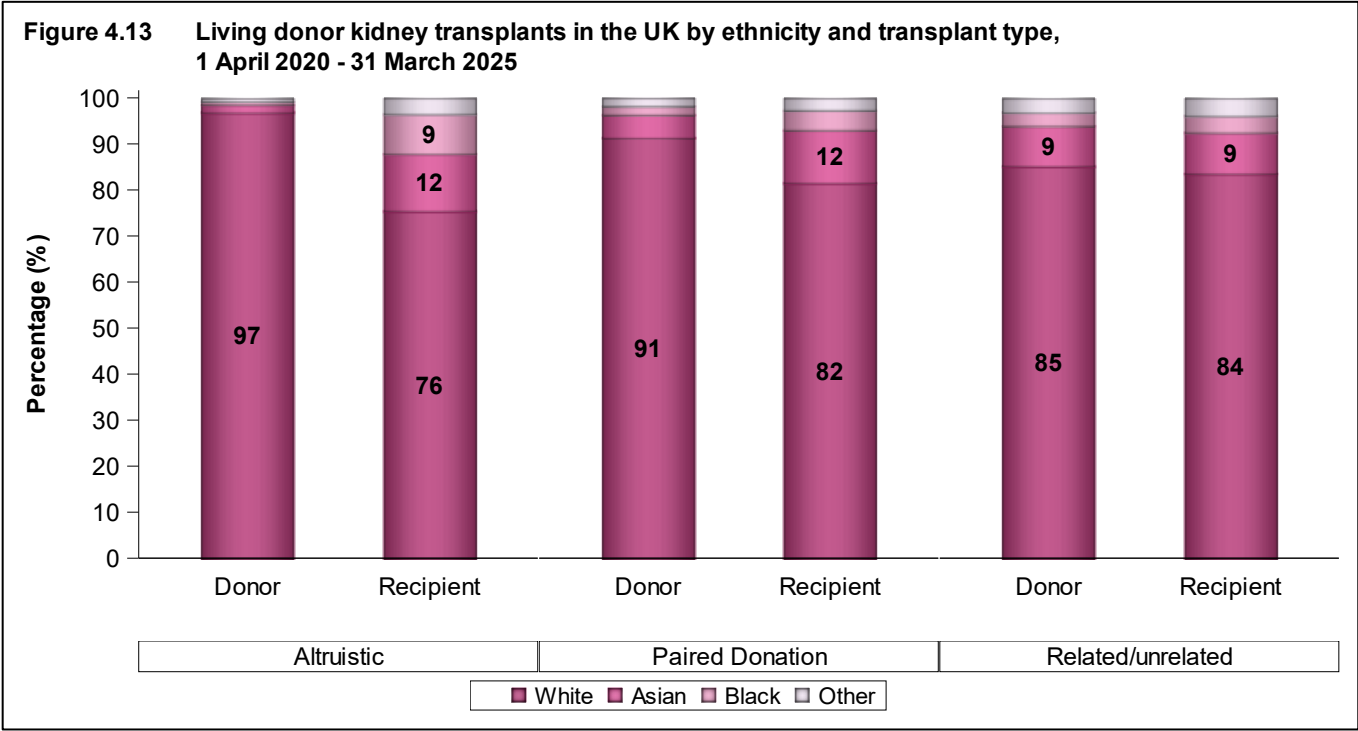


Table 4.13 Living donor kidney transplants in the UK by ethnicity and transplant type, 1 April 2020 - 31 March 2025					
Type of living donation	Ethnicity	Donor		Recipient	
		N	%	N	%
Altruistic	White	281	96.9	219	75.5
	Asian	5	1.7	36	12.4
	Black	2	0.7	25	8.6
	Other	2	0.7	10	3.4
		290	100.0	290	100.0
Paired Donation	White	634	91.4	566	81.6
	Asian	35	5.0	80	11.5
	Black	13	1.9	30	4.3
	Other	12	1.7	18	2.6
		694	100.0	694	100.0
Related/unrelated	White	2543	85.2	2496	83.6
	Asian	261	8.7	267	8.9
	Black	91	3.0	110	3.7
	Other	91	3.0	113	3.8
		2986	100.0	2986	100.0

4.3 Pancreas and kidney/pancreas

This section focuses on pancreas and kidney/pancreas transplantation, reporting on post-registration outcomes and deceased pancreas donors, transplant recipients and transplant waiting list. The number of pancreas or kidney/pancreas transplants per year are small for patients from ethnic minority backgrounds.

Figure 4.14 and **Table 4.14** shows post-registration outcome comparisons for white and ethnic minority adult pancreas patients registered from 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020. Of the 35 ethnic minority pancreas patients listed, 60% were transplanted within 5 years. This rate is lower than white patients. The number of patients from ethnic minority backgrounds is very small so results should be interpreted with caution.

