Millennium Cohort Study

First Survey:

A User's Guide to Initial Findings

Edited by

Shirley Dex and Heather Joshi

January 2004

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The views expressed in this work are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Economic and Social Research Council or the Office for National Statistics. All errors and omissions remain those of the authors.

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The planning, execution and analysis of the survey have been a team effort: a consortium from IoE, UCL and City University submitted the original application, in consultation with a team of scientific collaborators who advised the 'internal team' at the Centre for Longitudinal Studies. The individuals involved are listed below.

The team also benefited from the interest and advice of other many academic and policy researchers who were consulted in the course of survey design. Particular thanks go to those who have served on the MCS Advisory Committee.

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- National Centre for Social Research (NatCen) researchers, programmers, field-managers, and interviewers

- The staff of the Information Centre at Newcastle of the Department for Work and Pensions (formerly the Department of Social Security)

- The mothers, fathers and other family members of the babies who form the Millennium Birth Cohort.

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1.INTRODUCTION

Heather Joshi, Shirley Dex and Kate Smith

SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

The Millennium Cohort Study is a large-scale survey of the new century's babies, and the families who are bringing them up, for the four countries of the United Kingdom. Its first sweep was carried out during 2001-2002 and contains information about 18819 babies in 18553 families, collected from parents when the babies were aged nine months. The sample design allowed for disproportionate representation of families living in areas of child poverty in Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales and in areas with high ethnic minority populations in England. The first survey recorded the circumstances of pregnancy and birth, as well as those of the all-important early months of life, and the social and economic background of the family into which the children have been born. This baseline data will reveal the diversity of starting points from which these 'Children of the New Century' are setting out.

The Millennium Cohort Study is the fourth of Britain's world-renowned national longitudinal birth cohort studies. Large samples of individuals, born over a limited period of time in 1946, 1958 and 1970 are being followed through the course of their lives. They show how histories of health, wealth, education, family and employment are interwoven for individuals, vary between them and affect outcomes and achievements later on in life. The data collected are used for many scientific and policy purposes.

Full details about the survey, its origins, objectives, sampling, content, fieldwork agency and funding are contained in the documentation attached to the Deposit of the first sweep of data at the Data Archive (Essex University) (see Shepherd et al, 2003; Plewis, 2003; NatCen, 2003).

This report contains a first overview of the data contained in the Millennium Cohort Study's first sweep. It is intended to be a useful introduction to potential users of the survey and as a stimulus to further analysis. Since it draws heavily on the design of the MCS, some limited background information is incorporated here in order to provide the necessary background for interpreting the findings. However, this Report needs to be read along side the documentation on the technical details of the survey. The Millennium Cohort Study data break new ground in a number of ways:

- They provide the opportunity to carry out comparisons across the four countries of the UK;
- The data contains sufficient samples of the UK's main ethnic minority groups to carry out analyses by ethnic identity;
- Information was collected from partners, mainly cohort children's fathers, which can be analysed;

The size of the dataset, its wide ranging subject matter plus these design factors make the Millennium Cohort Study a very important source for examining children's development in the twenty-first century. This Report sets out to give an overview of the data collected at the first sweep, albeit at a basic level of analysis.

1.1. Sample design

The sample of a year of births was tightly clustered geographically and disproportionately stratified to over-represent areas with high proportions of: ethnic minorities in England, areas of high child poverty and the three smaller countries of the UK respectively. Electoral wards based on 1998 geography were used as the sampling frame for England, Wales and Scotland and information about child poverty was incorporated as provided in the Index of Deprivation 2000 (Noble et al (2000), *Measuring multiple deprivation at the small area level: The indices of deprivation, 2000.* Final report for the DETR.)

The sample for the first sweep included babies born between September 1 2000 and August 31 2001 in England and Wales, who will form an academic year cohort. In Scotland and Northern Ireland the start date of the birthdays was delayed to November 23 2000 in order to avoid an overlap with an infant feeding survey being carried out in September and October. In the event the sampled cohort was extended to 59 weeks of births to make up for a shortfall in numbers, which became apparent during fieldwork. The last eligible birth date in these countries was January 11 2002.

Children with sample birth dates eligible for the survey were taken from the Child Benefit register (excluding sensitive cases) if they were living in one of 398 electoral wards across the whole of the UK when they were 9 months old.

The disproportionately stratified design of the survey ensures adequate representation of:

- All UK countries
- Areas in England with higher minority ethnic populations in 1991
- Disadvantaged areas

1.2. Structure and content of final instrument

The content of the Sweep 1 instruments is summarized in Table 1.1. The module lettering reflects the order of each part of the interview with the self-completion inserted between interview questions on health (G) and employment (J). The lettering of the modules appears in the CAPI document and in the labelling of variables in the SPSS dataset.

Table 1.1

Summary of survey elements

Respondent	Mode	Summary of content
Mother/Father Mother/main	Interview	Household Module Module A: Non-resident parents Module C: Pregnancy, Labour and Delivery Module D: Baby's health and development Module E: Childcare Module F: Grandparents and Friends Module G: Parent's health
	Self-completion	Module H: - Baby's temperament & behaviour - Relationship with partner - Previous relationships - Domestic tasks - Previous pregnancies - Mental health - Attitudes to relationships, parenting, work, etc
	Interview	Module J: Employment and Education Module K: Housing and local area Module L: Interests and time with baby
Father/Partner	Interview	Module B: Father's involvement with baby Module C: Pregnancy, Labour and Delivery (where applicable) Module F: Grandparents and Friends Module G: Parent's health
	Self-completion	Module H: - Baby's temperament & behaviour - Relationship with partner - Previous relationships - Previous children - Mental health - Attitudes to marriage, parenting, work, etc
	Interview	Module J: Employment and Education Module L: Interests and time with baby

1.3. Fieldwork timetable

The fieldwork was carried out in 17 consecutive waves. Each issued wave of fieldwork contained babies born in a 4-weekly birth cycle, with the first wave covering the births between 1/9/2000-28/9/2000 in England and Wales. This rhythm of recruiting the sample was dictated by the cycle of Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) procedures, scanning the Child Benefit database every four weeks. Interviewers arranged interviews as soon as possible after the addresses were issued; aiming to reach the families while the

baby was as close as possible to 9.5 months of age. Interviews with partners could be delayed up to the limit of the child's first birthday (as were some main interviews where the address had been issued late).

Waves 1-13 of fieldwork took place in England and Wales from June 2001 to July 2002. Scotland and Northern Ireland started in wave 4 and continued to wave 17, which was extended to span 7 weeks of births. The latest interview (with a partner) took place in Northern Ireland on the last but one eligible day, January 10th 2003. Fieldwork in Scotland (and with all main informants) finished before the end of 2002.

Seventy-five per cent of main interviews took place while the baby was aged 9 months, 19 per cent at 10 months, with 3 per cent at 8 months and 3 per cent took place late, at 11 months.

1.4. Languages

An introductory leaflet, the advance letter and the thank-you letter were translated into the most common non-English languages spoken in the 19 selected ethnic wards. The languages appropriate for translation were: Bengali, Gujerati, Kurdish, Punjabi, Somali, Turkish and Urdu. The first leaflet had already been translated into Welsh. Some interviews were carried out in verbal translation (in these and other languages) by relatives or friends. In certain circumstances where no one was available to translate into English, translator interviewers were provided. Other languages encountered in non-trivial numbers included Arabic, Hindi and Tamil. Main interviews were carried out in a non-English language in 226 cases (1%), of which one main respondent interview was in Welsh. A further 547 (3%) were done in a mix of English and another language of which 3 were in Welsh. For partners the corresponding figures were 306 (2%) of which one was in Welsh and 94 (1%) of which 2 were in Welsh.

1.5. Achieved sample

Overall, the project was very well received in the field. In most cases parents have been content to participate and the experience has been a happy one for both families and interviewers alike. Nevertheless the total number of families who gave at least some information did not reach the 20,000 mark. The survey reached 18553 families, which, after allowance for 246 sets of twins and 10 sets of triplets, amounted to 18819 children in the cohort. 18533 main interviews were given, almost entirely by mothers. 3194 parents, again almost all of them mothers were living without a resident partner. In 1760 cases there was a resident (or part-time resident) father who did not give information. 338 of the partners' information was given by proxy. There was thus some information for 89 per cent of resident partners (not including part time resident partners). In 20 cases it was information from the mother that was missing. Table 1.2 shows how these respondents are distributed over the four countries of the UK. Further details by stratum appear in the Technical Report on Sampling (Plewis, 2003).

Table 1.2

MCS Sample size: Clusters, children families, by country

COUNTRY	Number of sample 'wards' *	Target sample as boosted	Achieved Responses **			
			Children	Families interviewed	Partners	Single Parents
ENGLAND	200	13146	11695	11533	8485	1853
WALES	73	3000	2799	2761	1933	590
SCOTLAND	62	2500	2370	2336	1727	375
N IRELAND	63	2000	1955	1923	1296	376
Total UK	**398**	**20646**	**18819**	**18553**	**13441**	**3194**

Notes: * Counting 'super wards' as a single unit. ** All productive contacts

In the vast majority of cases the natural mother did the main interview. The exceptions are 2 adoptive mothers, 2 foster mothers, 18 lone fathers, 2 natural fathers where the natural mothers answered the partner interview, 1 father with proxy interview for natural mother and 5 other guardians. The sex of respondents to main and partner questionnaires is given in Table 1.3, showing that there were exceptions to the general rule of mothers being the main respondent and partners being fathers, but that the exceptions were very few.

Table 1.3

Sex of respondents

Respondents	Sex of Main respondent		Sex of Partner interviewed or Proxied	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
Main and partner respondent in person	2	13239	13200	5
Main respondent in person (no-one eligible for partner)	18	3176		
Main in person, partner by proxy	1	337	215	1
Main in person, partner eligible but no response	0	1760		
No main interview, partner interviewed in person			20	0
Total	**21**	**18512**	**13435**	**6**

NOTE: The total number of Main respondents does not equal the number of families, due to the 20 cases where the Main respondent was not interviewed.

Table 1.4 shows the number of personal interviews with both mother and father. Short proxy interviews were undertaken with the main respondent where the father (-figure) was

unavailable during the period of the survey or prevented from answering through incapacity.

Table 1.4

Full and proxy responses by country

Respondent	England		Wales		Scotland		N Ireland		UK	
	n	***%***	***n***	***%***	***n***	***%***	***n***	***%***	***n***	***%***
Main and partner interviewed in person	8324	72.2	1908	69.1	1704	72.9	1269	66.0	13205	71.2
All eligible respondents: one in person and one by proxy	149	1.3	24	0.9	19	0.8	24	1.3	216	1.2
Main in person, partner eligible in person but not interviewed	1190	10.3	237	8.6	231	9.9	241	12.5	1899	10.2
Main in person, partner eligible by proxy but not interviewed	5	0.0	1	0.0	3	0.1	10	0.5	19	0.1
Partner in person, main respondent not interviewed	12	0.1	1	0.0	4	0.2	3	0.2	20	0.1
Main respondent interviewed in person (no eligible partner)	1853	16.1	590	21.4	375	16.1	376	19.6	3194	17.2
Total (N)	11533	100.0	2761	100.00	2336	100.0	1923	100.0	18553	100.0

1.6. Response rates

The overall response is set out in Table 1.5. The various factors involved in this response are discussed in detail in the Technical Report on Sampling (Plewis, 2003). In the Table, expected response rates out of the eligible population, which were assumed when the sample was drawn, are compared with those actually achieved. The achieved overall response rate was 68 per cent. An in-scope response rate is also calculated. It has a different denominator from the achieved overall rate. The denominator for the in-scope response rate includes only the cases issued to the fieldwork agency after initial filtering through the Department of Work and Pensions and it also omits those cases which became ineligible due to moving out of sample areas. The in-scope response rate, therefore, measures interviewers' success at finding their targets.

Table 1.5

Response rates by ward/stratum and country

Country By Type of Ward		Expected Overall Response Rate	Achieved Overall Response Rate	In-scope Response Rate Fieldwork
England	Advantaged	75%	73%	86%
	Disadvantaged	70%	68%	82%
	Ethnic	65%	62%	76%
	Total	70%	68%	82%
Wales	Advantaged	75%	78%	89%
	Disadvantaged	70%	69%	83%
	Total	71%	72%	84%
Scotland	Advantaged	75%	73%	86%
	Disadvantaged	70%	68%	83%
	Total	71%	70%	85%
N Ireland	Advantaged	75%	65%	81%
	Disadvantaged	70%	61%	78%
	Total	71%	63%	79%
UK	All	71%	68%	82%

Source: MCS Technical Report on Sampling, Plewis (2003)

1.7. Plan of this Report

This descriptive report broadly follows the structure and order of the MCS Sweep 1 questionnaire (as described in Table 1.1 above). The questions covered in the self-completion section cut across the other section headings and are merged therefore, with the relevant subject area.

1.8. GLOSSARY of terms and samples

Main respondent. The person who answered the main interview questions who was the main carer of the cohort child. The vast majority were natural mothers.

Partner. The person, usually living in the household, who was the main respondent's partner and in the majority, but not all cases, was the natural father of the cohort child.

Natural mothers. This term is self-explanatory. While the majority of natural mothers were main respondents at the interview, a few were partners. This means that some natural mothers answered 'partner' questions which were not always identical or as extensive as those asked of 'main respondents'.

Mothers. This can include natural mothers, adoptive mothers, step mothers and foster mothers, depending on the questions asked. The responses are drawn from main and partner questions to produce answers for 'mothers', where the questions to the two groups were identical.

Fathers. This can include natural fathers, adoptive fathers, step fathers and foster fathers, depending on the questions asked. The responses are drawn from main and partner questions to produce answers for 'fathers', where the questions to the two groups were identical.

Weighting. The design of this survey is such that the data need to be weighted if they are to be representative of any one country (England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland) or of the UK as a whole. Two weights have been constructed; one for country analyses, and one for whole UK analyses. All analyses contained in this report have been weighted appropriately if they are based on either a country sample or the whole UK sample of cohort families. Sample sizes reported in all tables in this report are the unweighted sample sizes. Further details about weighting in view of the sample design, with the relevant weighting values can be found in the Technical Report on Sampling (Plewis, 2003).

Types of ward. Electoral wards (grouped into three types) were used as the basis of sampling although with different sampling probabilities for each country (see Technical Report, Plewis, 2003). The three types are referred to throughout this report as:
-Advantaged wards
-Disadvantaged wards
-Ethnic wards

Ethnic wards. These are defined as wards in which, in the 1991 census of population at least 30 per cent of their total population fell into the two categories 'black' or 'Asian'. These wards were separated out and a selection of them made as a first step. Most of these wards would also be classified as disadvantaged (see definition below) if they were not included in the 'ethnic ward' group.

Disadvantaged wards. These are defined as wards which fell into the upper quartile (i.e. the poorest 25% of wards) of the ward-based Child Poverty Index for England and Wales. These constitute the poorest 25 per cent of wards in England and Wales with a Child

Poverty Index of at least 38.4 per cent. Wards included as ethnic wards were excluded before disadvantaged wards were sampled.

Advantaged wards. These are defined as being not in the top part of the Child Poverty Index. In other words these are not disadvantaged wards as defined above.

The three types of ward are mutually exclusive. Cohort families live in one or other of these wards. It is not appropriate to weight analyses which are broken down by both country and type of ward.

For England the stratification of electoral wards based on 1998 geography used the three definitions described above. For Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland there were just two strata, disadvantaged and advantaged.

Statistical tests of significance. These have not been carried out on any of the analyses reported in this descriptive report. The study's clustered and stratified sample design requires complex (non-standard) statistical tests. There are plans to carry out statistical tests in the future. For information on sample design and sampling errors see the Technical Report on Sampling (Plewis, 2003)

Proxy responses. The MCS Sweep 1 data contains some information about partners collected by proxy from the main respondent. Data collected by proxy is not included in the analyses reported here.

First born. In this Report, the reference to *first born* child means that the cohort child (or children) is the first biological birth of the main respondent if she is the mother of the cohort child. There could be other older half siblings in the household who are the partner's biological children; these would not displace the first born title for the cohort child.

NS-SEC analyses. The analyses included in this Report use NS-SEC (5) classification. NS-SEC classifications were available in principle for any respondent who was either employed at the interview or who had ever had a job.

Ethnic identity categories. The 13 Census categories were often used to classify the ethnic identity of main and partner respondents. For most of the preliminary analyses in this Report, aggregate groupings were imposed on these categories to create a smaller manageable number of categories for reporting. These are as follows: Whites (Census codes 1,2,3); Indian (Census code 8); Pakistani (Census code 9); Bangladeshi (Census code 10); Black (Census codes 12, 13, 14, 4, 5); Mixed and Other (Census codes 15, 16, 7, 11, 6).

CAPI – computer assisted personal interviewing. The MCS survey was carried out by face-to-face interviews using this technology.

SPSS – Statistical Package for Social Sciences. The first MCS Sweep 1 data to be deposited at the Data Archive (May 2003) was an SPSS data set. Much of the initial cleaning of the data, construction of derived variables and basic analyses contained in this Report were carried out using SPSS.

ALSPAC – Avon Longitudinal Study of Parents and Children. ALSPAC has followed about 1,000 children since the 8th gestational week and at various ages between 0-7 years. Detailed data on pregnancy (clinical and biological markers including maternal blood samples), birth, child growth, socio-economic circumstances and outcomes are included.

NLSY – National Longitudinal Study of Youth.

2. HOUSEHOLD STRUCTURE AND CHARACTERISTICS

Shirley Dex and Denise Hawkes

SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

As the first task, interviewers were asked to complete a Household Grid, which requested basic information about each person residing at the cohort child's address, and their relationship to the cohort child. This Household Grid is the basis of the descriptions of household structure of cohort children contained in this Chapter.

2.1. Parents in the household

84.3 per cent of MCS families had two resident parents (Figure 2.1). In a very small proportion, one parent had died (0.1%), and the families that were lone parents had varying degrees of contact with the other parent (described in Chapter Four).

Figure 2.1

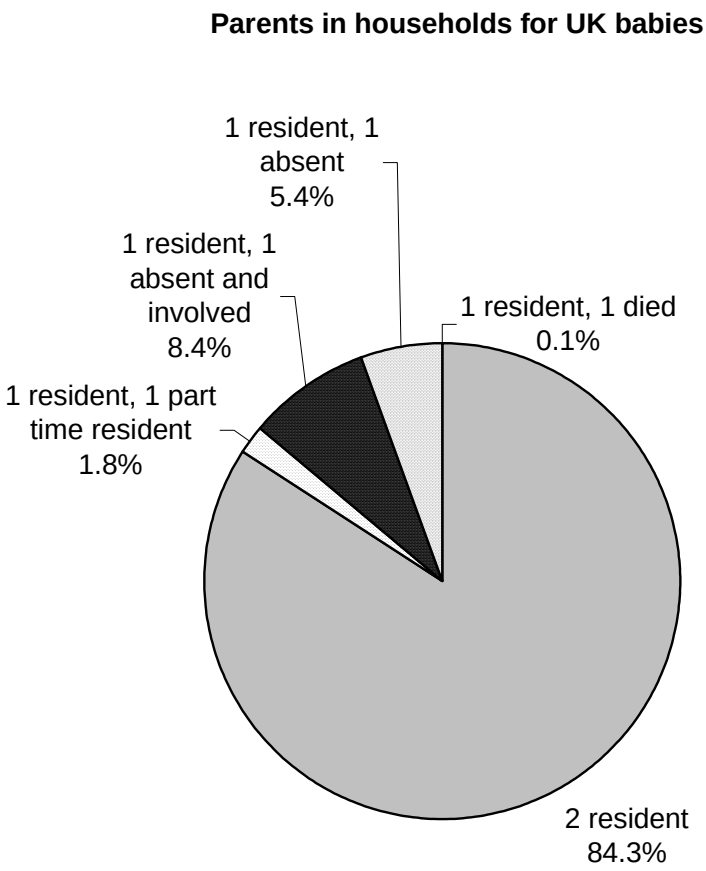
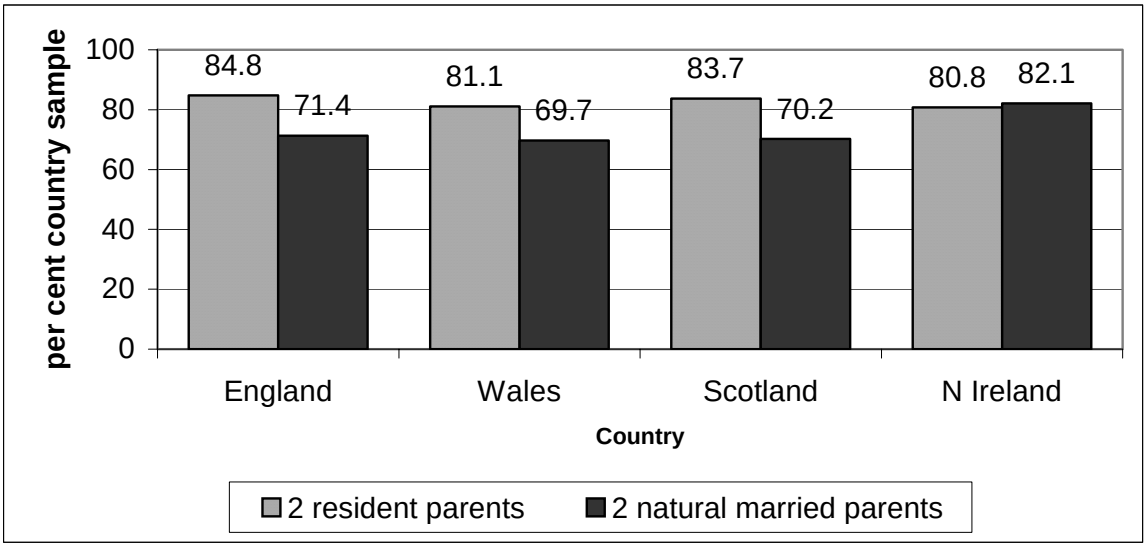


Figure 2.2. ***Parents in households.***



The extent to which there were 2 resident parents in the family varied slightly by country (Figure 2.2). The proportion of families with two natural married parents is often much lower. There were slight variations by country in these proportions, more so in the case of the proportions of natural parents who were legally married. Northern Ireland had the highest percentages of families containing two natural married parents 82.1 per cent and Wales the lowest percentage 69.7 per cent and in Northern Ireland, the percentages of two resident and two natural married parents were approximately equal.

The extent of having two natural (resident, or natural married) parents varied more substantially by type of ward (Figure 2.3). Advantaged wards had the highest proportions of 2 parent families. The extent of lone natural parents varied considerably by type of ward and a little by country (Table 2.1, Figure 2.4). Wards with high minority ethnic populations in England had approximately the same frequency of lone parents as disadvantaged wards in England.

Figure 2.3.

Household structure by type of ward for 2 natural parents.

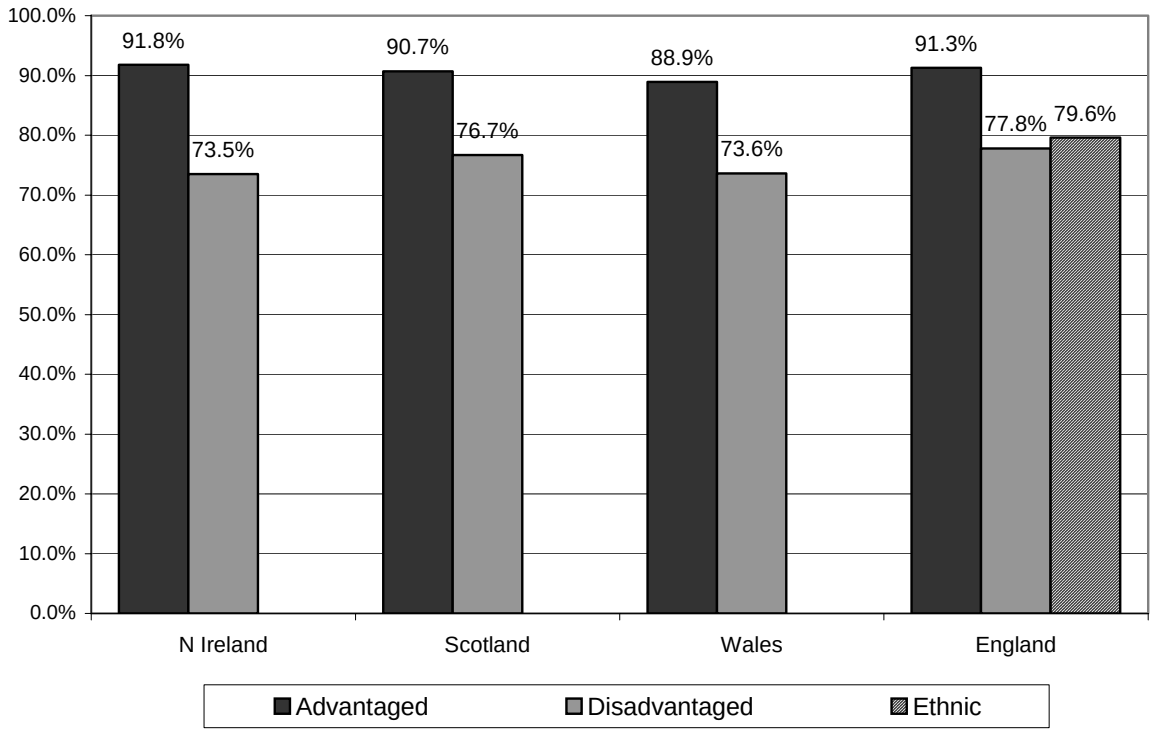
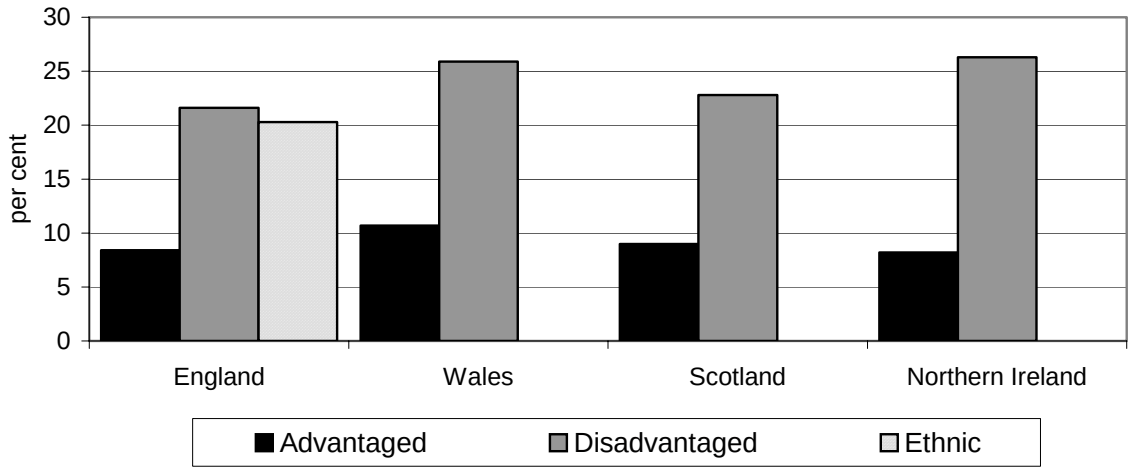


Figure 2.4 .

Teenage mothers (14-19 years old) by type of ward and country.

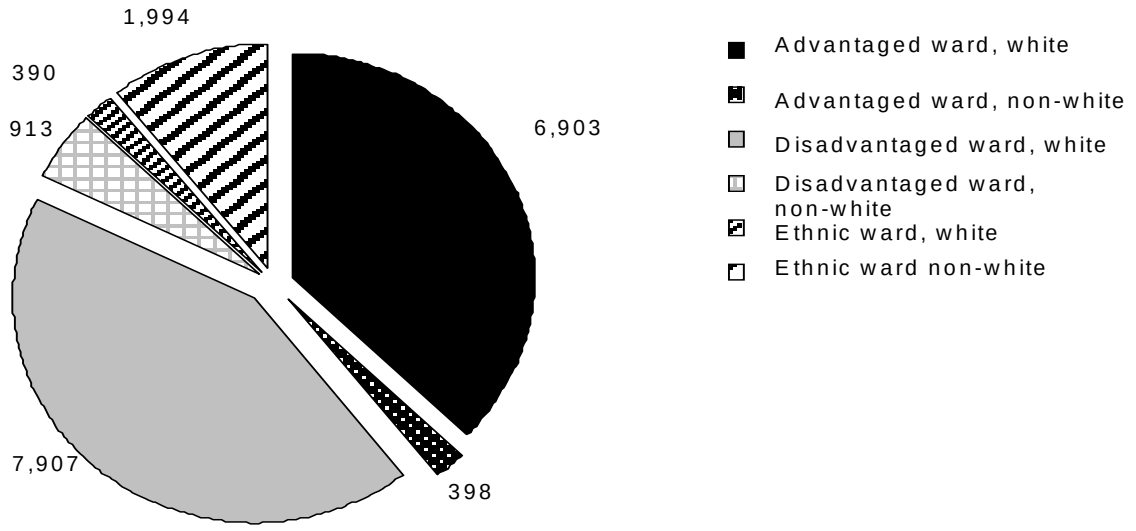
(Percentage values in Table 2.1)



2.2. Non-white children

Non-white cohort babies in the England sample did not just live in wards with high minority ethnic populations, but in all types of wards (Figure 2.5). Similarly there were white babies who lived in high minority ethnic wards. But they were highly concentrated; 83.6 per cent of the cohort babies living in English wards with high minority ethnic populations were non-white babies and 60.3 per cent of all non-white babies in English wards were in these wards. There were of course non-white babies in the other countries, although in low numbers and insufficient for separate analysis, although they were included in the samples of all analyses in the rest of this report.

Figure 2.5
Families in England with white and non-white children by type of ward (Unweighted sample numbers).



2.3. First born children

42.7 per cent of the babies were the first born in the family (see page 12 for definition), the lowest being in Northern Ireland (39.4%) and highest in Scotland (45.2%) (Table 2.2). First-born children in the family were least likely in wards with high minority ethnic populations (35.9%) and most likely in disadvantaged wards (43.5%) (Table 2.3). The breakdown by ethnic identity (Table 2.4) showed that the cohort child was the first born in only 27.0 per cent of Bangladeshi families. The proportion of first-born children were also well below the average in Pakistani (33.6%) and black (34.9%) families, but above average in the mixed and other ethnic identity category (47.1%). This means that at least half of the cohort children already had at least one older sibling, nearly two thirds in the case of Pakistani and Bangladeshi families.

2.4. Total number of children in families[1]

Family size varied from 1 to 10 children in a family. 36.3 per cent of families had two children, 14.8 per cent three children, and 6.8 per cent of families had four or more children (Table 2.5).

Family size varied by country, most notably Northern Ireland having a larger proportion than other countries (10.5%) with three and four or more children (Table 2.5). On average, children living in disadvantaged wards were in larger families than those living in

[1] Total children here includes biological siblings and half siblings.

advantaged wards (Table 2.6). 5.3 per cent of families in advantaged wards had four or more children compared with 8.2 per cent of families in disadvantaged wards. However, a much higher proportion of children living in wards with high minority ethnic populations had large families (16 per cent had four or more children).

2.5. Half siblings

The extent of half siblings in families is displayed by country in Table 2.7. Over the UK families, 9.3 per cent contained a half brother or sister to the cohort child. Wales had the highest proportion at 11.3 per cent and Northern Ireland the lowest at 5.6 per cent.

The numbers of half siblings in families varied by type of ward (Table 2.8). Of families living in disadvantaged wards, 11.7 per cent contained at least one half sibling to the cohort child compared with 8.4 per cent of families in advantaged wards and only 4.0 per cent of families in wards with high minority ethnic populations.

The highest overall percentage of families with a half sibling (13.6%) was in the disadvantaged wards of Wales (Table 2.9).

2.6. Household structure plus children

A detailed breakdown of the households by parents and their children is provided in Table 2.10 by country, and Table 2.11 by type of ward. There are variations across country and by type of ward. The patterns of household structures of families living in Northern Ireland (Table 2.10) depart most from the overall UK averages.

2.7. Parents' ages at interview

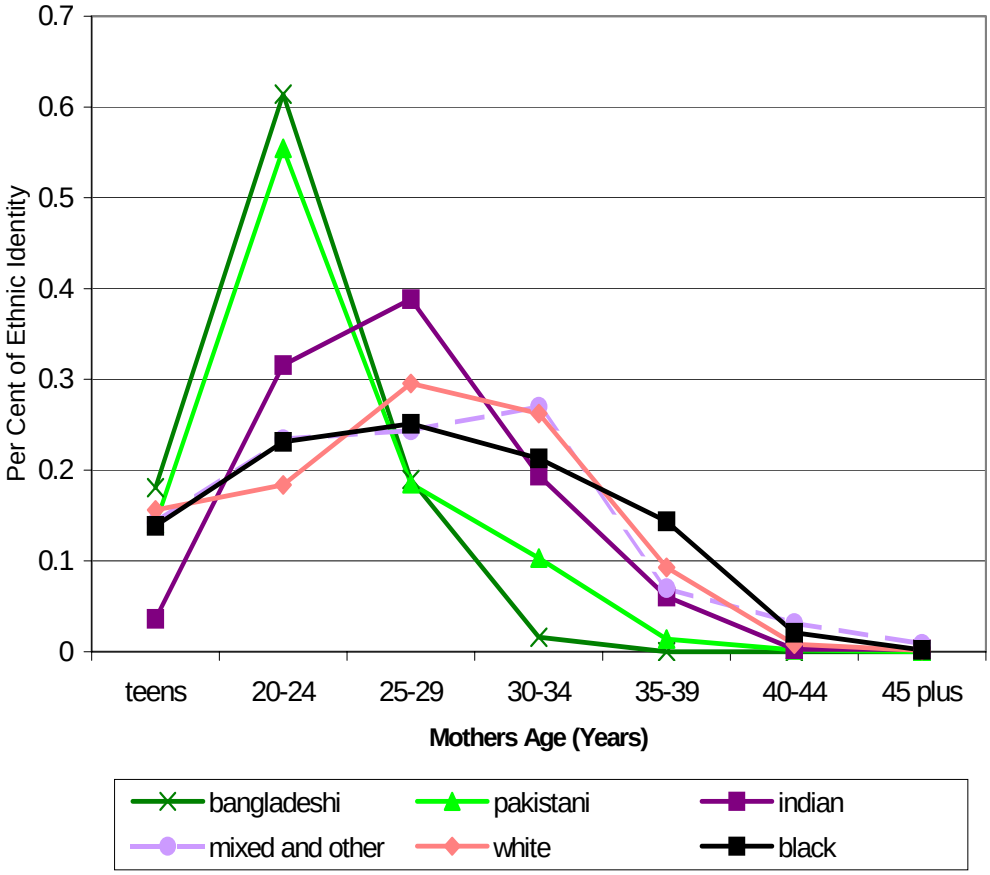
Parents' ages at the interview are displayed for all parents in Table 2.12 and for parents of cohort children who were the first born in the family in Table 2.13.

51.2 per cent of all cohort mothers, and 60.3 per cent of fathers' were in their thirties at the interview (Table 2.12). For mothers of a first child the proportion in their thirties was 40.6 per cent (Table 2.13). In relation to fathers of a first child, the proportion in their thirties was 54.6 per cent (Table 2.13).

Mothers' ages at the interview varied considerably by their ethnic identity. Mothers' ages where the cohort child was a first birth, are displayed in (Figure 2.6). Bangladeshi and Pakistani mothers were far more likely to be in their early twenties compared to mothers in the other ethnic identity groups.

Figure 2.6

Age at interview of mothers by ethnic identity



2.8. Grandparents living in the household

In 6.2 per cent of UK cohort families, a grandparent was living in the household. This hardly varied by country (Table 2.14) but varied more by type of ward rising to 18.6 per cent of families in wards with high minority ethnic populations (Table 2.14). Grandparents were more likely to live with the cohort family in disadvantaged compared with advantaged wards, although in some cases, it will be the cohort family residing with the grandparent, rather than the other way round. The extent of grandparents living in the same household varied considerably by the ethnic identity of the main respondent (Table 2.15).

Table 2.1

Proportion of natural lone parents in main respondents in each country and type of ward

Type of Ward	Country			
	England (%)	**Wales (%)**	**Scotland (%)**	**N Ireland (%)**
Advantaged (N)	8.4 (4617)	10.7 (832)	9.0 (1145)	8.2 (723)
Disadvantaged (N)	21.6 (4522)	25.9 (1929)	22.8 (1191)	26.3 (1200)
Ethnic (N)	20.3 (2394)			
Total Sample Size	**11533**	**2761**	**2336**	**1923**
			Total Sample Size	18553

Sample: All MCS main respondents.

Table 2.2

Percentage of first-born cohort children in the family, by country.

Whether cohort child was first born	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	**Wales (%)**	**Scotland (%)**	**N Ireland (%)**	
Not First Born	57.4	57.5	54.8	60.6	57.3
First Born	42.6	42.5	45.2	39.4	42.7
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	11533	2761	2336	1923	18553

Sample: All MCS mothers.

Table 2.3

Percentages of first-born cohort children in the family by type of ward.

