



Everyone Counts 2014

DIVERSITY AUDIT KEY FINDINGS



everyone counts 2014
Growing the church for all



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND



Everyone Counts was a congregational survey carried out in a sample of Church of England parishes as part of a long-term commitment to monitoring diversity within the church. There was a particular focus on ethnicity, disability and locality.

Nearly 600 churches took part in Everyone Counts, with further 'Extra' surveys returned individually, totalling over 36,000 surveys. Individuals were asked, via their church, to provide information about themselves on a few short, standardised questions. Together with information about the local community, area and annual church statistics, data were collected to identify trends in the key demographics of congregations, those who attend and those who take on roles within their local and wider church.

This report presents a summary of key findings about Church of England congregations in England. Figures are provided that are based on the returned surveys adjusted to be nationally representative. Around 10% of all surveys returned could not be linked to specific congregations, and some figures had to be revised to allow for missing data. All figures are therefore estimates and small differences should be treated with caution.

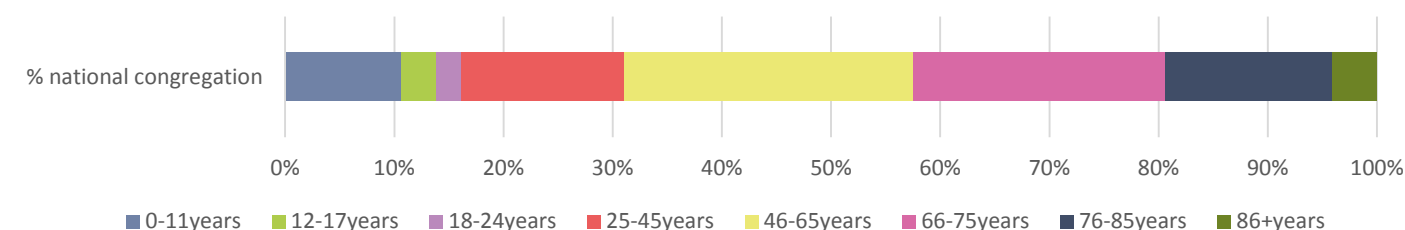
More information about the project and other parts of the Diversity programme can be found online:

www.churchofengland.org/about-us/facts-stats/research-statistics/everyone-counts-2014

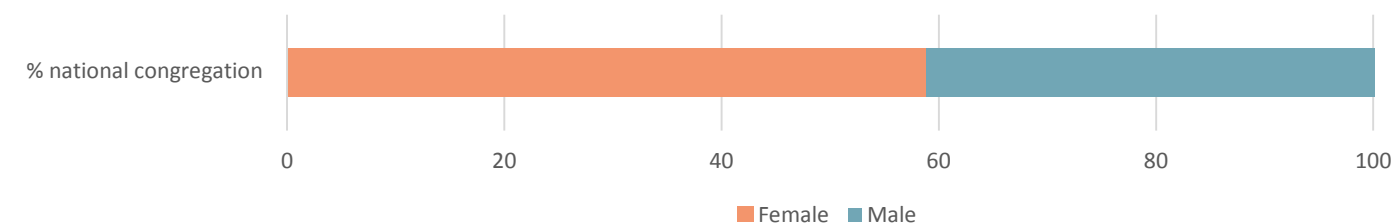
If congregations in England were 100 people

- 59** would be female
- 11** would be children aged 11 or younger
- 19** would be aged 76 or older
- 7** would be minority ethnic Anglicans
- 37** would have at least one health issue or disability (including 8 with mobility impairments and 3 with mental health conditions)

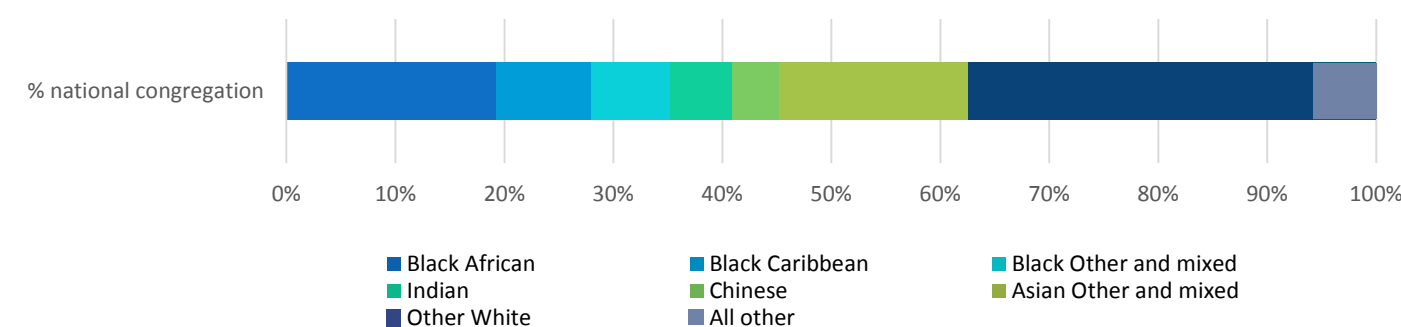
There are 6 adults in church to every 1 child or young person