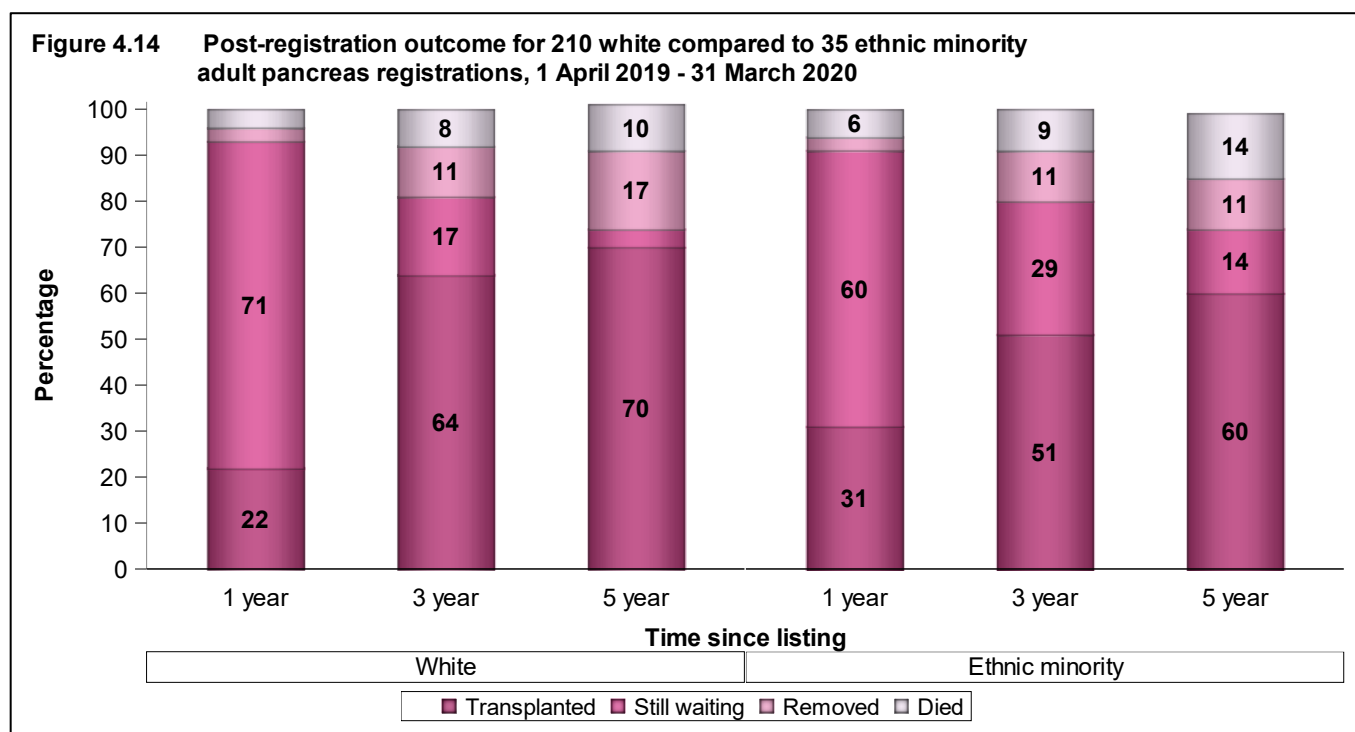


Table 4.14 Post-registration outcome for 210 white compared to 35 ethnic minority adult pancreas registrations, 1 April 2019 - 31 March 2020						
	1 year		3 year		5 year	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
White						
Transplanted	47	22.4	134	63.8	146	69.5
Still waiting	149	71.0	36	17.1	8	3.8
Removed	6	2.9	23	11.0	36	17.1
Died	8	3.8	17	8.1	20	9.5
Ethnic minority						
Transplanted	11	31.4	18	51.4	21	60.0
Still waiting	21	60.0	10	28.6	5	14.3
Removed	1	2.9	4	11.4	4	11.4
Died	2	5.7	3	8.6	5	14.3

Figure 4.15 shows in the last financial year that 8% of deceased pancreas donors are from ethnic minority groups whilst patients from ethnic minority backgrounds represent 13% of transplants and 15% of the pancreas or islet transplant waiting list. **Table 4.15** shows the numbers in **Figure 4.15**.