Whether cohort child was first born	Type of Ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	**Disadvantaged (%)**	**Ethnic* (%)**	
Not First Born	57.2	56.5	64.1	57.3
First Born	42.8	43.5	35.9	42.7
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	7317	8842	2394	18553

Sample: All MCS mothers. * Ethnic wards are all in England

Table 2.4

Percentages of first- born cohort children in the family by ethnic identity.

Whether cohort child was first born	Ethnic identity – All UK					
	White (%)	Indian (%)	Pakistani (%)	Bangladeshi (%)	Black (%)	Mixed/ Other (%)
Not First Born	56.7	57.7	66.4	73.0	65.1	52.9
First Born	43.3	42.3	33.6	27.0	34.9	47.1
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	15532	479	888	371	676	559
					Total Sample Size	18505

Sample: All MCS mothers.

Table 2.5

Total numbers of children within households by country.

Total Number of Children in Household	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	N Ireland (%)	
One Child	42.0	42.1	44.7	38.3	42.1
Two Children	36.4	36.8	36.0	32.8	36.3
Three Children	14.7	14.3	14.2	18.5	14.8
Four or more Children	6.8	6.9	5.2	10.5	6.8
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Range	1 to 10	1 to 10	1 to 9	1 to 10	
N	11533	2761	2336	1923	18553

Sample: All MCS main respondents.

Table 2.6

Total numbers of children within households by type of ward.

Total Number of Children in Household	Type of Ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic* (%)	
One Child	42.2	42.8	36.2	42.1
Two Children	38.2	33.8	29.3	36.3
Three Children	14.3	15.2	18.2	14.8
Four or more Children	5.3	8.2	16.4	6.8
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Range	1 to 8	1 to 10	1 to 10	
N	7317	8842	2394	18553

Sample: All MCS main respondents. * Ethnic wards are all in England

Table 2.7

Percentages of households with half siblings by country.

Household composition of half siblings	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	N Ireland (%)	
No Half Siblings	90.6	88.7	91.6	94.4	90.7
Has Half Siblings	9.4	11.3	8.4	5.6	9.3
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	11533	2761	2336	1923	18553

Sample: All MCS main respondents.

Table 2.8

Percentages of households with half siblings by type of ward.

Household Composition of Half Siblings	Type of Ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic* (%)	
No Half Siblings	91.6	88.3	96.0	90.7
Has Half Siblings	8.4	11.7	4.0	9.3
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	7317	8842	2394	18553

Sample: All MCS main respondents. * Ethnic wards are all in England

Table 2.9

Percentages of households with half siblings by country and type of ward.

Country by Type of Ward	Half siblings in family		Total (%)	Sample Size (N)
	No Half Siblings (%)	Has Half Siblings (%)		
England Advantaged	91.4	8.6	**100.0**	4617
England Disadvantaged	88.0	12.0	**100.0**	4522
England Ethnic	96.0	4.0	**100.0**	2394
Wales Advantaged	90.7	9.3	**100.0**	832
Wales Disadvantaged	86.4	13.6	**100.0**	1929
Scotland Advantaged	92.1	7.9	**100.0**	1145
Scotland Disadvantaged	90.8	9.2	**100.0**	1191
N Ireland Advantaged	97.0	3.0	**100.0**	723
N Ireland Disadvantaged	91.5	8.5	**100.0**	1200
			Total Sample Size	**18553**

Sample: All MCS main respondents.

Table 2.10

Household structure of respondents by country.

Household Structure	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	N Ireland (%)	
No other children in household					
Two resident parents /parent figures– no other children	35.2	31.8	36.1	28.3	34.9
One resident and one part time resident parent – no other children	0.9	0.5	0.9	1.4	0.9
One resident parent, one absent but involved parent – no other children	3.7	5.6	4.4	5.6	4.0
One resident parent, one absent, not involved parent – no other children	2.8	4.4	4.1	3.7	3.1
One resident parent, one died parent – no other children	0.1	0.1	0.1	0	0.1
Other children in household					
Two resident parents/parent figures – other children	49.6	49.1	47.6	52.3	49.5
One resident parent and one part time resident parent – other children	0.9	0.8	1.0	1.1	0.9
One resident parent, one absent but involved parent – other children	4.4	5.3	3.7	4.8	4.4
One resident parent, one absent but not involved parent – other children	2.3	2.2	2.2	2.5	2.3
One resident parent, one died parent – other children	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	11531	2758	2336	1923	18548

Sample: All MCS main respondents.

Table 2.11

Household structure of respondents by type of ward.

Household Structure	Type of Ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic* (%)	
No other children in household				
Two resident parents/parent figures – no other children	37.1	29.8	27.9	32.5
One resident and one part time resident parent – no other children	0.6	1.2	0.8	0.9
One resident parent, one absent but involved parent – no other children	2.9	6.7	3.4	4.8
One resident parent, one absent not involved parent – no other children	2.0	5.4	4.3	3.9
One resident parent, one died parent – no other children	0	0.1	0	0.1
Other children in household				
Two resident parents/parent figures – other children	52.9	44.2	49.6	48.3
One resident parent and one part time resident parent – other children	0.6	1.4	1.3	1.1
One resident parent, one absent but involved parent – other children	2.6	7.3	7.2	5.4
One resident parent, one absent but not involved parent – other children	1.1	3.8	5.4	3.0
One resident parent, one died parent – other children	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	7317	8838	2393	18548

Sample: All MCS main respondents. * Ethnic wards are all in England

Table 2.12

Parents' ages at interview by country.

Mother's age (Years)	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	N Ireland (%)	
14 to 19	4.5	7.0	5.4	4.5	4.8
20 to 29	40.4	43.5	39.0	40.9	40.5
30 to 39	51.5	46.3	51.3	51.0	51.2
40 +	3.5	3.1	4.2	3.7	3.5
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	11513	2756	2334	1922	18525
Father's age (Years)					
16 to 19	0.7	1.0	1.0	0.8	0.7
20 to 29	25.9	27.7	26.2	25.9	26.0
30 to 39	60.3	60.5	60.3	59.3	60.3
40 +	13.1	10.8	12.5	14.1	12.9
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	9664	2167	1960	1547	15338

Sample: All MCS respondents.

Table 2.13

Parents' ages by country when cohort child is the first-born.

Mother's age at interview (Years)	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	N Ireland (%)	
14 to 19	9.6	15.0	11.0	10.5	10.1
20 to 29	47.2	51.3	45.7	55.6	47.6
30 to 39	41.4	32.2	41.7	32.0	40.6
40 +	1.7	1.5	1.6	1.8	1.7
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	4785	1183	1057	752	7777
Father's age at interview (Years)					
16 to 19	1.4	1.9	2.3	2.1	1.5
20 to 29	34.4	38.5	34.3	39.7	34.8
30 to 39	54.9	51.3	55.0	49.5	54.6
40 +	9.3	8.3	8.3	8.8	9.1
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	3979	857	850	546	6232

Sample: Information provided by main respondents in household grid questions.

Table 2.14

Whether grandparents living in the house by country and type of ward.

Type of Ward	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	N Ireland (%)	
Advantaged (Total N)	4.7 (4617)	5.2 (832)	4.5 (1145)	4.4 (723)	4.7 (7317)
Disadvantaged (Total N)	6.7 (4522)	7.2 (1929)	9.0 (1191)	9.7 (1200)	7.1 (8842)
Ethnic (Total N)	18.6 (2394)				18.6 (2394)
Country total (Total N)	6.1 (11533)	6.1 (2761)	6.2 (2336)	6.9 (1923)	6.2 (18553)

Sample: All MCS main respondents.

Table 2.15

Whether grandparents living in house by ethnic identity of main respondent.

Ethnic identity of main respondent (grouped)	Country		All UK	
	England (%)	Total Sample Size (N)	Total (%)	Total Sample Size (N)
White	4.3	8585	4.7	16334
Indian	30.6	219	30.5	345
Pakistani	25.4	338	25.5	532
Bangladeshi	28.8	110	28.7	173
Black	7.5	307	7.3	481
Mixed and other	8.6	292	8.4	476
Total (N)	-	11496	-	18505

Sample: All MCS main respondents.

3. ETHNIC IDENTITY

Stephan Collishaw and Barbara Maughan

SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

The 2001 Census showed that just under 8 per cent of the total population of the UK, and over 12 per cent of children and teenagers; classified themselves as non-white. Previous British birth cohort studies (the most recent of which began over 30 years ago, in 1970 contained too few ethnic minority children for any detailed analyses of their particular circumstances, or of the specific factors that influenced their health and development. One of the main aims of the Millennium Cohort Study was to remedy those lacks. As a result of over-sampling English wards with high proportions of ethnic minority families, just over 2000 of the main respondents (mainly natural mothers) at the first sweep classified themselves in ethnic minority groups.

3.1. Ethnic identity

Reflecting the importance of this aspect of the study, most of the specific topics discussed in later chapters are examined by ethnic identity as well as by country, region and by NS-SEC. This chapter provides more of a general background on the ethnic identity of the sample. Main respondents were asked to indicate which of the set of ethnic identity categories they regarded themselves as belonging to and which group the baby belonged to. Partners were asked the same question. Responses were first grouped according to the 13 ethnic identity categories used in the Census; for ease of presentation, these 13 categories were then grouped further into the 6-fold classification used throughout this report (please see Glossary, p 10/11, for details). Appendix tables A3.1 to A3.3 provide breakdowns for the whole 13 ethnic identity categories to give an indication of the constituents of the aggregate groupings.

Table 3.1 shows the ethnic identity of main respondents cross-classified by the reported ethnic identity of the MCS baby. The majority of babies were classified as belonging to the same ethnic identity as their mother; black mothers and mothers of Indian descent were more likely than mothers from the other ethnic identities to report that their children were of mixed or 'other' ethnic identity. In future sweeps it will be important to explore the MCS

children's own perceptions of their ethnic identities, and to assess whether the mother's, father's or child's ethnic identity is the most salient predictor of later outcomes.

3.2. Ethnic identity by country and region

Tables 3.2 to 3.4 show the geographical distribution of cohort children according to the main respondent's ethnic identity. The great majority of the non-white main respondents lived in England (Table 3.2), as recognised in the sample design; Northern Ireland had the smallest ethnic minority representation (less than one per cent of the Northern Ireland sample). Children from non-white ethnic minorities were also concentrated in particular regions of the UK. As Table 3.3 shows, with the exception of Pakistanis all ethnic minority main respondents were more commonly located in London: 40.7 per cent of Indian, 41.2 per cent of Bangladeshi, 43.3 per cent of mixed/other and 73.1 per cent of black respondents lived in London, compared with around one in 10 of both Pakistani and white cohort families. Pakistani children were more likely to be drawn from Yorkshire/Humberside (27.5%), the North West (21.4%) and the West Midlands (16.1%). Outside London, cohort children of Indian origin were more commonly located in the East Midlands, and those of Bangladeshi descent in the East of England (17.6%) and the West Midlands (18.5%). Cohort children from black families were less common in all areas outside London.

3.3. Ethnic identity by type of ward

For England only, Table 3.4 shows a breakdown of children's (maternal) ethnic identity by ward type. Reflecting the findings of numerous other studies, the great majority of families of Bangladeshi origin (70.0%) lived in one of the 20 per cent of study wards with high concentrations of ethnic minority residents. Between 20 per cent and 40 per cent of the children from other ethnic minority groups also lived in wards of high minority ethnic populations, as did just 1.3 per cent of white cohort families. Remaining wards were classified as advantaged or disadvantaged. Children from white, Indian and mixed/other families were primarily living in advantaged wards. Children from black families were found to be more likely to live in disadvantaged wards than advantaged wards (48.9% versus 20.2%).

3.4. Ethnic identity and language at home

Table 3.5 shows the home languages of families and children in each ethnic identity group. More than one language was usually spoken at home in around two thirds of all South Asian households and in 30 per cent of black families; by contrast, only 2.2 per cent of white families were bilingual. The South Asian families differed markedly, however, in the proportions where only English was spoken at home (from 20% of Indian families to 1.2% of Bangladeshis), and where it was not used at all (1 in 8 households of Indian origin, 1 in 4 of Pakistani origin, and 1 in 3 from Bangladeshi origin). As expected, the heterogeneous mixed/other category showed a varied home language profile.

3.5. Ethnic identity and religion

Main respondents were also asked if they regarded themselves as belonging to any particular religion (Table 3.6). Across the sample as a whole just over 50 per cent of main

respondents identified themselves as having a religious affiliation: 46.4 per cent were Christian, 5.3 per cent Muslim, and other religions (Hindu, Jewish, Sikh and Buddhist) each accounted for 1 per cent of the sample or less. There were marked variations by ethnic identity both in the extent and the nature of religious affiliations - only half of the white main respondents regarded themselves as belonging to a religion, by comparison with 74.3 per cent of black main respondents, 92.4 per cent of those of Indian descent, and 98-99 per cent of Pakistanis and Bangladeshis. White respondents with religious affiliations were very predominantly Christian, while the great majority of Pakistani and Bangladeshi main respondents were Muslims. For black main respondents in the sample, involvement in Christianity was high, and one in six were Muslims; Indian main respondents included roughly similar proportions of Hindus and Sikhs, along with smaller groups of Muslims and Christians.

Table 3.1

Baby's ethnic identity by main respondent's ethnic identity.

Baby's Ethnic Identity	Main Respondent's Ethnic identity						All Total (%)
	White (%)	Indian (%)	Pakistani (%)	Bangladeshi (%)	Black (%)	Mixed/other (%)	
White	97.7	0.3	0.2	1.7	1.5	14.9	87.2
Indian	< 0.1	88.7	0.6	-	-	2.3	1.8
Pakistani	<0.1	1.2	95.7	-	0.2	1.1	2.9
Bangladeshi	<0.1	-	-	97.7	-	0.2	0.9
Black	0.1	0.6	-	-	88.6	3.6	2.5
Mixed/other	2.1	9.3	3.6	0.6	9.8	77.9	4.5
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
N	15532	479	888	371	676	558	18504

SAMPLE: All MCS main respondents and their babies.

Table 3.2

Main respondent's ethnic identity by country.

Respondent's Ethnic identity	Country				All UK Totals (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	NI (%)	
White	87.1	97.6	97.7	99.4	89.1
Indian	2.2	0.3	0.4	0.1	1.9
Pakistani	3.4	0.3	0.6	0.1	2.9
Bangladeshi	1.1	0.4	-	-	0.9
Black	3.1	0.3	0.4	0.1	2.6
Mixed/other	3.0	1.1	0.9	0.5	2.6
Total	100	100	100	100	100
N	11496	2758	2330	1921	18505

SAMPLE: All MCS main respondents.

Table 3.3

Main respondent's ethnic identity by region and country

Region	Main Respondent's Ethnic identity						All Total (%)
	White (%)	Indian (%)	Pakistani (%)	Bangladeshi (%)	Black (%)	Mixed/other (%)	
E Midlands	5.0	15.3	1.4	0.0	1.8	2.6	6.8
E England	6.7	2.5	8.3	17.6	4.6	7.7	9.3
London	6.3	40.7	11.1	41.2	73.1	43.3	12.9
N East	2.8	0.4	1.1	0.8	0.0	0.9	3.7
N West	7.3	6.8	21.4	0.8	6.4	5.4	10.4
S East	10.7	13.1	6.1	2.5	3.1	11.4	14.6
S West	6.0	0.8	0.3	0.8	0.0	2.3	7.8
W Midlands	5.2	8.9	16.1	18.5	4.0	6.3	7.7
York & Hum	5.7	3.8	27.5	8.4	1.2	3.4	8.5
Wales	17.2	3.4	2.5	9.2	2.8	8.3	5.2
Scotland	14.6	3.8	3.9	0.0	2.8	6.0	9.5
NI	12.5	0.4	0.3	0.0	0.3	2.6	3.5
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	15524	479	888	371	676	559	18497

SAMPLE: All MCS main respondents.

Table 3.4

Main respondent's ethnic identity by type of ward (England only)

Type of Ward	Main Respondent's Ethnic identity						All Total (%)
	White (%)	Indian (%)	Pakistani (%)	Bangladeshi (%)	Black (%)	Mixed/other (%)	
Advantaged	66.8	42.0	14.2	13.6	20.2	44.2	61.4
Disadvantaged	31.9	22.8	41.1	16.4	48.9	34.9	32.7
Ethnic	1.3	35.2	44.7	70.0	30.9	20.9	5.9
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
N	8665	460	861	359	654	497	11496

SAMPLE: All MCS main respondents. England only.

Table 3.5

Languages spoken at home by ethnic identity.

Languages at home	Main Respondent's Ethnic identity						All Total (%)
	White (%)	Indian (%)	Pakistani (%)	Bangladeshi (%)	Black (%)	Mixed/other (%)	
English	97.4	20.0	6.6	1.2	62.4	43.8	90.1
English + other	2.2	68.1	68.4	64.7	29.5	39.4	7.6
Other only	0.5	11.9	25.0	34.1	8.1	16.8	2.3
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
N	15532	479	888	371	676	559	18505

SAMPLE: All MCS main respondents.

Table 3.6

Main respondent's religion by ethnic identity

Religion	Main Respondent's Ethnic identity						All Total (%)
	White (%)	Indian (%)	Pakistani (%)	Bangladeshi (%)	Black (%)	Mixed/other (%)	
None	49.9	7.6	0.9	1.7	15.7	29.5	45.8
Christian	49.2	4.4	0.2	0.6	65.9	28.1	46.4
Hindu	< 0.1	37.9	0.8	2.3	0.2	14.3	1.2
Jew	0.3	0.3	0.2	-	0.2	0.2	0.3
Muslim	0.3	14.0	97.9	95.4	17.2	21.7	5.3
Sikh	-	35.3	-	-	-	1.1	0.7
Buddhist	0.1	-	-	-	-	4.9	0.2
Other	0.2	0.6	-	-	0.6	0.2	0.2
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
N	15501	476	884	370	672	557	18460

SAMPLE: All MCS main respondents.

4. PARTNERSHIPS AND PARENTHOOD

Kathleen Kiernan

SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

For much of the twentieth century in most western societies marriage was the normative setting for having children, whereas nowadays this is much less the case, for example, in Britain the proportions of all births occurring outside of marriage stood at 40 per cent in 2001, compared with 12 per cent in 1980 and 6 per cent in 1960.

Undoubtedly, the important driver behind this development has been the rise in cohabitation that has occurred across most European and North American countries and as a consequence there has been a discernible movement away from having a child within marriage to having a child within a cohabiting union in many nations. However, in Britain and the USA and to a lesser extent in other countries there is also evidence that there has been an increase in the proportions of women having a child outside of a co-residential partnership (Kiernan, 2003).

4.1. Types of partnership

In the Millennium Cohort Study 60.1 per cent of children were born to married parents, 24.9 per cent to cohabiting parents and 15 per cent to parents who were not living together at the time of the birth (Table 4.1). For this latter group we were able to assess the strength of the parent's relationship at the time of the birth as they were asked whether they were "closely involved", were "just friends" or "not in any relationship" or were separated or divorced. Here, we examine the extent to which unmarried parenthood varies: across the United Kingdom, type of ward and ethnic identity; as well as by birth order and age of mother at the time of the birth**.** For the unmarried parents we show the proportions of fathers that were included on the child's birth certificate and, amongst those not living with the mother, the extent to which they are in contact with the mother, at the time of the interview when the child was 9-11 months old.

4.2. Partnerships by country

Table 4.1 shows for the United Kingdom as a whole and for the constituent countries the proportions of babies born within these different contexts. Overall, amongst the non-partnered main respondents (mainly mothers) we see that 1 per cent were separated/divorced (from the child's other natural parent), 7.2 per cent were closely involved, 2.4 per cent were just friends and 4.4 per cent were not in any relationship at the time of the birth. Thus, around one half of the parents of the non-partnered were closely involved at the time of the birth. England, Wales and Scotland have broadly similar distributions but Northern Ireland has proportionately more births within marriage, and more that were non-partnered than was the case in the other countries.

4.3. Partnerships by type of ward

The study over-sampled children in disadvantaged wards and wards with high minority ethnic populations. Table 4.2 shows the proportions of children born in different types of wards. It is clear from these data that unmarried parenthood was more common in disadvantaged wards than in advantaged ones, and that non co-residential parenthood was more common amongst those who lived in disadvantaged wards and in wards with high minority ethnic populations. But as we will see in Table 4.3, there is a good deal of variation by ethnic identity of the main respondent with respect to the partnership context within which the baby was born.

4.4. Partnership and ethnic identity

The Asian main respondents were much more likely to be married at the time of the birth than those main respondents with white or black ethnic identities. Having a child within a cohabiting union was rare amongst the Asian main respondents and was less common amongst black than amongst white main respondents. Main respondent parents that were the least likely to have been in a relationship at the time the baby was born were the black and mixed ethnic identity main respondents. Amongst these two sets of main respondents, non-partnered parenthood was as common as childbearing within marriage.

The proportion of parents who have never lived together also varied by ethnic identity. It was highest among black main respondents at 25 per cent, followed by those who classified themselves as being of mixed (10%) and white (8%) ethnic identity. The pattern of never living with the child's other natural parent was extremely uncommon among the South Asian main respondents at one per cent or less for Indian, Pakistani and Bangladeshi main respondents.

4.5. Partnership context and birth order

We also looked at the partnership context of parenthood by whether the cohort baby was a first or later born child and the age of the mother at the time of the birth. From Table 4.4 we see that first-born babies compared with later born babies were less likely to be born within marriage (49.0% compared with 71.2%), more likely to be born to cohabiting parents (31.2% compared with 18.6%) and were twice as likely to be born to parents who were not living together at the time they were born (19.8% compared with 10.2%).

4.6. Partnership context and age of mother

Table 4.5 shows that there is a good deal of variation in the partnership context of parenthood according to the age of the mother at the time the baby was born. The vast majority of teenage mothers had non-marital births (92.4%) whereas the majority of mothers over age 30 were married when they had children (over 70%). Out of partnership births were noticeably more common amongst women under age 25, being the most common context amongst teenage mothers (53.6%), whereas it was much rarer amongst the over 30s (less than 10%).

Age at first birth and birth order are highly related in that more of the younger mothers will be first time mothers and more of the older mothers will be having a second or later child. In order to compare women at similar stages in their reproductive careers we examined the context of parenthood according to age of the mother separately for first time mothers, (Table 4.6).

The majority of first births occurred to women aged between 20 and 34 (76%), 15 per cent were to teenagers and 11 per cent were to women over age 35. Within the modal age groups (20-34) there is a noticeable difference in the behaviour of the 20-24 year olds compared with women in their later twenties and early thirties. The younger women were less likely to be married, more likely to be cohabiting and to have had a child outside of a partnership than the two older groups of women, who had broadly similar experiences. Teenage mothers had quite different experiences to older mothers. Another interesting observation from this table is that there was little difference in the reported degree of non-partnered mothers' involvements with the father at the time of the birth according to the mother's age at birth.

4.7. Absent father's involvement

An indication of the extent of the attachment between the mother and father can also be assessed from whether the mother reported that the father's name was on the child's birth certificate (Table 4.7) The father's name appeared on the birth certificate of 97.4 per cent of babies born to cohabiting but only 62.6 per cent of non partnered main respondents. Fathers' names were likely to be on the birth certificate in 81.4 per cent of cases where the mother was separated or divorced and 81.2 per cent of cases where the mother was not partnered but closely involved with the father. Where mothers were not in a relationship with the father, only 26.9 per cent of such fathers had their name on the birth certificate.

Marriages, partnerships and relationships are not static; parents may separate or, in the case of broken partnership relationships they may move in together. We made a preliminary examination of whether the father was in the household at the time of the interview (9-11 months after the birth of the baby) and, for those who were not living together, whether there was any contact between the mother and the absent father at this time.

Amongst those parents who were not living together when their child was born, 23.2 per cent were living together at the time of the interview, and 6 out of 10 were still in contact,

This preliminary examination of the partnership context in which the Millennium Cohort children were born has highlighted the complexity of parental relationships that exists at the dawn of the 21st century.

Table 4.1

Partnership context in which the child was born by country.

Partnership context at birth	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	N Ireland (%)	
Married	60.2	56.2	58.9	67.0	60.1
Cohabiting	25.3	25.9	25.0	13.1	24.9
Non-partnered	14.5	17.9	16.1	19.9	15.0
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Breakdown of non-partnered % *					
Separated/divorced	1.1	0.7	0.8	1.2	1.0
Closely involved	6.8	8.7	8.0	11.1	7.2
Just friends	2.4	3.1	2.1	2.6	2.4
Not in a relationship	4.2	5.4	5.2	5.0	4.4
Total N	**11484**	**2745**	**2329**	**1917**	**18475**

Sample: All MCS Main respondents.
* Relationships are to cohort child's other natural parent.

Table 4.2

Partnership context in which the child was born by type of ward.

Partnership context at birth	Type of Ward		
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic** (%)
Married	68.1	45.1	66.7
Cohabiting	22.8	30.9	8.1
Non-partnered	9.1	23.9	25.3
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Breakdown of non-partnered % *			
Separated/divorced	0.6	1.2	4.5
Closely involved	4.2	11.5	13.2
Just friends	1.4	4.1	3.6
Not in a relationship	2.9	7.1	4.0
N	**7301**	**8796**	**2378**

Sample: All MCS main respondents. ** Ethnic wards are all in England
* Relationships are to cohort child's other natural parent.

Table 4.3

Partnership context in which the child was born by ethnic identity of the mother.

Partnership context at birth	Mother's Ethnic identity						
	White (%)	**Mixed (%)**	**Indian (%)**	**Pakistani (%)**	**Bangladeshi (%)**	**Black (%)**	**Other (%)**
Married	58.5	40.6	90.9	91.9	87.8	40.5	75.9
Cohabiting	27.1	21.4	1.9	1.1	2.9	15.1	9.8
Non-partnered:	14.4	38.0	7.3	7.0	9.3	44.4	14.3
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Breakdown of non-partnered % *							
Separated/divorced	0.7	2.6	1.5	4.1	3.2	6.1	2.2
Closely involved	6.9	21.1	4.8	2.0	3.7	20.8	7.7
Just friends	2.4	5.9	0.2	0.4	0.9	7.2	2.4
Not in a relationship	4.5	8.4	0.8	0.6	1.5	10.3	2.0
N	**15449**	**176**	**476**	**886**	**479**	**653**	**326**
						Total Sample Size	**18445**

Sample: All MCS mothers

* Relationships are to cohort child's other natural parent.

Table 4.4

Partnership context in which the child was born by parity.

Partnership context at birth	Whether cohort child first born	
	First born (%)	**Second or later born child (%)**
Married	49.0	71.2
Cohabiting	31.2	18.6
Non-partnered	19.8	10.2
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**
Breakdown of non-partnered % *		
Separated/divorced	0.6	1.4
Closely involved	9.8	4.5
Just friends	2.9	1.9
Not in a relationship	6.4	2.4
N	**9095**	**9380**
Total Sample Size		**18475**

Sample: All MCS main respondents (natural, adoptive, step, foster).
* Relationships are to cohort child's other natural parent.

Table 4.5

Partnership context in which the child was born by age of natural mother (resident).

Partnership context at birth	Age (Years)				
	14-19 (%)	**20-24 (%)**	**25-29 (%)**	**30-34 (%)**	**35 and over (%)**
Married	7.5	32.8	63.2	75.6	74.2
Cohabiting	38.8	39.6	26.0	17.1	17.9
Non-partnered	53.6	27.7	10.8	7.2	7.9
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Breakdown of non-partnered % *					
Separated/divorced	0.9	1.4	1.1	1.0	0.8
Closely involved	26.8	12.6	5.1	3.5	3.9
Just friends	8.9	4.9	1.7	1.0	1.2
Not in a relationship	17.1	8.7	3.0	1.8	2.1
N	**1569**	**3545**	**5105**	**5339**	**2898**
				Total Sample Size	18456

Sample: All MCS natural mothers. Data rounded to nearest %.
* Relationships are to cohort child's other natural parent.

Table 4.6

Partnership context in which the first child was born by age of natural mother (resident).

Partnership context at birth	Age (Years)				
	14-19 (%)	**20-24 (%)**	**25-29 (%)**	**30-34 (%)**	**35 and over (%)**
Married	6.8	28.0	60.0	68.0	58.8
Cohabiting	39.0	42.5	28.4	23.6	28.3
Non-partnered	54.3	29.6	11.6	8.4	13.0
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Breakdown of non-partnered %*					
Separated/divorced	0.5	0.8	0.8	0.4	0.7
Closely involved	27.7	14.4	5.6	4.3	6.2
Just friends	8.7	4.3	1.4	1.2	2.1
Not in a relationship	17.4	10.1	3.9	2.5	3.9
N	**1370**	**2118**	**2469**	**2131**	**993**
				Total Sample Size	9081

Sample: Main respondents in families where cohort child was first-born.
* Relationships are to cohort child's other natural parent.

Table 4.7

Whether father's name is on the birth certificate.

Partnership context at birth	Father's name on birth certificate		Total (%)
	Yes (%)	No (%)	
Married	-	-	**-**
Cohabiting	97.4	2.7	**100.0**
Non-partnered:	62.6	37.4	**100.0**
Breakdown of non-partnered % *			
Separated/divorced	81.4	18.6	100.0
Closely involved	81.2	18.8	100.0
Just friends	64.4	35.6	100.0
Not in a relationship	26.9	73.1	100.0
N	**6449**	**1404**	**7853**

Sample: All MCS main respondents.
* Relationships are to cohort child's other natural parent.

Table 4.8

Whether father's is in the household at the time of the interview and where father is absent whether the mother is in contact with him.

Partnership context at birth	Fathers' presence in household		Total (%)	Absent father		Total (%)
	Father in the household at time of interview (%)	Father not in the household at time of interview (%)		In contact with absent father (%)	Not in contact with absent father (%)	
Married	99.0	1.0	100.0	78.0	21.9	100.0
Cohabiting	93.4	6.6	100.0	87.0	13.1	100.0
Non-partnered	23.2	76.8	100.0	58.5	41.5	100.0
Breakdown of non-partnered % *						
Separated/divorced	14.4	85.6	100.0	58.0	42.0	100.0
Closely involved	39.0	61.0	100.0	81.9	18.2	100.0
Just friends	11.3	88.7	100.0	71.3	28.7	100.0
Not in a relationship	6.1	93.9	100.0	28.0	72.0	100.0
Total N	**15335**	**3230**	**18565**	**1968**	**1222**	**3190**

Sample: All MCS main respondents. Totals may not sum to 100% due to rounding
*Relationships are to cohort child's other natural parent.

5. WIDER FAMILY

Charlie Owen, Ann Mooney, Julia Brannen and June Statham

SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

The importance of kin relationships has been identified in a number of studies. For example, in a survey of adults' views on what contributed to quality of life, relationships with family and relatives were named most frequently as most important (Bowling, 1995). Findings from the British Social Attitudes Survey show that a high value is placed on three generational family life, particularly by grandparents (Dench and Ogg, 2002). Nine out of ten grandparents in the survey agreed that grandparenting was a very important part of their life. There is a growing interest in intergenerational relationships and in particular the role of grandparents (Brannen et al., 2003; Mooney and Statham, 2002). Indeed, there is a case to be made that, with the weakening of horizontal household ties via divorce, vertical intergenerational transfers and transmission are becoming more not less important.

This chapter will consider the questions asked of the Millennium Cohort Study parents about their own parents – the baby's grandparents: whether they were still alive, whether they lived in the same household, how often they saw them and if they helped financially with the baby.

5.1. Having grandparents alive

Is your mother still alive? And is your father still alive?

In early adult life, over eighty per cent of the population have three or more generations of their family alive (Dench and Ogg, 2002). By the age of 50, three-fifths of the British population still have a living parent and just over a third are grandparents (Grundy, Murphy and Shelton, 1999). It is therefore unsurprising that a very large majority of the Millennium Cohort parents themselves had parents who were alive. Perhaps reflecting women's greater life expectancy, the proportion of mothers and fathers with a living mother was higher than the proportion with a living father. Table 5.1 shows that, at the time of data collection, on average 93 per cent of mothers[2] had their own mothers alive and 83 per cent

[2] In just two cases this was an adoptive mother rather than the natural mother.

had a father alive. Of the 73 per cent of families, where the cohort mother had a partner[3], slightly fewer of these partners had parents alive (Table 5.2), but again more had a mother alive (90 per cent) than a father (79 per cent). There was little difference between UK countries and between advantaged and disadvantaged wards with respect to whether the study child had maternal and paternal grandparents, although slightly fewer babies living in high minority ethnic wards in England had grandfathers alive, both for the maternal grandparents (73.8 per cent) and paternal grandparents (66.5 per cent).

Babies from all the minority ethnic identities were less likely to have grandparents alive compared to white babies, as was found by Berthoud (2003). In Bangladeshi families, 90.2 per cent of cohort babies had their maternal grandmother alive, only a little below average, but only 63.9 per cent had their maternal grandfather alive. The pattern was similar for Bangladeshi babies' paternal grandparents: 84.0 per cent had their paternal grandmother alive but only 57.0 per cent had their paternal grandfather alive. Bangladeshi cohort babies were the least likely to have a grandfather alive, either maternal (63.9 per cent) or paternal (57.0 per cent). Black cohort babies were the least likely to have a grandmother alive, either maternal (85.2 per cent) or paternal (77.8 per cent). An examination of the age of the cohort baby's mother and father did not throw any light on these differences. The average age at interview of ethnic minority parents was not greater than the average age of white parents.

5.2. Grandparents in the household

Although the large majority of parents in the Millennium Cohort Study had their own parents alive, very few lived in the same household. This is consistent with the decline in co-residence of older people with their children noted by Pickard (2002), using data from the General Household Survey. On average, 4 per cent of cohort mothers lived in the same household as their own mother and 3 per cent with their father (Table 5.5). The percentages were even lower for the cohort partner's parents: 2 per cent living with their own mother and 1 per cent with their father (Table 5.6). Cohort babies in wards in England with high minority ethnic populations were much more likely to live with the paternal grandparents than families elsewhere – 13.5 per cent with the paternal grandmother and 8.7 per cent with the paternal grandfather (despite the fact that fewer were alive) (Table 5.6).

Although there were some differences by ethnic identity in the percentage of cohort babies whose maternal grandparents were in the household (Table 5.7). the differences for paternal grandparents living with the cohort child were much larger (Table 5.8). Cohort babies from the three South Asian ethnic groups (Indian, Pakistani and Bangladeshi) were much more likely to be living with their paternal grandparents than babies from the other ethnic identity groups. There was a slight tendency for more Pakistani and Bangladeshi babies to be living with the maternal grandparents compared to babies from all other ethnic identities, but a much larger tendency than other ethnic identity groups for Pakistani and Bangladeshi babies to be living with paternal grandparents.

[3] The term 'partner' is used throughout this chapter. In all but four cases this was a male partner, mostly the baby's father.

5.3. Frequency of contact with grandparents

How often do you see your mother/father nowadays?

Studies have found that grandparenting tends to be most intense during grandchildren's pre-school years, and especially for the first grandchild. The intensity and frequency of shared activities lessen when grandparents have more than one grandchild and also as grandchildren get older. In the ONS Omnibus Survey, the majority of mothers with a child under 5 received help from their own mothers (such as help with parenting, domestic tasks, childcare, money, paperwork/maintenance, shopping and lifts), particularly when it was their first child (Grundy et al., 1999). Grandparents tend to take more of a 'back-seat' as grandchildren get older and are less likely to be as involved with each subsequent grandchild.

Almost two thirds of cohort mothers in the MCS saw their own mother at least once a week with almost a quarter seeing them every day (Table 5.9). Whereas more than a half said that, since the baby's birth, there had been no change in the frequency of contact, almost a third saw their mother more often (Table 5.10). Mothers were seen more frequently than fathers (Table 5.11) which may be indicative of closer ties between mothers and daughters at this time and the greater involvement of grandmothers compared with grandfathers in childcare.

Cohort partners saw their own mother less frequently than cohort mothers (Table 5.12), although a similar proportion of partners said they saw their mother more often following the baby's arrival (Table 5.13). There was little difference in the extent to which cohort partners saw their mother and saw their father (Table 5.12 and Table 5.14) possibly because they are seen together. Other surveys have also found women see their parents more often than men and, within the grandparent generation, grandmothers see their children and grandchildren more often than grandfathers see them (Grundy et al., 1999).

There were differences between countries and between advantaged and disadvantaged wards in the frequency with which cohort mothers saw their own mother, but few differences by ward or country in the extent of seeing their fathers. The highest proportion of main respondents to see their mother every day was in Northern Ireland (39%) and the lowest in England (22%). Cohort mothers in disadvantaged wards compared with advantaged wards were more likely to see their own mother every day (Table 5.9). More daily contact between grandmothers and daughters (cohort mothers) in disadvantaged wards may be attributable to closer proximity, but it may also be influenced by a stronger feeling that grandparents ought to be involved in rearing children. Cohort mothers and their partners in wards of high ethnic minority populations were the most likely to see their grandparents infrequently, less than once a year.