There are more women than men in church



Over a third of minority ethnic Anglicans identify as Black or Black British



Across Church of England parishes there are differences in the background, size and age of the local community. There are also regional differences between congregations, although generally people in church are older and from less diverse backgrounds compared with the local area.

AVERAGE CONGREGATION

UNDER 18 YEARS:

12%

OLDER THAN 75 YEARS:

21%

IDENTIFIED AS NON-WHITE BRITISH:

4%

BORN OVERSEAS:

4%

After the UK, the most common countries of birth are other European countries (2%) and Africa (1%).

In 2007, the average adult age in Church of England parishes was 61 years
In 2014, this was about the same overall but slightly older in rural areas (64 years) and slightly younger in urban areas (57 years)

AVERAGE CONGREGATION

UNDER 18 YEARS:

12%

OLDER THAN 75 YEARS:

22%

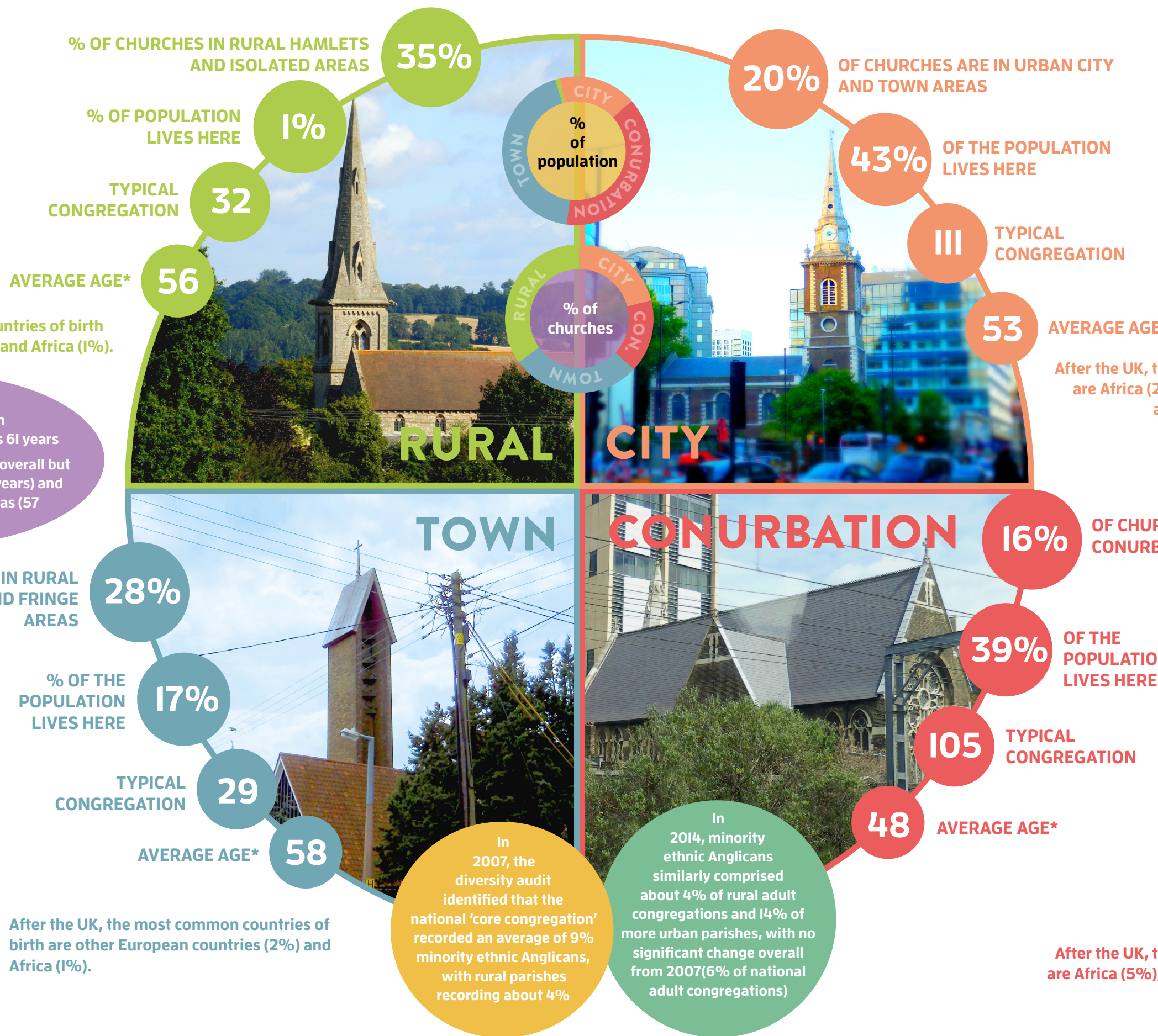
IDENTIFIED AS NON-WHITE BRITISH:

4%

BORN OVERSEAS:

7%

*Includes children



AVERAGE CONGREGATION

UNDER 18 YEARS:

15%

OLDER THAN 75 YEARS:

19%

IDENTIFIED AS NON-WHITE BRITISH:

8%

BORN OVERSEAS:

7%

After the UK, the most common countries of birth are Africa (2%), Asia and the Middle East (2%), and other European countries (2%).

AVERAGE CONGREGATION

UNDER 18 YEARS:

20%

OLDER THAN 75 YEARS:

15%

IDENTIFIED AS NON-WHITE BRITISH:

17%

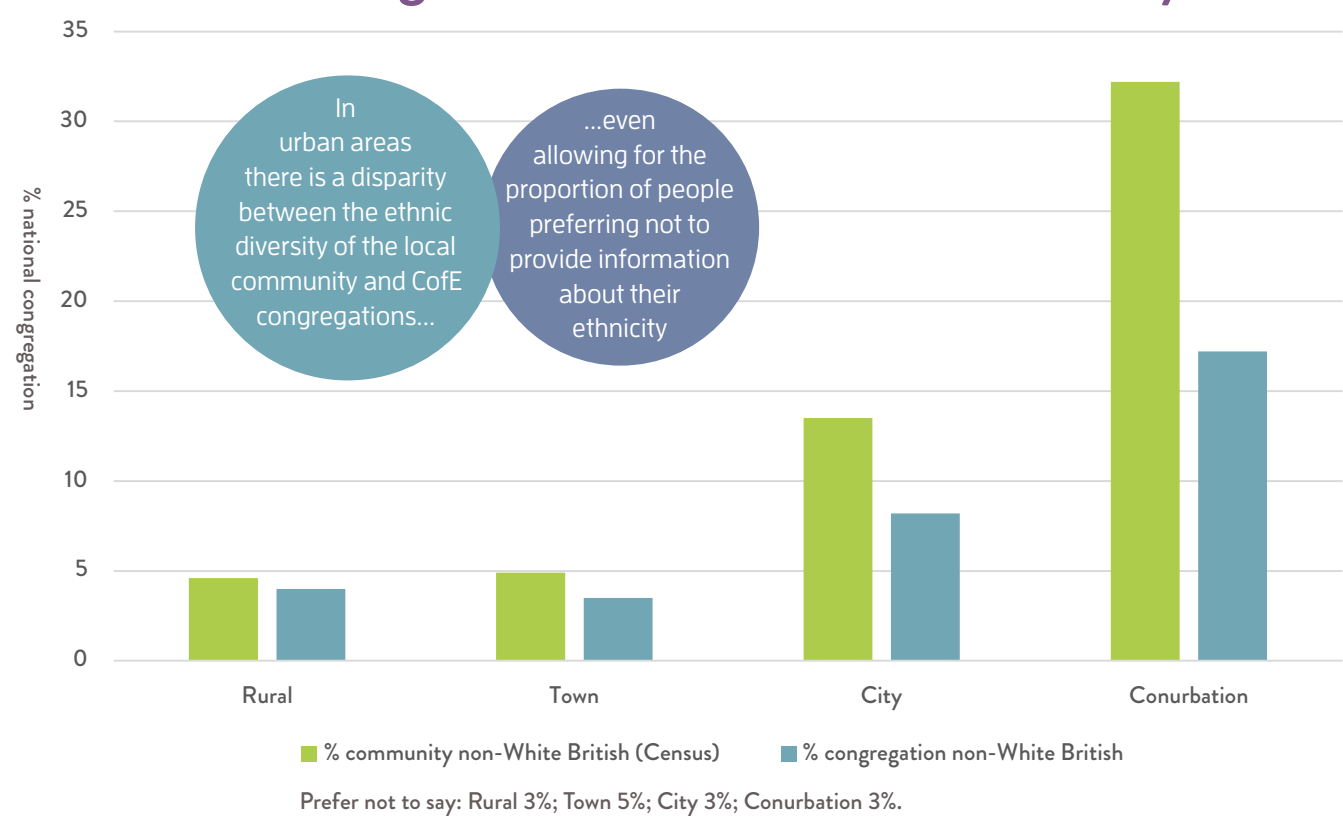
BORN OVERSEAS:

12%

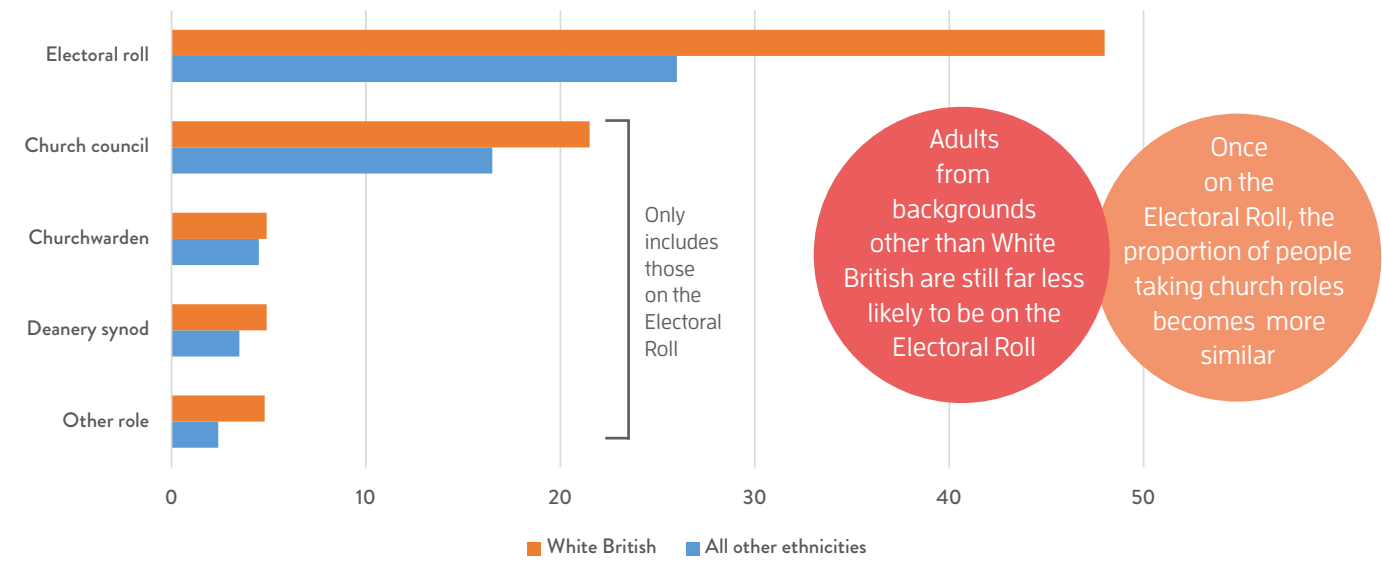
After the UK, the most common countries of birth are Africa (5%), Americas and the Caribbean (2%), and Asia and the Middle East (2%).