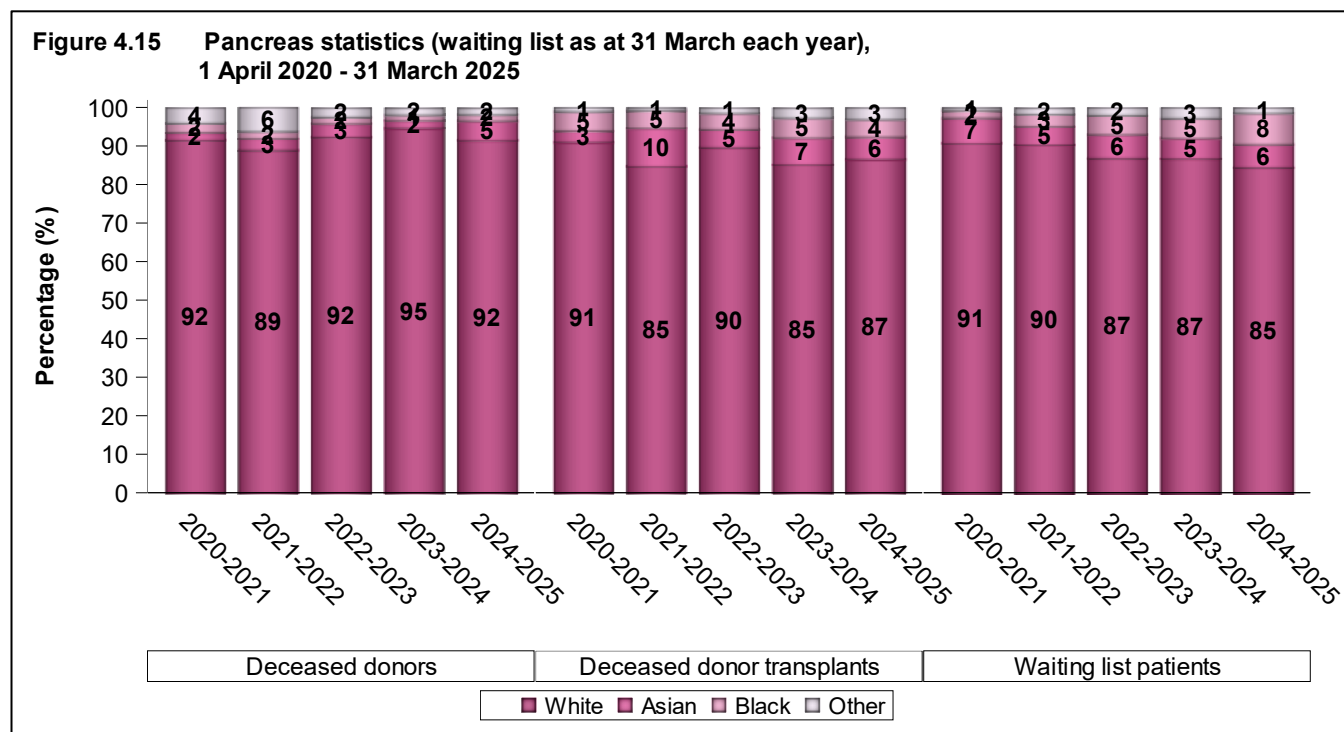


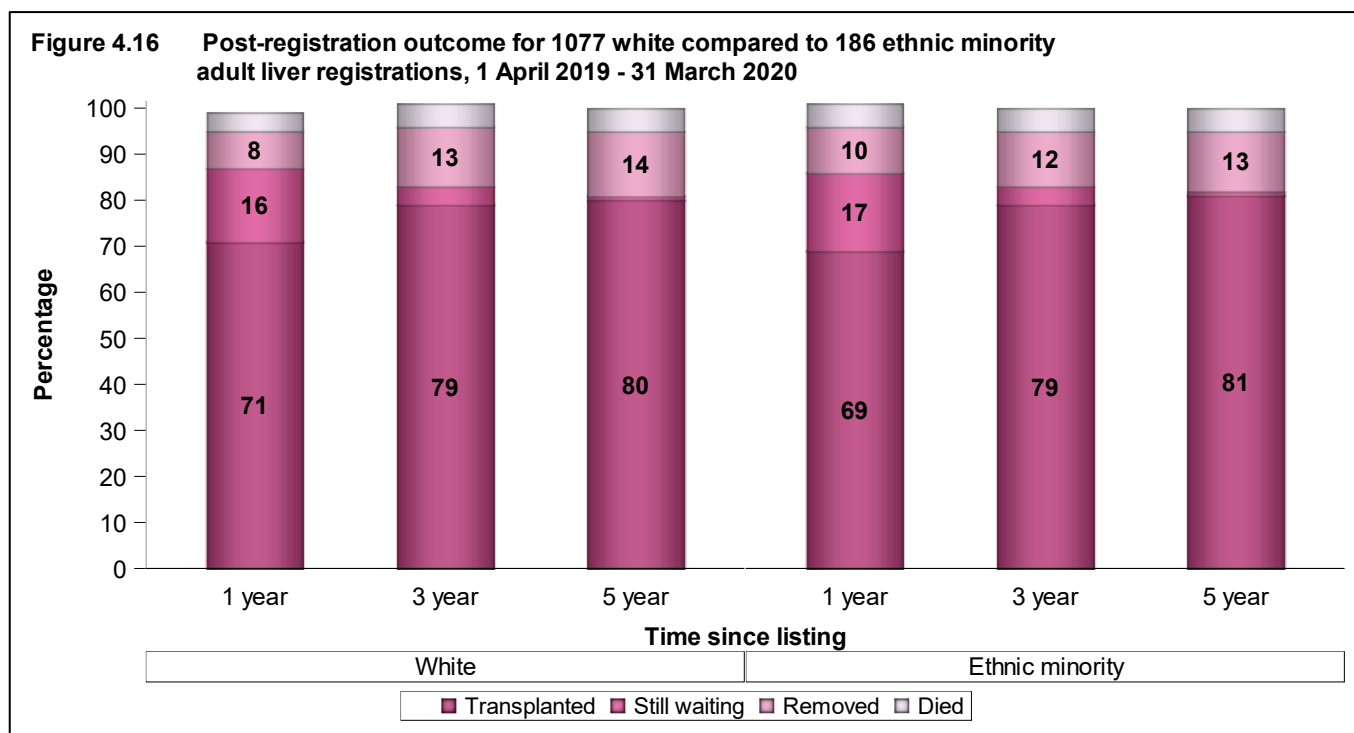
Table 4.15 Pancreas statistics (waiting list as at 31 March), 1 April 2020 - 31 March 2025

