



# Everyone Counts 2014

## Introducing the findings

Research and Statistics department,  
Archbishops' Council

# Everyone Counts

- Long-term programme of monitoring diversity in congregations and church structures
- 2014: Self reported survey in congregations
- For the first time includes children within the congregation, and introduces a question on disability
- 35000 surveys returned, mix of postal and electronic submissions

Photographs shared with permission from St Boniface, Quinton. These were taken during data collection – completing surveys through the app on their phones.



If you are completing this survey on behalf of a child, please cross here ☐

Church number:

1. Apart from weddings, funerals and christenings, about how often do you attend church? (select ONE)

☐ More than once a week ☐ Once a week  
☐ Twice a month ☐ Once a month  
☐ Once a quarter ☐ Christmas/ Easter Day only  
☐ Once a year ☐ Less often  
☐ Prefer not to say

2. Are you...?

☐ Male ☐ Female ☐ Prefer not to say

3. Your age (on your last birthday):    
 Prefer not to say ☐

4. What is your country or continent of birth? (please select ONE)

☐ UK  
☐ Other European country  
☐ Africa  
☐ The Americas and the Caribbean  
☐ Middle East and Asia  
☐ Oceania and Antarctica  
☐ Prefer not to say

5. Do you have any of the following long-standing physical or mental health conditions or impairments that have lasted or are expected to last 12 months or more? Select ALL that apply. Please include those that are due to old age.

☐ Blindness, deafness or other communication impairment  
☐ Mobility impairment, such as difficulty walking  
☐ Learning difficulty or disability, such as Down's syndrome  
☐ Memory impairment, such as Alzheimer's or early stages of dementia  
☐ Mental health condition, such as depression  
☐ Long-term illness, such as Multiple Sclerosis or cancer  
☐ Other long-standing health condition / disability  
☐ None  
☐ Prefer not to say

6. Please indicate whether you are: (please select ALL that apply)

☐ A visitor  
☐ Member of the congregation  
☐ Member of the electoral roll of this parish  
☐ Member of the church council  
☐ Churchwarden  
☐ Member of deanery synod  
☐ Licensed reader/ lay worker  
☐ Priest/ / non-stipendiary minister/ stipendiary minister  
☐ Other office holder  
☐ Prefer not to say

7. What is your ethnic group? (select ONE)

White:

☐ English/ Welsh/ Scottish/ Northern Irish/ British  
☐ Gypsy or Irish Traveller  
☐ Irish  
☐ any other White background

Asian/ Asian British:

☐ Indian  
☐ Pakistani  
☐ Bangladeshi  
☐ Chinese  
☐ any other Asian background

Black/ African/ Caribbean/ Black British:

☐ African  
☐ Caribbean  
☐ any other Black background

Mixed/multiple ethnic group:

☐ White and Asian  
☐ White and Black African  
☐ White and Black Caribbean  
☐ any other Mixed background

Other ethnic group:

☐ Arab  
☐ Any other ethnic group (please write in)

☐ Prefer not to say

- Questions on age, gender, church attendance and roles, ethnicity and country of origin, and long term health problems or impairments
- Invited sample was planned to be representative, but some adjustments were needed to estimate nationally representative figures
- Comparisons between congregations
  - over time, since 2007
  - across different localities
  - with the national population as a whole