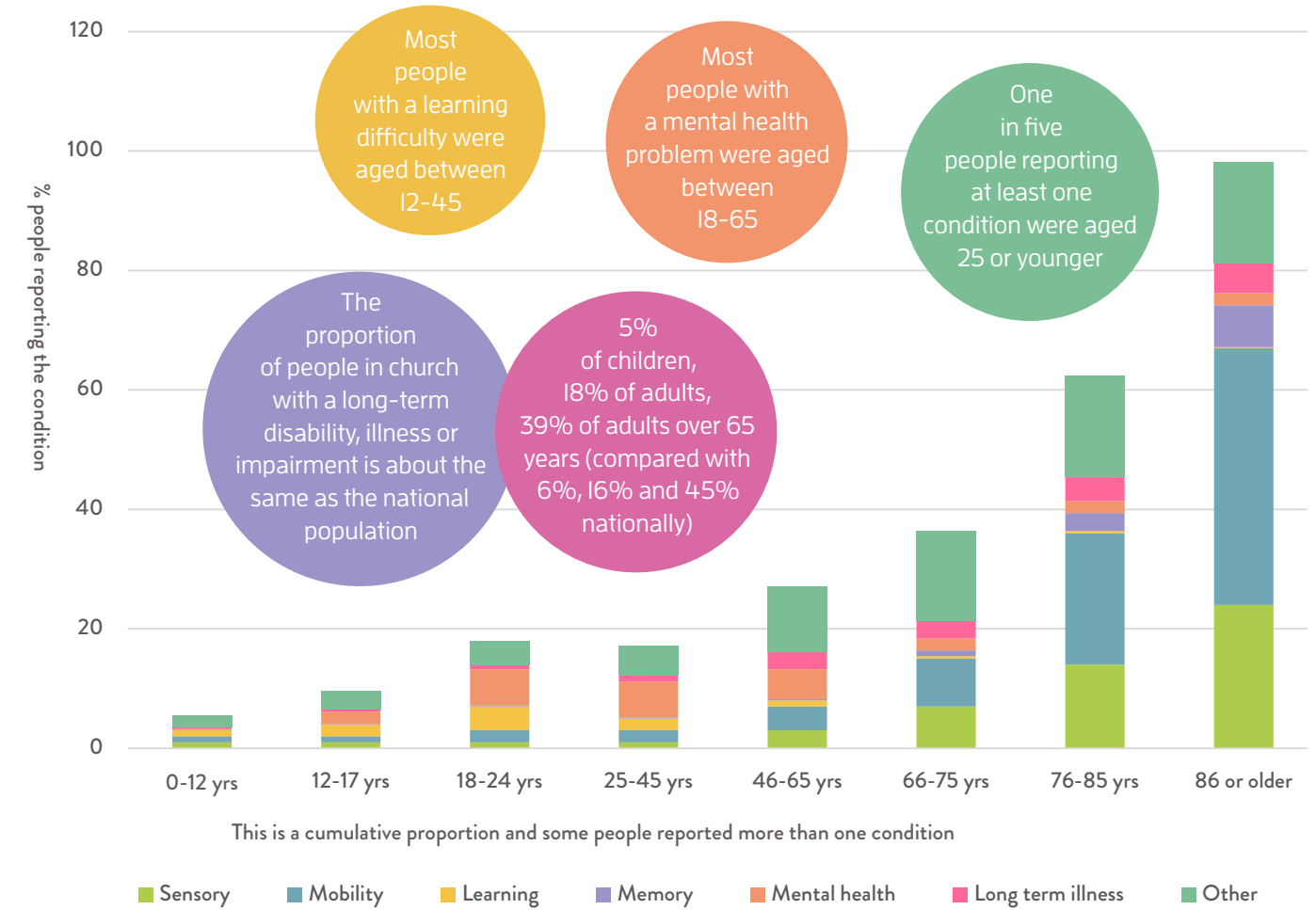
Does attendance in CofE churches reflect the ethnic backgrounds of the local community?



Does participation in church roles reflect the ethnic backgrounds of the Electoral Roll?



Every congregation includes someone with at least one illness, impairment or disability.





What should we ask ourselves based on this evidence?

Who are our neighbours?
Who is missing from our church?

What does this mean
for Mission and
discipleship?

What can our church do to
welcome people and make sure we
are accessible?

What have we missed? What
else, and who else, do we need
to ask?

How can dioceses and
deaneries support different
needs of varying localities and
communities?

Every care has been taken to provide accurate and representative figures; however, all statistics are only indicative due to rounding, sampling, and estimating for missing data. Prayerful reflection should guide our understanding on what we share in common as well as how we are different. Trends, where apparent, should be treated with respect for the individual lives, communities and parishes that these figures represent.

This work would not have been possible without the kind support of dioceses and volunteers within parishes, as well as 36,000+ people who returned surveys, and the dedication of the steering group to guide the project. Thank you to everyone who found the time to contribute to Everyone Counts.

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