Ethnicity	Deceased donors					Deceased donor transplants					Waiting list patients				
	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025
White	187	291	318	319	272	92	129	131	133	117	139	227	226	257	251
Asian	4	10	12	7	15	3	15	7	11	8	10	12	16	16	18
Black	5	6	6	5	5	5	7	6	8	6	3	8	13	15	24
Other	8	20	8	6	5	1	1	2	4	4	1	4	5	8	4
Total	204	327	344	337	297	101	152	146	156	135	153	251	260	296	297

4.4 Liver

This section focuses on liver transplantation reporting on post-registration outcomes, median waiting times and deceased liver donors, transplant recipients and transplant waiting list. Figures for living liver donation have not been reported on separately due to the small number of ethnic minority recipients.

Figure 4.16 and **Table 4.16** shows post-registration outcome comparisons for white and ethnic minority adult liver patients registered from 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020. Liver patients that were removed from the list because their condition deteriorated were defined as having died. A similar proportion of ethnic minority patients are transplanted compared to white patients at each time point post listing.



	1 year		3 year		5 year	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
White						
Transplanted	770	71.5	848	78.7	861	79.9
Still waiting	177	16.4	39	3.6	13	1.2
Removed	91	8.4	139	12.9	149	13.8
Died	39	3.6	51	4.7	54	5.0
Ethnic minority						
Transplanted	128	68.8	147	79.0	150	80.6
Still waiting	31	16.7	7	3.8	2	1.1
Removed	18	9.7	23	12.4	24	12.9
Died	9	4.8	9	4.8	10	5.4

Figure 4.17 gives the adult median waiting time for a liver in days by ethnicity and financial year from 1 April 2009 to 31 March 2024. It shows a recent increase in waiting times for all ethnicities.