# National congregations

Average ALL age: 54 years

Average ADULT age: 61 years



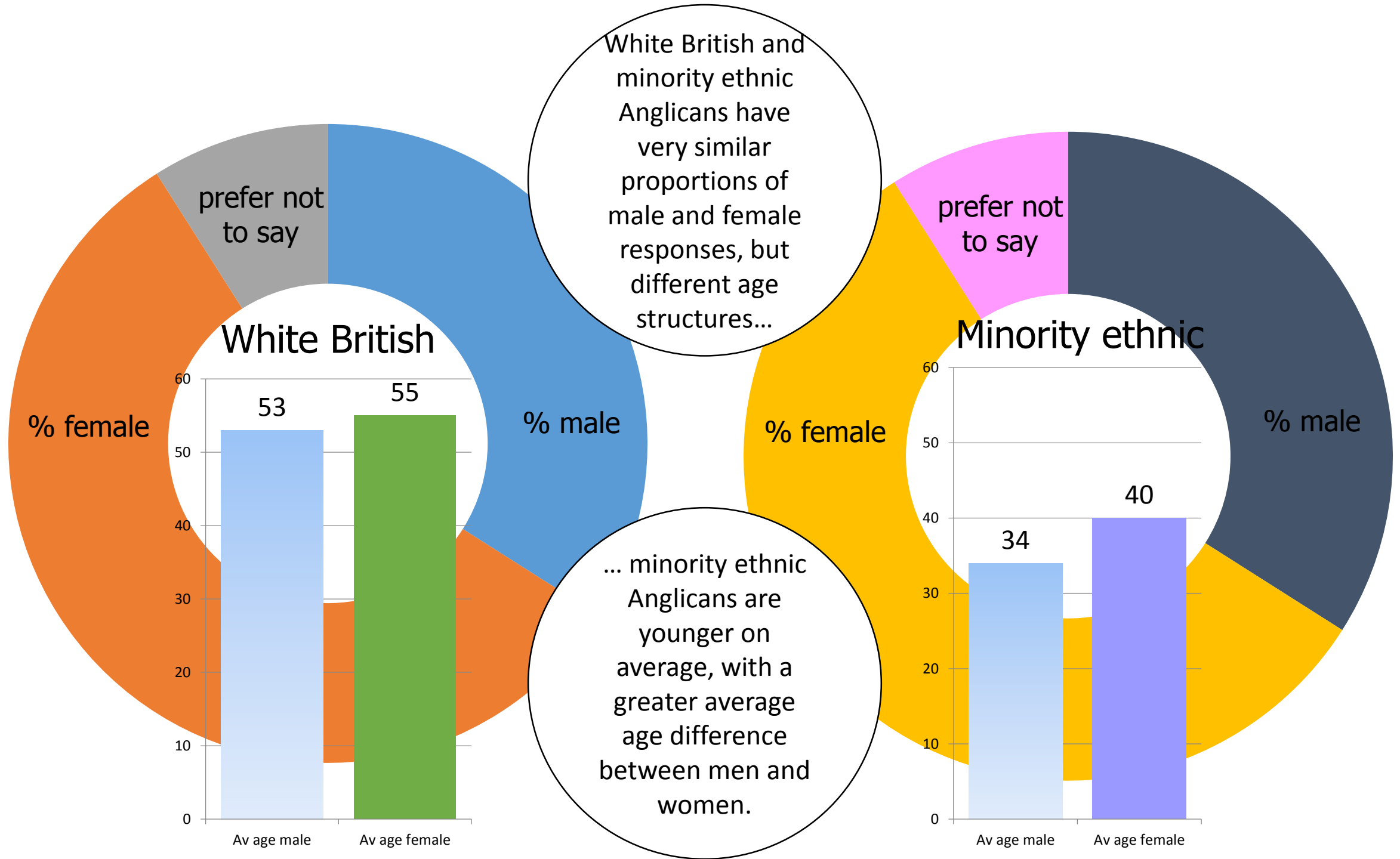
6% of congregations are minority ethnic Anglicans