Ethnic minority cohort mothers were much more likely to see their own mother less than once a year (28-37%) compared to white mothers (2.7%) (Table 5.15). However, Pakistani cohort mothers were the most likely to see their own mother every day (26.9%). Similarly, ethnic minority cohort mothers were more likely to see their own father less than once a year (25-34%) than white mothers (8.8%) (Table 5.16). This pattern was repeated for cohort partners. This relatively high frequency of little if any contact with the grandparents may indicate that ethnic minority cohort parents are more likely to have their own parents

living outside the UK, and so find more frequent contact difficult and expensive. (The residence location of grandparents was not asked about.) However, South Asian cohort partners were much more likely to see their own mother (Table 5.17) and father (Table 5.18) than cohort partners of other ethnic identities. This reflects the high rates of co-residence with the paternal grandparents for these groups, already noted above. White cohort mothers were the most likely to report that their contact had increased with their own mother since the birth of the baby (31.3%) (Table 5.19) and with their father (25.3%) (Table 5.20). Similarly, white cohort partners were the most likely, compared to other ethnic identity groups, to report that they had increased contact with their mother since the birth of the baby (25.4%) (Table 5.21) and with their father (20.7%) (Table 5.22).

5.4. Family providing financial support

If I had financial problems, I know my family would help if they could.

In the MCS, a question was asked hypothetically to cohort mothers about whether the baby's grandparents would help if they had financial problems. A large majority of cohort mothers agreed that they would (Table 5.23). This question was not asked of cohort partners.) Overall, 50.4 per cent strongly agreed that their family would help if they had financial problems and a further 35.7 per cent agreed; 6.7 per cent either disagreed or strongly disagreed that their family would help. There were few differences by country or type of ward. However, there were more differences by ethnic identity (Table 5.24). The differences were not large, but white cohort mothers were slightly more likely to agree strongly (51.4%) that their family would help and also slightly less likely to disagree (3.4%) or strongly disagree (2.8%) than cohort mothers of the other ethnic identities. Black mothers were the most likely to disagree (7.6%) or disagree strongly (6.5%) that their family would help financially.

Asked a factual question concerning financial help since the birth, 21.7 per cent of cohort mothers (Table 5.25) and 24.6 per cent of their partners (Table 5.26) said they had received no financial help from their family. Financial help was most likely to take the form of buying gifts and 'extras' for the baby, reported by 72.1 per cent of cohort mothers and 69.3 per cent of partners, followed by buying essentials such as baby food, clothes, nappies etc. (25% of mothers mentioned receiving this and 18.9% of partners), and lending money (18% of cohort mothers and 15.9% of partners). It was rare for financial support to take the form of paying for household costs (8.9% of cohort mothers received this and 6.2% of partners) or giving money or cash gifts (1% of cohort mothers and 1.3% of partners received this). Few grandparents contributed to the costs of childcare as very few of the babies were yet using any form of childcare: this is dealt with mainly in a separate chapter.

There were marked differences in financial support from grandparents by ethnic identity. White cohort mothers were the least likely to report no financial support from the grandparents (19.5%); nearly half of black mothers (49.4%) and Bangladeshi mothers (45.5%) reported receiving no financial support from the grandparents (Table 5.27). This in part, at least, may reflect the relatively disadvantaged economic situation of those groups in the UK. The differences were most pronounced with respect to grandparents buying gifts and extras for the baby, which was higher in the case of grandparents of white babies compared with other ethnic identity groups. The pattern of financial support from paternal grandparents by ethnic identity was the same as for maternal grandparents; although the

levels of support were mostly lower (Table 5.28) with one exception. The paternal grandparents of Indian and Pakistani babies were more likely to buy essentials for the baby and to pay other household costs in comparison to paternal grandparents of babies of different ethnic identities.

Table 5.1

Cohort mothers' parents alive by country and type of ward

Country by Type of Ward	Mother: Mother Alive		Father: Father Alive		Sample Size (N)
	Yes (%)	No (%)	Yes (%)	No (%)	
England Advantaged	93.6	6.4	84.4	15.6	4616
England Disadvantaged	92.8	7.2	82.5	17.5	4518
England Ethnic	90.7	9.3	73.8	26.2	2385
Wales Advantaged	94.0	6.0	83.1	16.9	831
Wales Disadvantaged	93.7	6.3	85.5	14.5	1925
Scotland Advantaged	93.1	6.9	83.2	16.8	1143
Scotland Disadvantaged	92.9	7.1	83.3	16.7	1189
NI Advantaged	91.5	8.5	78.2	21.8	723
NI Disadvantaged	91.0	9.0	81.0	19.0	1196
				Total Sample Size	**18526**

Sample: All MCS Respondents.

Table 5.2

Cohort partners' parents alive by country and type of ward

Country by Type of Ward	Partner: Mother Alive		Partner: Father Alive		Sample Size (N)
	Yes (%)	No (%)	Yes (%)	No (%)	
England Advantaged	90.5	9.5	80.6	19.4	3892
England Disadvantaged	89.6	10.4	77.4	22.6	3100
England Ethnic	85.4	14.6	66.5	33.5	1499
Wales Advantaged	88.4	11.6	79.7	20.3	669
Wales Disadvantaged	90.3	9.7	78.6	21.4	1263
Scotland Advantaged	89.1	10.9	76.7	23.3	938
Scotland Disadvantaged	89.6	10.4	77.1	22.9	789
NI Advantaged	89.6	10.4	77.9	22.1	595
NI Disadvantaged	87.4	12.6	73.7	26.3	699
				Total Sample Size	**13444**

Sample: All MCS Partner Respondents.

Table 5.3

Cohort mothers' parents alive by ethnic identity

Maternal Ethnic identity (collapsed)	Mother: Mother alive		Mother: Father alive		Sample Size (N)
	Yes (%)	No (%)	Yes (%)	No (%)	
White	93.3	6.7	83.8	16.2	15525
Indian	92.8	7.2	76.8	23.2	478
Pakistani	92.3	7.7	79.2	20.8	888
Bangladeshi	90.2	9.8	63.9	36.1	371
Black	85.2	14.8	69.2	30.8	675
Mixed and other	89.7	10.3	72.9	27.1	559
All UK	**93.1**	**6.9**	**83.1**	**16.9**	**18496**

Sample: All MCS Mothers.

Table 5.4

Cohort partners' parents alive by ethnic identity

Parental Ethnic identity (collapsed)	Partner: Mother alive		Partner: Father alive		Sample Size (N)
	Yes (%)	No (%)	Yes (%)	No (%)	
White	90.0	10.0	79.4	20.6	11466
Indian	87.2	12.8	69.7	30.3	362
Pakistani	86.9	13.1	71.0	29.0	614
Bangladeshi	84.0	16.0	57.0	43.0	276
Black	77.8	22.2	60.8	39.2	293
Mixed and other	84.9	15.1	70.5	29.5	392
All UK	**89.9**	**10.1**	**78.8**	**21.2**	**13403**

Sample: All MCS partner respondents.

Table 5.5

Cohort mothers' parents live in household by country and type of ward

Country by Type of Ward	Mother: Mother in household		Mother: Father in household		Sample Size (N)
	Yes (%)	No (%)	Yes (%)	No (%)	
England Advantaged	3.1	96.9	2.6	97.4	4616
England Disadvantaged	4.5	95.5	2.9	97.1	4521
England Ethnic	6.4	93.6	3.2	96.8	2393
Wales Advantaged	4.7	95.3	2.6	97.4	832
Wales Disadvantaged	6.0	94.0	3.9	96.1	1926
Scotland Advantaged	3.3	96.7	2.6	97.4	1145
Scotland Disadvantaged	6.9	93.1	4.8	95.2	1191
NI Advantaged	3.7	96.3	2.8	97.2	723
NI Disadvantaged	8.8	91.3	5.3	94.7	1200
				Total Sample Size	**18547**

Sample: All MCS mothers.

Table 5.6

Cohort partners' parents live in household by country and type of ward

Country by Type of Ward	Partner: Mother in household		Partner: Father in household		Sample Size (N)
	Yes (%)	No (%)	Yes (%)	No (%)	
England Advantaged	1.1	98.9	0.9	99.1	4170
England Disadvantaged	2.2	97.8	1.6	98.4	3455
England Ethnic	13.5	86.5	8.7	91.3	1824
Wales Advantaged	0.5	99.5	0.5	99.5	720
Wales Disadvantaged	0.5	99.5	0.3	99.7	1400
Scotland Advantaged	0.4	99.6	0.5	99.5	1017
Scotland Disadvantaged	1.3	98.7	1.2	98.8	891
NI Advantaged	0.8	99.2	0.3	99.7	650
NI Disadvantaged	0.5	99.5	0.3	99.7	832
				Total Sample Size	**14959**

Sample: All MCS partner respondents.

Table 5.7

Cohort mothers' parents in the household by ethnic identity

Maternal Ethnic identity (collapsed)	Mother: Mother in household		Mother: Father in household		Sample Size (N)
	Yes (%)	No (%)	Yes (%)	No (%)	
White	3.8	96.2	2.8	97.2	15525
Indian	2.9	97.1	2.0	98.0	478
Pakistani	6.4	93.6	4.7	95.3	888
Bangladeshi	8.6	91.4	5.2	94.8	371
Black	6.3	93.8	0.8	99.2	675
Mixed and other	4.8	95.2	3.6	96.4	559
All UK	**4.0**	**96.0**	**2.9**	**97.1**	**18499**

Sample: All MCS mothers.

Table 5.8

Cohort partners' parents in the household by ethnic identity

Partner Ethnic identity (collapsed)	Partner: Mother in household		Partner: Father in household		Sample Size (N)
	Yes (%)	No (%)	Yes (%)	No (%)	
White	0.4	99.6	0.3	99.7	12572
Indian	27.6	72.4	18.0	82.0	442
Pakistani	19.0	81.0	14.3	85.7	779
Bangladeshi	19.5	80.5	12.6	87.4	333
Black	0.7	99.3	0.7	99.3	345
Mixed and other	4.4	95.6	2.8	97.2	447
All UK	**1.9**	**98.1**	**1.3**	**98.7**	**14918**

Sample: All MCS partner respondents.

Table 5.9

Cohort mother: frequency sees own mother by country and type of ward

Country by Type of Ward	Mother: Frequency sees own mother					Total (%)	Sample Size (N)
	Every Day (%)	At least once a week (%)	At least once a year (%)	Less than yearly (%)	Not Alive (%)		
England Advantaged	18.2	42.5	29.4	3.6	6.4	100.0	4615
England Disadvantaged	29.1	37.1	18.6	7.9	7.2	100.0	4517
England Ethnic	21.4	17.9	19.2	32.3	9.3	100.0	2384
Wales Advantaged	30.8	37.9	23.5	1.8	6.0	100.0	831
Wales Disadvantaged	41.2	35.4	12.9	4.2	6.3	100.0	1924
Scotland Advantaged	25.1	38.2	27.1	2.8	6.8	100.0	1140
Scotland Disadvantaged	35.2	39.1	14.8	3.9	7.1	100.0	1189
NI Advantaged	32.0	44.0	14.4	1.1	8.6	100.0	723
NI Disadvantaged	47.5	32.2	9.6	1.5	9.1	100.0	1195
						Total Sample Size	**18518**

Sample: All MCS mothers.

Table 5.10

Mother: Change in frequency of contact with own mother by country and type of ward

Country by Type of Ward	Mother: Change in frequency of contact with own mother since birth			Total	Sample Size
	More Often (%)	About the same as before (%)	Less Often (%)	(%)	(N)
England Advantaged	33.5	56.5	10.0	100.0	4320
England Disadvantaged	26.0	62.3	11.7	100.0	4184
England Ethnic	15.7	65.3	19.0	100.0	2160
Wales Advantaged	33.2	60.2	6.7	100.0	781
Wales Disadvantaged	25.7	62.6	11.7	100.0	1802
Scotland Advantaged	31.3	59.5	9.1	100.0	1063
Scotland Disadvantaged	30.6	57.8	11.6	100.0	1103
NI Advantaged	24.2	63.8	12.0	100.0	661
NI Disadvantaged	21.2	66.1	12.7	100.0	1086
				Total Sample Size	**17160**

Sample: All MCS mothers with own mother alive.

Table 5.11

Cohort mother: frequency sees own father by country and type of ward

Country by Type of Ward	Mother: Frequency sees own father					Total	Sample Size
	Every Day (%)	At least once a week (%)	At least once a year (%)	Less than yearly (%)	Not Alive (%)	(%)	(N)
England Advantaged	8.9	34.6	32.6	8.3	15.6	100.0	4615
England Disadvantaged	14.3	30.0	22.9	15.1	17.6	100.0	4516
England Ethnic	11.8	13.7	16.2	32.2	26.1	100.0	2383
Wales Advantaged	16.2	33.8	25.6	7.5	16.8	100.0	831
Wales Disadvantaged	21.5	33.5	19.4	11.2	14.5	100.0	1925
Scotland Advantaged	14.6	32.3	28.0	8.3	16.9	100.0	1139
Scotland Disadvantaged	18.8	32.4	21.1	10.9	16.8	100.0	1188
NI Advantaged	20.5	38.1	14.0	5.7	21.7	100.0	722
NI Disadvantaged	31.7	30.3	11.9	7.3	18.9	100.0	1196
						Total Sample Size	**18515**

Sample: All MCS mothers.

Table 5.12

Cohort partner: frequency sees own mother by country and type of ward

Country by Type of Ward	Partner: Frequency sees own mother					Total	Sample Size
	Every Day (%)	At least once a week (%)	At least once a year (%)	Less than yearly (%)	Not Alive (%)	(%)	(N)
England Advantaged	6.0	38.9	42.1	3.5	9.5	100.0	3890
England Disadvantaged	10.8	41.9	27.9	8.9	10.5	100.0	3097
England Ethnic	26.6	12.9	15.9	30.0	14.6	100.0	1497
Wales Advantaged	10.5	46.5	29.7	1.6	11.7	100.0	669
Wales Disadvantaged	12.1	50.5	23.2	4.4	9.7	100.0	1263
Scotland Advantaged	6.1	43.1	37.1	2.8	10.9	100.0	937
Scotland Disadvantaged	10.6	52.3	22.3	4.3	10.4	100.0	789
NI Advantaged	15.8	51.8	21.0	1.0	10.4	100.0	595
NI Disadvantaged	23.5	47.9	13.9	2.3	12.4	100.0	699
						Total Sample Size	**13436**

Sample: All MCS partner respondents.

Table 5.13

Cohort partner: Change in frequency of contact with own mother by country and type of ward.

Country by Type of Ward	Partner: Change in frequency of contact with own mother since birth			Total	Sample Size
	More Often (%)	About the same as before (%)	Less Often (%)	(%)	(N)
England Advantaged	25.7	63.5	10.8	100.0	3478
England Disadvantaged	22.4	65.9	11.7	100.0	2714
England Ethnic	10.5	73.8	15.7	100.0	1226
Wales Advantaged	25.3	64.3	10.4	100.0	585
Wales Disadvantaged	23.1	64.1	12.8	100.0	1122
Scotland Advantaged	27.5	61.6	10.9	100.0	823
Scotland Disadvantaged	23.8	62.5	13.7	100.0	702
NI Advantaged	18.4	71.0	10.6	100.0	528
NI Disadvantaged	14.0	73.4	12.6	100.0	601
				Total Sample Size	**11779**

Sample: All MCS partner respondents with own mother alive.

Table 5.14

Cohort partner: frequency sees own father by country and type of ward

Country by Type of Ward	Partner: Frequency sees own father					Total	Sample Size
	Every Day (%)	At least once a week (%)	At least once a year (%)	Less than yearly (%)	Not Alive (%)	(%)	(N)
England Advantaged	6.2	30.1	37.5	6.8	19.4	100.0	3891
England Disadvantaged	8.5	30.8	25.0	13.1	22.6	100.0	3098
England Ethnic	17.6	9.6	14.6	24.7	33.5	100.0	1497
Wales Advantaged	8.1	41.0	25.6	4.9	20.4	100.0	668
Wales Disadvantaged	9.7	39.1	21.3	8.5	21.5	100.0	1263
Scotland Advantaged	5.1	32.1	33.5	6.0	23.3	100.0	936
Scotland Disadvantaged	10.3	35.5	22.4	9.0	22.8	100.0	789
NI Advantaged	12.4	42.7	19.3	3.4	22.2	100.0	595
NI Disadvantaged	18.6	36.3	13.0	6.0	26.0	100.0	699
						Total Sample Size	**13436**

Sample: All MCS partner respondents.

Table 5.15

Cohort mother: frequency sees own mother by ethnic identity

Maternal Ethnic identity (collapsed)	Mother: Frequency sees own Mother					Sample Size
	Every day (%)	At least once a week (%)	At least once a year (%)	Less than yearly (%)	Not alive (%)	(N)
White	24.7	41.7	24.5	2.7	6.5	15518
Indian	12.2	19.1	32.8	28.7	7.2	478
Pakistani	26.9	16.2	14.5	34.6	7.9	888
Bangladeshi	18.5	14.5	20.2	37.0	9.8	371
Black	17.1	18.1	18.3	31.5	15.0	675
Mixed and other	11.8	18.5	25.9	33.7	10.1	558
All UK	**23.9**	**39.1**	**24.2**	**6.0**	**6.9**	**18488**

Sample: All MCS mothers.

Table 5.16

Cohort mother: frequency sees own father by ethnic identity

Maternal Ethnic identity (collapsed)	Mother: Frequency sees own Father					Sample Size
	Every day (%)	At least once a week (%)	At least once a year (%)	Less than yearly (%)	Not alive (%)	(N)
White	12.6	34.6	28.3	8.8	15.7	15517
Indian	8.1	17.1	26.1	25.5	23.2	478
Pakistani	19.6	13.6	12.4	33.9	20.5	886
Bangladeshi	10.9	10.3	13.8	28.2	36.8	371
Black	5.6	9.4	19.4	34.2	31.5	675
Mixed and other	5.9	9.7	23.2	34.3	26.9	558
All UK	**12.3**	**32.1**	**27.3**	**11.4**	**16.9**	**18485**

Sample: All MCS mothers.

Table 5.17

Cohort partner: frequency sees own mother by ethnic identity

Partner Ethnic identity (collapsed)	Partner: Frequency sees own Mother					Sample Size
	Every day (%)	At least once a week (%)	At least once a year (%)	Less than yearly (%)	Not alive (%)	(N)
White	7.2	42.9	37.0	3.3	9.6	11461
Indian	34.7	16.8	18.6	17.5	12.4	362
Pakistani	36.7	10.2	8.7	31.2	13.1	613
Bangladeshi	28.4	8.2	11.2	35.1	17.2	275
Black	8.2	14.1	24.5	31.4	21.8	292
Mixed and other	7.8	19.3	30.0	28.2	14.7	392
All UK	**8.8**	**40.2**	**35.2**	**5.7**	**10.1**	**13395**

Sample: All MCS partner respondents.

Table 5. 18

Cohort partner: frequency sees own father by ethnic identity

Partner Ethnic identity (collapsed)	Partner: Frequency sees own Father					Sample Size (N)
	Every day (%)	At least once a week (%)	At least once a year (%)	Less than yearly (%)	Not alive (%)	
White	6.6	32.7	33.3	7.3	20.1	11460
Indian	23.6	12.4	18.5	15.3	30.2	362
Pakistani	29.9	7.6	7.9	26.2	28.3	613
Bangladeshi	17.9	5.2	10.4	23.9	42.5	276
Black	3.2	8.6	19.0	30.3	38.9	293
Mixed and other	6.6	17.6	21.0	24.5	30.3	391
All UK	**7.6**	**30.6**	**31.6**	**8.9**	**21.3**	**13395**

Sample: All MCS partner respondents.

Table 5.19

Cohort mother: Change in frequency of contact with own mother by ethnic identity

Maternal Ethnic identity (collapsed)	Mother: Change in frequency of contact with own mother since birth			Total (%)	Sample Size (N)
	... more often (%)	about the same as before (%)	or, less often (%)		
White	31.3	58.6	10.1	100.0	14457
Indian	18.2	63.2	18.6	100.0	442
Pakistani	15.3	63.9	20.8	100.0	817
Bangladeshi	11.0	67.7	21.3	100.0	339
Black	18.9	69.0	12.0	100.0	569
Mixed and other	22.8	58.2	19.0	100.0	506
All UK	**29.9**	**59.2**	**10.9**	**100.0**	**17130**

Sample: All MCS mothers.

Table 5.20

Cohort mother: Change in frequency of contact with own father by ethnic identity

Maternal Ethnic identity (collapsed)	Mother: Change in frequency of contact with own father since birth			Total (%)	Sample Size (N)
	... more often (%)	about the same as before (%)	or, less often (%)		
White	25.3	65.7	9.0	100.0	12971
Indian	17.8	67.8	14.4	100.0	366
Pakistani	11.4	67.0	21.6	100.0	702
Bangladeshi	7.3	70.0	22.7	100.0	236
Black	12.2	74.8	13.1	100.0	453
Mixed and other	12.9	71.8	15.2	100.0	414
All UK	**24.1**	**66.1**	**9.8**	**100.0**	**15142**

Sample: All MCS mothers with own father alive.

Table 5.21

Cohort partner: Change in frequency of contact with own mother by ethnic identity

Partner Ethnic identity (collapsed)	Partner: Change in frequency of contact with own mother since birth			Total (%)	Sample Size (N)
	... more often (%)	about the same as before (%)	or, less often (%)		
White	25.4	63.5	11.1	100.0	10173
Indian	9.8	76.1	14.1	100.0	306
Pakistani	8.6	79.2	12.1	100.0	507
Bangladeshi	7.5	81.3	11.2	100.0	220
Black	12.1	78.8	9.1	100.0	212
Mixed and other	12.8	71.4	15.9	100.0	326
All UK	**24.1**	**64.6**	**11.3**	**100.0**	**11744**

Sample: All MCS partner respondents with own mother alive.

Table 5.22

Cohort partner: Change in frequency of contact with own father by ethnic identity

Partner Ethnic identity (collapsed)	Partner: Change in frequency of contact with own father since birth			Total (%)	Sample Size (N)
	... more often (%)	about the same as before (%)	or, less often (%)		
White	20.7	69.1	10.2	100.0	8924
Indian	12.9	73.1	14.0	100.0	246
Pakistani	5.0	83.6	11.5	100.0	424
Bangladeshi	8.0	77.3	14.7	100.0	140
Black	7.0	83.7	9.3	100.0	163
Mixed and other	16.2	68.5	15.3	100.0	261
All UK	**19.8**	**69.8**	**10.4**	**100.0**	**10158**

Sample: All MCS partner respondents with own father alive.

Table 5.23

Family would help if financial problems by country and type of ward

Country by Type of Ward	Mother: Family would help if financial problems						Total (%)	Sample Size (N)
	Strongly Agree (%)	Agree (%)	Neither agree nor disagree (%)	Disagree (%)	Strongly Disagree (%)	Can't Say (%)		
England Advantaged	51.5	35.8	4.9	3.5	2.7	1.6	100.0	4579
England Disadvantaged	48.3	35.8	5.5	3.9	3.9	2.5	100.0	4393
England Ethnic	40.9	35.9	7.8	7.3	3.5	4.7	100.0	2036
Wales Advantaged	53.4	32.6	6.5	2.9	2.9	1.6	100.0	827
Wales Disadvantaged	52.7	31.8	6.2	3.4	3.4	2.5	100.0	1898
Scotland Advantaged	52.4	35.7	5.2	2.8	2.7	1.3	100.0	1118
Scotland Disadvantaged	52.1	36.7	3.9	3.7	2.0	1.6	100.0	1153
NI Advantaged	53.1	37.9	3.1	2.1	1.7	2.1	100.0	717
NI Disadvantaged	51.6	36.7	3.9	2.1	2.7	3.0	100.0	1178
						Total Sample Size		**17899**

Sample: All MCS mothers with own mother or father alive.

Table 5.24

Family would help if financial problem by ethnic identity

Maternal Ethnic identity (collapsed)	Mother: Family would help if financial problems						Total (%)	Sample Size (N)
	Strongly agree (%)	Agree (%)	Neither agree nor disagree (%)	Disagree (%)	Strongly disagree (%)	Can't say (%)		
White	51.4	35.5	5.1	3.4	2.8	1.8	100.0	15313
Indian	44.8	36.9	6.3	5.4	3.8	2.8	100.0	426
Pakistani	43.1	36.8	5.8	6.3	3.1	4.9	100.0	754
Bangladeshi	37.6	42.1	9.0	4.5	3.8	3.0	100.0	282
Black	38.9	35.3	7.9	7.6	6.5	3.8	100.0	608
Mixed and other	37.4	40.1	6.5	5.8	6.0	4.2	100.0	486
All	**50.4**	**35.7**	**5.2**	**3.7**	**3.0**	**2.0**	**100.0**	**17869**

Sample: All MCS mothers with own mother or father alive.

Table 5.25

Cohort mother: financial help from parents by country

Mother: Financial help from grandparents	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	NI (%)	
No, does not help in any of these ways	22.8	18.5	15.6	16.7	21.7
Buying essentials for the baby - food, clothes, nappies, etc	24.7	27.7	25.6	27.1	25.0
Paying for other household costs - e.g. bills, shopping etc	8.8	8.8	9.0	8.7	8.9
Buying gifts and extras for the baby	70.9	74.2	79.3	77.1	72.1
Lending money	17.9	20.8	17.9	15.9	18.0
Paying for childcare	.7	.9	.7	1.1	.7
Other/Buying or Paying for large capital items	.5	.7	.4	.4	.5
Other/Giving money or cash gifts	1.0	.8	1.3	1.1	1.0
Other/Trust fund or savings account for baby	.2	.4	.3	.3	.2
Other financial help	.5	.5	.4	.9	.5
Sample size (N)	**11184**	**2694**	**2281**	**1852**	**18011**

Sample: All MCS mothers with own mother or father alive.

Table 5.26

Cohort partner: financial help from family by country

Partner: Financial help from grandparents	Country				All UK Total (N)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	NI (%)	
No, does not help in any of these ways	25.4	22.0	19.4	20.5	24.6
Buying essentials for the baby - food, clothes, nappies, etc	18.8	21.7	18.0	18.2	18.9
Paying for other household costs - e.g. bills, shopping etc	6.4	5.7	4.5	4.6	6.2
Buying gifts and extras for the baby	68.3	70.2	75.5	74.8	69.3
Lending money	16.3	17.6	12.9	11.9	15.9
Paying for childcare	.9	.5	.3	.8	.8
Other/Buying or Paying for large capital items	.6	.7	.4	.1	.6
Other/Giving money or cash gifts	1.3	1.1	1.4	1.0	1.3
Other/Trust fund or savings account for baby	.4	.6	.4	.4	.4
Other financial help	.6	.4	.3	.3	.6
Sample size (N)	**8076**	**1839**	**1640**	**1233**	**12788**

Sample: All MCS partner respondents with own mother or father alive.

Table 5.27

Cohort mother: financial help from parents by ethnic identity

Mother: Financial help from grandparents (final)	Mother Ethnic identity (collapsed)						All UK
	White (%)	Indian (%)	Pakistani (%)	Bangladeshi (%)	Black (%)	Mixed and other (%)	(%)
No, does not help in any of these ways	19.5	33.3	34.7	45.5	49.4	39.9	21.7
Buying essentials for the baby - food, clothes,	26.0	12.5	18.3	12.8	20.9	14.7	25.0
Paying for other household costs - e.g. bills, shopping	9.0	5.0	7.9	4.1	10.1	7.4	8.9
Buying gifts and extras for the baby	74.3	62.0	59.7	48.8	42.3	53.5	72.1
Lending money	19.0	4.7	10.8	7.0	12.8	10.0	18.0
Paying for childcare	.7	.1	.5	0	.3	.4	.7
Other/Buying or Paying for large capital items	.5	0	.1	0	.1	.4	.5
Other/Giving money or cash gifts	1.1	.4	.4	.2	1.1	1.0	1.0
Other/Trust fund or savings account for baby	.2	0	0	0	.5	.2	.2
Other financial help	.5	0	.5	.7	1.4	1.4	.5
Sample Size (N)	**15151**	**465**	**867**	**358**	**607**	**533**	**1798**

Sample: All MCS mothers with own mother or father alive.

Table 5.28

Cohort partner: financial help from parents by ethnic identity

Partner: Financial help from grand parents (final)	Partner Ethnic identity (collapsed)						All UK
	White (%)	Indian (%)	Pakistani (%)	Bangladeshi (%)	Black (%)	Mixed and other (%)	(%)
No, does not help in any of these ways	22.9	32.0	31.6	52.4	56.8	45.7	24.6
Buying essentials for the baby - food, clothes, nappies, etc	18.9	23.9	24.7	15.8	13.5	10.1	18.8
Paying for other household costs - e.g. bills, shopping etc	5.4	23.0	20.3	14.8	3.3	4.9	6.1
Buying gifts and extras for the baby	71.1	57.1	59.6	38.1	38.3	48.5	69.2
Lending money	16.4	14.0	13.4	7.5	6.7	7.7	15.9
Paying for childcare	.8	3.2	1.8	.3	0	.6	.8
Other/Buying or Paying for large capital items	.6	0	.5	0	.6	.6	.6
Other/Giving money or cash gifts	1.3	1.1	.6	.3	2.6	1.5	1.3
Other/Trust fund or savings account for baby	.5	.1	0	0	0	.6	.4
Other financial help	.6	.3	.4	2.2	0	.1	.6
Sample Size (N)	**15151**	**465**	**867**	**358**	**607**	**533**	**1798**

Sample: All MCS partner respondents with own mother or father alive.

6. PREGNANCY, LABOUR and DELIVERY

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SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

The first Sweep of the Millennium Cohort Study examined the experiences around the time of birth of the cohort child. In this section we first report on the pregnancy, – whether it was planned, how long it took, whether any fertility treatment was received, antenatal care and classes, and illnesses or problems. Secondly we examine the experience of labour and the delivery of the baby – whether the labour was induced, the use of pain relief, the length of labour, complications, whether someone was with the mother, the type and location of delivery, birth weight and gestational ages of the cohort babies, the length of time the mother was in hospital after the baby was delivered and how old the cohort member was when she/he was discharged from hospital.

6.1. Pregnancy

6.1.1. Planned pregnancies

Where you planning to get pregnant or was it a surprise? When you first knew you were pregnant, how did you feel about the prospect of having this baby? How long did it take you to get pregnant?

Overall 58.1 per cent of mothers reported that the pregnancy was planned (Table 6.1), but this varied markedly by NS-SEC from 74.0 per cent in NS-SEC 'management/professional' to 45.8 per cent of mothers in NS-SEC 'semi-routine/routine' (Table 6.2). Regardless of whether the pregnancy was planned or not three quarters of the mothers were happy or very happy to be pregnant and only 9.8 per cent were unhappy (Table 6.4). There were marginal differences between countries (Table 6.4). Women in advantaged wards were more likely to be happy or very happy than those in disadvantaged wards, and a smaller proportion were unhappy to be pregnant compared to women in disadvantaged and wards with high minority ethnic populations (Table 6.6). In NS-SEC 'management/professional', 92.3 per cent of mothers to be, reported that they were happy or very happy to be pregnant, compared to 77.7 per cent of those in NS-SEC 'semi-routine/routine' (Table 6.5).

Of those women who planned to get pregnant, a third of them took a month or less to achieve this, whilst for 17 per cent, getting pregnant took one year or more (Table 6.7 and 6.8). There were small variations between NS-SEC groups; 36 per cent of women in NS-SEC 'management/professional' and 32 per cent in NS-SEC 'semi-routine/routine' took less than a month to get pregnant.

6.1.2. Fertility treatment

Did you have any medical fertility treatment for this pregnancy?

Overall, 4.5 per cent of the mothers had fertility treatment (Table 6.9). There were no variations between countries (Table 6.9) but there were differences by type of ward (Table 6.10). Mothers living in advantaged wards were more likely to have used fertility treatment than mothers in disadvantaged and wards with high minority ethnic populations. Of the women who had fertility treatment just over half used clomiphene citrate and a quarter used IVF.

6.1.3. Confirmation of pregnancy and antenatal care

Did you have any antenatal care from a midwife, your GP or at a hospital? Did you attend any antenatal classes?

Overall, 76 per cent of mothers had their pregnancies confirmed by 8 weeks and 94 per cent by 12 weeks. In NS-SEC 'management/professional', 78 per cent had their pregnancy confirmed by 8 weeks and 96 per cent by 12 weeks, compared with 72 per cent and 91 per cent in NS-SEC 'semi-routine/routine'. Early confirmation of pregnancy was more common in wards with high minority ethnic populations than in advantaged and disadvantaged wards.

Uptake of antenatal care was lowest in wards with high minority ethnic populations where 89 per cent of mothers received it compared with approximately 98.3 per cent and 96.2 per cent in advantaged and disadvantaged areas respectively (Table 6.11, and 6.12). Differences by NS-SEC groups were small (Table 6.13). The number of weeks into pregnancy when antenatal care was initiated did not vary by type of ward.

Overall 37.9 per cent of all women attended antenatal classes (Table 6.14) but this varied by parity with 69 per cent of primiparous mothers attending. There were variations between countries (Table 6.14). Attending antenatal classes was most likely for mothers in advantaged wards, with 42.4 per cent attending, compared with 22.4 per cent in wards with high minority ethnic populations (Table 6.15). Attendance was most likely for mothers in NS-SEC 'management/professional', 52 per cent of whom attended, compared to 28 per cent of mothers in NS-SEC 'semi-routine/routine'.

6.1.4. Problems and illnesses during pregnancy

Did you have any illnesses of other problems during your pregnancy that required medical attention or treatment? (If so, what where they?).

Overall in the UK 39.2 per cent of mothers had an illness or problem(s) during pregnancy, although the rate was only 29.6 per cent in Northern Ireland (Table 6.16). This may be due to underreporting. The rate of problems as a percentage of the country populations mostly displayed little variation (Table 6.17). There were slightly more variations across types of ward (Table 6.18).

6.1.5. Plans for more children

Do you plan to have any more children?

Overall 35.2 per cent of mothers plan to have more children, one half did not plan to have any more and the remainder did not know (Table 6.19 and 6.20). There was little variation by country (Table 6.19).

- 65 per cent of primiparous mothers plan to have more;
- 41 per cent of mothers with NS-SEC 'management/professional' occupations compared to 31 per cent in NS-SEC 'semi-routine/routine' occupations planned to have more children.

6.2. Labour and Delivery

6.2.1. Place of birth

Was baby born in hospital, at home, or somewhere else? (if so where?).

97.5 per cent of cohort babies were born in hospital, and this varied by parity with 99 per cent of primiparous mothers delivering in hospital (Table 6.21). 2.3 per cent were home births and this proportion was lowest in Scotland and Northern Ireland, and also differed by type of ward (Table 6.22); advantaged (2.6%), disadvantaged wards (1.9%) and wards with high minority ethnic populations (1.4%). There were more home births among mothers with NS-SEC 'management/professional' occupations (2.9 %) compared to mothers in NS-SEC semi-routine/routine' (1.8%).

6.2.2. Induced labour

Was the labour induced or attempted to be induced? What, if any, types of pain relief did you have at any time during labour?

Overall 29.8 per cent of mothers had their labour induced and this was so for 35 per cent of primiparous mothers. There were variations by country (Table 6.23), being induced was highest in Northern Ireland (41.1%) and Scotland (34.5%), and by type of ward (Table 6.24). Being induced was less common in wards with high minority ethnic populations than in advantaged and disadvantaged wards.

6.2.3. Pain relief during labour (Table 6.23 and 6.24)

- Overall 68.8 per cent of mothers had gas and air, though only 62.7 per cent of those in wards with high ethnic minority populations.
- 28.4 per cent had pethedine or demorol. This was more common in Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales compared to England, and more likely among mothers in disadvantaged wards (33.0%) and least likely in wards with high minority ethnic populations (16.9%). It was most likely in mothers with NS-SEC semi-routine/routine (32%) compared to NS-SEC 'management/professional' (25%).
- 32.9 per cent of mothers had an epidural. This was more likely for primiparous women (47%). There were variations by country, type of ward, and NS-SEC categories being most common in Northern Ireland (38.6%) and for mothers with NS-SEC 'management/professional' jobs (37%), and least common in wards with high minority ethnic populations (26.2%) and for mothers with NS-SEC 'semi-routine/routine' occupations (30%).
- Overall 3.0 per cent of mothers had a general anaesthetic.
- 14.4 per cent of mothers used a TENS machine and this was the case for 22 per cent of primiparous mothers, 18.3 per cent of those living in advantaged areas, 3.5 per cent among mothers in wards with high minority ethnic populations, 25 per cent of mothers with NS-SEC 'management/professional' jobs compared to 8 per cent of mothers with NS-SEC 'semi-routine/routine' occupations.

6.2.4. Type of delivery (Tables 6.25 and 6.26, Figure 6.1)

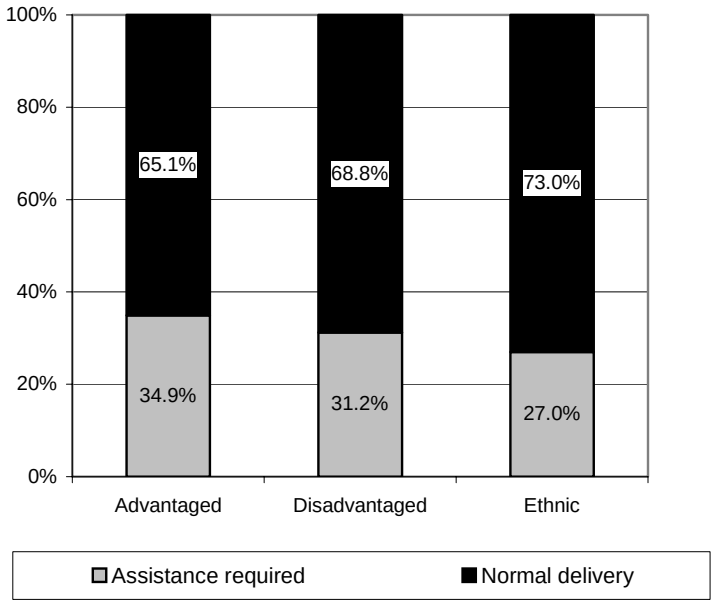
What type of delivery did you have?