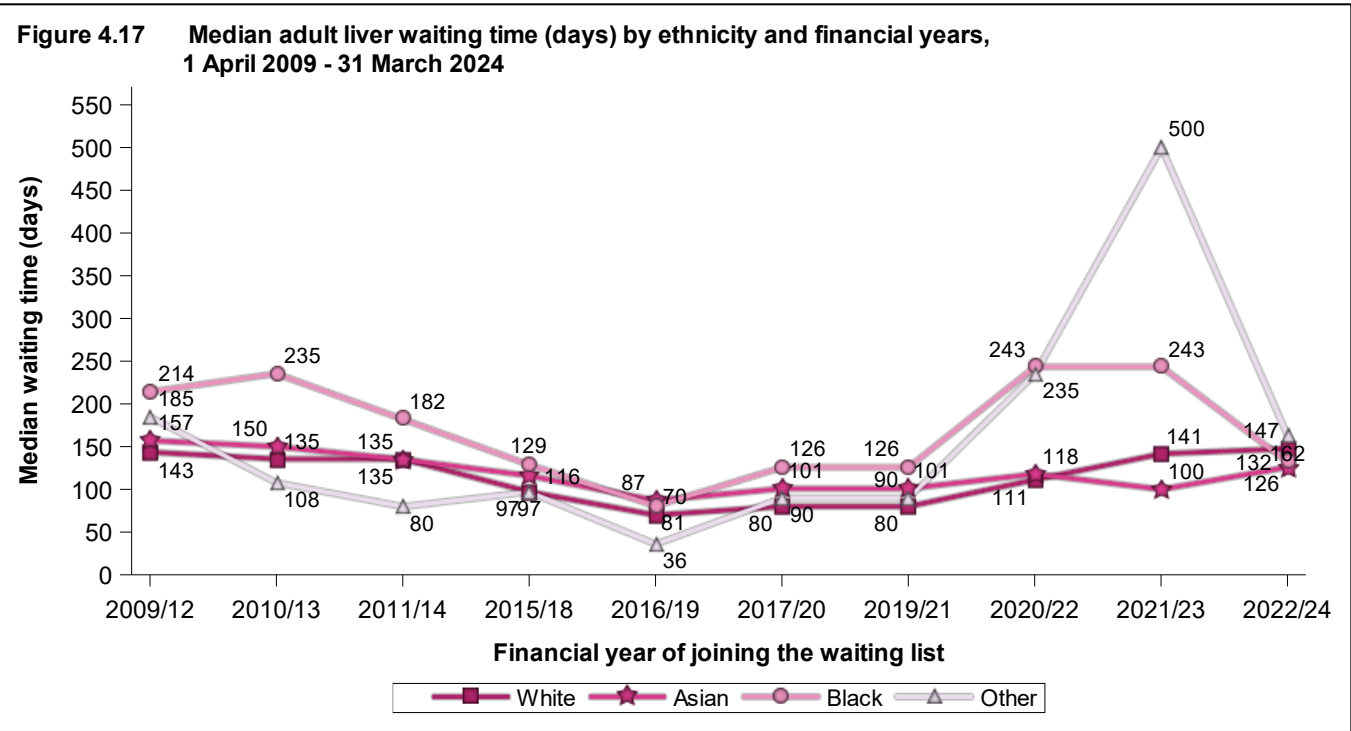


Figure 4.18 shows that 7% of deceased liver donors are from ethnic minority groups whilst patients from ethnic minority backgrounds represent 16% of transplants and 17% of the liver transplant waiting list in 2024/25. **Table 4.17** shows the numbers in **Figure 4.18**.