35% of minority ethnic Anglicans identify with Black ethnicities

32% of minority ethnic Anglicans identify with Asian ethnicities

27% of minority ethnic Anglicans identify with other White ethnicities

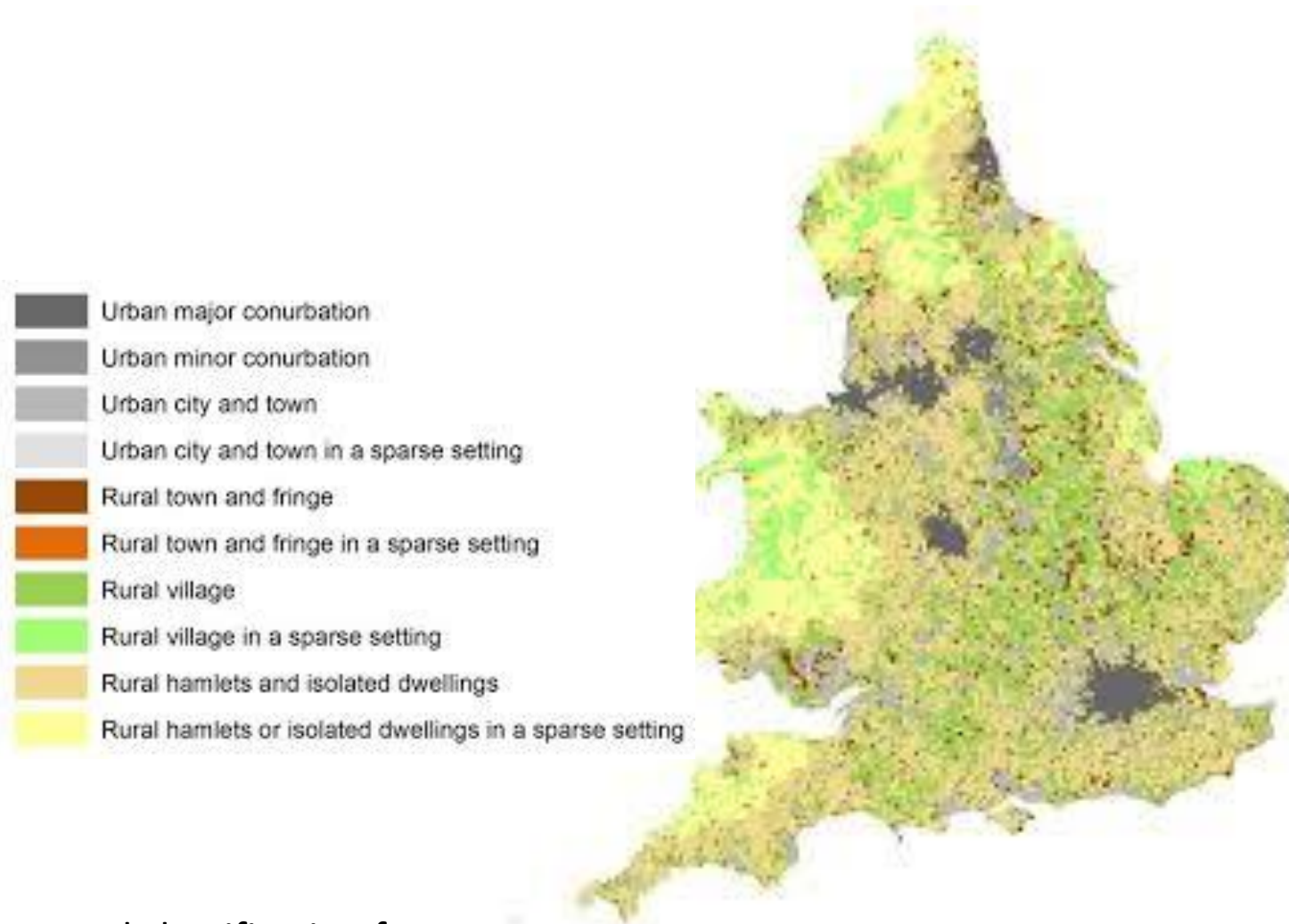




# How much has changed in 7 years?

- Nationally no substantial change in age, gender or ethnicity
  - Rural slightly older
  - Urban slightly younger
- Black or Black British remains largest minority ethnicity
- Minority ethnic Anglicans still are younger than average, more likely to live in urban areas and less likely to be on the Electoral Roll or hold a parish role
- Gender more equal in youngest age groups, but in adult groups similar to previous reports
- Shift towards notably more women occurs in 18-24 age group

# Churches and communities

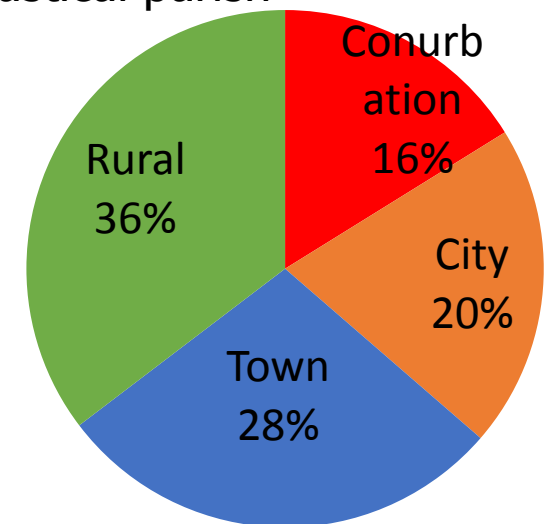


Map and classification from:  
[www.gov.uk/government/collections/rural-urban-definition](http://www.gov.uk/government/collections/rural-urban-definition)

## Urban or rural?

- Population density of Output Area (min. 10,000 for urban), *then*
- Dwelling density
- Density of surrounding areas

% churches by geography of ecclesiastical parish



MOST

35% of churches are in rural hamlets and isolated areas

LOWEST

1% of the population lives here

- A typical congregation includes 32 people
- The average congregation age is 56 years
- 12% of the congregation are under 18 years old
- 21% of the congregation are older than 75 years
- 4% of the congregation identified as minority ethnic

LOWEST

4% were born overseas

## Rural churches



Identifying as minority ethnic and being born overseas are two separate questions and are not inter-changeable.