- In total, 68.4 per cent of deliveries were 'normal' i.e. spontaneous vaginal although this was less likely in primiparous mothers (58%). There were variations by type of ward and occupation; advantaged (66.5 %), disadvantaged (71.0%) and wards with high minority ethnic populations (74.2%), NS-SEC 'management/professional' (63%) and NS-SEC semi-routine/routine' (73%), and was more common in England (74%) than the other countries.
- 4.1 per cent of deliveries were forceps assisted. This was more common in primiparous women (8%).
- Vacuum assisted deliveries accounted for 7.0 per cent of deliveries and was more likely in primiparous mothers (13%). The rates of vacuum assisted deliveries in advantaged, disadvantaged wards and wards with high minority ethnic populations were 8.0 per cent, 5.9 per cent and 2.6 per cent respectively.

- 9.2 per cent of UK deliveries were by planned caesarean with higher rates in Wales and Northern Ireland and lower rates in Scotland. There were variations by parity with 5 per cent of primiparous mothers having a planned caesarean, though the rate for these first time mothers was much higher in Northern Ireland (9%).
- Emergency caesareans accounted for 12.3 per cent of all deliveries and for 19 per cent of primiparous mothers. This varied by NS-SEC (NS-SEC 'management/ professional, 15% compared with NS-SEC 'semi-routine/routine' at 11%).
- 0.3 per cent were water births.

Figure 6.1

Normal and other births by type of ward



6.2.5. Complications during labour

Where there any complications during baby's birth?

Overall 66.2 per cent of mothers had no complications during labour (Table 6.27, 6.28 and 6.29) and this was most likely to be reported in Northern Ireland (70.7%). 56 per cent of primiparous women had no complications, and the rates by type of ward (Table 6.29) were as follows; 64.4 per cent in advantaged, 67.6 per cent in disadvantaged and 79.5 per cent in wards with high minority ethnic populations. There were some variations by NS-SEC group (NS-SEC 'management/professional' at 61% compared with 68% in NS-SEC 'semi-routine/routine'.).

- 2.5 per cent of births were in breech position; more common in primiparous mothers (3.3%);
- 3.4 per cent of births were other abnormal lies and these were more common in primiparous mothers (5.0%);
- Overall 7.0 per cent of mothers had very long labours, 13 per cent of primiparous mothers;
- the overall rate for a very rapid labour was 2.6 per cent and 1.3 per cent in primiparous mothers;
- 5.6 per cent of mothers reported foetal distress with signs of meconium and 7.7 per cent of primiparous mothers. There were variations by type of ward; 6.1 per cent in advantaged, 5.2 per cent in disadvantaged and 2.9 per cent in wards with high minority ethnic populations.

Overall in 11.5 per cent of deliveries there was foetal distress with heart rate sign. This was more common in primiparous women (18%), and also varied by type of ward; 12.3 per cent in advantaged, 11.0 per cent in disadvantaged and 5.7 per cent in wards with high minority ethnic populations. 3 per cent reported that the cord was around the neck.

6.2.6. Length of labour

How long did the labour last?

Overall 31.8 per cent of mothers had a labour of less than 4 hours (Table 6.30). This was less likely in primiparous women (15%). There was some variation by type of ward (Table 6.31) and NS-SEC; 29.9 per cent in advantaged 31.6 per cent in disadvantaged, 34.5 in ethnic wards, 27 per cent in NS-SEC 'management/professional' and 33 per cent in NS-SEC 'semi-routine/routine'. Overall 21.4 per cent of UK mothers had a labour of more than 12 hours and this was more likely in primiparous mothers (37%), and there was some variation by area being most likely in advantaged (21.9%) and disadvantaged (22.3%) and least likely in wards with high minority ethnic populations (19.4%). There was variation by NS-SEC; with NS-SEC 'management/professional' at 25 per cent compared with NS-SEC 'semi-routine/routine' at 21 per cent.

6.2.7. Someone with mother during labour

Did you have someone with you during labour and delivery, other than health staff?

Overall 86.3 per cent of births were attended by the father of the baby (Table 6.32), and there were marked variations according to type of ward (Table 6.33) and NS-SEC;

- 91.1 per cent of births in advantaged wards;
- 80.5 per cent in disadvantaged wards;
- 67.3 per cent in wards with high minority ethnic populations;
- 95 per cent in NS-SEC 'management/professional'; and
- 81 per cent in NS-SEC 'semi-routine/routine'.

Overall, 15.8 per cent of mothers had their mother/mother-in-law with them during labour. This was more likely for primiparous women (24%). There were variations by country (Table 6.32); having a mother/mother-in-law present was more likely in Wales (22.3%) and least likely in Scotland (10.6%) and Northern Ireland (10.7%), more likely in disadvantaged compared to advantaged areas (22.4% compared with 12.1%), and for women with NS-SEC 'semi-routine/routine' versus NS-SEC 'management/professional' occupations (23% and 8% respectively). 3.3 per cent of mothers reported that their labour was attended by a friend.

4.3 per cent of mothers had no one with them during labour and this was less common for primiparous mothers (2.5%) and by type of ward. It was most common in wards with high minority ethnic populations (11.6%). It was least common for mothers with NS-SEC 'management/professional' jobs (2%) compared to women with NS-SEC 'semi-routine/routine' jobs (5%).

6.2.8. Birth weight and gestational age

The overall rate of low birth weight[4] was 7.2 per cent. This varied by country being lowest in Northern Ireland (5.4%) and highest in England (7.7%). Differences were also seen by type of ward, low birth weight being highest in wards with high minority ethnic populations (8.6%) and lowest in advantaged wards (6.3%).

The overall rates of pre- and post-term births were 7.6 per cent and 2.6 per cent respectively. There were no differences by country, and only marginal differences by type of ward and NS-SEC.

6.2.9. How long mother stayed in hospital after delivery

How long did you stay in hospital after the birth?

Overall 3.8 per cent of mothers stayed in hospital for 6 hours or less after the delivery (Table 6.34) although in the case of primiparous mothers, only 1.2 per cent stayed 6 hours or less. The overall rate of staying in hospital post delivery for more than 6 hours but less than a day was 8.7 per cent of mothers and 5.6 per cent of primiparous women. 13.7 per

[4] Low birth weight is defined as <2.5Kg at birth.

cent and 14.1 per cent of mothers in advantaged and disadvantaged areas respectively, stayed in hospital for under a day compared to 6.4 per cent of mothers resident in wards with high minority ethnic populations (Table 6.35). 20.0 per cent of mothers had post delivery stays of more than 4 days, 25 per cent of primiparous women. Long stays varied by NS-SEC being more common for mothers in NS-SEC 'management/professional' (23 %) compared to those in NS-SEC 'semi-routine/routine' (17 %).

6.2.10. How old baby was when discharged from hospital (Tables 6.36 and 6.37)

How old was baby when he came home from hospital (or special care)?

- 12.6 per cent of cohort babies left hospital aged less than 1 day and this was the case for 6 per cent of first-borns.
- 6.4 per cent of babies were discharged after one week of age and this was slightly more common for first-borns (7.3 %) and more likely for cohort babies resident in wards with high minority ethnic populations (9 %).

Table 6.1

Planned pregnancy by country

Planned Pregnancy	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	N Ireland (%)	
Planning to get pregnant	58.7	53.5	56.5	55.4	58.1
Pregnancy was a surprise	41.3	46.5	43.5	44.6	41.9
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	11265	2704	2278	1875	18122

Sample: MCS Natural mothers who fell pregnant with, and gave birth to, one child only.

Table 6.2

Planned pregnancy by mothers' NS-SEC

Planned pregnancy	Mothers' NS-SEC (5)					All UK Total (%)
	Management & professional (%)	Intermediate (%)	Small employer & s-employed (%)	Low supervisor & technical (%)	Semi-routine & routine (%)	
Planning to get pregnant	74.0	63.3	67.6	48.6	45.8	59.9
Pregnancy was a surprise	26.0	36.7	32.4	51.4	54.2	40.1
Total	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100.0**
N	4708	3033	637	983	6628	15989

Sample: MCS Natural mothers who fell pregnant with, and gave birth to, one child only, and had NS-SEC classification from being employed at the interview or having had a job in the past.

Table 6.3

Planned pregnancy by type of ward

Planned pregnancy	Type of ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic * (%)	
Planning to get pregnant	65.1	47.3	48.0	58.1
Pregnancy was a surprise	34.9	52.7	52.0	41.9
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	7140	8640	2342	18122

Sample: MCS Natural mothers who fell pregnant with, and gave birth to, one child only.

* Ethnic wards are all in England

Table 6.4

How felt when became pregnant by country

How felt when became pregnant	Country				All UK Total
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	N Ireland (%)	(%)
Very happy	59.3	56.3	61.4	57.8	59.3
Happy	25.3	25.9	22.3	25.3	25.0
Not bothered either way	5.7	6.0	6.8	7.0	5.8
Unhappy	6.7	7.7	6.8	7.2	6.8
Very unhappy	3.0	4.2	2.7	2.7	3.0
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	11243	2700	2271	1876	18090

Sample: MCS Natural mothers who fell pregnant with, and gave birth to, one child only.

Table 6.5

How felt when became pregnant by mothers' NS-SEC

How felt when became pregnant	Mothers' NS-SEC (5)					All UK Total
	Management & professional (%)	Intermediate (%)	Small employer & s-employed (%)	Low supervisor & technical (%)	Semi-routine & routine (%)	(%)
Very happy	72.7	65.5	65.7	53.6	47.5	60.7
Happy	19.5	21.1	23.0	29.4	30.2	24.4
Not bothered either way	2.7	4.0	4.1	6.9	8.8	5.5
Unhappy	3.7	6.5	3.8	6.9	9.3	6.5
Very unhappy	1.4	2.8	3.3	3.3	4.2	2.9
Total	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**
N	4704	3030	635	977	6608	15954

Sample: MCS Natural mothers who fell pregnant with, and gave birth to, one child only, and had a NS-SEC classification from being employed at the interview or having had a job in the past.

Table 6.6

How felt when became pregnant by type of ward

How felt when became pregnant	Type of ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic* (%)	
Very happy	65.2	50.1	51.9	**59.3**
Happy	23.1	27.5	32.0	**25.0**
Not bothered either way	4.3	8.4	6.6	**5.8**
Unhappy	5.3	9.4	7.1	**6.8**
Very unhappy	2.1	4.6	2.4	**3.0**
Total	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**
N	7130	8612	2348	18090

Sample: MCS Natural mothers who fell pregnant with, and gave birth to, one child only.
* Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 6.7

Time to get pregnant by country

Time to get pregnant	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	N Ireland (%)	
1 month or less	34.6	33.6	31.2	29.5	**34.1**
2 months	16.1	15.0	17.4	19.6	**16.3**
3 months	11.2	12.2	11.4	12.3	**11.3**
4 – 6 months	14.7	15.6	16.3	17.0	**14.9**
7 – 12 months	6.4	6.4	7.3	5.6	**6.5**
A year or more	17.0	17.2	16.4	16.1	**17.0**
Total	100	100	100	100	**100**
N	**6080**	**1343**	**1216**	**981**	**9620**

Sample: MCS Natural mothers who planned to get pregnant and fell pregnant with, and gave birth to, one child only.

Table 6.8

Time to get pregnant by type of ward

Time to get pregnant	Type of ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic* (%)	
1 month or less	35.5	30.9	32.5	**34.1**
2 months	15.3	18.2	20.5	**16.3**
3 months	11.2	11.7	10.0	**11.3**
4-6 months	14.9	15.1	15.3	**14.9**
7-12 months	6.4	6.6	6.9	**6.5**
A year or more	16.8	14.8	14.8	**17.0**
Total	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**
N	4656	3999	1056	**9620**

Sample: MCS Natural mothers who planned to get pregnant and fell pregnant with, and gave birth to, one child only.
* Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 6.9

Whether had fertility treatment by country

Whether had fertility treatment	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	N Ireland (%)	
Yes	4.6	5.2	3.6	3.5	4.5
No	95.4	94.8	96.4	96.5	95.5
Total	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100.0**
N	6186	1350	1233	993	9762

Sample: MCS Natural mothers who planned to get pregnant and fell pregnant with, and gave birth to, one child only.

Table 6.10

Whether had fertility treatment by type of ward

Whether had fertility treatment	Type of ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic * (%)	
Yes	4.9	3.9	2.4	4.5
No	95.1	96.1	97.6	95.5
Total	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100.0**
N	4606	4037	1119	9762

Sample: MCS Natural mothers who planned to get pregnant and fell pregnant with, and gave birth to, one child only.
* Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 6.11

Whether received ante-natal care by country

Whether received ante-natal care	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	N Ireland (%)	
Yes	97.1	97.8	97.3	97.3	97.2
No	2.9	2.2	2.7	2.7	2.8
Total	100	100	100	100	**100.0**
N	**11281**	**2704**	**2279**	**1878**	**18142**

Sample: MCS Natural mothers who fell pregnant with, and gave birth to, one child only.

Table 6.12

Whether received ante-natal care by type of ward

Whether received ante-natal care	Type of ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic * (%)	
Yes	98.3	96.2	88.9	97.2
No	1.7	3.8	11.1	2.8
Total	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100.0**
N	7149	8639	2354	18142

Sample: MCS Natural mothers who fell pregnant with, and gave birth to, one child only.
* Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 6.13

Whether received ante-natal care by mothers' NS-SEC

Whether received ante-natal care	Mothers' NS-SEC (5)					All UK Total (%)
	Management & professional (%)	Intermediate (%)	Small employer & s-employed (%)	Low supervisor & technical (%)	Semi-routine & routine (%)	
Yes	99.0	98.4	98.9	97.6	96.3	97.8
No	1.0	1.6	1.1	2.4	3.7	2.2
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100
N	4715	3032	637	984	6634	16002

Sample: MCS Natural mothers who fell pregnant with, and gave birth to, one child only, and who had an NS-SEC classification by being employed at the interview or having had a job in the past.

Table 6.14

Whether attended ante-natal classes by country

Whether attended ante-natal classes	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	N Ireland (%)	
Yes	37.2	34.0	47.0	34.7	37.9
No	62.8	66.0	53.0	65.3	62.1
Total	100	100	100	100	**100.0**
N	10772	2644	2214	1824	17454

Sample: MCS Natural mothers who fell pregnant with, and gave birth to, one child only.

Table 6.15

Whether attended ante-natal classes by type of ward

Whether attended ante-natal classes	Type of ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic * (%)	
Yes	42.4	31.9	22.4	37.9
No	57.6	68.1	77.6	62.1
Total	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100.0**
N	7023	8341	2090	17454

Sample: MCS Natural mothers who fell pregnant with, and gave birth to, one child only.
* Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 6.16

Any illnesses or problems during pregnancy (original) by country

Any illnesses or problems during pregnancy (original)	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	N Ireland (%)	
Yes	39.6	39.3	39.4	29.6	39.2
No	60.4	60.7	60.6	70.4	60.8
Total	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100.0**
N	**11285**	**2704**	**2279**	**1878**	**18146**

Sample: MCS Natural mothers who fell pregnant with, and gave birth to, one child only.

Table 6.17

Rate of problems in pregnancy, by country.

Problems in pregnancy	Country				Total UK %
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	N Ireland (%)	
Bleeding or threatened miscarriage in early pregnancy	6.1	7.2	6.2	4.6	6.3
Bleeding in later pregnancy	3.6	4.3	4.2	2.2	3.7
Persistent vomiting	5.5	5.8	4.8	6.3	5.6
Raised blood pressure, eclampsia/ preclampsia or toxaemia	7.4	8.5	6.5	6.4	7.5
Urinary infection	4.7	6.3	4.6	5.2	4.9
Diabetes	1.8	1.2	1.3	0.05	1.7
Suspected slow baby growth	1.7	1.6	1.1	1.1	1.7
Anaemia	2.8	1.8	2.6	0.08	2.7
Backache/sciatica/prolapsed disk	2.1	1.5	2.0	1.1	2.1
Gestational diabetes, raised blood sugar, abnormal glu	0.3	0.3	0.2	-	0.3
Sample Size (N)	11287	2707	2279	1878	18151

Sample: MCS Natural mothers who fell pregnant with, and gave birth to, one child only.

Table 6.18

Rate of problems in pregnancy, by type of ward

Complications	Type of Ward			Total UK
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic* (%)	%
Bleeding or threatened miscarriage in early pregnancy	6.4	6.1	3.0	6.3
Bleeding in later pregnancy	3.6	3.9	1.6	3.7
Persistent vomiting	5.5	5.2	6.4	5.6
Raised blood pressure, eclampsia/ preclampsia or toxaemia	7.8	6.9	4.7	7.5
Urinary infection	4.2	6.0	3.6	4.9
Diabetes	1.7	1.5	2.6	1.7
Suspected slow baby growth	1.6	1.7	1.5	1.7
Anaemia	2.6	2.8	3.0	2.7
Backache/sciatica/prolapsed disk	2.3	1.6	0.07	2.1
Gestational diabetes, raised blood sugar, abnormal glu	0.03	0.03	0.01	0.3
Sample Size (N)	7151	8645	2355	18151

Sample: MCS Natural mothers who fell pregnant with, and gave birth to, one child only.
* Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 6.19

Plan to have any more children by country

Plan to have any more children	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	N Ireland (%)	
Yes	35.4	32.7	35.0	35.3	35.2
No	49.3	53.4	49.7	48.5	49.5
Don't know	15.3	13.9	15.3	16.3	15.2
Total	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100.0**
N	10708	2595	2184	1778	17265

Sample: MCS Natural mothers

Table 6.20

Plan to have any more children by type of ward

Plan to have any more children	Type of ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic * (%)	
Yes	36.7	32.7	34.5	35.2
No	47.8	52.8	48.5	49.5
Don't know	15.5	14.5	17.1	15.2
Total	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100.0**
N	6859	8220	2186	17265

Sample: MCS Natural mothers. * Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 6.21

Place of baby's birth by country

Place of birth	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	N Ireland (%)	
In hospital	97.4	97.1	98.3	99.7	97.5
At home	2.5	2.7	1.3	0.2	2.3
Other/ on the way to hospital	0.0	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.1
Other	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1
Total	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100.0**
N	11287	2707	2279	1878	18151

Sample: MCS Natural mothers who fell pregnant with, and gave birth to, one child only.

Table 6.22

Place of baby's birth by type of ward

Place of birth	Type of ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic * (%)	
In hospital	97,2	97.9	98.5	97.5
At home	2.6	1.9	1.4	2.3
Other/ on the way to hospital	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Other answer	0.1	0.1	0	0.1
Total	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**
N	7151	8645	2355	18151

Sample: MCS Natural mothers who fell pregnant with, and gave birth to, one child only.
* Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 6.23

Labour induced and pain relief rates by country

Induction and pain relief	Country				ALL UK (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	N Ireland (%)	
Labour induced	28.7	30.0	34.5	41.1	**29.8**
Gas and air	68.1	73.0	72.4	72.5	**68.8**
Pethedine or demerol injection	26.9	36.5	34.0	36.1	**28.4**
Epidural	32.9	30.4	32.2	38.6	**32.9**
General anaesthetic	3.0	3.6	2.8	3.2	**3.0**
Tens machine	14.8	14.0	13.5	8.8	**14.4**
N	11281	2704	2279	1878	**18140**

Sample: MCS Natural mothers who fell pregnant with, and gave birth to, one child only.

Table 6.24

Labour induced and pain relief rates by type of ward

Induction and pain relief	Type of ward			ALL UK (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic* (%)	
Labour induced	29.0	31.5	26.7	**29.8**
Gas and air	69.2	69.1	62.7	**68.8**
Pethedine or demerol injection	26.7	33.0	16.9	**28.4**
Epidural	33.8	32.3	26.2	**32.9**
General anaesthetic	2.6	3.5	4.6	**3.0**
Tens machine	18.3	9.1	3.5	**14.4**
N	7148	8638	2354	**18140**

Sample: MCS Natural mothers who fell pregnant with, and gave birth to, one child only.
* Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 6.25

Type of delivery and assisted delivery rates by country

Type of delivery	Country				ALL UK (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	N Ireland (%)	
Normal	68.8	66.5	66.9	66.2	**68.4**
Assisted forceps	3.8	3.8	6.9	5.0	**4.1**
Assisted vacuum extraction	7.1	7.7	5.8	7.8	**7.0**
Assisted breach	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.5	**0.3**
Planned caesarian	9.1	10.1	8.7	11.8	**9.2**
Emergency caesarian	12.2	13.3	13.2	10.7	**12.3**
Water birth	0.4	0.0	2.0	1.0	**0.3**
N	11281	2707	2279	1878	**18149**

Sample: MCS Natural mothers who fell pregnant with, and gave birth to, one child only.

Table 6.26

Type of delivery and assisted delivery rates by type of ward

Type of delivery	Type of ward			ALL UK (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic * (%)	
Normal delivery	66.5	71.0	74.2	**68.4**
Assisted forceps	4.4	3.8	2.8	**4.1**
Assisted vacuum extraction	8.0	5.9	2.6	**7.0**
Assisted breach	0.3	0.2	0.3	**0.3**
Planned caesarian	9.6	8.6	7.3	**9.2**
Emergency caesarian	12.7	11.5	13.0	**12.3**
Water birth	0.3	0.4	0.0	**0.3**
N	7153	8641	1120	**18149**

Sample: MCS Natural mothers who fell pregnant with, and gave birth to, one child only.
* Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 6.27

Complications during labour by country

Complications during labour?	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	N Ireland (%)	
Yes	66.0	64.2	67.4	70.7	66.2
No	34.0	35.8	32.6	29.3	33.8
Total	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**
N	11284	2706	2279	1877	18146

Sample: MCS Natural mothers who fell pregnant with, and gave birth to, one child only.

Table 6.28

Complications during labour by country

Type of complications during labour?	Country				ALL UK (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	N Ireland (%)	
No complications	66.0	64.2	67.4	70.7	**66.2**
Breech birth - feet first	2.5	2.6	2.5	2.4	**2.5**
Other abnormal lie e.g. shoulder first	3.4	4.3	3.6	2.6	**3.4**
Very long labour	7.0	7.4	7.2	7.4	**7.0**
Very rapid labour	2.6	4.0	2.2	1.9	**2.6**
Foetal distress - heart rate sign	11.6	12.6	10.9	10.7	**11.5**
Foetal distress - Meconium or other sign	5.8	5.2	5.1	2.9	**5.6**
N	11285	2704	2279	1878	**18146**

Sample: MCS Natural mothers who fell pregnant with, and gave birth to, one child only.

Table 6.29

Complications during labour by type of ward

Type of complications during labour	Type of ward			ALL UK (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic* (%)	
No complications	35.6	32.4	20.4	**66.2**
Breech birth - feet first	2.8	2.0	1.8	**2.5**
Other abnormal lie e.g. shoulder first	4.0	2.7	0.9	**3.4**
Very long labour	7.2	6.9	5.7	**7.0**
Very rapid labour	2.8	2.6	1.0	**2.6**
Foetal distress - heart rate sign	12.3	11.0	5.7	**11.5**
Foetal distress -Meconium or other sign	6.1	5.2	2.9	**5.6**
Other/ raised blood pressure	0.3	0.3	0.1	**0.3**
N	7151	8641	2354	**18146**

Sample: MCS Natural mothers who fell pregnant with, and gave birth to, one child only.
* Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 6. 30

Length of labour by country

Length of labour	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	N Ireland (%)	
Less than an hour	9.8	11.6	9.1	9.3	9.9
1 – 3 hours	20.9	22.4	18.5	25.0	21.9
4 – 6 hours	23.6	21.7	21.0	24.8	22.9
7 – 12 hours	23.7	23.8	27.2	23.8	23.9
13 – 24 hours	15.2	13.5	16.8	11.8	14.7
25 – 36 hours	4.0	3.8	4.7	3.1	3.9
37 – 48 hours	1.6	1.9	1.5	1.0	1.6
More than 48 hours	1.1	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.2
Total	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**
N	10827	2618	2194	1816	17455

Sample: MCS Natural mothers who fell pregnant with, and gave birth to, one child only.

Table 6. 31

Length of labour by type of ward

Length of labour	Type of ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic (%)	
Less than an hour	10.1	9.5	9.0	9.9
1-3 hours	19.8	22.1	25.5	21.9
4-6 hours	23.6	22.8	22.8	22.9
7-12 hours	24.5	23.3	23.4	23.9
13-24 hours	15.1	15.7	12.9	14.7
25-36	4.1	4.0	3.2	3.9
37-48	1.7	1.4	2.2	1.6
More than 48 hours	1.0	1.2	1.1	1.2
Total	100	100	100	**100**
N	**6854**	**8343**	**2258**	**17455**

Sample: MCS Natural mothers who fell pregnant with, and gave birth to, one child only.
* Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 6. 32

People attending labour by country

People attending labour	Country				ALL UK (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	N Ireland (%)	
No one else	4.2	4.6	3.8	5.9	**4.3**
Father of baby	86.4	85.0	86.2	86.1	**86.3**
A friend	3.3	3.6	2.9	2.4	**3.3**
Mother in law	16.2	22.3	10.6	10.7	**15.8**
Someone else	7.4	7.7	3.5	4.2	**6.9**
N	11281	2707	2280	1878	**18150**

Sample: MCS Natural mothers who fell pregnant with, and gave birth to, one child only.

Table 6.33

People attending labour by type of ward

People attending labour	Type of ward			ALL UK (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic * (%)	
No one else	3.3	4.9	11.6	**4.3**
Father of baby	91.1	80.5	67.3	**86.3**
A friend	2.1	5.0	6.0	**3.3**
Mother or mother-in-law	12.1	22.4	16.1	**15.8**
Someone else	4.5	9.7	17.3	**6.9**
N	7154	8641	2355	**18150**

Sample: MCS Natural mothers who fell pregnant with, and gave birth to, one child only.
* Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 6. 34

Duration of stay in hospital after delivery by country

Duration of hospital stay after delivery	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	N Ireland (%)	
6 hours or less	4.9	4.3	2.1	0.5	3.8
7-12 hours	5.9	5.9	2.3	0.6	4.5
12-23 hours	3.9	4.5	2.0	0.6	3.2
A day	26.0	25.9	19.5	12.7	24.8
2 days	19.2	17.5	21.9	22.8	20.1
3/4 days	21.5	22.9	27.7	36.4	23.7
5/6 days	11.5	11.1	15.4	19.6	12.2
A week	5.4	5.7	6.9	5.3	5.8
2 weeks or more	1.8	2.2	2.2	1.4	2.0
Total	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100.0**
N	11015	2638	2242	1869	17764

Sample: MCS Natural mothers who fell pregnant with, and gave birth to, one child only.

Table 6. 35

Duration of stay in hospital after delivery by type of ward

Duration of hospital stay after delivery	Type of ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic* (%)	
6 hours or less	4.3	5.0	2.4	3.8
7-12 hours	5.6	5.4	2.1	4.5
12-23 hours	3.8	3.7	1.9	3.2
A day	23.6	26.4	29.7	24.8
2 days	19.0	20.0	22.8	20.1
3/4 days	23.3	21.8	20.7	23.7
5/6 days	13.3	10.5	9.3	12.2
A week	5.5	5.4	7.8	5.8
2 weeks or more	1.7	1.8	3.1	2.0
Total	100	100	100	**100.0**
N	**6965**	**8482**	**2317**	**17764**

Sample: MCS Natural mothers who fell pregnant with, and gave birth to, one child only.

* Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 6.36

Age when baby 1 came home from hospital by country

Age when baby 1 came home from hospital	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	N Ireland (%)	
Less than a day	16.0	15.9	7.2	1.9	12.6
One day	23.2	23.0	17.3	11.9	22.1
2-4 days	39.0	38.5	47.3	57.9	41.9
5-7 days	15.5	15.1	21.3	23.0	16.6
8-14 days	3.0	3.9	3.5	2.4	3.3
15-28 days	1.9	2.2	1.9	1.4	2.0
More than a month	1.4	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.6
Total	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100.0**
N	11017	2638	2242	1870	17767

Sample: MCS Natural mothers who fell pregnant with, and gave birth to, one child only.

Table 6. 37

Age when baby 1 came home from hospital by type of ward

Age when baby 1 came home from hospital	Type of ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic* (%)	
Less than a day	14.5	15.9	7.1	12.6
One day	21.4	23.2	26.4	22.1
2-4 days	40.9	39.5	41.8	41.9
5-7 days	17.3	14.7	15.3	16.6
8-14 days	2.9	3.2	4.2	3.3
15-28 days	1.8	1.9	2.8	2.0
More than a month	1.3	1.6	2.3	1.6
Total	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100.0**
N	6966	8484	2317	17767

Sample: MCS Natural mothers who fell pregnant with, and gave birth to, one child only.

* Ethnic wards are all in England.

7. BABIES' HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT

Carol Dezateux, Helen Bedford, Tim Cole, Catherine Peckham, Ingrid Schoon, Steven Hope and Neville Butler

SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

The Millennium Cohort dataset provides an important opportunity to capture information on health and development in the important first year of life in this contemporary cohort of children. In this first report, we describe the key findings in relation to the baby's health and development at the 9-month interview.

7.1. Immunisations

Has baby had any immunisations on this card?[5]

Overall 1.3 per cent of mothers reported that their babies had not had any immunisations by 9 months. The proportion of mothers who reported no immunisations varied according to country with the highest proportion unimmunised in England, over three times more than with Northern Ireland (Table 7.1).

There were differences in the percentages of babies reported to be without any immunisations by type of wards, with twice as many without any immunisations in disadvantaged wards and wards with high minority ethnic populations compared with advantaged wards (Table 7.2).

The highest proportion of mothers reporting that baby was without immunisation was in the NS-SEC group, small employers and self employed, (Table 7.3).

The highest proportion of infants who were not immunised were among babies of black mothers. The highest proportion with some immunisation were babies of Indian mothers (Table 7.4).

Has baby had 3 doses of all the immunisations on this card?

Overall 3.5 per cent of mothers reported that their babies had not completed a full course of primary immunisations by 9 months of age.

The highest proportion of mothers reporting incomplete immunisation was in Wales and the lowest in Northern Ireland (Table 7.5).

Mothers from wards with high minority ethnic populations were more than twice as likely to report their babies to have incomplete immunisation courses compared with mothers from advantaged wards (Table 7.6).

Incomplete immunisation was highest (4.8%) among the mothers in the semi-routine and routine group (Table 7.7) and lowest in the managerial and professional group (2.0%).

The prevalence of incomplete immunisation was highest among babies of Pakistani mothers and lowest among babies of mixed and other ethnic minority groups. The difference between these two groups was over two fold (Table 7.8).

[5] **NOTE:** The card used to ask the question "Has Jack received any of these immunisations?" was changed after the first two waves of fieldwork. The original codes were:

1. Diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough combined
2. Polio
3. Haemophilus influenzae B
4. meningitis C
5. BCG

These were changed to:

1. Diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough combined
2. polio
3. Haemophilus influenzae B (Hib)

Did respondent consult health record (red book) for immunisation information? If yes, was the information available in the health record?

Mothers in Northern Ireland were more likely to have information available in the child health record on immunisation details, with mothers in Scotland least likely (Table 7.9). Mothers in wards with high minority ethnic populations were least likely to have information available in the health record (Table 7.10).

Mothers in the managerial and professional group were most likely (82.9%) to have the information on immunisations available in the child health record (Table 7.11).

Bangladeshi mothers were more likely to have immunisation information available in the child health record than all other groups; black mothers least likely (Table 7.12).

7.2. Hearing tests

Has baby ever had a hearing test?

Mothers in England were almost 4 times more likely to report their child had never had a hearing test than mothers in Northern Ireland (Table 7.13).

Nearly one third of mothers in wards with high minority ethnic populations reported their child had never had a hearing test compared with 10 per cent in advantaged wards (Table 7.14).

In the case of mothers with a semi-routine or routine NS-SEC, 17.5 per cent of babies had never had a hearing test, as compared with 10.7 per cent of mothers in the managerial and professional NS-SEC group (Table 7.15).

White mothers reported the lowest rates of their child never having had a hearing test with the highest rates, almost 3 times higher among Bangladeshi mothers. Over 35 per cent of Bangladeshi mothers reported not having had a hearing test (Table 7.16).

And were there any problems with his hearing?

The lowest reported rates of a problem with hearing were among mothers from Scotland. This was almost half the rate reported by mothers from England (Table 7.17).

Mothers in advantaged wards were more likely to report a problem with hearing than mothers in other wards, with the lowest rate among the wards with high minority ethnic populations (Table 7.18).

The highest rates of hearing problems were reported by mothers in NS-SEC group small employers and self-employed and the lowest among the NS-SEC group low supervisor and technical group (Table 7.19).

White mothers were the most likely to report a hearing problem and Bangladeshi least likely (Table 7.20).

7.3. Baby's health problems

We would like to know about any health problems for which baby has been taken to the GP, health centre or health visitor, or to casualty or you have called NHS Direct. How many separate health problems, if any has baby had, not counting any accidents or injuries?

Almost a quarter of all mothers reported never having taken their child to the GP, health centre, health visitor or casualty or calling NHS Direct with a health problem (Table 7.21).

65.6 per cent of mothers had taken their babies to one of these agencies, on between 1 and 3 occasions.

The main type of health problems reported by mothers (Table 7.22) for which they had sought advice were chest infections (20.2% of all reported contacts), diarrhoea or vomiting (14.4% combined), wheezing or asthma (11.1%), skin problems (10.3%), ear infections (8.5%) and feeding problems (4.8%).

7.4. Accidents and injuries

Has baby ever had an accident or injury for which s/he had been taken to the doctor, health centre or hospital?

Overall 92.1 per cent of mothers reported that their baby had not had an injury or accident requiring medical attention (Table 7.23). 7.5 per cent reported that their child had had one accident or injury requiring medical attention. 70 mothers reported that their child had had 2 or more accidents or injuries in the first nine months requiring medical attention.

Mothers in Wales were the most likely (10%) to report an accident or injury, whilst mothers in Northern Ireland were the least likely (7%; Table 7.24).

Mothers' in wards with high minority ethnic populations were the least likely to report accidents or injuries requiring medical attention (4.4%) and mothers in disadvantaged wards were the most likely (9.1%). Mothers in disadvantaged wards also reported the highest frequency of accidents (Table 7.25).

There were few differences in numbers of accidents reported by mothers by NS-SEC group, where this was available (Table 7.26).

Bangladeshi mothers were less likely to report accidents or injuries (2.3%) than any other ethnic identity and also had fewer accidents. White mothers were more likely to report that their baby had had an accident or injury (8.3%) requiring medical attention and black mothers reported the highest number of accidents (Table 7.27).

The most frequently reported type of accident/injury by all mothers was a bang on the head, this type of accident/injury represented 62.0 per cent of all accidents/injuries (Table 7.28).

7.5. Hospital admissions

Has baby ever been admitted to a hospital ward for illness or a health problem, (not including being born in hospital or having complications at birth)?

Overall 14.5 per cent of mothers reported that their child had been admitted to hospital on at least one occasion for an illness or health problem, in 49 cases (0.3%) this was on five or more occasions (Table 7.29).

The most frequently cited cause of hospital admission was a chest infection or pneumonia, representing 25.8 per cent of 3339 reported admissions (Table 7.30). Gastroenteritis was the reason cited for 8.8 per cent of admissions and wheezing or asthma for 7.3 per cent.

7.6. Parents' worries about baby's health and development

Do you have any worries about their baby's health and development that had not already been talked about?

This question asks about mothers' worries rather than about known problems. It is the latter that have been covered in earlier questions. It is possible, therefore, that worries are voiced in response to this question that were the subject of specific questions earlier in the interview, even though the question asks about 'other' health problems.

Overall, 8.8 per cent of mothers identified concerns or worries about their baby's health and development that had not already been mentioned previously (Table 7.31). The most frequently mentioned concerns were slow development (0.9%), problems with movement (0.7%), problems with hearing (0.7%), concerns about feeding (0.7%) and failure to gain weight (0.7%).

7.7. Birth weight

How much did baby weigh at birth?

Infants in Northern Ireland and Scotland were on average slightly heavier at birth than those in England or Wales (Table 7.32). Infants living in wards with high minority ethnic populations were lighter at birth than those born in advantaged or disadvantaged wards (Table 7.33). Children of main respondents in NS-SEC 1, (Management and professional) were the heaviest at birth and NS-SEC group 5 (semi routine and routine) main respondent babies had, on average, the lightest babies (Table 7.34).

There are variations in birth weight by ethnic identity with infants of Pakistani, Indian, Bangladeshi and black and mixed origin mothers being lighter at birth than infants of white mothers (Table 7.35).