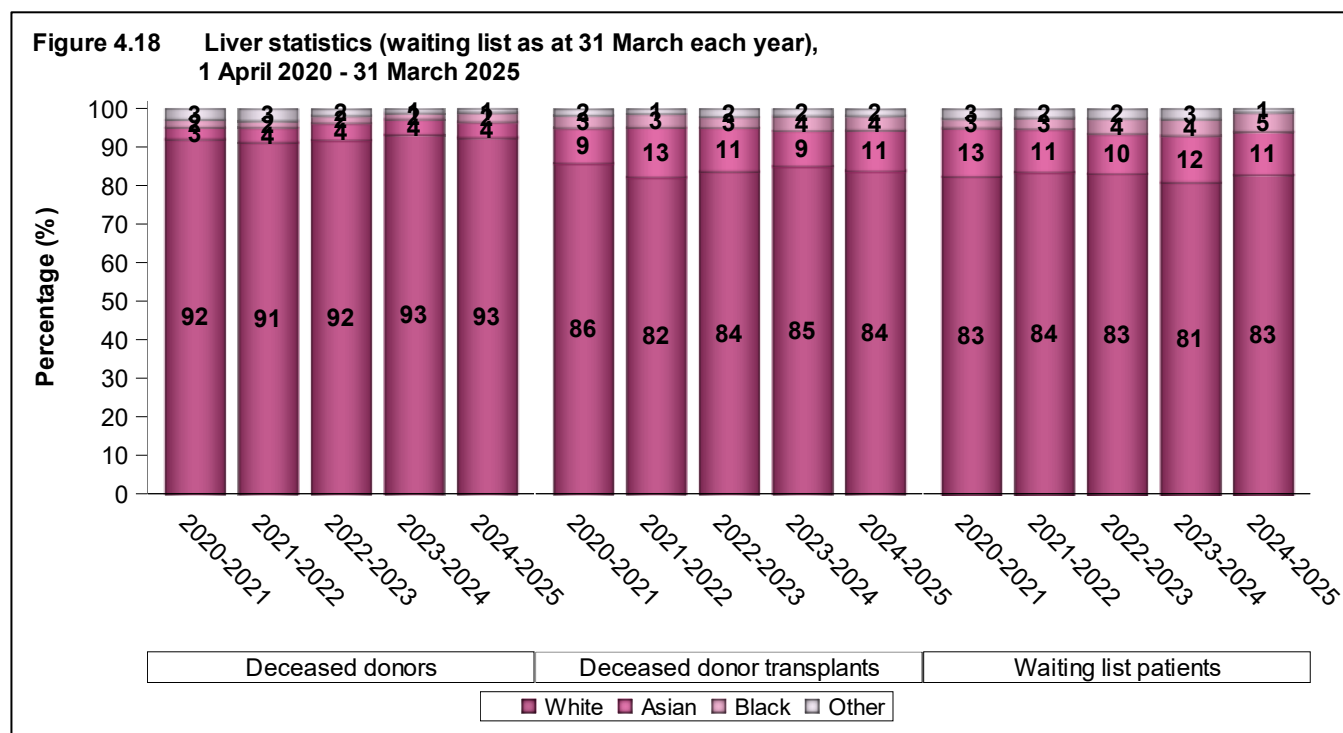


Table 4.17 Liver statistics (waiting list as at 31 March), 1 April 2020 - 31 March 2025

Ethnicity	Deceased donors					Deceased donor transplants					Waiting list patients				
	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025
White	780	908	966	997	937	629	663	697	699	716	99	523	542	523	532
Asian	26	38	46	44	41	67	104	95	76	90	15	70	67	78	72
Black	17	18	21	17	24	24	28	23	31	32	3	19	26	28	32
Other	23	30	18	11	10	12	10	17	15	15	3	14	16	17	6
Total	846	994	1051	1069	1012	732	805	832	821	853	120	626	651	646	642

4.5 Cardiothoracic

This section focuses on cardiothoracic transplantation reporting on post-registration outcomes and deceased cardiothoracic donors, transplant recipients and transplant waiting list.

Figure 4.19 and **Table 4.18** shows post-registration outcome comparisons for white and ethnic minority adult cardiothoracic patients registered from 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020. Cardiothoracic recipients from ethnic minority backgrounds wait a similar time for a heart or lung compared to white patients but have a higher chance of removal from the list.