- 28% of churches are in rural town, fringe and village areas
- 17% of the population lives here

#### LOWEST

A typical congregation includes 29 people

#### OLDEST

The average congregation age is 58 years

- 12% of the congregation are under 18 years old
- 22% of the congregation are older than 75 years
- 4% of the congregation identified as minority ethnic
- 7% were born overseas

## Town churches



- 20% of churches are in rural town, fringe and village areas

HIGHEST 43% of the population lives here

HIGHEST A typical congregation includes 111 people

- The average congregation age is 53 years
- 15% of the congregation are under 18 years old
- 19% of the congregation are older than 75 years
- 8% of the congregation identified as minority ethnic
- 7% were born overseas

## City churches



### FEWEST

16% of churches are in conurbation areas

- 39% of the population lives here
- A typical congregation includes 105 people

### YOUNGEST

The average congregation age is 48 years

- 20% of the congregation are under 18 years old
- 15% of the congregation are older than 75 years

### MOST

17% of the congregation identified as minority ethnic

### MOST

12% were born overseas

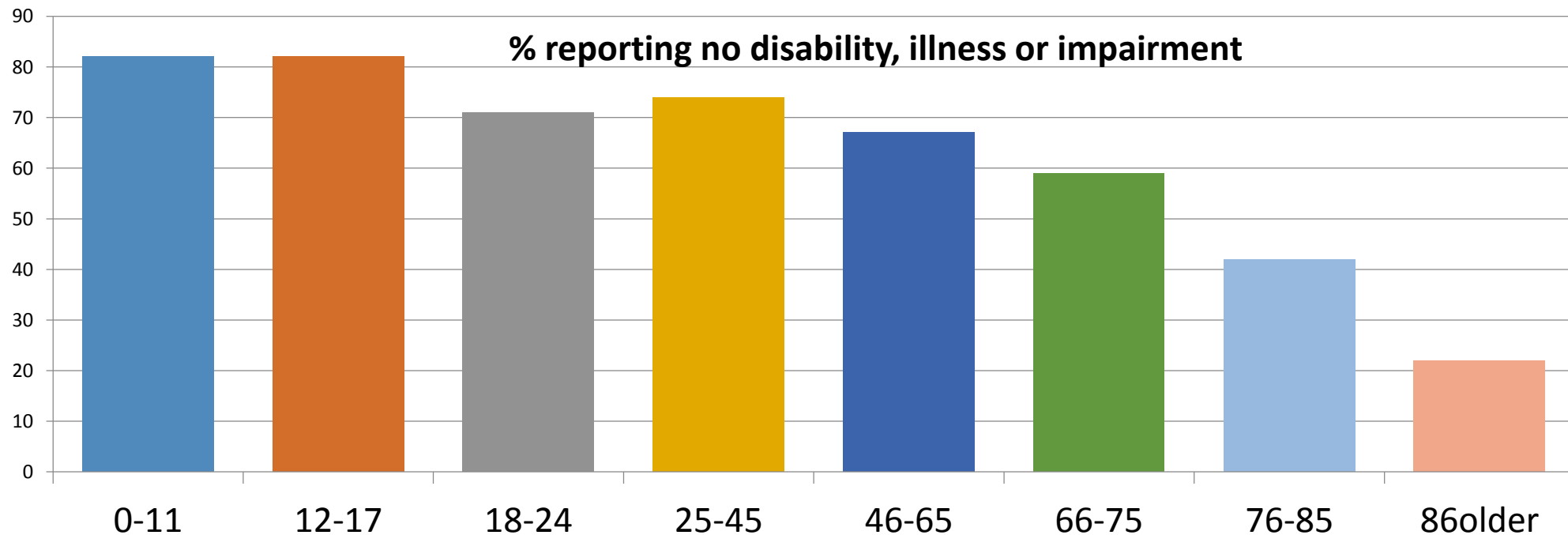
## Conurbation churches



Not all dioceses have parishes in areas classified as 'conurbation'. Half of all conurbation churches fall within four dioceses: London, Manchester, Southwark, and West Yorkshire and the Dales.

