

Factsheet 10

Updated on 18 June 2020

Disparities in the risk and outcomes of COVID-19

What did the PHE report around disparities in the risk and outcomes of COVID-19 tell us?

- The largest disparity found was by age. People who were already diagnosed with COVID-19 and who were 80 or older were seventy times more likely to die than those under 40.
- Risk of dying among those diagnosed with COVID-19 was also higher in males compared to females.
- The death rate for those diagnosed with COVID-19 was higher in those living in the more deprived areas than those living in the least deprived.
- Death rates for those in Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) groups than are also higher than in White ethnic groups.

Age and sex largely duplicate existing inequalities in mortality.

Ethnicity

- The mortality rate for those people diagnosed with COVID-19 in the BAME group does not replicate previous years where it was previously higher in the white ethnic group.
- Compared to previous years, all-cause mortality was almost 4 times higher than expected among Black males for this period, almost 3 times higher in Asian males and almost 2 times higher in White males. Among females, deaths were almost 3 times higher in this period in Black, Mixed and other females, and 2.4 times higher in Asian females compared with 1.6 times in White females.
- Breaking the data further demonstrates that people of Bangladeshi ethnicity had around twice the risk of death than people of White British ethnicity.
- People of Chinese, Indian, Pakistani, Other Asian, Caribbean and Other Black ethnicity had between 10% and 50% higher risk of death when compared to White British.



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- The analysis did consider age, sex, deprivation, region and ethnicity
- However, the analysis did not consider occupation, obesity or comorbidities which are strongly prevalent in this group and is strongly associated with the risk of death from COVID-19.

Furthermore, the Intensive Care National Audit and Research Centre (ICNARC) report found:

- Black and Asian patients were over-represented among those critically ill with confirmed COVID-19 receiving advanced respiratory support.
- The report found that 15.2% and 9.7% of critically ill patients were from Asian and Black ethnic groups, respectively.

For more information on how you can build a healthcare equal for all, take part in our webinar please visit our website [here](#).

References:

Public Health England (2020) Available on:
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/892085/disparities_review.pdf