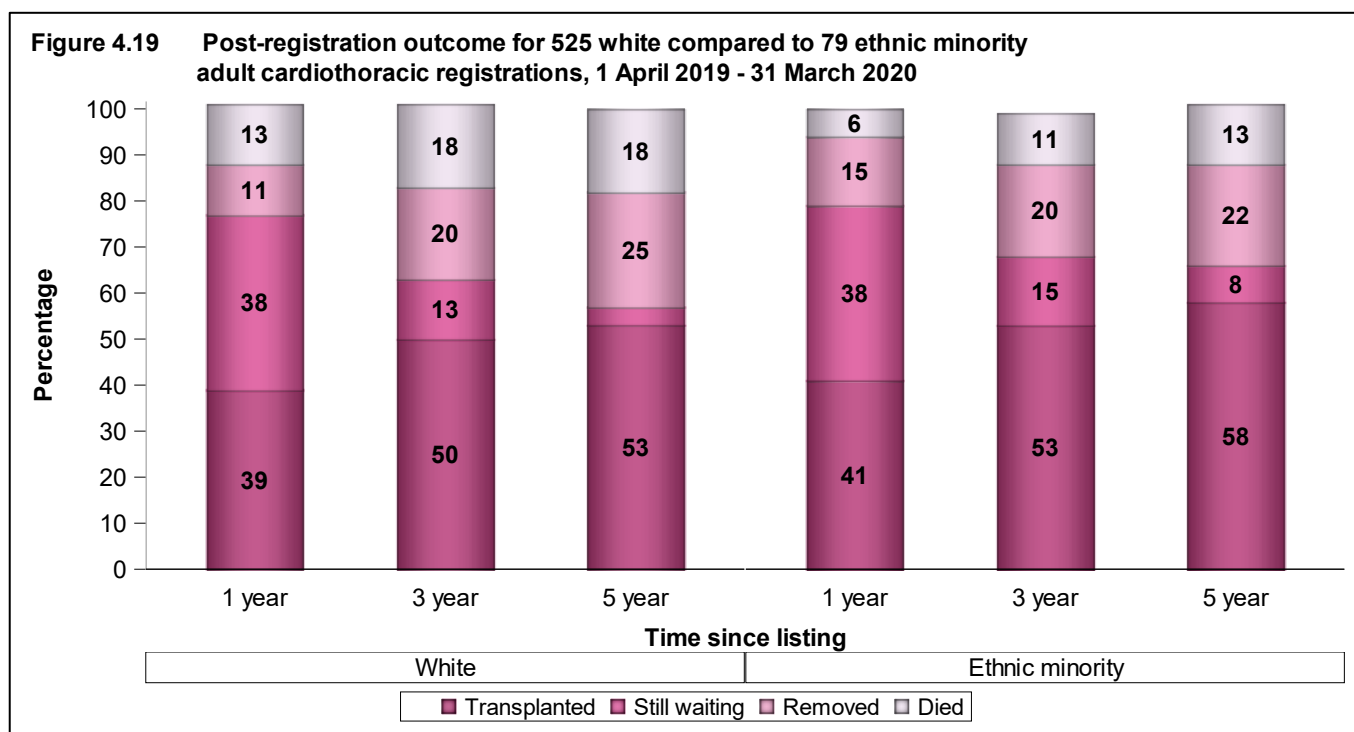


Table 4.18 Post-registration outcome for 525 white compared to 79 ethnic minority adult cardiothoracic registrations, 1 April 2019 - 31 March 2020						
	1 year		3 year		5 year	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
White						
Transplanted	203	38.7	261	49.7	276	52.6
Still waiting	197	37.5	66	12.6	22	4.2
Removed	59	11.2	105	20.0	130	24.8
Died	66	12.6	93	17.7	97	18.5
Ethnic minority						
Transplanted	32	40.5	42	53.2	46	58.2
Still waiting	30	38.0	12	15.2	6	7.6
Removed	12	15.2	16	20.3	17	21.5
Died	5	6.3	9	11.4	10	12.7

In the last financial year, **Figure 4.20** shows that 10% of deceased cardiothoracic donors are from ethnic minority groups whilst patients from ethnic minority backgrounds represent 16% of transplants and 19% of the cardiothoracic transplant waiting list. **Table 4.19** shows the numbers in **Figure 4.20**.

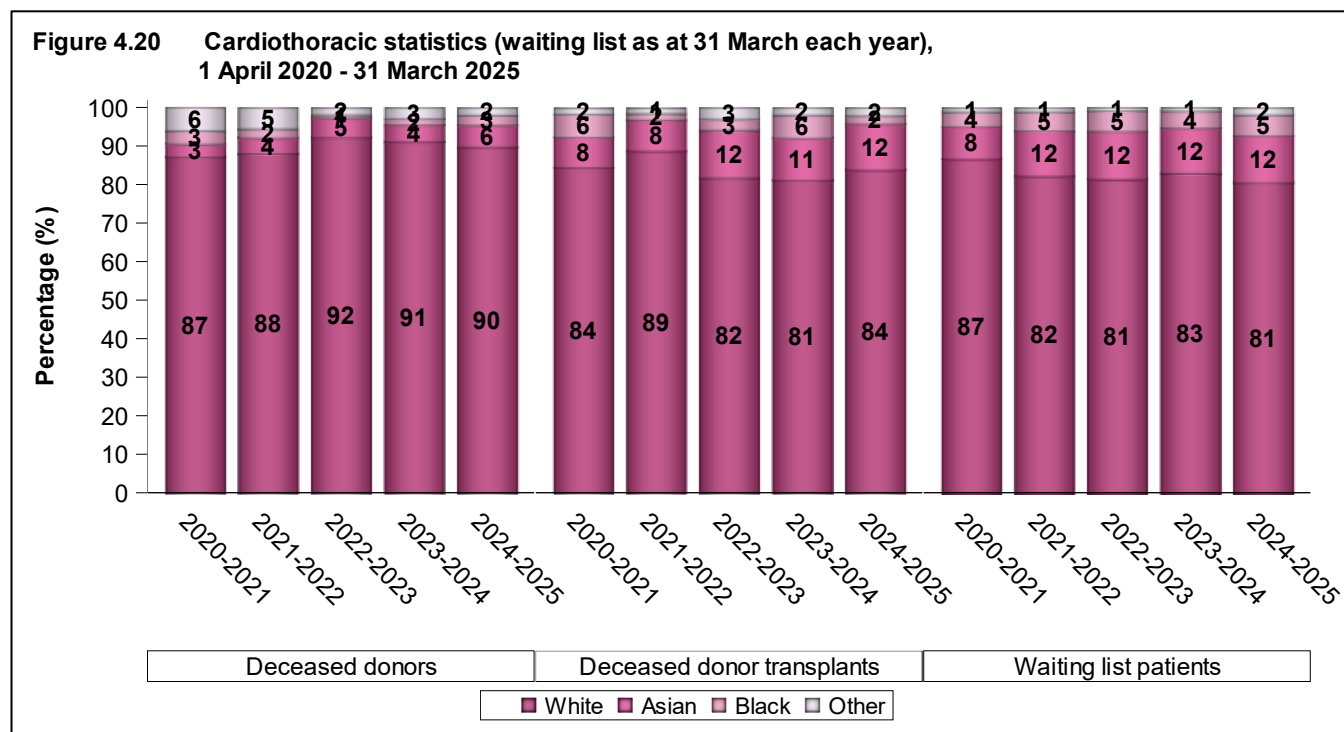


Table 4.19 Cardiothoracic statistics (waiting list as at 31 March), 1 April 2020 - 31 March 2025