7.8. Babies exposure to tobacco smoking

Do you smoke tobacco products such as cigarettes, cigars or a pipe at all nowadays? How many cigarettes a day were you usually smoking just before you became pregnant? Did you change the amount you smoked during your pregnancy?

Overall 28.4 per cent of mothers reported smoking when the cohort child was around 9 months of age and 35.3 per cent smoked at some point during pregnancy. These percentages were highest in Wales and Northern Ireland (Table 7.36).

There are differences by ethnic identity in the percentage of mothers who reported smoking at some time when pregnant and/or when the child was around 9-10 months of age, with highest percentages of smoking among white mothers and lowest among Bangladeshi, Pakistani and Indian mothers (Table 7.37).

Infants of mothers in routine and semi-routine occupations were three times more likely to be exposed to people smoking than infants of mothers in professional and managerial occupations (Table 7.38).

7.9. Breastfeeding

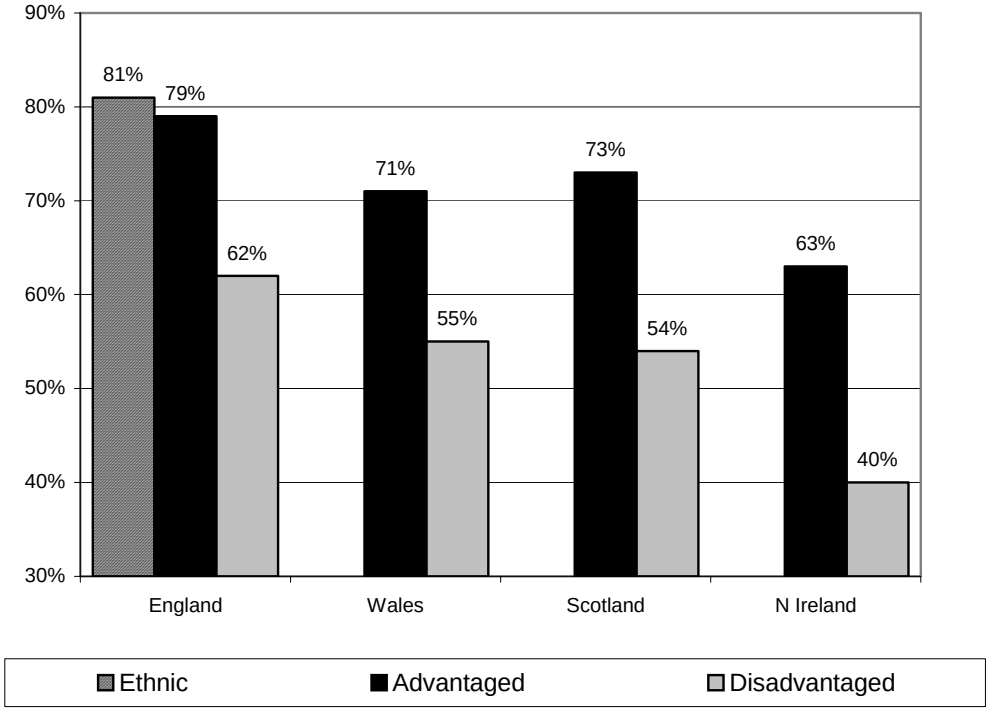
Did you ever try to breastfeed your baby?

Overall 67.3 per cent of mothers' breastfed for one day or more, with 44.8 per cent still breastfeeding at one month (Table 7.39). These percentages are lowest for Wales and Northern Ireland.

Overall there were marked differences in breastfeeding initiation rates by electoral wards, with lowest rates being seen in disadvantaged wards and highest in advantaged wards, and, in England, high ethnic minority wards where more than 80 per cent of women reported breastfeeding for one day or more (Figure 7.1).

Figure 7.1

Mothers who ever breastfed by type of ward



Overall mothers of black, mixed, Bangladeshi or Indian origin were more likely to breastfeed and to be still breastfeeding at one month than white mothers (Table 7.40).

Infants born to mothers from routine and semi-routine NS-SEC are only half as likely to be breastfed and to be still breastfeeding at one month (34.3%) as the infants of mothers in managerial and professional NS-SEC (Table 7.41).

7.10. Child development

What types of things is baby able to do?

The first year of life is increasingly regarded as a 'critical' stage of a child's development and of emerging family relationships. The first year of life has been relatively neglected in previous large-scale British birth cohorts. Biological and social data have been collected in the Avon Longitudinal Study of Parents and Childhood (ALSPAC), which is however, restricted to a geographically defined population from the West of England. Also internationally there is little information for this period, with the exceptions of the Christchurch Child Development Study, which collected data at 4 months.[6] A unique feature of the Millennium Cohort Study (MCS) is the availability of data on the child's physiological and psychological functioning at age 9-10 months allowing researchers to

[6] Fergusson et al, 1989

investigate this important period of development, the potential influences of the wider family context, as well as parental psychosocial well-being and adjustment (covered in Chapter 8).

In this section we report initial results on child functioning patterns.

7.11. Child functioning

A child's mental and physical characteristics develop throughout childhood in response to the increasing complexity of the tasks and challenges that the child encounters. As a result of growing physiological and bodily functions, new abilities and higher-level capacities for organising experience emerge. In our description we will focus upon four general domains of child functioning: general gross and fine motor skills, communicative gestures, and emotional adjustment of the children at age 9 months. The motor skills and communicative gestures as well as the baby's temperament and behaviour have been assessed by main respondents' reports on age-specific functional skills and patterns of behaviour.

7.12. Developmental milestones

Developmental milestones are a set of functional skills or age-specific tasks that most children can do at a certain age range. Although each milestone has an age level, the actual age when a normally developing child reaches that milestone can vary considerably. For example, some children may walk as early as 11 months, while others may not walk until they are 15 months old. Both cases are still considered normal. Statistically speaking about 3 per cent of children will not reach a milestone on time, but most of them will eventually develop normally over time, although a little later than expected.

The milestones were assessed by main respondents' reports on their child's developmental status, using selected items of the Denver Development Screening Test. The questions can be grouped into three main areas: the child's gross and fine motor skills, and his or her communicative gestures.[7] There are rapid improvements in locomotor and manipulative skills during the first year of life, while gestural language develops at around 9 or 10 months when babies begin to use gestures to ask for things.

By the age of 9-10 months the gross and fine motor skills of most babies are well developed (see Table 7.42). The vast majority of babies can sit up without being supported, move about from one place to another, and can stand up while holding onto something such as furniture. They grasp objects using the whole hand, pass a toy back and forth from one hand to another, pick up a small object using forefinger and thumb only, and can put their hands together. Very few babies (about 5%) are already able to walk a few steps on their own at the time of interview (9 - 10 months). The development of the communicative gestures is, as expected, less advanced than the gross and fine motor skills, although nearly all babies smile when the parent smiles at them.

Baby girls appear to be slightly more advanced than boys in their fine motor coordination, and are particularly advanced in their communicative gestures. For example, 45.3 per cent

[7] The Denver Developmental Screening test is the most popular tool to screen for potential developmental problems (Frankenburger, Dobbs & Denver, 1974).

of girls wave goodbye on their own when someone leaves, in comparison to 29.9 per cent of the boys. The data furthermore suggest that there are small differences in development depending on the environment in which the children live. The differences are especially marked in the development of communicative gestures, which seem to be more advanced among children from wards with high minority ethnic populations than among other children. Furthermore children living in wards designated, as 'disadvantaged' also appear to be more advanced in their communicative gestures than children living in advantaged areas.

7.13. Baby's temperament and behaviour

Temperament has generally been defined as individual differences in reactivity and self-regulation that are assumed to have a relatively enduring, biological basis. Temperament in babies is described by how the child reacts in a variety of situations rather than why. The assessment of the baby's temperament is based on items selected from the Carey Infant Temperament Scale (Carey & McDevitt, 1977, 1995), used also in the ALSPAC Study and NLSY (see Glossary). The selected items aim to tap into three dimensions of the baby's temperament, namely mood (5 items), adaptability to new situations (5 items), and regularity (4 items).

Table 7.43 gives the means and standard deviations for the three subscales separately for boy and girl cohort babies. There are no gender differences in temperament for the 9 months old babies. There are furthermore no differences in temperament for babies living in wards designated as 'advantaged and 'disadvantaged'. Babies from wards with high minority ethnic populations, however, show a slightly more difficult temperament than the other babies, and are reported to be more moody, shy, and less regular in their body functioning.

Table 7.1: Proportion of mothers reporting baby had not had any immunisations, by country

Country	Has not had any immunisations	Sample size (N)
England	1.4%	11283
Wales	1.0%	2706
Scotland	0.8%	2279
NI	0.4%	1878
ALL UK	**1.3%**	**18146**

Sample: All MCS mothers

Table 7.2: Proportion of mothers reporting baby had not had any immunisations, by ward type

Type of ward	Has not had any immunisations	Sample size (N)
Advantaged	0.9%	7150
Disadvantaged	1.8%	8644
Ethnic*	2.2%	2352
Total sample size		**18146**

Sample: All MCS Mothers. * Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 7.3: Proportion of mothers reporting baby had not had any immunisations: by maternal NS-SEC.

NS-SEC (5) main respondent	Has not had any immunisations	Sample size (N)
1.Management & Professional	1.3%	4715
2.Intermediate	0.8%	3032
3.Small employer & s-employed	2.5%	637
4.Low supervisor & technical	0.3%	984
5.Semi-routine & routine	1.3%	6634
Total sample size		**16002**

Sample: All MCS Mothers

Table 7.4: Proportion of mothers reporting baby had not had any immunisations: by maternal ethnic identity.

Ethnic identity	Has not had any immunisations	Sample size (N)
White	1.2%	15000
Indian	0.6%	464
Pakistani	1.9%	859
Bangladeshi	1.2%	362
Black	3.0%	637
Mixed and Other	1.1%	544
Total sample size		**17866**

Sample: All MCS Mothers

Table 7.5: Proportion of mothers reporting baby had not had full course of immunisations, by country

Country	Has not had full course of Immunisations	Sample size (N)
England	3.6%	11283
Wales	3.7%	2706
Scotland	2.9%	2279
NI	2.6%	1878
ALL UK	**3.5%**	**18146**

Sample: All MCS mothers.

Table 7.6: Proportion of mothers reporting baby had not had full course of immunisations, by ward type

Type of ward	Has not had full course of immunisations	Sample size (N)
Advantaged	2.6%	10806
Disadvantaged	4.5%	6087
Ethnic*	5.8%	850
Total sample size		**17743**

Sample: All MCS mothers. * Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 7.7: Proportion of mothers reporting baby had not had full course of immunisations by maternal NS-SEC.

NS-SEC (5) main respondent	Has not had full course of immunisations	Sample size (N)
1.Management & Professional	2.0%	4650
2.Intermediate	2.2%	3006
3.Small employer & s-employed	3.5%	620
4.Low supervisor & technical	4.1%	980
5.Semi-routine & routine	4.8%	6541
Total sample size		**15797**

Sample: All MCS mothers with NS-SEC.

Table 7.8: Proportion of mothers reporting baby had not had full course of immunisations, by maternal ethnic identity.

Ethnic identity of main respondent (all countries)	Has not had full course of immunisations	Sample size (N)
White	3.4%	15000
Indian	3.3%	464
Pakistani	6.6%	859
Bangladeshi	5.3%	362
Black	3.8%	637
Mixed and Other	2.8%	544
Total sample size		**17866**

Sample: All MCS mothers.

Table 7.9: Consultation of red book (Personal Child Health Record) by respondent for immunisation information, by country

Country	Consulted and information available	Consulted and information not available	Sample size (N)
England	80.7%	1.1%	11286
Wales	76.3%	1.5%	2707
Scotland	71.3%	2.6%	2279
NI	82.2%	2.6%	1878
Total sample size			**18150**

Sample: All MCS mothers.

Table 7.10: Consultation of red book (Personal Child Health Record) by main respondent for immunisation information, by ward type

Type of ward	Record consulted and information available	Consulted and information not available	Sample size (N)
Advantaged	81.4%	1.0%	7151
Disadvantaged	76.6%	1.9%	8645
Ethnic*	79.8%	2.2%	2354
		Total sample size	**18150**

Sample: All MCS mothers. * Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 7.11: Consultation of red book (Personal Child Health Record) by respondent for immunisation information, by maternal NS-SEC

NS-SEC (5) main respondent	Record consulted and information available	Consulted and information not available	Sample size (N)
1.Management & Professional	82.9%	1.1%	4715
2.Intermediate	82.0%	0.9%	3033
3.Small employer & s-employed	80.7%	1.6%	637
4.Low supervisor & technical	81.5%	0.7%	984
5.Semi-routine & routine	76.9%	1.5%	6637
		Total sample size	**16006**

Sample: All MCS mothers with NS-SEC.

Table 7.12: Consultation of red book (Personal Child Health Record) by respondent for immunisation information, by maternal ethnic identity

Ethnic identity of main respondent (all countries)	Record consulted and information available	Consulted and information not available	Sample size (N)
White	80.0%	1.3%	15195
Indian	77.9%	1.8%	469
Pakistani	76.1%	2.1%	878
Bangladeshi	82.0%	4.1%	368
Black	71.8%	1.9%	659
Mixed and Other	78.2%	1.7%	552
		Total sample size	**18121**

Sample: All MCS mothers.

Table 7.13: Proportion of mothers reporting baby has never had a hearing test, by country

Country	Baby never had a hearing test	Sample size (N)
England	15.6%	11283
Wales	9.9%	2706
Scotland	10.3%	2279
NI	4.3%	1878
Total sample size		**18146**

Sample: All MCS mothers.

Table 7.14: Proportion of mothers reporting baby has never had a hearing test, by ward type

Type of ward	Baby never had a hearing test	Sample size (N)
Advantaged	11.6%	7148
Disadvantaged	17.0%	8639
Ethnic*	32.3%	760
Total sample size		**18138**

Sample: All MCS mothers. * Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 7.15: Proportion of mothers reporting baby has never had a hearing test, by maternal NS-SEC

NS-SEC (5) main respondent	Baby never had a hearing test	Sample size (N)
1.Management & Professional	10.7%	4714
2.Intermediate	11.6%	3031
3.Small employer & s-employed	11.0%	636
4.Low supervisor & technical	14.9%	983
5.Semi-routine & routine	17.5%	6632
Total sample size		**15996**

Sample: All MCS mothers with NS-SEC.

Table 7.16: Proportion of mothers reporting baby has never had a hearing test, by maternal ethnic identity

Ethnic identity	Baby has never had a hearing test	Sample size (N)
White	13.2%	15188
Indian	17.6%	469
Pakistani	27.3%	878
Bangladeshi	37.4%	366
Black	27.0%	657
Mixed and Other	20.1%	551
Total sample size		**18109**

Sample: All MCS mothers.

Table 7.17: Proportion of mothers reporting a problem with baby's hearing, by country

Country	Baby had hearing problem (found at test)	Sample size (N)
England	12.4%	9099
Wales	10.3%	2417
Scotland	6.9%	2024
NI	8.6%	1781
Total sample size		**15321**

Sample: All MCS mothers reporting baby's hearing had been tested

Table 7.18: Proportion of mothers reporting a problem with baby's hearing, by ward type

Type of ward	Baby had hearing problem (found at test)	Sample size (N)
Advantaged	12.2%	6372
Disadvantaged	10.8%	7362
Ethnic*	8.5%	1587
Total sample size		**15321**

Sample: All MCS mothers. Reporting baby's hearing had been tested.
* Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 7.19: Proportion of mothers reporting a problem with hearing, by maternal NS-SEC

NS-SEC (5) main respondent	Baby had hearing problem (found at test)	Sample size (N)
1.Management & Professional	12.1%	4202
2.Intermediate	11.7%	2665
3.Small employer & s-employed	14.1%	559
4.Low supervisor & technical	10.8%	834
5.Semi-routine & routine	11.3%	5470
Total sample size		**13730**

Sample: All MCS mothers with NS-SEC reporting baby's hearing had been tested.

Table 7.20:
Proportion of mothers reporting a problem with baby's hearing, by maternal ethnic identity

Ethnic identity	Baby had hearing problem (found at test)	Sample size (n)
White	11.8%	13205
Indian	9.8%	370
Pakistani	11.6%	604
Bangladeshi	6.5%	228
Black	9.5%	466
Mixed and Other	8.3%	425
Total sample size		**15298**

Sample: All MCS mothers reporting baby's hearing had been tested.

Table 7.21:

Number of health problems reported by mothers for which baby was taken to GP, health centre or health visitor, casualty or called NHS Direct

Number of health Problems	Frequency	Per cent
0	4487	24.7
1	6280	34.6
2	3728	20.5
3	1898	10.5
4	763	4.2
5	398	2.2
6	230	1.3
7	84	0.5
8	75	0.4
9	29	0.2
10 or more	168	0.8
Total	**18140**	**100.0**

Sample: MCS mothers who reported a health problem.

Table 7.22 : Main type of health problems reported by mother for which baby was taken to the GP, health centre or health visitor, casualty or called NHS Direct (based only on those with 10 or more health problems (un-weighted).

Main type of health problem	Frequency	Total health problems (%)
Chest infections	100	20.2%
Ear Infections	42	8.5%
Feeding problems	24	4.8%
Wheezing or asthma	55	11.1%
Skin problems	51	10.3%
Sight or eye problems	23	4.6%
Failure to gain weight or to grow	24	4.8%
Persistent or severe vomiting	40	8.1%
Persistent or severe diarrhoea	31	6.3%
Fits or convulsions	7	1.4%
Other/high temperature/acute viral infection unspecified	7	1.4%
Sleeping problems	5	1.0%
* Other/measles or whooping cough	1	0.2%
* Other/chicken pox	4	0.8%
* Other/infection or nose or throat, croup, flu or severe cough	11	2.2%
* Other/colds	11	2.2%
* Other/severe infection	5	1.0%
* Other/breathing problem	7	1.4%
* Other/constipation or bleeding from bowel	8	1.6%
* Other/congenital heart disease, not yet definite	1	0.2%
* Other/Urinary tract infection	3	0.6%
* Other/other mild infection	3	0.6%
* Other/jaundice	1	0.2%
* Other/hernia	3	0.6%
* Other/reflux or other vomiting	4	0.8%
* Other/colic	3	0.6%
* Other/other	9	1.8%
* Other/congenital heart disease, definite	1	0.2%
* Other/urogenital abnormalities	2	0.4%
* Other/skin abnormalities	2	0.4%
* Other/congenital abnormalities, minor	2	0.4%
* Other/other allergy, except wheezing, asthma or eczema	1	0.2%
* Other/gastrointestinal abnormalities	1	0.2%
* Other/brain, central nervous, spinal cord or special sense	2	0.4%
* Other/ Clubfoot (talipes equinovarus), definite	1	0.2%
* Other/Chromosomal or genetic abnormalities	2	0.4%
* Other/other congenital abnormalities, major	1	0.2%
Total health problems	494	100%

Sample: MCS mothers who reported a health problem. * Ten types of pre-coded health problems were asked about. Where respondents indicated there were additional other problems these were recorded verbatim by interviewers and coded subsequently.

Table 7.23:

Number of accidents and injuries for which baby taken to doctor, health centre or hospital.

Number of accidents/injuries	Frequency	Per cent
0	16709	92.1
1	1369	7.5
2	59	0.3
3	9	0.0
5	2	0.0
Total	**18148**	**100.0**
Don't Know	2	0.0
Not applicable	1	0.0
Missing Total	3	0.0
Total	18151	100.0

Sample: All MCS mothers.

Table 7.24:

Number of accidents and injuries for which baby taken to doctor, health centre or hospital, by country

Country	Number of accidents/injuries (%)				Total (%)
	0	1	2	3	
England	92.0	7.7	0.4	0.0	100.0
Wales	90.0	9.5	0.5	0.0	100.0
Scotland	93.3	7.7	0.0	-	100.0
NI	93.0	6.3	0.0	-	99.3
				Total Sample size	**11285**

Sample: All MCS mothers.

Table 7.25: Number of accidents and injuries for which baby taken to doctor, health centre or hospital, by ward type

Type of ward	Number of accidents/injuries (%)					Total (%)	Sample Size (N)
	0	1	2	3	4-5		
Advantaged	92.2	7.5	0.3	-	-	100	7151
Disadvantaged	90.9	8.6	0.4	0.1	-	100	8643
Ethnic*	95.6	4.3	0.1	-	0.0	100	2354
						Total sample size	**18148**

Sample: All MCS mothers. * Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 7.26: Number of accidents and injuries for which baby taken to doctor, health centre or hospital, by maternal NS-SEC

NS-SEC (5) main respondent	Number of accidents/injuries (%)					Total (%)	Sample Size (n)
	0	1	2	3	4-5		
1.Management & Professional	92.2	7.5	.3	.0	-	100	4715
2.Intermediate	92.3	7.2	.4	0.1	-	100	3032
3.Small employer & s-employed	92.2	7.8	-	-	-	100	637
4.Low supervisor & technical	91.8	7.6%	.3	0.2	0.1	100	984
5.Semi-routine & routine	91.1	8.5%	.4	0.1	0.1	100	6636
						Total sample size	**16004**

Sample: MCS mothers with NS-SEC.

Table 7.27: Number of accidents and injuries for which baby taken to doctor, health centre or hospital, by maternal ethnic identity

Ethnic identity	Number of accidents/injuries (%)					Total (%)	Sample Size (n)
	0	1	2	3	4-5		
White	91.6	8.0	0.3	.0	-	100	15193
Indian	93.7	6.3	-	-	-	100	469
Pakistani	96.0	3.8	0.2	-	-	100	878
Bangladeshi	97.7	2.3	-	-	-	100	368
Black	93.3	5.4	0.9	0.2	0.0	100	659
Mixed and Other	93.8	6.0	0.4	-	-	100	552
						Total sample size	**18119**

Sample: MCS Mothers.

Table 7.28: Type of accident injury for which baby taken to doctor, health centre or hospital

Type of accident/injury	Frequency	Percentage (of total accidents /injuries)
Loss of consciousness	6	0.4
Bang on the head	839	62
Broken bone	33	2.4
Swallowed object	27	1.9
Swallowed household cleaner/other poison/pills	12	0.9
Cut needing stitches	9	0.7
Cut or graze	104	7.6
Something stuck in eye, throat, nose ear or other part of body	29	2.1
Animal or insect sting	17	1.2
*Other/dislocation, avulsion	39	2.8
*Other/bruise, sprain, twist	24	1.7
*Other/choking fit	5	0.4
*Other/injury to mouth or face e.g. nosebleed	24	1.7
*Other/knock, fall or other non penetrating accident	157	11.5
*Other	36	2.6
Total	**1361**	**100**

Sample: MCS Mothers reporting an accident or injury
*As well as the pre-coded set of answers mothers were allowed to say other types of accident. These were recorded verbatim by the interviewer and coded subsequently.

Table 7.29: Number of hospital admissions reported by mothers

Number of hospital admissions	Frequency	Per cent
0	15525	85.5
1	2156	11.9
2	294	1.6
3	83	0.5
4	40	0.2
5	18	0.1
6	12	0.1
7	4	0.0
8	7	0.0
9	2	0.0
10	3	0.0
15	1	0.0
16	1	0.0
20	1	0.0
Total	**18147**	**100**

Sample: MCS mothers

Table 7.30: Reasons for hospital admission reported by mothers

Reason for hospital admission	Frequency	Per cent
Gastroenteritis	294	8.8%
Chest infection or pneumonia	863	25.8%
Wheezing or asthma	244	7.3%
Convulsion, fit or loss of consciousness	91	2.7%
Meningitis	89	2.6%
Pyloric stenosis	37	1.1%
Hernia	65	1.9%
Circumcision	6	0.1%
*Other/High temperature/acute viral infection unspecified	157	4.7%
*Other/Chicken pox	17	0.5%
*Other/Measles or whooping cough	22	0.6%
*Other/Urinary tract infection	81	2.4%
*Other/Infection of nose, ear or throat, croup or flu.	92	2.7%
*Other/Other severe infection	34	1.0%
*Other/Other mild infection	95	2.8%
*Other/Breathing problem	118	3.5%
*Other/Feeding problem	61	1.8%
*Other/Skin problems including rashes	56	1.6%
*Other/Eczema	20	0.6%
*Other/Other allergy, except wheezing, asthma or eczema	36	1.0%
*Other/Colic	18	0.5%
*Other/Constipation or bleeding from the bowel	42	1.2%
*Other/Jaundice	78	2.3%
*Other/Failure to gain weight or grow	48	1.4%
*Other/Persistent or severe diarrhoea, except gastroenteritis	23	0.6%
*Other/Reaction(s) to immunisation(s)	18	0.5%
*Other/Severe or persistent vomiting	68	2.0%
*Other/Reflux or other vomiting	137	4.1%
*Other/Congenital heart disease, definite	44	1.3%
*Other/Congenital heart disease, not yet definite	25	0.7%
*Other/Congenital dislocation of hip, definite	16	0.4%
*Other/Congenital dislocation of hip, not yet definite	9	0.2%
*Other/Clubfoot (Talipes equinovarus), definite	11	0.3%
*Other/Talipes, not yet definite	1	0.0%
*Other/Specified skeletal abnormalities (bone, skull, spine)	27	0.8%
*Other/Urogenital abnormalities	14	0.4%
*Other/Gastrointestinal abnormalities	28	0.8%
*Other/Harelip/cleft palate	21	0.6%
*Other/Skin abnormalities	5	0.1%
*Other/Chromosomal or genetic abnormalities	1	0.0%
*Other/Brain, central nervous, spinal cord or special sense	9	0.2%
*Other/Other congenital abnormalities major	9	0.2%
*Other/Other congenital abnormalities minor	19	0.5%
*Other answer (not codeable)	190	5.6%
Total hospital admissions	**3339**	

Sample: MCS mothers reporting a hospital admission.

* Eight pre-coded reasons were possible and additional reasons offered by respondents were recorded verbatim by interviewers and recoded subsequently.

Table 7.31:

Mothers' other health worries

Worries about health and development	Frequency	Per cent
No, none	16667	91.2%
Problems with hearing	130	0.7%
Problems with seeing	57	0.3%
Problems with movement	131	0.7%
Slow development	166	0.9%
Problems in making noises or learning to speak	27	0.1%
*Other/Urinary tract, upper respiratory tract infections	55	0.3%
*Other/Lower respiratory problem (no mention of infection)	34	0.1%
*Other/Asthma or wheezing	52	0.2%
*Other/Eczema	49	0.2%
*Other/Other allergy, except asthma, wheezing or eczema	30	0.1%
*Other/Other skin problem including rashes	25	0.1%
*Other/Feeding problems	127	0.7%
*Other/Sleeping problem	27	0.1%
*Other/Behaviour problem	17	0.0%
*Other/Skeletal problem	42	0.2%
*Other/Squint	35	0.1%
*Other/Underweight, failure to gain weight	129	0.7%
*Other/Failure to grow, small, under height	43	0.2%
*Other/Constipation or bleeding from bowels	12	0.0%
*Other/Late teething or no teeth	34	0.1%
*Other/Congenital heart disease, definite	7	0.0%
*Other/Congenital heart disease, not yet definite	24	0.1%
*Other/Congenital dislocation of hip, definite	6	0.0%
*Other/Congenital dislocation of hip, not yet definite	25	0.1%
*Other/Clubfoot (Talipes equinovarus), definite	5	0.0%
*Other/Talipes, not yet definite	9	0.0%
*Other/Specified skeletal abnormalities (bone, skull, spine)	6	0.0%
*Other/Urogenital abnormalities	12	0.0%
*Other/Gastrointestinal abnormalities	2	0.0%
*Other/Harelip/cleft palate	4	0.0%
*Other/Skin abnormalities	22	0.1%
*Other/Chromosomal or genetic abnormalities	9	0.0%
*Other/Brain, central nervous, spinal cord or special sense	8	0.0%
*Other/Other congenital abnormalities major	5	0.0%
*Other/Other congenital abnormalities minor	28	0.1%
*Other answer (not codeable)	211	1.1%
Total	18272	

Sample: All MCS mothers.

* In addition to the precoded answers, respondents were able to say other worries and these were recorded verbatim by interviewers and coded subsequently.

Table 7.32:

Birth weight by country

Average Birth Weight	Country				All UK Total
	England	Wales	Scotland	NI	
Mean birth weight (kg)	3.37	3.38	3.43	3.46	3.38
N	11331	2717	2295	1888	18231

SAMPLE: children where main respondent was natural mother, and child was singleton at birth (not excluding outliers) .

Table 7. 33:

Birth weight by type of ward

Average Birth Weight	Type of Ward			All UK Total
	Advantaged	Disadvantaged	Ethnic*	
Mean birth weight (kg)	3.43	3.35	3.17	3.38
N	7191	8681	2359	18231

SAMPLE: children where main respondent was natural mother, and child was singleton and not excluding outliers.
* Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 7. 34:

Birth weight by NS-SEC groups

Average Birth Weight	NS-SEC (5) main respondent					All UK Total
	1. Management & professional	2. Intermediate	3.Small employer & s-employed	4.Low supervisor & technical	5.Semi-routine & routine	
Mean birth weight (kg)	3.44	3.41	3.41	3.36	3.34	3.39
N	4741	3046	639	989	6668	16083

SAMPLE: *children where main respondent was natural mother, and child was singleton at birth and not excluding outliers ; with NS-SEC classification.*

Table 7.35:

Birth weight by ethnic identity.

Average birth Weight	Main respondent (all countries) ethnic identity, collapsed						All UK Total
	White	Indian	Pakistani	Bangladeshi	Black	Mixed & other	
Mean Birth weight (kg)	3.40	3.05	3.12	3.07	3.27	3.29	3.38
N	15272	471	879	368	657	554	18201

SAMPLE: *children where main respondent was natural mother, and child was singleton and not excluding outliers*

Table 7.36: Maternal smoking in pregnancy and at 9 month interview and infant smoke exposure by UK country

Smoking Exposure	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	N Ireland (%)	
Maternal report of current smoker at 9 month interview*	27.8%	33.5%	29.3%	33.4%	28.4%
Sample Size (N)	**11286**	**2706**	**2277**	**1877**	**18146**
Maternal report of smoking at some point during pregnancy**	33.5%	40.1%	35.4%	37.5%	35.3%
Sample Size (N)	**11241**	**2699**	**2270**	**1875**	**18085**

SAMPLE: children where main respondent was natural mother, and child was singleton

*Mother's current smoking at 9-month interview.

**Mothers who reported smoking currently or within last two years were asked how many they had smoked just before they became pregnant and whether they changed the amount they smoked during their pregnancy with the cohort baby, and, if they had changed, the amount smoked per day after change made. The proportion of mothers smoking at some stage during their pregnancy is derived from these 3 variables.

Table 7.37: Maternal smoking in pregnancy and at 9-10 month interview, infant smoke exposure by maternal ethnic identity

Smoking Exposure	Main respondent (all countries) ethnic identity, collapsed						All UK Total (%)
	White (%)	Indian (%)	Pakistani (%)	Bangladeshi (%)	Black (%)	Mixed & other (%)	
Maternal report of current smoker at 9 month interview*	30.5%	5.7%	0.4%	1.7%	18.5%	22.6%	28.4%
Sample Size (N)	**15191**	**469**	**878**	**368**	**659**	**552**	**18117**
Maternal report of smoking at some point during pregnancy**	36.7%	6.6%	4.4%	2.9%	20.0%	27.6%	34.2%
Sample Size (N)	**15138**	**468**	**877**	**368**	**654**	**551**	**18056**

SAMPLE: children where main respondent was natural mother, and child was singleton at birth
*Mother's current smoking at 9-month interview.
**Mothers who reported smoking currently or within last two years were asked how many they had smoked just before they became pregnant and whether they changed the amount they smoked during their pregnancy with the cohort baby, and, if they had changed, the amount smoked per day after change made. The proportion of mothers smoking at some stage during their pregnancy is derived from these 3 variables.

Table 7.38: Maternal smoking in pregnancy and at 9 month interview, infant smoke exposure by maternal NS-SEC

Smoking Exposure	NS-SEC (5) main respondent					All UK Total (%)
	1.Management & professional (%)	2.Intermediate (%)	3.Small employer & s-employed (%)	4.Low supervisor & technical (%)	5.Semi-routine & routine (%)	
Maternal report of current smoker at 9 month interview*	14.2%	21.7%	23.0%	38.7%	43.0%	28.4%
Sample Size (N)	4715	3032	637	984	6637	16005
Maternal report of smoking at some point during pregnancy**	19.5%	28.4%	26.4%	44.9%	49.4%	33.9%
Sample Size (N)	4702	3025	637	980	6614	15958

SAMPLE: children where main respondent was natural mother, and child was singleton at birth
*Mother's current smoking at 9-month interview.
**Mothers who reported smoking currently or within last two years were asked how many they had smoked just before they became pregnant and whether they changed the amount they smoked during their pregnancy with the cohort baby, and, if they had changed, the amount smoked per day after change made. The proportion of mothers smoking at some stage during their pregnancy is derived from these 3 variables.

Table 7.39:

Extent of breastfeeding cohort babies by country

Extent of Breastfeeding	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	N Ireland (%)	
Breastfed for one day or more	72.2%	62.9%	64.7%	51.2%	67.3%
Sample Size (N)	**11284**	**2706**	**2279**	**1878**	**18147**
Breastfed for one month or more	50.6%	36.0%	42.2%	25.6%	44.8%
Sample Size (N)	**11284**	**2706**	**2279**	**1878**	**18147**

Sample: All MCS natural mothers.

Table 7.40:

Extent of breastfeeding cohort babies by ethnic identity

Extent of Breastfeeding	Main respondent (all countries) ethnic identity, collapsed						All UK Total (%)
	White (%)	Indian (%)	Pakistani (%)	Bangladeshi (%)	Black (%)	Mixed & other (%)	
Breastfed for one day or more	68.3%	85.1%	75.1%	87.3%	93.5%	91.0%	70.2%
Sample Size (N)	**15194**	**468**	**877**	**368**	**659**	**552**	**18118**
Breastfed for one month or more	47.4%	68.6%	51.2%	67.1%	82.4%	75.9%	49.8%
Sample Size (N)	**15194**	**468**	**877**	**368**	**659**	**552**	**18118**

Sample: All MCS natural mothers

Table 7.41:

Extent of breastfeeding cohort babies by NS-SEC group

Extent of Breastfeeding	NS-SEC (5) main respondent					All UK Total (%)
	1.Management & professional (%)	2.Intermediate (%)	3.Small employer & s-employed (%)	4.Low supervisor & technical (%)	5,Semi-routine & routine (%)	
Breastfed for one day or more	86.3%	72.6%	80.1%	66.0%	56.4%	71.2%
Breastfed for one month or more	68.9%	49.2%	63.1%	43.9%	34.3%	50.7%
Sample Size (N)	4715	3033	637	984	6637	16006

Sample: All MCS natural mothers with NS-SEC

Table 7.42: Developmental Milestones of cohort babies by gender (%, Weighted N)

3 Gross Motor Coordination	Boys	Girls
S/he can sit up without being supported	95.3 (9120)	96.2 (8749)
If baby is put down on the floor, s/he can move about from one place to another	92.7 (8869)	92.0 (8359)
S/he can stand up while holding onto something such as furniture	71.5 (6839)	68.7 (6245)
S/he can walk a few steps on his/her own	5.5 (529)	4.8 (434)
Fine Motor Coordination		
S/he grabs objects using the whole hand	99.2 (9488)	99.4 (9032)
S/he passes a toy back and forth from one hand to another	94.9 (9061)	95.5 (8678)
S/he can pick up a small object using forefinger and thumb only	87.7 (8360)	91.0 (8243)
S/he puts his/her hands together	82.1 (7844)	86.8 (7881)
Fine Motor Coordination		
S/he smiles when you smile at him/her	99.7 (9521)	99.5 (9042)
S/he extends arms to show s/he wants to be picked up	80.9 (7741)	82.1 (7457)
S/he reaches out and gives you a toy or some other object that s/he is holding	55.2 (5275)	63.8 (5797)
S/he waves bye-bye on his/her own when someone leaves	29.9 (2859)	45.3 (4113)
S/he nods his/her head for 'yes'	6.8 (648)	8.6 (779)
Unweighted Maximum Sample Size	**9338**	**8813**

Sample: All singleton MCS cohort babies, therefore excluding those born as twins or triplets.

Table 7.43. Summary of temperament scale scores of cohort babies by gender (mean, standard deviation, weighted N)

Cohort Baby's Temperament	Boys		Girls	
	Mean	Std.	Mean	Std.
MOOD: baby makes happy sounds, is pleasant, content, and calm	19.2 (8572)	3.36	19.3 (8063)	3.36
ADAPTABILITY: baby is rarely or almost never wary of strangers, shy, fretful and bothered in new places	20.6 (6326)	3.52	20.3 (5895)	3.66
REGULARITY: baby wants milk, gets sleepy, wants solid food at about the same time, and has naps of same lengths	17.2 (8958)	3.00	17.2 (8467)	2.94
Unweighted Maximum Sample Size	**9338**		**8813**	

Sample: All singleton MCS cohort babies, therefore excluding those born as twins or triplets.