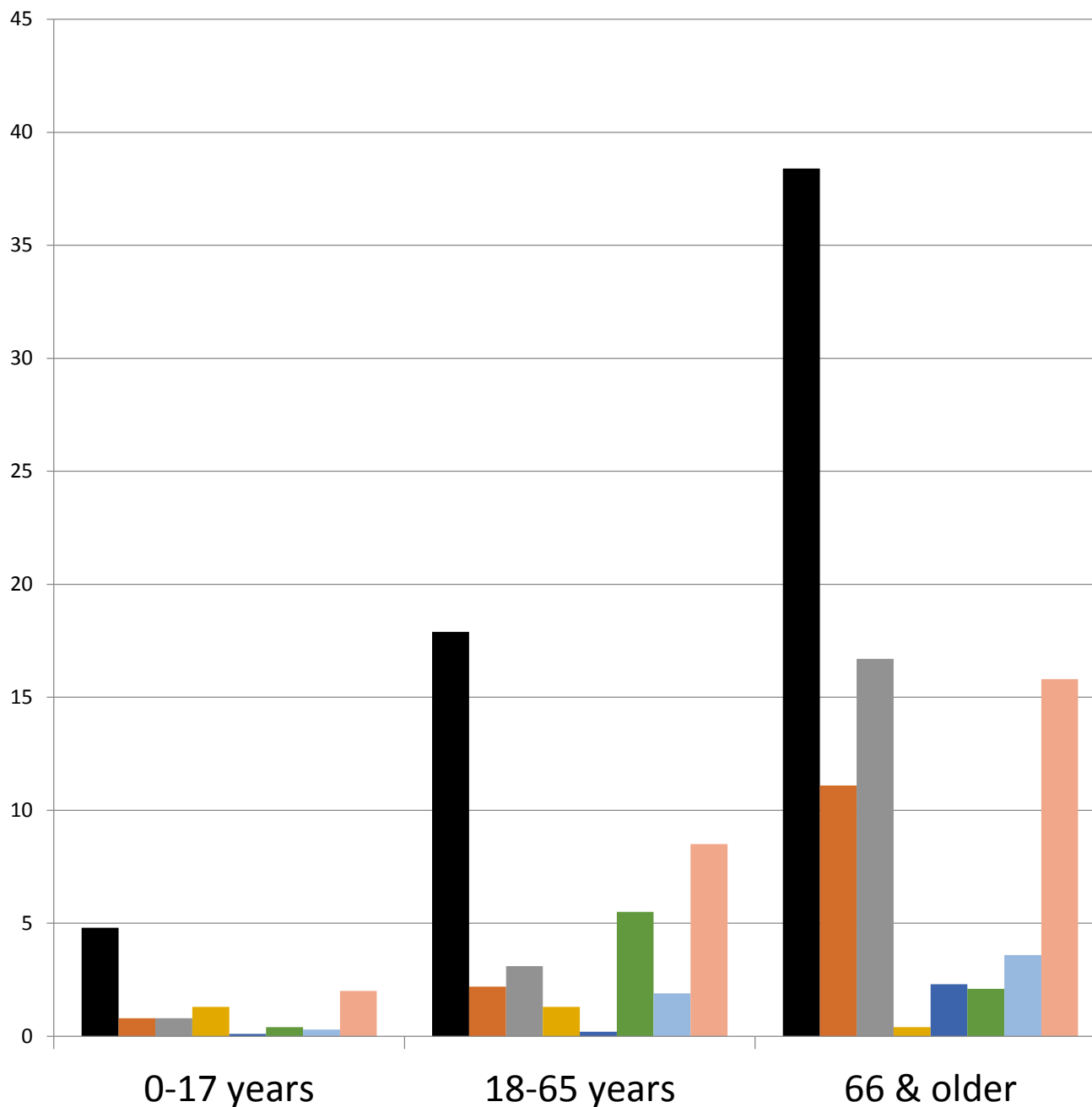
# Disability, impairment and long term illnesses

- Age was the clearest difference in patterns of reporting, not rurality
- Self-report has limitations, highest rates of 'prefer not to say'





- At least one reported
- Sensory
- Mobility
- Learning
- Memory
- Mental health
- LT illness
- Other



There are no substantial differences between congregation and national prevalence figures

Although prevalence increases with age, one fifth of people reporting at least one disability or long-term illness were aged 25 or younger

The relatively high proportion of 'other' as the selected response raises questions about what is missing from our understanding of the data

# More about Everyone Counts

- Please visit our website for further information and download a copy of the first report:  
<https://www.churchofengland.org/about-us/facts-stats/research-statistics/everyone-counts-2014.aspx>
- Follow us on twitter @CofEstats
- Email the department: [statistics.unit@churchofengland.org](mailto:statistics.unit@churchofengland.org)