Ethnicity	Deceased donors					Deceased donor transplants					Waiting list patients				
	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025
White	205	228	254	290	280	212	252	252	304	287	504	480	493	457	392
Asian	8	11	14	14	18	20	23	38	41	41	49	68	75	65	59
Black	8	6	2	5	8	15	5	9	22	7	22	29	32	24	26
Other	14	14	5	9	6	4	4	9	7	7	6	6	5	5	9
Total	235	259	275	318	312	251	284	308	374	342	581	583	605	551	486

APPENDIX

**Table I Population of England and Wales by ethnicity, mid-2021
census data estimates per thousands**

Ethnicity	N (thousands)	%
White British	44,355	74.4
White Irish	507	0.9
Other White	3,837	6.5
Total White	48,699	81.8
Asian-Indian	1,864	3.1
Asian-Pakistani	1,588	2.7
Asian-Bangladeshi	645	1.1
Asian-Chinese	446	0.7
Other Asian	973	1.6
Total Asian	5,516	9.2
Black-African	1,488	2.5
Black-Caribbean	623	1.0
Other Black	298	0.5
Total Black	2,409	4.0
White & Black Caribbean	513	0.9
White & Black African	250	0.4
White & Asian	488	0.8
Other Mixed	467	0.8
Other ethnicity	1,256	2.2
Total Other	1,723	3.0
TOTAL	59,598	100.0

Source - Office of National Statistics

Table II National data from the NHSBT Potential Donor Audit for donation after brain death, 1 April 2020 – 31 March 2025

Financial Year	Ethnic origin	Number of patients where neurological death was suspected	Number of patients that were neurological death tested	Neurological death testing rate (%)	Number of patients where neurological death was suspected that were referred to the SN-OD	DBD referral rate (%)	Number of eligible DBD donors whose family were approached	Number where consent/authorisation ascertained	DBD consent/authorisation rate (%)
2020/21	White	1428	1187	83.1	1414	99.0	1003	817	81.5
	Ethnic minority	315	262	83.2	307	97.5	186	66	35.5
	Unknown	68	43	63.2	58	85.3	20	10	50.0
2021/22	White	1527	1231	80.6	1511	99.0	1029	772	75.0
	Ethnic minority	355	280	78.9	350	98.6	200	83	41.5
	Unknown	36	23	63.9	34	94.4	12	7	58.3
2022/23	White	1583	1254	79.2	1573	99.4	1035	762	73.6
	Ethnic minority	376	293	77.9	372	98.9	211	83	39.3
	Unknown	34	14	41.2	32	94.1	1	0	0.0
2023/24	White	1655	1247	75.3	1648	99.6	1051	783	74.5
	Ethnic minority	346	273	78.9	343	99.1	200	68	34.0
	Unknown	33	18	54.5	31	93.9	10	7	70.0
2024/25	White	1495	1069	71.5	1482	99.1	892	671	75.2
	Ethnic minority	361	280	77.6	356	98.6	190	74	38.9
	Unknown	30	9	30.0	25	83.3	4	0	0.0

All data for neonatal ICUs has been excluded from this data

Table III National data from the NHSBT Potential Donor Audit for donation after circulatory death, 1 April 2020 – 31 March 2025							
Financial Year	Ethnic origin	Number of patients for whom imminent death was anticipated	Number of patients for whom imminent death was anticipated that were referred to the SN-OD	DCD referral rate (%)	Number of eligible DCD donors whose family were approached	Number where consent/authorisation ascertained	DCD consent/Authorisation rate (%)
2020/21	White	4740	3920	82.7	934	630	67.5
	Ethnic minority	640	491	76.7	88	33	37.5
	Unknown	558	372	66.7	20	4	20.0
2021/22	White	4367	3991	91.4	1302	864	66.4
	Ethnic minority	529	477	90.2	135	44	32.6
	Unknown	338	264	78.1	18	2	11.1
2022/23	White	4613	4306	93.3	1550	920	59.4
	Ethnic minority	465	426	91.6	149	43	28.9
	Unknown	267	186	69.7	7	1	14.3
2023/24	White	4619	4342	94.0	1676	973	58.1
	Ethnic minority	486	444	91.4	154	46	29.9
	Unknown	244	178	73.0	23	4	17.4
2024/25	White	4730	4444	94.0	1633	919	56.3
	Ethnic minority	507	472	93.1	172	47	27.3
	Unknown	269	204	75.8	21	2	9.5
All data for neonatal ICUs has been excluded from this data.							