8. PARENTING AND PARENTS' PSYCHO SOCIAL ADJUSTMENT

Ingrid Schoon and Steven Hope

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8.1. Parental psychosocial adjustment and well-being

One of the aims of MCS is to document the perspective of the children's parents as the most immediate influence on the child's early experiences and development. In the following section we will chart elements of their psychological adjustment and describe how they are adapting to the presence of the new child. The measures used in the survey give an indication of parental self-esteem, general life satisfaction, feeling of control, the quality of their relationship, characteristics of parent-child interaction, and the nature of social support available to the parents. Depression is considered in Chapter 9.

All of the measures are taken from established scales although in many cases, due to the pressure of space in the survey, the scales were modified by dropping some of their components.

8.2. Self esteem

How do you feel about yourself?

Table 8.1 gives the response patterns to the six individual items from a shortened version of the Rosenberg Self Esteem scale, which had been used to assess how the parents feel about

themselves.[8] Overall the majority of parents indicated a positive attitude towards themselves and believed in their own capabilities. Fathers generally showed higher levels of self-esteem than mothers. There is some evidence to suggest that mothers and fathers living in wards with high minority ethnic populations showed slightly higher levels of self-esteem than parents in disadvantaged or advantaged wards.

8.3. Feeling in control

How do you feel about your life so far?

Three forced choice items were used to ask respondents how much they felt in control of their life. There are no great gender differences in response, and the majority of respondents felt in control of their lives. The frequency of endorsements for each of the three items is given in Table 8.2. There were variations in response between residential wards; parents in disadvantaged wards and wards with high minority ethnic populations appeared to feel slightly less in control of their lives than parents in advantaged areas.

8.4. Relationship with partner

How is your relationship with your partner?

The majority of parents were happy in their relationship, over 80 per cent of partnered respondents had a score of 5 or above on the 7-point satisfaction scale.[9] Only a small percentage of partnered respondents considered that they are on the brink of a divorce (2%). Table 8.3 gives the replies to the seven selected individual items of the Golombok Rust Inventory of Marital State (Rust et al, 1990). Mothers were slightly more satisfied in their relationship than fathers, especially mothers living in advantaged circumstances. Most respondents indicated that they can always make up quickly after an argument, and that their partner is usually sensitive to and aware of their needs. Interestingly more fathers than mothers wished for greater warmth and affection in their relationship, while more mothers than fathers sometimes felt lonely, even when they are with their partner.

8.5. Satisfaction with life

A measure of general satisfaction with life was obtained with a 10-point rating scale, asking respondents to indicate how satisfied they were with the way their life had turned out so far. Generally the replies to this question confirm that most respondents were relatively satisfied with their lives so far, and 80 per cent of cohort parents had a score of seven or higher on the 10-point rating scale. Mothers were slightly more satisfied with their lives than fathers, especially mothers living in advantaged wards.

8 A shortened version of the Rosenberg Self Esteem Scale comprising 6 items (Bachman et al., 1977; Cobb et al., 1966) was used.

9 A shortened version of the Golombok Rust Inventory of Marital State GRIMS (Rust et al., 1990) was used for the assessment of marital discord and overall quality of a couple's relationship.

8.6. Parent-child interactions

What are your views on how parents should treat a baby?

Parental attitudes towards child rearing were assessed with 5 questions.[10] Table 8.4 indicates that most parents agree that talking to the young baby is very important, followed by cuddling, and providing stimulation. The majority of parents furthermore agreed that it is important to develop a regular pattern of feeding and sleeping with the baby. Only about a third of all parents thought that babies should be picked up whenever they cry. Mothers and fathers agreed on most of these questions, except that fathers were more in favour of developing a regular feeding and sleeping pattern, and on picking up babies whenever they cry than mothers. Parents from wards with high minority ethnic populations showed a slightly less structured approach to child rearing than parents in other wards.

8.7. Maternal postnatal attachment

What types of feelings do you have when caring for your baby?

Table 8.5 shows that most mothers felt close to their child, and that very few mothers felt a lack in confidence, resentment or irritation when they were with the baby.[11] The findings furthermore suggest that parents living in disadvantaged wards showed slightly higher levels of attachment to their child than parents living in wards with high minority ethnic populations or parents in advantaged wards.

8.8. Social support

What type of personal help and support do you receive?

Table 8.6 gives the individual response patterns to the 3-items relating to self-perceptions of emotional, financial and instrumental support available to the mothers. Most mothers had someone to share their feelings with, could rely on their family when they were facing financial problems (see Chapter 5), and could talk to other parents about their experiences. The findings furthermore suggest that mothers from wards with high minority ethnic populations and mothers living in disadvantaged wards had less social support than mothers in advantaged wards. The low levels of support in wards with high minority ethnic populations may reflect the lower access to the child's grandparents (see Chapter 5).

10 These questions were originally derived by the European Longitudinal Study of Pregnancy and Childhood (and used in the ALSPAC study). The selected 5 items (out of the original 10) gauge what parents think about child rearing practices, whether babies should grow up in a structured or in a more laissez-faire environment.
11 A selection of 6 items of the Condon Maternal Attachment Questionnaire (Condon & Corkindale, 1998) was used to assess mother-to-infant attachment from the original 19-item self-report questionnaire.

8.9. Time spent with baby

Main respondents and partners were both asked how they felt about amount of time they had to spend with the baby. The majority of main respondents, (70%), primarily mothers, thought they had plenty of time to spend (Table 8.7). Only 4 per cent thought there was nowhere near enough time or not quite enough time (12%). The proportion who felt there was plenty of time (or not enough) varied considerably by ethnic identity of the main respondents (Table 8.8). Whereas 90 per cent of Bangladeshi and 86 per cent of Pakistani main respondents thought they had plenty of time to spend with the child, only 64.5 per cent of Indian, 66 per cent of black and 69 per cent of white main respondents took this view. Correspondingly more of these groups of main respondents thought there was not enough time.

The differing views of ethnic minority groups was mirrored in the responses broken down by type of ward (Table 8.9). Main respondents living in wards with high minority ethnic populations were most likely to say they had plenty of time (84%) compared with 73 per cent of main respondents in disadvantaged wards and 67 per cent in advantaged wards. These figures also correspond with the rankings of main respondents' employment, which was highest in advantaged, and lowest in wards with high minority ethnic populations (see Chapter 10).

Partners' views about the time available to spend with the cohort baby differed markedly from those of the main respondents (Table 8.10). Overall for the UK, 22 per cent of partners thought they had plenty of time, compared with 70 per cent of main respondents. 56 per cent of partners thought they did not have enough time, either 'not quite enough', the majority (36%), or 'nowhere near enough' (20%). There were also large differences by partners' ethnic identity with Bangladeshi and Pakistani partners being more satisfied with the amount of time than other ethnic groups, the least satisfied being white partners.

Table 8.1

Self esteem measures among parents (per cent, weighted N - strongly agree/agree)

	Fathers	Mothers
I am able to do things as well as most other people	94.3 (12873)	92.7 (16631)
I take a positive attitude toward myself	90.7 (12385)	82.6 (14825)
On the whole, I am satisfied with myself	89.0 (12148)	84.7 (15199)
I certainly feel useless at times	20.0 (2734)	24.7 (4426)
At times I think I am no good at all	19.8 (2702)	22.8 (4098)
All in all, I am inclined to feel that I am a failure	3.8 (520)	4.9 (885)
Maximum Unweighted Sample Size	**12751**	**17889**

Sample: All MCS respondent mothers and fathers

Table 8.2

Feelings of being in control among parents (per cent, weighted N)

	Fathers	Mothers
Usually I can run my life more or less as I want to *(vs I usually find life's problems just too much for me*)	85. 9 (11723)	86.5 (15517)
I usually have a free choice and control over my life *(vs Whatever I do has no real effect on what happens to me*)	79.5 (10859)	79.3 (14238)
I usually get what I want out of life *(vs I never really seem to get what I want out of life)*	74.7 (10220)	76.0 (136547)
Maximum Unweighted Sample Size	**12748**	**17893**

Sample: All MCS respondent mothers and fathers

Table 8.3

Parents' satisfaction with partnerships (per cent, weighted N - strongly agree/agree)

	Fathers	Mothers
We can always make up quickly after an argument.	82.0 (10980)	83.4 (12633)
My partner is usually sensitive to and aware of my needs	76.9 (10304)	78.1 (11834)
Our relationship is full of joy and excitement	58.9 (7885)	55.7 (8447)
I wish there was more warmth and affection between us	26.1 (3500)	20.6 (3122)
I sometimes feel lonely even when I am with my partner	10.9 (1455)	16.2 (2459)
My partner doesn't seem to listen to me anymore	9.7 (1294)	10.0 (1512)
I suspect we may be on the brink of separation.	2.3 (306)	2.0 (304)
Maximum Unweighted Sample Size	**12457**	**14436**

Sample: All MCS respondent mothers with partners and fathers

Table 8.4

Parenting beliefs of parents (per cent, weighted N - strongly agree/agree)

	Fathers	Mothers
Talking, even to a young baby, is important	99.4 (13579)	99.4 (17860)
Cuddling a baby is very important…	98.4 (13435)	99.0 (17778)
Babies need to be stimulated if they are to develop well	96.3 (13151)	95.5 (17149)
It is important to develop a regular pattern of feeding and sleeping with the baby	94.2 (12872)	90.8 (16312)
Babies should be picked up whenever they cry	35.7 (4879)	32.2 (5789)
Maximum Unweighted Sample Size	**12755**	**17915**

Sample: All MCS respondent mothers and fathers

Table 8.5

Assessments of postnatal attachment in mothers (per cent, weighted N)

	Mothers
When I am not with the baby, I find myself thinking about them (almost all the time, very frequently)	72.1 (12945)
When I have to leave the baby I often/always feel rather sad	44.9 (8061)
Usually when I am with the baby I am very/a bit impatient	7.4 (1336)
When I am caring for the baby I am very/fairly incompetent and lacking in confidence	2.7 (492)
Regarding the things that I/we have had to give up because of the baby I find that I resent it quite a lot/resent if a fair amount	2.0 (354)
When I am caring for the baby, I get feelings of annoyance or irritation (almost all the time, very frequently)	1.3 (236)
Maximum Unweighted Sample Size	**17882**

Sample: All MCS natural mothers

Table 8.6

Measures of social support for mothers (per cent, weighted N - strongly agree/agree)

	Mothers
I have no-one to share my feelings with	7.5 (1348)
There are other parents I can talk to about my experiences	80.1 (14383)
If I had financial problems, I know my family would help if they could	86.1 (15460)
Maximum Unweighted Sample Size	**17905**

Sample: All MCS respondent mothers

Table 8.7

Main respondents' views about time spent with baby by country

Views about time spent with baby	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	N Ireland (%)	
Plenty of time	70.5	68.0	70.7	63.9	70.2
Just enough time	14.3	13.7	13.1	15.8	14.2
Not quite enough	11.5	12.8	13.1	15.4	11.9
Nowhere near enough	3.7	5.4	3.0	4.9	3.7
Not sure	-	0.1	0.1	-	0.0
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	11496	2758	2328	1912	18494

Sample: All MCS Main respondents

Table 8.8

Main respondents' views about time spent with baby by ethnic identity

Views about time spent with baby	Ethnic identity – All UK					
	White (%)	Indian (%)	Pakistani (%)	Bangladeshi (%)	Black (%)	Mixed /Other (%)
Plenty of time	69.4	64.5	86.3	89.5	66.7	77.0
Just enough time	14.3	20.3	8.7	9.3	14.9	14.2
Not quite enough	12.2	13.1	4.0	1.2	15.5	8.7
Nowhere near enough	4.0	2.0	0.9	0	2.9	3.8
Not sure	0	0	0.2	0	0	0.0
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	15509	476	885	366	672	557
				Total Sample Size		**18494**

Sample All MCS Main respondents

Table 8.9

Main respondents' views about time spent with baby by type of ward

Views about time spent with baby	Type of Ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic* (%)	
Plenty of time	67.3	73.2	84.1	70.2
Just enough time	15.1	13.2	9.3	14.2
Not quite enough	13.2	10.4	5.4	11.9
Nowhere near enough	4.3	3.2	1.1	3.7
Not sure	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
N	7305	8817	2372	18494

Sample: All MCS Main respondents. * Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 8.10

Partners' views about time spent with baby by ethnic identity

Views about time spent with baby	Ethnic identity – All UK					
	White (%)	Indian (%)	Pakistani (%)	Bangladeshi (%)	Black (%)	Mixed / Other (%)
Plenty of time	20.6	26.6	41.4	44.5	28.6	27.2
Just enough time	21.2	29.9	33.8	35.2	24.8	26.9
Not quite enough	36.7	29.5	16.6	14.8	35.7	32.5
Nowhere near enough	21.4	14.0	8.2	5.5	11.0	13.4
Not sure	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	11297	355	585	260	275	383
				Total Sample Size		**13194**

Sample: All MCS Partners

9. PARENT HEALTH

Mel Bartley, Yvonne Kelly, Ingrid Schoon and Steven Hope.

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9.1. Mothers' health

9.1.1 General health, longstanding illness (LSI) and common illnesses

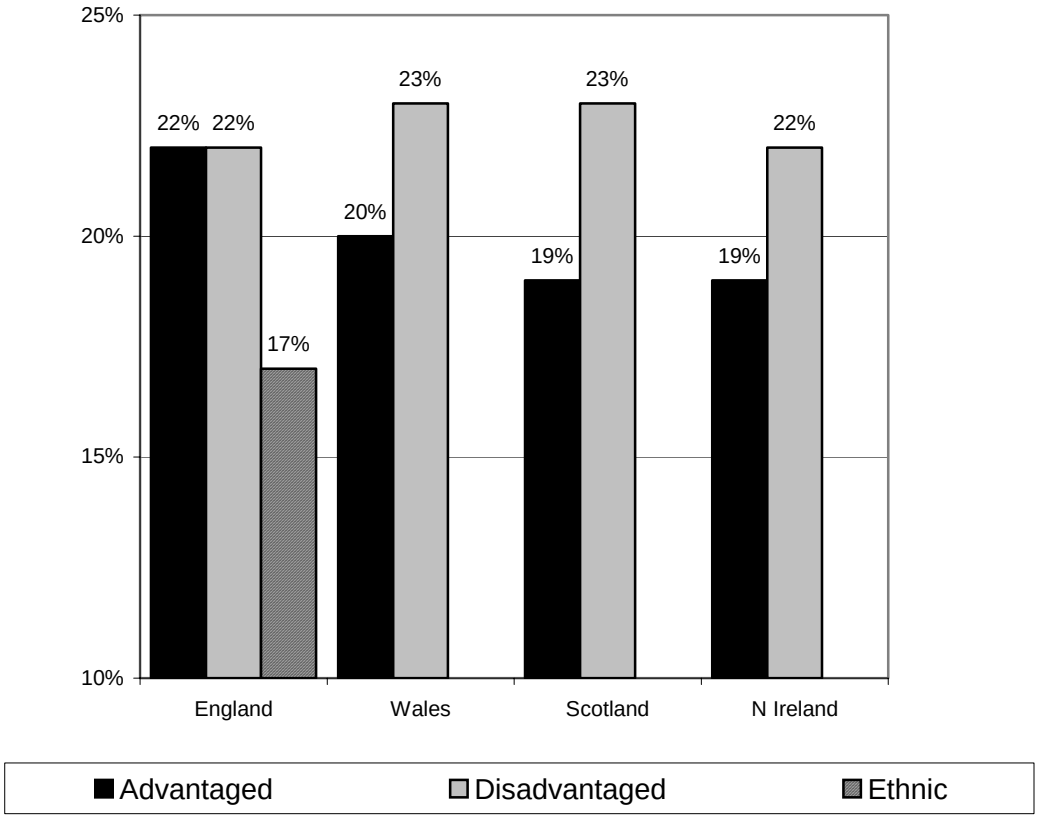
How would you describe your health generally? Do you have a longstanding illness, disability or infirmity? Have you ever been diagnosed as suffering from a health condition (for instance, migraines, eczema)?

The overall level of fair or poor general health for UK mothers was 17.7 per cent. This varied by country (Table 9.1) and was highest in England (18.1%) and lowest in Northern Ireland (16.4%). In advantaged wards (Table 9.2), 13.6 per cent of mothers reported fair/poor general health, compared to 19.8 per cent in disadvantaged wards and 22.2 per cent in wards with high minority ethnic populations.

21.1 per cent of mothers had a longstanding illness (LSI) and this did not vary by country (Table 9.3). The prevalence of LSI did vary by type of ward (Table 9.4). The lowest prevalence was found in wards with high minority ethnic populations.

Figure 9.1

Mothers with longstanding illness by type of ward



Of those with a longstanding illness 47.1 per cent reported it as limiting their daily activities. Limiting longstanding illness was more strongly related to social and area deprivation, being far higher in disadvantaged wards, often with the least favourable employment relations and conditions.

Lifetime prevalence rates are given for specific illnesses or conditions such as migraine, hay fever, bronchitis, asthma, eczema, back pain, fits, diabetes, cancer, digestive or bowel disease, and depression (Tables 9.5 and 9.6).

The most common type of diabetes reported was that associated with pregnancy. The most common digestive/bowel conditions in these women were irritable bowel syndrome and Crohn's disease, affecting 68 per cent and 25 per cent of mothers who reported a bowel/digestive problem.

Asthma, hay fever, bronchitis, eczema, digestive/bowel complaints were less common among mothers resident in wards with high minority ethnic populations (Table 9.6).

Specific illness rates were generally lowest in Northern Ireland with the exception of depression, measured in two ways in this section of the Questionnaire.

Since baby was born, has there ever been a time lasting two weeks or more when you felt low or sad?

The rates of mothers who indicated that they had ever felt low, was highest in Wales (36.9%) and lowest in Scotland (31.8%) (Table 9.5). The extent of mothers who indicated that they had felt low varied by type of ward (Table 9.6), with the disadvantaged wards displaying the highest rates (37.3%) compared to a much lower percentage in the advantaged wards (29.8%).

Has a doctor ever told you that you suffer from depression or serious anxiety?

The rates of depression/anxiety among mothers were lowest in England (23.5%) compared to Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland (approximately 27% each). Depression/anxiety were most common in disadvantaged wards (27.1%) and least in advantaged wards (23.2%). There were variations by country in the extent mothers were currently being treated for depression (given they had ever been told by a doctor that they were depressed); with the lowest rate in England (34.1%) and the highest rate in Northern Ireland (48.0%)

A third measure of depression was provided using the Malaise scale, administered to respondents through the self-completion part of the questionnaire. A cut point of >=4 on a 9-item version of the Malaise Inventory was used to indicate an increased probability of depression/anxiety (Table 9.7 and 9.8). There was little variation by country in depression among mothers. Differences were seen by type of ward: advantaged wards again had the lowest level of depression (11.4%), and wards with high minority ethnic populations the highest rates (18.2%). However there was little variation in current treatment for depression by type of ward.

9.1.2. Body mass index (BMI)

Respondents were asked to report their height and weight (from before pregnancy and at time of interview). Estimates of Body Mass Index (BMI) were calculated using these data.

Before pregnancy the overall rate of overweight/obese mothers (BMI >25) was 28.6 per cent (Table 9.9 and 9.10). Overweight and obese mothers were more common in NS-SEC ‘low supervisor/technical’ and ‘semi-routine/routine’ compared to ‘management/professional’ mothers. For estimated BMI at the time of interview the overall rate of overweight/obese was 38.5 per cent (Tables 9.11 and 9.12).

9.1.3. Smoking at the time of interview

Overall 28.4 per cent of mothers smoked at the time of interview. A further 17.2 per cent had smoked at some time in the past. The lowest rates for current smoking were in England (27.3%), compared to Scotland (31.2%), Northern Ireland (36.8%) and Wales (37.6%). There were marked differences by type of ward, advantaged versus disadvantaged (23.6 *versus* 40.2%), and by NS-SEC 'management/professional' (15.2%) compared to 'semi-routine/routine' (43.7%). Overall, 28 per cent of mothers smoked cigarettes and 3.6 per cent smoked roll-ups. Very few mothers smoked other tobacco products.

Of those mothers who smoked at the time of interview 18.5 per cent smoked 20 or more cigarettes per day. The highest rates were in Northern Ireland (22.4%) and Scotland (21.5%) compared to England (17.1%) and Wales (17.9%) and in disadvantaged compared to advantaged areas (20.5 *versus* 15.9%).

9.1.4. Smoking before and during pregnancy

Of mothers who smoked before pregnancy 25.9 per cent smoked 20 or more cigarettes/roll-ups per day. There were no variations by country or type of ward but there were differences by NS-SEC; 'management/professional' was 21.2 per cent and 'semi-routine/routine' was 28.0 per cent.

Of the mothers who did smoke 75.6 per cent changed their smoking habits during pregnancy. There were no marked differences by country, type of ward or NS-SEC group.

The majority of mothers who changed their smoking habits in pregnancy (89%) did so in the first trimester. This did not vary by country or type of ward, but there was some variation by NS-SEC group with 94.2 per cent of smoking mothers in 'management/professional' changing their smoking habits in the first trimester compared to 86.8 per cent of women in 'semi-routine/routine'. These reported changes in smoking habits during pregnancy corresponded to a dramatic reduction in the proportion of women reporting smoking 20 or more cigarettes per day.

Overall 13.5 per cent of mothers reported that someone (mother or another person) smoked in the same room as the cohort baby. This was highest in Wales (15.5%) and Scotland (16.0%). There were also differences by type of ward (advantaged 8.6% compared with disadvantaged 18.6%) and NS-SEC ('management/professional' at 4.9% compared with 'semi-routine/routine' at 20.8%).

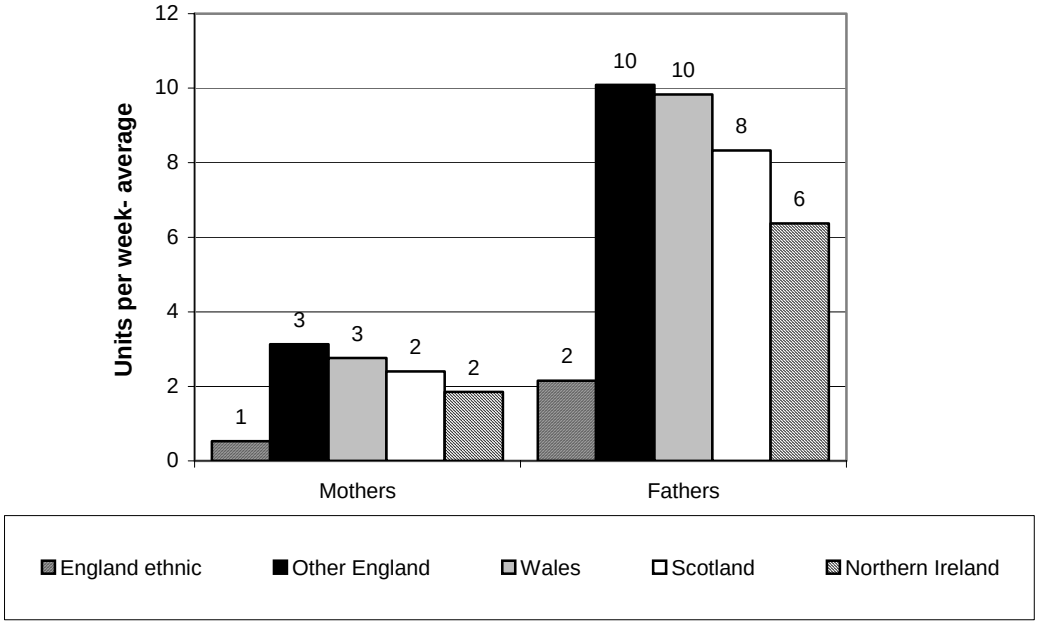
9.1.5. Alcohol consumption at the time of interview

The proportion of mothers who never drank alcohol at the time of interview (Table 9.13) was highest in England (29.4%) compared to Northern Ireland (18.5%), Wales (15.1%) and Scotland (14.0%). Never drinking varied by type of ward (Table 9.14) being highest in wards with high minority ethnic populations (72.6%) and lowest in advantaged wards (13.0%). There

were differences in alcohol consumption by NS-SEC with the highest proportion of teetotallers in the 'semi-routine/routine' category.

Figure 9.2

Parents' units of alcohol consumption



Note: One unit of alcohol = 10g alcohol (approximately half a pint of beer / one glass of wine)

Conversely the proportion of mothers who drank alcohol more than 3 times per week was highest in England (13.1%) and lowest in Northern Ireland (5.0%). By type of ward the highest proportion of the most frequent drinkers was in advantaged wards and by NS-SEC in 'management/professional'. 8.6 per cent of mothers drank 14 or more units of alcohol per week. The rate was highest in England (9.6%) and Wales (9.4%) and lowest in Northern Ireland (3.9%). There was no variation by type of ward or by NS-SEC group. However, mothers' alcohol consumption was generally much lower than fathers' (see Figure 9.2).

9.1.6. Alcohol consumption before pregnancy

Overall the proportion of mothers never drinking alcohol before pregnancy was 69.1 per cent; this did not vary by country (Table 9.15). It was most common in wards with high minority ethnic populations (Table 9.16), and varied by NS-SEC group ('management/professional' was 60.3% compared with 'semi-routine/routine' at 74.7 %). Overall 5.1 per cent of women drank 14 or more units per week before pregnancy.

9.2. Fathers' health

9.2.1. General health, longstanding illness (LSI) and common illnesses

How would you describe your health generally? Do you have a longstanding illness, disability or infirmity? Have you ever been diagnosed as suffering from a health condition (for instance, migraines, eczema)?

The overall proportion of fathers reporting fair or poor general health was 15.7 per cent (Table 9.17), and this was highest in England (16.4%) and lowest in Northern Ireland (13.9%). There were marked variations by type of ward (Table 9.18) with the highest rates in wards with high minority ethnic populations and the lowest in advantaged wards. There was also variation by NS-SEC group, with 10.1 per cent in NS-SEC 'management/professional' and 21.4 per cent in NS-SEC 'semi-routine/routine'.

Longstanding illness was reported by 20.3 per cent of fathers and there was little variation by country (Table 9.19) or type of ward (Table 9.20). Some differences were seen by NS-SEC group; NS-SEC 'management/professional' had 18.0 per cent of fathers with LSI compared with 22.0 per cent in 'semi-routine/routine'. Of the fathers with LSI, 44.8 per cent reported that their longstanding illness limited their daily activities. There were marked differences in the extent to which limiting longstanding illness affected daily activities by type of ward; advantaged wards 38.4 per cent, disadvantaged wards 45.9 per cent and wards with high minority ethnic populations 61.1 per cent.

The most common illnesses among fathers (Table 9,5) were hay fever (23.3%), back pain (16.4%), asthma (14.4%), migraine (11.6%), eczema (11.8%), depression /anxiety (9.0%), bronchitis (7.7%) and digestive and bowel disease (6.8%). The most common digestive and bowel complaints were ulcer (20%) and irritable bowel syndrome (35%). Fits, diabetes and cancer were rarely reported.

There were few differences by country (Table 9.5), type of ward (Table 9.6) or NS-SEC for migraine, and bowel/digestive diseases and little difference for back pain by country or type of ward but there was marked variation for back pain by NS-SEC ('management/professional' was 12.7% and NS-SEC 'semi-routine/routine' 19.3%).

There were differences by country for fathers' incidence of hay fever with the highest rates in England and the lowest rates in Northern Ireland. There was more hay fever reported in advantaged wards compared to disadvantaged wards and wards with high minority ethnic populations. There were also variations in hay fever by NS-SEC group.

The highest rates of asthma among fathers' were in Wales and the lowest were in Northern Ireland. The lowest rates of asthma by type of ward were seen in wards with high minority ethnic populations compared to disadvantaged and advantaged wards. There was little variation by NS-SEC in the prevalence of asthma.

Eczema among fathers' was most common in Wales and England and least common in Northern Ireland, and most common in advantaged wards compared to both disadvantaged wards and wards with high minority ethnic populations. There was some variation in rates of eczema by NS-SEC with highest levels for fathers with managerial and professional jobs compared to fathers in routine jobs.

Depression/anxiety was most common in disadvantaged areas (11.1%) compared to both advantaged wards (8.1%) and wards with high minority ethnic populations (7.1%). There were clear NS-SEC differences in rates of fathers' depression; for example 6.8 per cent in NS-SEC 'management/professional' and 12.7 per cent in NS-SEC 'semi-routine/routine'. The proportions of fathers being treated for depression at the time of interview; (given they had ever been told they were depressed by a doctor) varied by country and was highest in Scotland and Northern Ireland where respectively 35.5 per cent and 33.3 per cent of fathers were being treated and lowest in England and Wales (23.8% and 26.8% respectively). Treatment for depression also varied by type of ward and was highest in wards with high minority ethnic populations (42.1%) and lowest in advantaged wards (22.6%). Treatment was more common in NS-SEC 'semi-routine/routine' (35.7%) compared to NS-SEC 'management/professional' (19.5%).

There was no difference in fathers' Malaise Inventory scores (of 4 or more) by country. There were variations by type of ward, the lowest rates being in advantaged areas, and the highest rates in wards with high minority ethnic populations. There were marked differences by NS-SEC with the highest rate in NS-SEC 'semi-routine/routine' compared to NS-SEC 'management/ professional'.

9.2.2. Body mass index (BMI)

At the time of interview 43.9 per cent of fathers were overweight and a further 13.3 per cent were obese. This varied by country with the highest rates for overweight/obese in Northern Ireland (63.8%) and lowest in England (55.7%). By type of ward, the lowest rates were in wards with high minority ethnic populations (44.4%).

9.2.3. Smoking

At time of interview and during mother's pregnancy

At the time of interview 36.9 per cent of fathers were current smokers, the highest rates were in disadvantaged wards (43.8%) compared to advantaged wards (30.5%) and wards with high minority ethnic populations (36.7%). There was marked variation in fathers' smoking by NS-SEC, with 23.8 per cent of fathers in NS-SEC 'management/professional' jobs who smoked and 51.1 per cent of fathers in NS-SEC 'semi-routine/routine' being current smokers. Overall 52.8 per cent of fathers had smoked at some time.

- 29.2 per cent of fathers smoked cigarettes;
- 8.4 per cent smoked roll-ups;
- 2.1 per cent smoked cigars and a handful of fathers smoked pipes.

Of fathers who smoked, the proportion smoking 20 or more cigarettes per day was 29.5 per cent and the rate was highest in Northern Ireland (38.8%). By type of ward, the lowest rates of 'heavy' smoking were in wards with high minority ethnic populations. There were also variations according to occupation.

Of fathers who smoked 29.4 per cent changed their smoking habits during the pregnancy and of these men 77 per cent changed their habits in the first trimester. These changes in smoking habits corresponded to much lower rates of fathers smoking 20 or more cigarettes per day during the pregnancy (7.2%)

9.2.4. Alcohol consumption

At time of interview and before mother's pregnancy

The overall rate of never drinking was 14.2 per cent; this varied by country and was highest in England (18.5%) and lowest in Scotland (7.1%). Overall 29.7 per cent of fathers drank more than 3 times per week. This was most common in England (31.8%) and least common in Northern Ireland (14.4%). Of fathers who drank alcohol 35.2 per cent drank more than 14 units per week, and there was some variation by country, the highest rates being in England and the lowest in Northern Ireland. There were marked differences by type of ward with the highest rates of frequent (more than 3 times per week) drinking so that rates were 37.7 per cent in advantaged and 25.6 per cent in disadvantaged wards and 10.0 per cent in wards with high minority ethnic populations. There were corresponding variations in the rates of never drinking by type of ward. There were differences in drinking habits by NS-SEC group, with the highest proportion of frequent drinkers in NS-SEC 'management/professional' and the lowest rate of frequent drinking in NS-SEC 'semi-routine/routine'. There was little variation in the number of units of alcohol consumed per week by NS-SEC.

Table 9.1

Mothers' general health by country

General Health	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	N Ireland (%)	
Excellent	31.3	32.6	33.8	34.2	31.7
Good	52.3	50.6	50.7	50.5	52.0
Fair	13.8	14.2	12.9	13.0	13.7
Poor	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.4	2.6
Total	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**
N	11518	2759	2332	1918	18527

Sample: All MCS Mothers.

Table 9.2

Mothers' general health by type of ward

General Health	Type of ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic* (%)	
Excellent	35.4	26.5	21.8	31.7
Good	50.9	53.4	56.0	52.0
Fair	11.7	16.6	18.4	13.7
Poor	2.0	3.5	3.9	2.6
Total	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**
N	7313	8830	2384	18527

Sample: All MCS Mothers. * Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 9.3

Mothers' longstanding Illnesses

Mother: Longstanding Illness	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	N Ireland (%)	
Yes	21.5	21.7	20.3	20.3	21.4
No	78.5	78.3	79.7	79.7	78.6
Total	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**
N	11515	2759	2332	1919	18525

Sample: All MCS Mothers

Table 9.4

Mothers' longstanding Illnesses by type of ward

Mother: Longstanding Illness	Type of ward			ALL UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic* (%)	
Yes	21.2	22.4	16.9	21.4
No	78.8	77.6	83.1	78.6
Total	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**
N	7311	8830	2384	18525

Sample: All MCS Mothers. * Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 9.5

Parents' health conditions by country

Health Conditions	Country								All UK Total (%)	
	England (%)		Wales (%)		Scotland (%)		N Ireland (%)			
	Mother	Father	Mother	Father	Mother	Father	Mother	Father	**Mother**	**Father**
Migraine	21.0	11.6	19.8	12.6	20.2	11.5	16.6	9.2	20.7	11.6
Hay fever	25.9	26.5	24.4	21.7	25.4	21.8	17.5	16.6	25.5	25.3
Bronchitis	9.1	7.9	7.9	7.0	5.2	7.6	4.4	3.4	8.5	7.7
Asthma	16.9	14.7	18.7	15.6	14.3	12.3	12.7	11.0	16.6	14.4
Eczema	18.9	12.2	20.3	12.3	15.3	9.0	11.3	8.3	18.4	11.8
Back Pain	21.1	16.8	19.8	16.9	20.3	13.9	20.0	14.3	20.9	16.4
Diabetes	2.0	1.0	1.3	1.2	1.5	1.2	0.5	1.1	1.8	1.1
Digestive or Bowel	9.3	6.9	9.3	6.3	8.9	6.6	8.6	7.8	9.3	6.8
Ulcerative Colitis	3.1	2.9	6.3	8.0	2.0	3.6	3.0	1.9	3.1	3.2
Ever felt low*	32.3	-	36.9	-	31.8	-	34.8	-	32.6	-
Ever suffered from depression or serious anxiety**	23.5	9.1	26.9	9.8	27.4	8.8	27.4	7.0	24.1	9.0
N	**11518**	**8331**	**2758**	**1908**	**2331**	**1708**	**1919**	**1270**	**18526**	**13217**
Currently treated for depression***	34.1	23.8	35.1	26.8	37.3	35.5	48.0	33.3	35.1	25.2

Sample: All MCS Mothers and MCS Fathers. * Question asked (to Natural Mothers only) is 'Since baby was born, has there ever been a time lasting 2 weeks or more when you felt low?' ** Question asked is 'Has a doctor ever told you that you suffer from depression or serious anxiety?' *** Asked to respondents who indicated that they ever suffered from depression or serious anxiety.

Table 9.6

Parents' health conditions by type of ward

Health conditions	Type of ward						ALL UK Total (%)	
	Advantaged (%)		Disadvantaged (%)		Ethnic**** (%)			
	Mother	Father	Mother	Father	Mother	Father	Mother	Father
Migraine	19.4	11.0	22.9	12.9	21.6	11.4	20.7	11.6
Hay fever	26.4	26.7	24.8	23.6	18.8	19.1	25.5	25.5
Bronchitis	9.1	7.8	8.1	7.9	3.6	3.6	8.5	7.7
Asthma	16.4	14.4	17.9	15.4	10.1	6.9	16.6	14.4
Eczema	18.7	13.0	19.0	9.9	9.5	4.9	18.4	11.8
Back Pain	19.9	15.8	22.2	17.7	25.1	17.6	20.9	16.4
Diabetes	1.9	1.0	1.5	1.1	3.2	2.6	1.8	1.1
Digestive or Bowel	10.0	6.8	8.5	7.1	5.2	5.6	9.3	6.8
Ulcerative Colitis	3.7	3.5	1.7	2.7	2.2	0.0	3.0	3.2
Ever felt low*	29.8	-	37.3	-	32.7	-	32.6	-
Ever suffered from depression or serious anxiety**	23.2	8.1	27.1	11.1	13.9	7.1	24.1	9.0
N	**7311**	**6017**	**8829**	**5754**	**2386**	**1446**	**18526**	**13217**
Currently treated for depression***	34.7	22.6	35.7	27.9	33.6	42.1	35.1	25.2

Sample: All MCS Mothers and MCS Fathers. * Question asked (to Natural Mothers only) is 'Since baby was born, has there ever been a time lasting 2 weeks or more when you felt low?' ** Question asked is 'Has a doctor ever told you that you suffer from depression or serious anxiety?' *** Asked to respondents who indicated that they ever suffered from depression or serious anxiety. **** Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 9.7

Mothers' Malaise inventories either side of point 4 by country

Malaise Inventory	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	NI (%)	
Points 0-3	86.7	85.3	86.7	85.4	86.6
4 - 9	13.3	14.7	13.3	14.6	13.4
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	10940	2719	2255	1889	17803

Sample: All MCS mothers

Table 9.8

Mothers' Malaise inventories either side of point 4 by type of ward

Malaise Inventory	Type of Ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic* (%)	
Points 0-3	88.6	83.4	81.8	86.6
4 – 9	11.4	16.6	18.2	13.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
N	7215	8579	2009	17803

Sample: All MCS mothers. * Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 9.9

Mother's Body Mass Index before pregnancy by country

BMI	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	NI (%)	
Less than 20	16.8	18.2	16.1	14.2	16.7
20 - 24.9	54.5	52.4	57.0	56.9	54.7
25 - 29.9 (overweight)	19.7	20.4	19.2	20.9	19.7
30 or more (obese)	9.1	9.0	7.7	8.0	8.9
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	10239	2604	2196	1837	16876

Sample: All MCS mothers

Table 9.10

Mother's Body Mass Index before pregnancy by type of ward

BMI	Type of Ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic* (%)	
Less than 20	15.0	18.7	24.8	16.7
20 - 24.9	57.6	50.6	46.4	54.7
25 - 29.9 (overweight)	19.2	20.6	19.8	19.7
30 or more (obese)	8.2	10.0	9.0	8.9
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	6863	8158	1855	16876

Sample: All MCS mothers. * Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 9.11

Mother's Body Mass Index at interview by country

BMI At Interview	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	NI (%)	
Less than 20	12.1	12.8	11.7	11.1	12.1
20 - 24.9	49.3	47.2	52.1	48.1	49.4
25 - 29.9 (overweight)	25.2	25.5	24.3	29.2	25.3
30 or more (obese)	13.4	14.5	11.8	11.6	13.2
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	10016	2568	2138	1806	16528

Sample: All MCS mothers

Table 9.12

Mother's Body Mass Index at interview by type of ward

BMI At Interview	Type of Ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic* (%)	
Less than 20	11.1	13.2	16.2	12.1
20 - 24.9	52.2	45.1	43.2	49.4
25 - 29.9 (overweight)	24.6	26.3	26.9	25.3
30 or more (obese)	12.0	15.3	13.7	13.2
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	6735	7991	1802	16528

Sample: All MCS mothers. * Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 9.13

How often mother drinks alcohol by country

Alcohol Consumption	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	NI (%)	
More than 3 times per week	16.5	14.5	12.6	5.8	15.7
Once or twice a week	25.7	27.2	28.0	28.5	26.1
Once or twice a month	19.7	24.1	23.0	25.5	20.5
Less than once per month	18.2	20.4	23.0	21.6	18.9
Never	19.8	13.8	13.3	18.5	18.9
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	11521	2759	2331	1919	18530

Sample: All MCS mothers

Table 9.14

How often mother drinks alcohol by type of ward

Alcohol Consumption	Type of Ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic* (%)	
More than 3 times per week	20.3	9.3	3.2	15.6
Once or twice a week	28.7	24.4	6.8	26.1
Once or twice a month	20.0	23.2	7.2	20.5
Less than once per month	18.2	21.4	10.0	18.9
Never	12.9	21.8	72.8	18.8
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	7312	8832	2386	18530

Sample: All MCS Mothers. * Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 9.15

How often mother usually drank alcohol before pregnancy by country

Alcohol Consumption	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	NI (%)	
More than 3 times per week	2.1	2.4	1.3	1.3	2.0
Once or twice a week	8.4	7.3	7.1	5.6	8.1
Once or twice a month	7.9	8.4	6.9	6.9	7.8
Less than once per month	15.2	13.9	14.2	12.8	15.0
Never	66.4	68.0	70.5	73.4	67.1
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	11500	2753	2326	1918	18497

Sample: All MCS Mothers

Table 9.16

How often mother usually drank alcohol before pregnancy by type of ward

Alcohol Consumption	Type of Ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic* (%)	
More than 3 times per week	2,3	1,7	0.8	2.0
Once or twice a week	9.3	6.8	2.2	8.1
Once or twice a month	8.9	6.7	1,8	7.8
Less than once per month	16.6	13.5	5.3	15.0
Never	62.9	71.3	89.9	67.1
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	7304	8809	2384	18497

Sample: All MCS Mothers. * Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 9.17

Fathers' general health by country

General Health	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	N Ireland (%)	
Excellent	32.6	35.1	37.6	36.5	33.3
Good	52.1	51.4	48.7	50.6	51.7
Fair	13.2	11.1	11.4	11.0	12.8
Poor	2.1	2.4	2.2	2.0	2.1
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	8336	1909	1708	1270	13223

Sample: All MCS Fathers

Table 9.18

Fathers' general health by type of ward

General Health	Type of Ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic* (%)	
Excellent	35.1	30.1	28.4	33.3
Good	51.6	51.8	52.2	51.7
Fair	11.6	15.3	15.7	12.9
Poor	1.7	2.8	3.7	2.1
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	6019	5755	1449	13233

Sample: All MCS Fathers. * Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 9.19

Fathers' extent of long standing illnesses by country

Longstanding Illness	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	NI (%)	
Longstanding illness	21.1	19.5	18.9	17.3	20.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
N	8334	1909	1708	1270	13221
% Limiting of those with longstanding	40.9	44.9	43.7	50.6	41.6
N	1732	398	328	226	2684

Sample: All MCS Fathers

Table 9.20

Fathers' extent of long standing illnesses by type of ward

Longstanding Illness	Type of Ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic* (%)	
Longstanding illness	20.2	22.0	17.9	20.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
N	6018	5754	1449	13221
% limiting of those with longstanding	38.4	45.9	61.1	41.6
N	1173	1254	257	2684

Sample: All MCS Fathers. * Ethnic wards are all in England.

10. PARENTAL EMPLOYMENT AND EDUCATION

Shirley Dex, Heather Joshi, Kelly Ward and Mary Londra

SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

The economic activity and employment of parents is important to the start in life of the cohort child. It influences both the time available to spend with the child and the income level and household resources the child has grown up with. In this chapter, we report on

the economic activity, employment and education of the parents. In a later chapter (Chapter 12) we examine the income consequences of these activities. It is well known that mothers' employment has substantially increased since the 1960s and full-time employment for mothers has increased markedly since 1985. The increases have been largely due to mothers with young children entering the labour market, the type of mothers, in fact, who are parents of the Millennium Cohort Study's babies. Not all of these mothers were having their first child as noted earlier in Chapter 2, along with their ages.

10.1. Economic activity

10.1.1. Mother's economic activity

Employment status

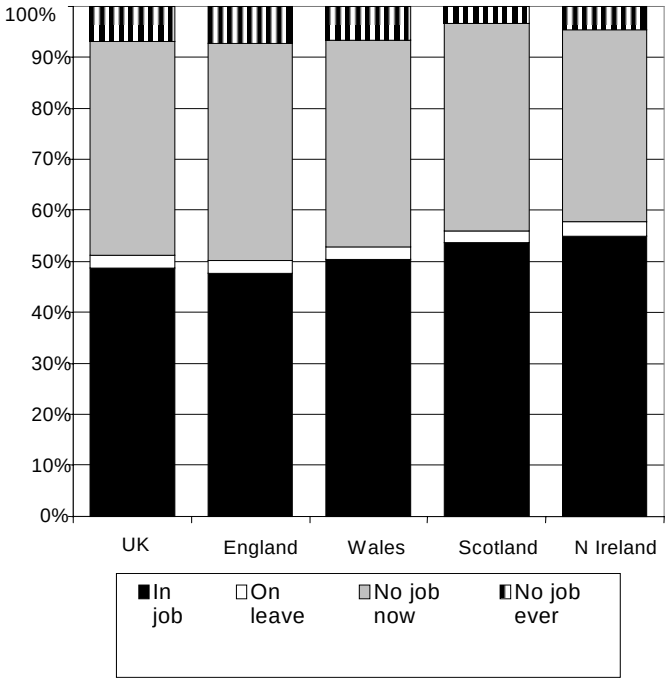
Mothers' employment statuses are displayed in Table 10.1. For the whole UK, 48.7 per cent of mothers were employed at the interview when cohort babies were 9-10 months old. Northern Ireland (54.8) and Scotland's (53.9) mothers had markedly higher participation rates than English mothers (47.7%). Some of this higher employment rate is attributable to the fact that interviews in Northern Ireland, and Scotland to a lesser extent, took place when cohort babies were slightly older than those in England (10-11 months for some).

The breakdown by type of ward (Table 10.2) shows that mothers living in advantaged wards were far more likely to be employed (55.0%) than those living in disadvantaged wards (41.3%). But those living in wards with high minority ethnic populations were far less likely than mothers in other wards to be employed (21.0%). Comparisons of employment rates by the mothers' ethnic identities (Table A10.1) suggests that it is Pakistani and Bangladeshi women who have very low participation rates (12.8% and 9.8% respectively across the UK samples) that are making the figures for wards with high minority ethnic populations so different from other wards. When we examine employment rates by minority and ward we find that minorities who live in wards with high minority ethnic populations who are Indian or black had similar, even higher levels of employment than whites in advantaged wards, whereas for Pakistani and Bangladeshi mothers, this is not the case (although the sample sizes are too small for a robust analysis).

Approximately 2-3 per cent of mothers were on leave from a job when interviewed. These are likely to be mothers in higher grade or public sector jobs that offer provision for maternity and parental leave beyond the statutory minimum. Statutory paid leave would have run out for this group of mothers (2001-2002) by the time of the interview. It is interesting that there is little variation in this proportion across the type of wards mothers live in. There is a little more variation by mothers' ethnic identities, with Pakistani and Bangladeshi having even lower proportions on leave from a job, but black mothers having a much higher proportion.

Figure 10.1

Employment of mothers when child aged 9-10 months
(Percentages shown in Table 10.1)



The proportions of mothers who were not in paid employment at the interview clearly varied inversely with their employment rates. However, there were very large variations in the extent of never having had a paid job, across mothers of different ethnic identities, by type of ward and, to a far smaller degree, by country of residence.

Small proportions of mothers had never had a paid job (6.8% across the UK) varying by country from a high in England of 7.3 per cent and a low in Scotland of 3.3 per cent. The proportions of never employed mothers also varied across wards, lowest in advantaged wards (2.3%), and highest in wards with high minority ethnic populations (38.4%). There is a notable effect, increasing the proportion of mothers who had never had a job, from living in a disadvantaged ward as well as in a ward with high minority ethnic populations. The difference is evident among white as well as ethnic minority mothers, but is less extreme in the case of white mothers (Table A10.2). Being a mother who had never had any employment was considerably more likely for teenage mothers (at the interview date) and among those living in wards with high minority ethnic populations (Table A10.3). Between one quarter and one third of teenage mothers had never had employment (Table A10.4). The proportions of never employed were considerably lower in other age groups (between 1–3 per cent in the over forties). Approximately three quarters or more of these UK mothers without any employment experience were under 30 years old, although varying in proportion across country and ward.

The proportion of full-time student mothers and those who were self-employed at the interview are displayed in Table 10.3 as a percentage of all families. Approximately 3.9 per

cent of these UK mothers were self-employed, with little variation across countries. There is slightly more variation when the share of self-employed among the employed are displayed; there is also more variation across type of ward. The proportion of self-employed mothers reached 4.8 per cent in advantaged wards, 2.6 per cent in disadvantaged wards but only 1.4 per cent in wards with high minority ethnic populations. There was variation by ethnic identity with mothers of mixed origin having the highest proportion of self-employed mothers (4.9%), followed by white (4.0%) Indian (3.8%), and black mothers (3.1%) having relatively high proportions compared with very low proportions for Pakistani (1.7%) and Bangladeshi (zero per cent) mothers (Table A10.5).

Full-time students were very few among all these samples (Table 10.3), and while varying across country, type of ward and ethnic identity were too small in sample size to draw conclusions.

10.1.2. Father's economic activity

The economic activity of fathers (where given in the interview in person or by proxy) is displayed in Table 10.4 and Figure 10.2.

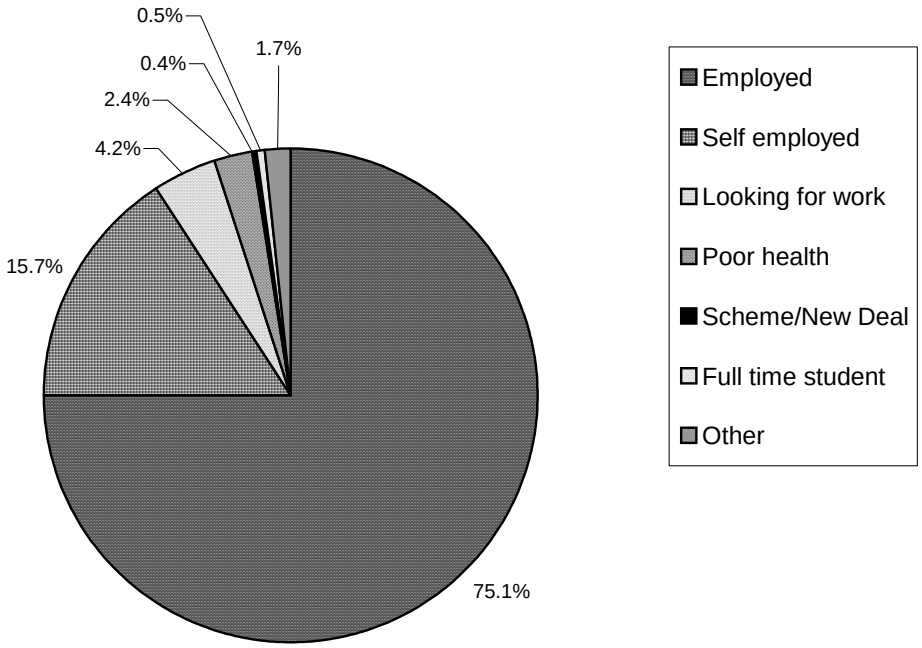
Across the UK sample, 75.2 per cent of fathers were employed as employees and a further 15.7 per cent of fathers were self employed, making 90.9 per cent of fathers who had earnings from employment. The rates of employee employment varied by country (Table 10.4) and by type of ward (Table 10.5) being highest in Wales (76.2%) and Scotland (75.9%) as well as in advantaged wards (77.8%) and lowest in Northern Ireland (68.7%) and wards with high minority ethnic populations (64.2%). White fathers (76.3%) and Indian origin fathers (71.9%) had the highest rates of employee employment (Table A10.5).

However, self-employed rates also varied. In the case of advantaged wards, the higher rate of self-employment reinforced the more advantageous employment position of fathers in these areas. Self-employment in wards with high minority ethnic populations was as high as in disadvantaged wards and this came from high rates for Pakistani and Indian and, to a lesser extent, mixed origin fathers (Table A10.6). In fact rates of self-employment among all ethnic minority groups were higher than for white fathers (Table A10.6). In Northern Ireland, the rate of self-employment among fathers was the highest among country rates at 21.0 per cent, and this compensated for a lower rate of employees.

Unemployment rates among fathers were low and varied by country and type of ward being highest in wards with high minority ethnic populations (12.1%), followed by disadvantaged wards (8.1%). Unemployment rates were particularly high for Bangladeshi (14.7%) and black (9.1%) fathers (Table A10.6) compared with the UK average (4.2%). Not working because of poor health among fathers was also highest in wards with high minority ethnic populations (5.7%) and disadvantaged wards (4.4%) and was considerably lower in England (2.2%) than in the other countries. Poor health as a reason for not working was also higher among Pakistani and Bangladeshi fathers than other ethnic identity groups (Table A10.6).

Figure 10.2

Father's economic activity



Small numbers of fathers had never been employed, 5.9 per cent of teenage fathers but one or less than one per cent of other age groups.

10.1.3. Couple's employment status

For the UK sample of couple parents, approximately half were dual earner couples at the interview. In a further 2 in every five couples, the father was employed while the mother was not working when the cohort baby, her youngest child, was 9-10 months (Table 10.6, Figure 10.3). Approximately six per cent of couples were no-earner families and 2.2 per cent had role reversal from the traditional pattern (father not employed, mother employed).

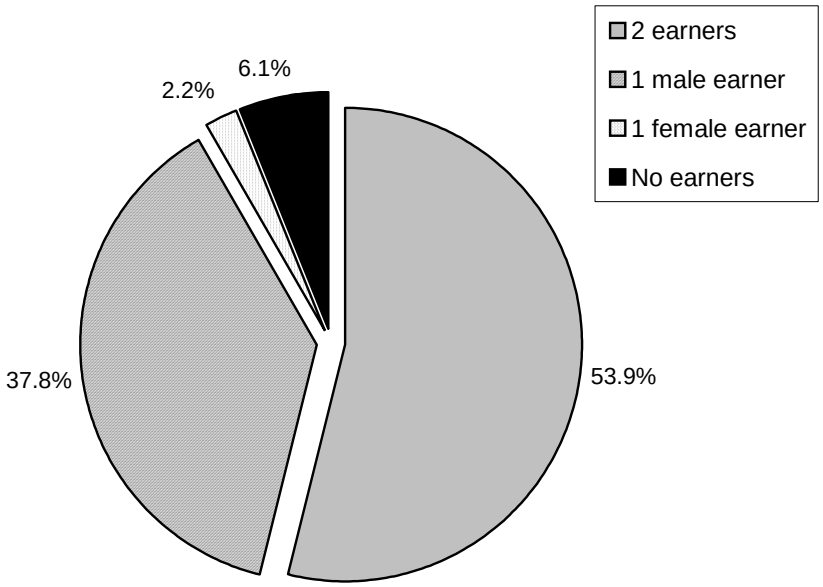
The percentages of dual earners varied by country (Table 10.6) and by type of ward. Just as Northern Ireland had the highest proportions of mothers employed at the interview, they had the highest proportion of dual earners (61.6%) compared with a lowest figure for England of 53.0 per cent. Advantaged wards had the highest proportions of dual earners (59.9%) and wards with high minority ethnic populations the lowest (23.5%) (Table, 10.7). The traditional male breadwinner family had its highest representation in England (39.0%) and its lowest in Northern Ireland (29.3%), although traditional families in advantaged wards (35.0%) were fewer than wards with high minority ethnic populations (58.0%) but the same as disadvantaged wards. These results mirror the mothers' employment rates in these wards and countries.

The frequencies of no-earner families also varied by type of ward; wards with high minority ethnic populations had higher rates (16.4%) than disadvantaged wards (11.5%) and advantaged wards (3.2%). However, the gap varied across countries (Table A10.7).

Considering family employment across all types of families (Table A10.8) shows the English sample in disadvantaged wards having a lower proportion of employed lone parents than the other countries and Wales having higher proportions of lone parents who were not employed, both in advantaged and disadvantaged wards.

Figure 10.3

Couple's Employment Status



10.1.4. Mothers' weekly hours of work

How many hours per week do you usually work (including overtime) in your main job /business?

Mothers' weekly hours of work varied only slightly by country (Table 10.8). For the UK sample, approximately one fifth of employed mothers worked each of 9-16 hours per week and 31-40 hours per week. The hour's group with the highest proportion of mothers was the 17-30 hours group, where approximately 2 in 5 mothers were working such hours. Small proportions worked at the extreme ends of the weekly hours distribution (7.4% 1-8 hours and 5.3% 41 or more hours respectively). Weekly hours were notably longer for mothers in Northern Ireland with a much higher proportion (44.0%) working over 30 hours per week, compared with the UK average of 28.0 per cent. There were relatively small differences between mothers' weekly hours according to the ward they lived in, given that

mothers were employed. Where mothers from wards with high minority ethnic populations were employed they tended to work longer hours than those in other wards (Table 10.9)

Employed mothers were asked if they had any desire to change their weekly hours of work (Table A10.9, A10.10). Approximately one half of employed mothers (53.6%) wanted their hours to stay the same. The proportion wanting to stay working the same hours was higher for mothers living in wards with high minority ethnic populations (59.0%) than for mothers living in other wards. In the whole UK, 38.6 per cent of employed mothers wanted to work fewer hours, varying from its highest in Northern Ireland (43.5%) to its lowest in wards with high minority ethnic populations (31.5%).

10.1.5. Fathers' weekly hours of work

How many hours per week do you usually work (including overtime) in your main job /business?

Employed fathers' weekly hours are displayed in Tables 10.10 and 10.11. Six out of 10 UK employed fathers were working between 31 and 40 hours per week. Another third were working above 40 hours per week with almost one-fifth being above the Working Time Directive limit of 48 hours per week. There were only small variations by country (Table 10.10) with employed fathers in Scotland working the longest hours. The variations by type of ward were considerably greater with fathers living in advantaged wards working considerably longer hours than those in disadvantaged wards. Wards with high minority ethnic populations had a greater proportion of employed fathers working part-time hours than other wards (Table 10.11).

10.1.6. Mother's time of day worked

In your job or jobs, how often do you work at times indicated?

The time of day worked by employed mothers is displayed in Table 10.12. A range of categories were given for the frequency of working at atypical times of day. Here we restrict the report to considering mothers who ***every week*** worked at the times indicated.

Working in the evenings from 6 until 10pm was the most common experience of those considered with approximately one third of employed mothers working at this time of day. Approximately one fifth of these mothers worked at weekends. There were only small country differences with Northern Ireland employed mothers being less likely to work at atypical times of day than mothers in other countries. Evening work was slightly more common among mothers in England than in other countries. Weekend work was slightly more common among mothers in Wales and Scotland than the other countries.

Employed mothers in wards with high minority ethnic populations tended to be less likely to work at atypical times of day and mothers in disadvantaged wards were more likely to work at nights and at weekends (Table A10.11)

10.1.7. Father's time of day worked

In your job or jobs, how often do you work at times indicated?

The time of day worked by employed fathers is displayed in Table 10.13. Just over 40 per cent of these fathers worked from 6 to 10 pm. As with mothers, this was the most common experience of those considered, followed by weekend work where over a quarter of UK employed fathers (27.7%) worked at this time. Employed fathers were more likely than mothers, in every case, to work at the atypical times of day considered. There were only slight variations by country in the extent of fathers working at these times, but considerably greater variation by type of ward. Employed fathers living in wards with high minority ethnic populations were far more likely than those living in other wards to work at atypical times of day (Table A10.12).

10.1.8. Mother's NS-SEC

What is your current or most recent occupation?

For mothers who were employed or had ever had a job, the NS-SEC category is set out in Table 10.14. One third of these UK mothers were in professional or managerial occupations, with relatively minor variations across countries. The semi-routine and routine classification was more common among mothers in Wales and Northern Ireland (40.6% and 39.1% compared with the UK average of 36.5%). The differences were far greater across types of ward in ways that might be anticipated (Table 10.15). Higher proportions of professional and managerial jobs were evident among mothers in advantaged wards with corresponding lower proportions of routine and semi-routine occupations. Mothers in disadvantaged wards and wards with high minority ethnic populations were more similar in the types of jobs they held, with a slightly larger proportion of lower level jobs held by those in wards with high minority ethnic populations.

10.1.9. Father's NS-SEC

What is your current or most recent occupation?

Of the UK fathers with an NS-SEC classification, 38.6 per cent were in professional or managerial occupations, and one third were in routine or semi-routine jobs. Overall the distributions of mothers and fathers through NS-SEC categories are remarkably similar. As with mothers, there were small variations by country in fathers' NS-SEC classifications (Table 10.16), but much greater variation across type of wards (Table 10.17). As before, fathers in advantaged wards had the highest proportions in the professional and managerial classification, but fathers in wards with high minority ethnic populations had the lowest.

10.1.10. Mothers' reasons for being employed

What are the main reasons you are in paid work?

Approximately one-third of these employed mothers gave being a financial breadwinner as one of the main reasons for working and over one half gave the reason as, to pay for family extras (Table 10.18). One quarter of these mothers gave the reason of working for a career. A third worked because they enjoyed work and approximately one fifth, in each case, worked to give time for themselves or to have adult company. There were some variations in responses by country, and by type of ward (Table 10.19), but more notable in the less than in the more popular reasons. Employed mothers living in advantaged wards were less likely than those in disadvantaged wards to say they were working as family breadwinners for necessity; but they were not more likely than those in disadvantaged wards to say they were working for family extras. Those in advantaged wards were more likely to say they were working for enjoyment, to have time for self, and to have adult company than mothers living in other wards.

10.1.11. Flexible working arrangements

Does your employer offer any types of flexible arrangements for any employees?

Employee mothers were asked whether their employer offered flexible working arrangements and if so, whether they had made used of them. Country differences are displayed in Appendix Table A10.13 and show relatively little variation by country with the exception of shift working which appears to be more likely to be offered in England and Wales than in Scotland or Northern Ireland. Table 10.20 displays the extent to which employed mothers living in different types of ward were offered various arrangements. Without exception, the proportions of mothers living in advantaged wards who were offered flexible working arrangements was far greater than the proportion of mothers living in disadvantaged wards, and they were more likely than employed mothers living in wards with high minority ethnic populations to be offered any of these types of flexibility at work. The ability to work part time was the most common kind of flexible working arrangement, followed by flexible working hours.

10.1.12. Mothers and maternity leave

Are you currently on (or have taken) maternity leave? While on maternity leave, did you receive maternity pay?

The proportions of mothers (both employed and not employed before the birth) taking maternity leave to give birth to the cohort child varied by country and by type of ward. Northern Ireland had 60.5 per cent of mothers who had taken maternity leave compared with a lowest percentage of 54.0 per cent in England (Table 10.21). Of mothers living in advantaged wards, 62.3 per cent took maternity leave while only 22.9 per cent of mothers in wards with high minority ethnic populations had this experience (Table 10.22). Approximately half of mothers received maternity pay while having the cohort child, Northern Ireland again having the largest proportion (56.9%). Receiving maternity pay was far more extensive among mothers living in advantaged wards where 58.3 per cent of mothers received this benefit compared with 42.5 per cent of mothers living in

disadvantaged wards and only 20.8 per cent in wards with high minority ethnic populations, where fewer had jobs in the first place.

10.1.13. Mother's employment by age for first births

The MCS mothers consisted of first time mothers and those who were having higher order babies in the family. Mothers who were giving birth for the first time are most representative of the contemporary behaviour patterns. Table 10.28 displays the age employment rates for mothers giving birth for the first time. There were a few in this group (130) who were over 40 years old. We have excluded them from the Table.

It is very clear that women who delay childbirth until they are over 30 are much more likely to go back to work by 9-10 months after childbirth. This applies across all types of ward, including wards in England with high minority ethnic populations. They were more than 3 times as likely to be employed at this point compared with teenage mothers giving birth for the first time. When age is controlled, the gap we see above, between advantaged and disadvantaged wards, is much reduced, especially for mothers' first births at ages 30 and over, and more so in Wales and Scotland.

10.2. Education

The ages at which main respondents and partners left school are displayed in Table 10.29, after excluding probable outliers. Just under one half of main respondents and just over one half of partner respondents left school at the earliest possible time. Slightly higher proportions of partner than main respondents were found leaving full-time education after 21; slightly lower proportions were found leaving aged 22 or over in Wales.

10.2.1. Academic qualifications

Comparisons between the highest academic qualifications of MCS mothers and fathers confirm the impression left by their ages of leaving full time education. Fathers were slightly more qualified than mothers at the top end (degrees). Approximately 15-16 per cent of mothers and fathers did not have any qualifications (Tables 10.30 and 10.31).

The extent of academic qualification mothers and fathers varied slightly by country (Tables 10.30 and 10.31), Northern Ireland stood out from the other countries in having a larger proportion of unqualified (without any qualifications), especially in the case of fathers. These country differences remained after controlling for type of ward (Table 10.34, Table 10.35)

Comparisons between the types of ward showed a clear gradient, with mothers' and fathers' extent of academic qualifications decreasing from advantaged, to disadvantaged wards to wards with high minority ethnic populations (Table 10.32 and 10.33). As many as four tenths of mothers and one third of fathers in wards with high minority ethnic populations did not have any academic qualifications.

10.2.2. Vocational qualifications

53.9 per cent of mothers and 60.1 per cent of fathers had a vocational qualification (Table 10.36 and 10.37). One fifth of fathers and 13.0 per cent of mothers had a professional

qualification. Mothers exceeded fathers in nursing qualifications and NVQ level 2, and fathers had higher proportions of NVQ level 3 qualifications. There was little variation by country, with the exception of fathers in Northern Ireland who, as with academic qualifications, were less well qualified in vocational terms than fathers in other countries. This country gap remained after controlling for type of ward (Table 10.40, 10.41).

Comparisons between types of ward showed the same gradients in vocational qualifications as were seen in academic qualifications. The extent of vocational qualifications decline markedly moving from advantaged to disadvantaged wards to wards with high minority ethnic populations (Tables 10.38 and 10.39).

10.2.3. Any qualifications

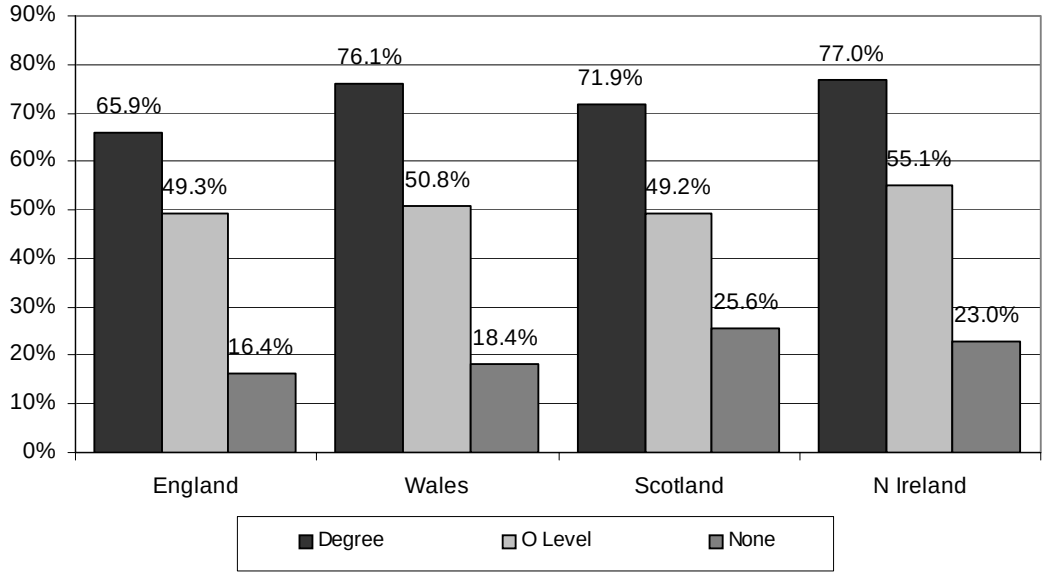
It is possible to merge academic and vocational qualifications into a single equivalent scale. The earlier conclusions are unchanged when examining this composite scale of qualifications (Tables 10.42, 10.43, 10.44, 10.45, 10.46, and 10.47)

- Fathers were better qualified than mothers;
- Country differences were small, except that the Northern Ireland sample has lower proportions of qualified parents, especially fathers, than other countries.
- Parents' attainment is best in advantaged and worst in wards with high minority ethnic populations.

10.2.4. Mother's employment by education

The relationship between mothers' education and employment can be seen in Figure 10.4 for selected levels of education.

Figure 10.4 Mothers in employment by selected levels of highest academic attainment.



Employment rates increased substantially with academic qualifications, varying slightly by country.

10.3. Skills

10.3.1. Use of computers and Internet

61.9 per cent of mothers used a computer, almost 50 per cent used it at home and an overlapping 36.0 per cent used computers at work (Table 10.48). Variations by country were small (Table 10.48). Variations by type of ward were large (Table 10.49). 64.4 per cent of mothers in wards with high minority ethnic populations did not use computers and used them less both at home and at work than mothers in disadvantaged wards who used them less than mothers in advantaged wards (Table 10.50).

A similar set of conclusions can be drawn about fathers' use of computers (Table 10.51 and 10.52); there were small variations by country but more by type of ward, with wards high in minority ethnic populations having the lowest use of computers. More fathers used computers at work than at home; the reverse was the case for mothers. Fathers were more likely than mothers to use computers at work and overall. Northern Ireland fathers stood out from other country groups in being less likely to use computers overall, irrespective of the type of ward they lived in (Table 10.53).

Internet use was slightly lower than computer use among mothers and fathers (Tables 10.54, 10.55, 10.56, 10.57, 10.58 and 10.59). Internet usage followed the same patterns across countries and ward areas, as computer usage, for both mothers and fathers. Fathers, again, were more likely than mothers to be linked to the Internet.

Almost three quarters of mothers and 60 per cent of fathers living in wards with high minority ethnic populations were not linked to the Internet.

Clearly these findings will have implications for the cohort children as they grow up.

10.3.2. Reading

4.7 per cent of mothers said they were unable to read aloud to children, because of difficulties with reading, rising to 11.3 per cent in Northern Ireland and 8.0 per cent of those living in wards with high minority ethnic populations (Tables 10.60, 10.61). With this exception of Northern Ireland (living in both advantaged and disadvantaged areas Table 10.62), country differences were minimal (Table 10.60) and families in advantaged and disadvantaged wards were also similar (Table 10.61).

Problems with reading were at the same levels among fathers as mothers (Table 10.63, 10.64). There was the same higher proportion of fathers in advantaged wards in Northern Ireland who could not read aloud (10.9% compared with a UK average of 4.3%), but fathers living in wards high in minority ethnic populations did not have the higher rate of problems of the kind seen among mothers living in these wards.

Problems with reading and filling out forms were at lower levels, 3.0 per cent of mothers and fathers could not usually do this task, worse in Northern Ireland and in wards with high minority ethnic populations (Tables 10.66, 10.67, 10.68, 10.69, 10.70, and 10.71).

10.3.3. Numbers and cash

Parents managed cash transactions better than reading; only 2.1 per cent of mothers and fathers could not check their change from purchases. There were no variations by type of ward (Table 10.75, 10.76, 10.74, 10.77), and few by country (Table 10.72, 10.73), with the exception of a higher proportion of Northern Ireland mothers (6.3 per cent) and fathers (7.4 per cent), more especially living in advantaged wards, who could not usually do this task.

10.3.4. Courses to improve reading or number skills

Very few parents had been on any courses to improve either their reading or their number skills (although possibly higher proportions of those who had problems with these skills). There were no variations across countries (Tables 10.78, 10.79), but mothers and fathers living in wards high in minority ethnic populations were more likely to have done courses to improve their reading skills (Tables 10.80, 10.81).

Table 10.1 Mothers' employment at interview, by country.

Employment	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	NI (%)	
Currently in paid work	47.7	50.5	53.9	54.8	48.7
Has a paid job, but on leave	2.5	2.5	2.1	2.8	2.5
No Current paid work	42.4	40.5	40.7	37.7	42.0
Has never had a paid job	7.3	6.6	3.3	4.6	6.8
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	11492	2749	2325	1913	18479

Sample: All MCS mothers (natural, foster, adoptive, step).

Table 10.2 Mothers' employment by type of ward.

Employment	Type of Ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic* (%)	
Currently in paid work	55.0	41.3	21.0	48.7
Has a paid job, but on leave	2.5	2.5	2.0	2.5
No Current paid work	40.1	45.8	38.5	42.0
Has never had a paid job	2.3	10.3	38.4	6.8
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	7298	8803	2378	18479

Sample: All MCS mothers (natural, foster, adoptive, step). * Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 10.3 Mothers' self-employment and full-time students

Economic Activity	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	N Ireland (%)	
Of all families					
% Self employed	3.9	4.0	3.3	3.4	3.9
% Full-time student	0.6	0.9	1.2	1.2	0.7
N	11533	2761	2336	1923	18553
Of Currently Employed					
% Employee	91.9	92.3	94.3	93.6	92.2
% Self employed	8.1	7.7	5.7	6.4	7.8
Total employed %	100	100	100	100	100
Employed N	4812	1256	1222	998	8288

Sample: All MCS mothers (natural, step, foster or adoptive).

Table 10.4 Fathers' economic activity by country.

Economic Activity	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	NI (%)	
Employee	75.3	76.2	75.9	68.7	75.2
Self Employed	15.9	12.1	13.4	21.0	15.7
Unemployed – Looking for work	4.0	5.3	4.8	5.4	4.2
Not employed – Poor Health	2.2	3.7	3.2	2.7	2.4
New Deal/Government Scheme/Apprenticeship	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4
Full Time Student	0.6	0.4	0.6	0.2	0.5
Other	1.6	1.9	1.7	1.6	1.7
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	8332	1908	1708	1272	13220

Sample: All MCS fathers (natural, foster, adoptive, step).

Table 10.5 Fathers' economic activity by type of ward.

Economic Activity	Type of Ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic* (%)	
Employee	77.8	69.9	64.2	75.2
Self Employed	16.6	13.4	13.5	15.7
Unemployed – Looking for work	2.3	8.1	12.1	4.2
Not employed – Poor Health	1.6	4.4	5.7	2.4
New Deal/Government Scheme/Apprenticeship	0.2	0.8	0.6	0.4
Full Time Student	0.4	0.6	1.3	0.5
Other	1.1	2.6	2.7	1.7
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	6019	5756	1445	13220

Sample: All MCS fathers (natural, foster, adoptive, step). * Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 10.6 Couples' employment status, by country.

Couple type by employment status	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	NI (%)	
Both employed	53.0	57.8	57.3	61.6	53.9
Women employed, partner not employed	2.1	2.5	2.9	3.2	2.2
Man employed, women not employed	39.0	31.4	33.1	29.3	37.8
Both not employed	5.9	8.3	6.6	5.9	6.1
Total (%)	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Sample Size (N)	9239	2089	1874	1448	14650

Sample: All MCS parents, (main and partner, whether natural, foster, adoptive or step) who are in a two-parent household.

Table 10.7 Couples' employment status by type of ward.

Couple type by employment status	Type of Ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic* (%)	
Both employed	59.9	48.7	23.5	53.9
Women employed, partner not employed	1.9	3.3	2.1	2.2
Man employed, women not employed	35.0	36.5	58.0	37.8
Both not employed	3.2	11.5	16.4	6.1
Total (%)	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Sample Size (N)	6507	6416	1727	14650

Sample: All MCS parents, (main and partner, whether natural, foster, adoptive or step) who are in a two-parent household structure. * Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 10.8 Number of hours employed mothers worked each week, by country.

Hours Worked	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	NI (%)	
Up to 8 hours	8.1	5.5	4.5	2.7	7.4
9 to 16 hours	22.9	21.7	19.5	11.8	22.1
17 to 30 hours	42.2	42.7	45.6	41.5	42.5
31 to 40 hours	21.4	24.8	25.7	38.1	22.7
41+ hours	5.4	5.2	4.8	5.9	5.3
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	5069	1321	1272	1043	8705

Sample: All MCS employed mothers (natural, foster, adoptive and step)

Table 10.9 Number of hours employed mothers worked each week, by type of ward.

Hours Worked	Type of Ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic* (%)	
Up to 8 hours	7.8	6.3	7.5	7.4
9 to 16 hours	22.0	22.5	16.5	22.1
17 to 30 hours	43.1	41.5	38.0	42.5
31 to 40 hours	21.2	25.6	33.0	22.7
41+ hours	5.9	4.2	5.0	5.3
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	4271	3891	543	8705

Sample: All MCS employed mothers (natural, foster, adoptive and step).
* Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 10.10 Number of hours employed fathers worked each week, by country.

Hours Worked	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	NI (%)	
Up to 30 hours	5.1	5.2	3.9	5.2	5.0
31 to 40 hours	61.2	61.7	61.8	64.0	61.4
41 to 48 hours	14.8	15.5	14.3	13.5	14.8
48+ hours	18.8	17.7	20.1	17.3	18.8
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	7275	1628	1498	1102	11503

Sample: All MCS employed fathers (natural, foster, adoptive and step) who are in paid work or on leave.

Table 10.11 Number of hours employed fathers worked each week, by type of ward.

Hours Worked	Type of Ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic* (%)	
Up to 30 hours	3.4	7.3	19.0	5.0
31 to 40 hours	61.3	62.2	55.6	61.4
41 to 48 hours	14.8	15.0	12.0	14.8
48+ hours	20.4	15.5	13.4	18.8
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	5650	4745	1108	11503

Sample: All MCS employed fathers (natural, foster, adoptive and step) who are in paid work or on leave.
* Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 10.12 Percentage of employed mothers who, every week, worked at time indicated, by country.

Time Worked	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	NI (%)	
6PM – 10PM	34.2	33.5	31.4	27.9	33.6
10PM – 7AM	10.4	10.3	9.0	8.3	10.2
Weekends	22.7	24.2	24.5	17.4	22.8
Away Overnight	2.2	2.3	3.2	3.8	2.4
N	4809	1255	1222	996	8282

Sample: All MCS employed mothers (natural, foster, adoptive, step).

Table 10.13 Percentage of employed fathers who, every week, worked at time indicated, by country.

Time Worked	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	NI (%)	
6PM – 10PM	42.4	44.3	41.1	40.8	42.3
10PM – 7AM	15.7	19.4	15.0	15.1	15.8
Weekends	27.4	33.8	25.2	29.4	27.7
Away Overnight	6.2	6.4	6.8	5.9	6.2
N	7296	1633	1506	1106	11540

Sample: All MCS employed fathers (natural, foster, adoptive, step).

Table 10.14 Mothers' NS-SEC (7) groups by country.

NS-SEC	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	NI (%)	
1. High Management /Professional	7.9	6.4	8.7	5.9	7.8
2. Low Management /Professional	25.7	24.8	26.5	27.0	25.7
3. Intermediate	20.0	17.3	20.0	18.8	19.8
4. Small Employer & Self- Employed	4.8	3.9	3.4	3.4	4.6
5. Low Supervisory and Technical	5.5	7.0	6.3	5.8	5.7
6.Semi Routine	21.9	24.6	21.7	24.0	22.1
7.Routine	14.3	16.0	13.4	15.1	14.4
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	9833	2492	2224	1785	16334

Sample: All employed or ever employed MCS mothers (natural, foster, adoptive, step).

Table 10.15 Mothers' NS-SEC (7) groups by type of ward.

NS-SEC	Type of Ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic* (%)	
1. High Management /Professional	10.3	3.5	2.5	7.8
2. Low Management /Professional	30.0	18.3	16.5	25.7
3.Intermediate	20.9	17.7	19.0	19.8
4.Small Employer & Self- Employed	5.3	3.4	3.2	4.6
5.Low Supervisory and Technical	5.0	6.8	5.9	5.7
6.Semi Routine	17.9	29.4	31.4	22.1
7.Routine	10.6	20.8	21.5	14.4
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	7064	7847	1423	16334

Sample: All employed or ever employed MCS mothers (natural, foster, adoptive, step).
* Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 10.16 Fathers' NS-SEC (7) groups by country.

NS-SEC	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	NI (%)	
1.High Management /Professional	9.2	8.0	10.2	7.4	9.2
2.Low Management /Professional	28.1	28.5	30.1	31.6	28.4
3.Intermediate	20.8	18.1	20.7	20.1	20.6
4.Small Employer & Self- Employed	5.0	4.0	3.9	4.1	4.8
5.Low Supervisory and Technical	5.3	6.6	5.9	5.6	5.4
6.Semi Routine	19.7	21.7	18.5	20.5	19.7
7.Routine	12.0	13.2	10.6	10.7	11.9
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	8109	1866	1689	1233	12890

Sample: All employed or ever employed MCS fathers (natural, foster, adoptive and step)

Table 10.17 Fathers' NS-SEC (7) groups by type of ward.

NS-SEC	Type of Ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic* (%)	
1.High Management /Professional	11.4	4.5	3.2	9.2
2.Low Management /Professional	31.7	21.7	19.1	28.4
3.Intermediate	21.3	18.9	21.0	20.6
4.Small Employer & Self- Employed	5.4	3.5	2.9	4.8
5.Low Supervisory and Technical	4.9	6.6	4.9	5.4
6.Semi Routine	16.3	26.9	29.1	19.7
7.Routine	9.1	17.9	19.7	11.9
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	5935	5607	1348	12890

Sample: All employed or ever employed MCS fathers (natural, foster, adoptive and step).
* Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 10.18 Reasons why employed mother is in paid work, by country.

Reason in paid work	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	NI (%)	
Financial – Breadwinner	33.7	32.0	35.9	42.0	34.2
Financial – For Family Extra's	57.8	62.0	58.3	55.1	58.0
Career	22.7	25.7	24.4	30.7	23.3
Enjoyment	34.9	32.3	31.2	40.8	34.5
To give time for self	19.7	15.0	19.3	28.1	19.7
To have adult company	21.2	18.7	23.7	31.0	21.7
To improve/maintain lifestyle	0.2	0	0	0	0.2
Social Reasons	0.6	0.5	0.2	0.4	0.6
Work related reasons	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.5
None of above	0.4	0.1	0.4	0	0.4
N	**4646**	**1358**	**1226**	**1047**	**8277**

Sample: All MCS employed mothers (natural, foster, adoptive, step) who are in paid work or on leave.
Multiple answers included.

Table 10.19 Reasons why mother is in paid work, by type of ward.

Reason in paid work	Type of Ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic* (%)	
Financial – Breadwinner	33.2	36.4	32.4	34.2
Financial – For Family Extra's	57.6	59.1	56.4	58.0
Career	26.0	17.1	22.9	23.3
Enjoyment	37.6	27.8	29.4	34.5
To give time for self	20.0	19.2	18.3	19.7
To have adult company	23.1	19.3	10.1	21.7
To improve/maintain lifestyle	0.6	0.6	0.0	0.5
Social Reasons	3.9	3.2	1.2	3.6
Work related reasons	1.4	0.9	1.0	1.2
None of above	0.7	1.1	1.4	0.8
N	4111	3674	496	8281

Sample: All MCS employed mothers (natural, foster, adoptive, step) who are in paid work or on leave. Multiple answers included. * Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 10.20 Percentages within each type of flexible arrangements offered to mothers who are employed, by type of ward.

Flexible working arrangements	Type of Ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic* (%)	
Part time Working	88.1	82.7	70.5	86.1
Job-Sharing	39.7	29.0	25.3	36.2
Flexible Working Hours	43.7	38.0	41.6	42.0
Working at or from home, occasionally	24.4	13.6	12.7	20.9
Working at or from home, all the time	56.3	3.8	5.2	5.5
Special Shifts (i.e. evenings)	29.8	27.6	19.1	28.9
9-Day fortnights /4½ day working week	6.0	3.6	2.9	5.3
School term-time contracts	16.9	12.0	13.3	15.4
None of these	5.8	9.8	15.5	7.2
N	3767	3465	468	7700

SAMPLE: All MCS employed mothers (natural, foster, adoptive, step) who are in paid work.
* Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 10.21 Per cent of all mothers who took maternity leave for cohort baby by country.

Maternity Leave	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	NI (%)	
Took maternity Leave	54.0	54.3	59.5	60.5	54.7
No maternity leave	46.0	45.7	40.5	44.5	45.3
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	11517	2756	2332	1922	18527

Sample: All MCS mothers (natural, foster, adoptive, step).

Table 10.22 Per cent of all mothers who took maternity leave for cohort baby by type of ward.

Maternity Leave	Type of Ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic* (%)	
Took maternity Leave	62.3	45.8	22.9	54.7
No maternity leave	37.7	54.2	77.1	45.3
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	7310	8825	2392	18527

Sample: All MCS mothers (natural, foster, adoptive, step). * Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 10.23 Percentage of all mothers who received maternity pay for cohort baby, by country.

Maternity Pay	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	NI (%)	
Received Maternity Pay	50.3	51.4	56.3	56.9	51.1
Received No maternity Pay	49.7	48.6	43.7	43.1	48.9
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	11518	2756	2333	1922	18529

Sample: All MCS mothers (natural, foster, adoptive, step).

Table 10.24 Percentage of all mothers who received maternity pay for cohort baby, by type of ward.

Maternity Pay	Type of Ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic* (%)	
Received Maternity Pay	58.3	42.5	20.8	51.1
Received No maternity Pay	41.7	57.5	79.2	48.9
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	7311	8826	2392	18529

Sample: All MCS mothers (natural, foster, adoptive, step). * Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 10.25 Share in employed mothers of employees and self-employed at interview, by country.

Employment Status	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	NI (%)	
Employee	91.9	92.1	93.9	93.6	92.2
Self Employed	8.0	7.9	6.1	6.4	7.7
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	4820	1256	1223	998	8441

Sample: All MCS employed mothers, (natural, foster, adoptive, step) whether in paid work, currently on leave or self-employed.

Table 10.26 Share in employed mothers of employees and self employed mothers at interview, by type of ward.

Employment Status	Type of Ward			Total Sample Size (N)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic* (%)	
Employee	91.2	93.6	94.1	91.9
Self Employed	8.8	6.4	5.9	8.1
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	4293	3905	546	8744

Sample: All MCS employed mothers, (natural, foster, adoptive, step) whether in paid work, currently on leave or self-employed. * Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 10.27 Share in employed mothers of employees and self-employed at interview, by ethnic identity.

Employment Status	Ethnic identity – All UK					
	White (%)	Indian (%)	Pakistani (%)	Bangladeshi (%)	Black (%)	Mixed /Other (%)
Employee	92.4	92.2	85.9	100.0	84.3	92.7
Self Employed	7.6	7.8	14.1	0.0	15.7	7.7
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	7582	186	94	32	235	154
				Total Sample Size		**8283**

Sample: All MCS employed mothers, (natural, foster, adoptive, step) whether in paid work, currently on leave or self-employed.

Table 10.28 Percentage of mothers of first-born cohort child employed within each age group, by country and type of ward.

Country by Type of Ward	AGE GROUP			
	14 – 19 (%)	20 – 29 (%)	30 – 39 (%)	40+ (%)
England Advantaged	25.8	55.5	64.7	(58.3)
England Disadvantaged	13.7	46.1	59.2	(64.5)
England Ethnic	13.7	23.8	45.0	(50.0)
Wales Advantaged	10.0	60.9	73.8	
Wales Disadvantaged	11.4	51.1	71.8	
Scotland Advantaged	27.0	59.2	72.3	
Scotland Disadvantaged	20.9	53.2	71.0	
NI Advantaged	14.3	66.4	77.0	
NI Disadvantaged	20.3	56.1	74.5	
Sample Size (N)	**962**	**4001**	**2684**	**130**
TOTAL SAMPLE SIZE				**7777**

Sample: All MCS mothers (natural, adoptive, step, foster) whose cohort child was the first born.
Figures in parentheses are based on very small sample sizes and have been deleted in some cells for this reason.

Table 10.29 Age left full-time education by country

Age left FT education	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	N Ireland (%)	
Main respondent					
Still in FT education	0.01	0.0	0.0	0.01	0.01
16 or under	48.0	52.3	47.6	41.0	46.3
17-18	27.7	28.9	30.0	34.2	29.3
19-21	12.6	10.4	12.1	13.1	13.1
22 or over	11.7	8.6	10.3	11.7	11.3
Total %	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	11197	2736	2311	1896	18140
Partner					
Still in FT education	0.01	-	0.01	0.02	0.01
16 or under	52.9	55.5	53.8	49.6	53.0
17-18	20.8	21.2	22.3	22.9	21.1
19-21	12.9	10.8	10.8	12.4	12.6
22 or over	13.3	12.5	13.1	15.1	13.3
Total %	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	8216	1893	1699	1263	13071

Sample: MCS Main respondents; MCS partners.
Note. The small number of respondents who claimed to leave school under 14 years of age or who gave no answer, were excluded from the sample

Table 10.30

Mothers' highest academic qualifications by country.

Highest Academic Qualification	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	NI (%)	
Higher Degree	3.7	2.6	4.7	5.2	3.8
First Degree	14.5	13.4	16.5	14.9	14.6
Diplomas in Higher Education	9.7	10.0	9.2	8.7	9.6
A / AS / S Levels	9.0	8.7	17.9	9.2	9.8
O Level / CSE grades A – C	34.9	36.4	31.7	34.4	34.6
CSE grades D – G	11.4	11.2	4.7	8.5	10.6
Other academic qualifications (including overseas)	2.4	1.1	1.3	1.9	2.2
None of these qualifications	14.5	16.6	14.0	17.1	14.7
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	11477	2748	2325	1911	18461

Sample: All MCS Mothers (natural, foster, step, adoptive).

Table 10.31

Fathers' highest academic qualifications by country.

Highest Academic Qualification	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	NI (%)	
Higher Degree	6.2	5.8	7.7	5.1	6.3
First Degree	15.8	15.0	16.7	16.3	15.8
Diplomas in Higher Education	9.5	10.0	8.6	9.1	9.5
A / AS / S Levels	7.7	5.6	13.2	7.4	8.1
O Level / CSE grades A – C	31.9	33.8	33.0	28.2	32.0
CSE grades D – G	11.1	11.1	3.9	8.6	10.4
Other academic qualifications (including overseas)	2.4	1.3	1.1	1.3	2.2
None of these qualifications	15.4	17.6	15.9	23.9	15.8
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	8318	1904	1705	1268	13195

Sample: All MCS Fathers (natural, foster, step, adoptive).

Table 10.32

Mothers' highest academic qualifications by type of ward.

Highest Academic Qualification	Type of Ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic* (%)	
Higher Degree	4.6	2.5	2.7	3.8
First Degree	19.1	7.8	7.7	14.6
Diplomas in Higher Education	11.6	6.8	4.6	9.6
A / AS / S Levels	11.4	7.5	6.7	9.8
O Level / CSE grades A – C	34.9	36.1	20.3	34.6
CSE grades D – G	8.9	13.9	9.3	10.6
Other academic qualifications (including overseas)	1.4	2.7	9.6	2.2
None of these qualifications	8.1	22.8	39.1	14.7
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	7298	8790	2373	18461

Sample: All MCS Mothers (natural, foster, step, adoptive). * Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 10.33 Fathers' highest academic qualifications by type of ward.

Highest Academic Qualification	Type of Ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic* (%)	
Higher Degree	7.5	3.7	5.5	6.3
First Degree	19.0	9.3	12.0	15.8
Diplomas in Higher Education	11.0	6.4	5.8	9.4
A / AS / S Levels	8.9	6.5	7.0	8.1
O Level / CSE grades A – C	31.9	34.2	16.2	32.0
CSE grades D – G	9.2	13.2	7.7	10.4
Other academic qualifications (including overseas)	1.5	2.4	11.5	2.2
None of these qualifications	10.9	24.2	34.4	15.8
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	6014	5740	1441	13195

Sample: All MCS Fathers (natural, foster, step, adoptive). * Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 10.34 Mothers' highest academic qualifications, by country and type of ward.

Country by Type of Ward	Highest academic qualification								Total (%)	Sample Size (N)
	Higher Degree (%)	First Degree (%)	Diplomas in Higher Education (%)	A / AS / S Levels (%)	O Level / CSE grades A-C	CSE grades D-G (%)	Other academic qualifications (including overseas) (%)	None of these qualifications (%)		
England Advantaged	4.4	18.8	11.7	10.4	35.6	9.6	1.4	8.0	**100.0**	4606
England Disadvantaged	2.5	7.5	6.7	6.7	36.0	15.1	3.0	22.4	**100.0**	4498
England Ethnic	2.7	7.8	4.6	6.7	20.2	9.4	9.5	39.1	**100.0**	2373
Wales Advantaged	3.9	18.3	11.7	10.8	35.9	9.0	0.8	9.6	**100.0**	831
Wales Disadvantaged	1.1	7.6	8.0	6.3	37.1	13.8	1.3	24.7	**100.0**	1917
Scotland Advantaged	5.8	20.8	11.0	20.5	29.1	3.4	1.1	8.3	**100.0**	1142
Scotland Disadvantaged	3.0	9.6	6.3	13.9	35.8	6.7	1.6	23.0	**100.0**	1183
NI Advantaged	7.4	21.3	10.7	10.7	32.7	6.3	1.3	9.7	**100.0**	719
NI Disadvantaged	2.7	7.8	6.4	7.6	36.4	11.1	2.7	25.4	**100.0**	1192
								TOTAL SAMPLE SIZE		**18461**

Sample: All MCS Mothers (natural, foster, step, adoptive).

Table 10.35 Fathers' highest academic qualifications, by country and type of ward.

Country by Type of Ward	Highest academic qualification								Total (%)	Sample Size (N)
	Higher Degree (%)	First Degree (%)	Diplomas in Higher Education (%)	A / AS / S Levels (%)	O Level / CSE grades A-C	CSE grades D-G (%)	Other academic qualifications (including overseas) (%)	None of these qualifications (%)		
England Advantaged	7.4	18.8	11.1	8.5	32.0	9.9	1.6	10.6	**100.0**	3843
England Disadvantaged	3.6	9.1	6.5	5.8	34.3	14.6	2.7	23.4	**100.0**	3034
England Ethnic	5.5	11.9	5.9	6.9	16.2	7.7	11.5	34.4	**100.0**	1441
Wales Advantaged	8.2	19.2	11.2	6.2	31.9	9.7	0.9	12.8	**100.0**	662
Wales Disadvantaged	2.3	8.9	8.2	4.8	36.5	13.0	1.8	24.5	**100.0**	1242
Scotland Advantaged	8.7	19.8	10.3	13.4	32.2	3.6	1.0	11.0	**100.0**	922
Scotland Disadvantaged	5.9	10.6	5.2	12.6	34.5	4.5	1.4	25.3	**100.0**	783
NI Advantaged	6.6	21.1	11.2	8.3	27.6	8.2	0.9	16.0	**100.0**	587
NI Disadvantaged	2.6	8.7	5.6	6.0	29.2	9.4	1.9	36.6	**100.0**	681
								TOTAL SAMPLE SIZE		**13195**

Sample: All MCS Fathers (natural, foster, step, adoptive).

Table 10.36 Mothers' highest vocational qualifications, by country.

Highest Vocational Qualification	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	NI (%)	
Professional qualifications at degree level	13.0	12.3	13.1	12.9	12.9
Nursing / Other medical qualifications	5.1	5.6	6.7	6.2	5.3
NVQ / SVQ / GSVQ Level 3	10.4	12.1	12.9	10.5	10.7
Trade Apprenticeships	0.6	1.1	1.2	0.6	0.7
NVQ / SVQ / GSVQ Level 2	10.5	11.3	9.3	10.2	10.4
NVQ / SVQ / GSVQ Level 1	8.1	7.3	5.2	7.9	7.8
Other vocational qualifications (including overseas)	6.3	6.6	5.8	4.6	6.2
None of these qualifications	46.1	43.7	45.8	47.1	46.0
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	11483	2750	2325	1910	18468

Sample: All MCS Mothers (natural, foster, step, adoptive).

Table 10.37 Fathers' highest vocational qualifications, by country.

Highest Vocational Qualification	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	NI (%)	
Professional qualifications at degree level	21.2	22.2	20.8	17.0	21.1
Nursing / Other medical qualifications	1.2	1.9	1.4	1.0	1.2
NVQ / SVQ / GSVQ Level 3	12.8	14.7	16.9	10.6	13.2
Trade Apprenticeships	5.6	7.5	11.0	14.0	6.4
NVQ / SVQ / GSVQ Level 2	7.8	8.0	5.2	6.1	7.5
NVQ / SVQ / GSVQ Level 1	3.9	4.8	3.2	3.5	3.9
Other vocational qualifications (including overseas)	7.6	9.7	7.0	5.5	7.6
None of these qualifications	39.9	31.2	34.4	42.4	39.1
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	8316	1905	1704	1268	13193

Sample: All MCS Fathers (natural, foster, step, adoptive).

Table 10.38 Mothers' highest vocational qualifications by type of ward.

Highest Vocational Qualification	Type of Ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic* (%)	
Professional qualifications at degree level	16.4	7.8	5.4	12.9
Nursing / Other medical qualifications	6.4	3.8	1.9	5.3
NVQ / SVQ / GSVQ Level 3	11.1	10.6	6.8	10.7
Trade Apprenticeships	0.6	0.9	0.3	0.7
NVQ / SVQ / GSVQ Level 2	10.1	11.7	5.8	10.4
NVQ / SVQ / GSVQ Level 1	8.2	7.5	4.2	7.8
Other vocational qualifications (including overseas)	6.3	6.0	6.3	6.2
None of these qualifications	40.9	51.8	69.2	46.0
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	7298	8796	2374	18468

Sample: All MCS Mothers (natural, foster, step, adoptive). * Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 10.39 Fathers' highest vocational qualifications by type of ward.

Highest Vocational Qualification	Type of Ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic* (%)	
Professional qualifications at degree level	25.3	12.9	11.1	21.1
Nursing / Other medical qualifications	1.3	1.0	0.6	1.2
NVQ / SVQ / GSVQ Level 3	13.0	14.8	5.5	13.2
Trade Apprenticeships	6.4	7.1	2.4	6.5
NVQ / SVQ / GSVQ Level 2	6.8	9.4	3.4	7.5
NVQ / SVQ / GSVQ Level 1	3.4	5.1	3.4	3.9
Other vocational qualifications (including overseas)	7.5	7.8	8.5	7.6
None of these qualifications	36.3	41.9	65.2	39.1
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	6015	5740	1438	13193

Sample: All MCS Fathers (natural, foster, step, adoptive). * Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 10.40 Mothers' highest vocational qualifications, by country and type of ward.

Country by Type of Ward	Highest vocational qualification								Total (%)	Sample Size (N)
	Professional qualifications at degree level (%)	Nursing / other medical qualifications (%)	NVQ / SVQ / GSVQ Level 3 (%)	Trade Apprenticeships (%)	NVQ / SVQ / GSVQ Level 2 (%)	NVQ / SVQ / GSVQ Level 1 (%)	Other vocational qualifications (including overseas) (%)	None of these qualifications (%)		
England Advantaged	16.4	6.1	10.9	0.5	10.3	8.6	6.3	41.0	**100.0**	4607
England Disadvantaged	7.8	3.7	10.2	0.8	11.7	7.8	6.3	51.7	**100.0**	4502
England Ethnic	5.3	2.0	6.9	0.3	5.9	4.2	6.3	69.1	**100.0**	2374
Wales Advantaged	16.4	7.5	13.7	1.3	10.5	7.3	7.3	36.0	**100.0**	831
Wales Disadvantaged	7.4	3.3	10.3	0.8	12.4	7.3	5.7	52.8	**100.0**	1919
Scotland Advantaged	16.5	7.9	12.1	0.8	8.4	5.0	6.5	42.9	**100.0**	1141
Scotland Disadvantaged	7.7	4.8	14.2	1.8	10.7	5.6	4.8	50.4	**100.0**	1184
NI Advantaged	18.1	8.2	11.3	0.6	8.8	8.2	5.0	39.9	**100.0**	719
NI Disadvantaged	7.1	3.9	9.7	0.6	11.8	7.5	4.1	55.2	**100.0**	1191
								TOTAL SAMPLE SIZE		**18468**

Sample: All MCS Mothers (natural, foster, step, adoptive).

Table 10.41 Fathers' highest vocational qualifications, by country and type of ward.

Country by Type of Ward	Highest vocational qualification								Total (%)	Sample Size (N)
	Professional qualifications at degree level (%)	Nursing / other medical qualifications (%)	NVQ / SVQ / GSVQ Level 3 (%)	Trade Apprenticeships (%)	NVQ / SVQ / GSVQ Level 2 (%)	NVQ / SVQ / GSVQ Level 1 (%)	Other vocational qualifications (including overseas) (%)	None of these qualifications (%)		
England Advantaged	25.5	1.2	12.6	5.7	7.1	3.4	7.4	37.0	**100.0**	3844
England Disadvantaged	12.7	1.1	14.6	5.8	10.0	5.2	8.0	42.7	**100.0**	3034
England Ethnic	11.1	0.6	5.5	2.4	3.4	3.5	8.5	65.0	**100.0**	1438
Wales Advantaged	27.5	2.1	15.0	7.4	7.3	4.2	9.1	27.5	**100.0**	662
Wales Disadvantaged	14.6	1.5	14.2	7.7	9.2	5.6	10.5	36.5	**100.0**	1243
Scotland Advantaged	23.9	1.6	16.3	10.3	4.6	2.6	8.0	32.8	**100.0**	922
Scotland Disadvantaged	15.0	0.9	18.0	12.5	6.5	4.3	5.1	37.6	**100.0**	782
NI Advantaged	21.3	1.4	11.2	12.6	5.6	2.9	5.3	39.7	**100.0**	587
NI Disadvantaged	10.0	0.4	9.5	16.2	6.9	4.4	5.9	46.7	**100.0**	681
								TOTAL SAMPLE SIZE		**13193**

Sample: All MCS Fathers (natural, foster, step, adoptive).

Table 10.42 Mothers' highest combined attainment levels, by country.

Highest Combined Attainment Level	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	NI (%)	
NVQ Level 1	8.7	8.5	3.9	7.5	8.2
NVQ Level 2	30.0	31.0	25.9	29.3	29.6
NVQ Level 3	13.4	14.9	21.1	14.4	14.2
NVQ Level 4	29.7	28.7	31.9	28.6	29.8
NVQ Level 5	3.7	2.6	4.7	5.2	3.8
Overseas qualifications only	2.5	1.4	1.5	1.7	2.4
None of these	12.0	12.9	10.9	13.4	12.1
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	11491	2753	2328	1912	18484

Sample: All MCS Mothers (natural, foster, step, adoptive).

Table 10.43 Fathers' highest combined attainment levels, by country.

Highest Combined Attainment Level	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	NI (%)	
NVQ Level 1	7.2	6.9	3.0	5.2	6.7
NVQ Level 2	27.1	28.4	26.8	31.5	27.3
NVQ Level 3	15.1	14.9	21.2	14.0	15.6
NVQ Level 4	32.2	31.8	30.3	28.8	31.9
NVQ Level 5	6.3	5.8	7.8	5.2	6.3
Overseas qualifications only	2.0	2.1	1.3	0.8	1.9
None of these	10.1	10.1	9.6	14.4	10.3
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	8165	1894	1696	1260	13015

Sample: All MCS Fathers (natural, foster, step, adoptive).

Table 10.44 Mothers' highest combined attainment levels by type of ward.

Highest Combined Attainment Level	Type of Ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic* (%)	
NVQ Level 1	6.7	10.9	7.4	8.2
NVQ Level 2	28.9	32.5	18.2	29.6
NVQ Level 3	15.0	13.3	11.0	14.2
NVQ Level 4	37.1	18.9	15.1	29.8
NVQ Level 5	4.6	2.4	2.7	3.8
Overseas qualifications only	1.5	2.9	9.5	2.4
None of these	6.3	18.9	36.0	12.1
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	7304	8805	2375	18484

Sample: All MCS Mothers (natural, foster, step, adoptive). * Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 10.45 Fathers' highest combined attainment levels by type of ward.

Highest Combined Attainment Level	Type of Ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic* (%)	
NVQ Level 1	5.6	9.2	7.4	6.7
NVQ Level 2	26.2	30.9	16.5	27.3
NVQ Level 3	15.6	16.4	9.9	15.6
NVQ Level 4	37.2	21.2	22.3	31.9
NVQ Level 5	7.5	3.7	6.0	6.3
Overseas qualifications only	1.5	2.5	4.8	1.9
None of these	6.4	16.0	33.0	10.2
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	5986	5686	1343	13015

Sample: All MCS Fathers (natural, foster, step, adoptive). * Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 10.46 Mothers' highest combined academic and vocational qualifications, by country and type of ward.

Country by Type of Ward	Highest Combined Attainment Level							Total (%)	Sample Size (N)
	NVQ Level 1 (%)	NVQ Level 2 (%)	NVQ Level 3 (%)	NVQ Level 4 (%)	NVQ Level 5 (%)	Overseas qualification Only (%)	None of these (%)		
England Advantaged	7.2	29.6	14.1	36.9	4.4	1.5	6.2	**100.0**	4611
England Disadvantaged	11.7	32.7	12.4	18.7	2.5	3.2	18.8	**100.0**	4505
England Ethnic	7.5	18.2	11.1	15.1	2.7	9.5	36.0	**100.0**	2375
Wales Advantaged	5.9	28.6	16.8	37.1	3.9	1.0	6.7	**100.0**	831
Wales Disadvantaged	11.6	33.9	12.5	18.9	1.1	1.9	20.2	**100.0**	1922
Scotland Advantaged	2.9	23.2	21.7	38.8	5.8	1.4	6.2	**100.0**	1142
Scotland Disadvantaged	5.6	30.0	20.2	21.0	3.0	1.8	18.4	**100.0**	1186
NI Advantaged	5.4	26.3	15.3	37.9	7.4	1.0	6.8	**100.0**	720
NI Disadvantaged	9.8	32.8	13.3	18.1	2.7	2.4	20.8	**100.0**	1192
							TOTAL SAMPLE SIZE		**18484**

Sample: All MCS Mothers (natural, foster, step, adoptive).

Table 10.47 Fathers' highest combined academic and vocational qualifications, by country and type of ward.

Country by Type of Ward	Highest Combined Attainment Level							Total (%)	Sample Size (N)
	NVQ Level 1 (%)	NVQ Level 2 (%)	NVQ Level 3 (%)	NVQ Level 4 (%)	NVQ Level 5 (%)	Overseas qualification Only (%)	None of these (%)		
England Advantaged	6.0	26.2	15.2	37.4	7.4	1.6	6.3	**100.0**	3823
England Disadvantaged	10.1	30.8	15.7	21.3	3.6	2.6	15.8	**100.0**	2999
England Ethnic	7.4	16.5	9.9	22.3	6.0	4.8	33.0	**100.0**	1343
Wales Advantaged	5.0	26.3	14.4	37.9	8.2	1.4	6.8	**100.0**	659
Wales Disadvantaged	9.6	31.7	15.6	22.8	2.3	3.2	14.8	**100.0**	1235
Scotland Advantaged	2.5	25.5	20.2	35.3	8.7	1.2	6.5	**100.0**	920
Scotland Disadvantaged	3.9	29.4	23.1	20.6	5.9	1.5	15.6	**100.0**	776
NI Advantaged	4.6	29.3	14.7	35.8	6.7	0.0	8.9	**100.0**	584
NI Disadvantaged	6.2	35.2	12.7	17.8	2.7	2.1	23.4	**100.0**	676
							TOTAL SAMPLE SIZE		**13015**

Sample: All MCS Fathers (natural, foster, step, adoptive).

Table 10.48 Percentages of mothers who use a computer at work, college or home, by country.

Use a computer at work, college or at home	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	NI (%)	
Yes, at work or college	12.8	16.9	16.4	22.7	13.7
Yes, at home	26.8	22.0	22.9	18.7	25.9
Yes, both	22.5	20.2	23.6	18.6	22.3
No, Neither	37.9	40.9	37.0	40.0	38.1
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	11490	2752	2326	1911	18479

Sample: All MCS Mothers (natural, adoptive, step, foster).

Table 10.49 Percentages of mothers who use a computer at work, college or home, by type of ward.

Use a computer at work, college or at home	Type of Ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic* (%)	
Yes, at work or college	13.7	14.2	10.2	13.7
Yes, at home	29.4	20.9	16.6	25.9
Yes, both	27.7	14.9	8.8	22.3
No, Neither	29.3	50.0	64.4	38.1
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	7300	8802	2377	18479

Sample: All MCS Mothers (natural, adoptive, step, foster). * Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 10.50 Percentages of mothers who use a computer at work, college or home, by country and type of ward.

Country by Type of Ward	Use a computer at work, college or at home				Total (%)	Sample Size (N)
	Yes, at work or college (%)	Yes, at home (%)	Yes, both (%)	No, Neither (%)		
England Advantaged	12.7	30.4	27.8	29.1	**100.0**	4608
England Disadvantaged	13.5	21.6	15.1	49.8	**100.0**	4505
England Ethnic	10.2	16.6	8.8	64.4	**100.0**	2377
Wales Advantaged	19.6	22.0	27.1	31.3	**100.0**	831
Wales Disadvantaged	13.7	22.0	12.1	52.3	**100.0**	1921
Scotland Advantaged	15.3	26.4	28.2	30.0	**100.0**	1142
Scotland Disadvantaged	18.2	17.4	16.3	48.1	**100.0**	1184
NI Advantaged	26.0	21.4	24.5	28.1	**100.0**	719
NI Disadvantaged	18.9	15.7	12.1	53.4	**100.0**	1192
				TOTAL SAMPLE SIZE		**18479**

Sample: All MCS Mothers (natural, adoptive, step, foster).

Table 10.51 Percentages of fathers who use a computer at work, college or home, by country.

Use a computer at work, college or at home	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	NI (%)	
Yes, at work or college	16.7	20.9	17.2	20.4	17.1
Yes, at home	15.4	16.0	15.2	17.3	15.5
Yes, both	42.6	34.4	41.1	28.1	41.5
No, Neither	25.3	28.8	26.5	34.1	25.9
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	8322	1905	1706	1268	13201

Sample: All MCS Fathers (natural, adoptive, step, foster).

Table 10.52 Percentages of fathers who use a computer at work, college or home, by type of ward.

Use a computer at work, college or at home	Type of Ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic* (%)	
Yes, at work or college	17.1	17.4	15.4	17.1
Yes, at home	14.3	18.1	14.4	15.5
Yes, both	49.7	26.5	18.4	41.5
No, Neither	18.9	38.0	51.8	25.9
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	6016	5744	1441	13201

Sample: All MCS Fathers (natural, adoptive, step, foster). * Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 10.53 Percentages of fathers who use a computer at work, college or home, by country and type of ward.

Country by Type of Ward	Use a computer at work, college or at home				Total (%)	Sample Size (N)
	Yes, at work or college (%)	Yes, at home (%)	Yes, both (%)	No, Neither (%)		
England Advantaged	16.7	14.2	50.8	18.2	**100.0**	3845
England Disadvantaged	17.0	18.4	27.0	37.5	**100.0**	3036
England Ethnic	15.4	14.5	18.4	51.7	**100.0**	1441
Wales Advantaged	22.4	14.7	41.2	21.8	**100.0**	662
Wales Disadvantaged	18.7	17.9	24.4	38.9	**100.0**	1243
Scotland Advantaged	16.5	14.5	48.0	20.9	**100.0**	922
Scotland Disadvantaged	18.8	16.3	27.8	37.1	**100.0**	784
NI Advantaged	21.3	17.0	35.6	26.1	**100.0**	587
NI Disadvantaged	19.1	17.8	16.2	47.0	**100.0**	681
				TOTAL SAMPLE SIZE		**13201**

Sample: All MCS Fathers (natural, adoptive, step, foster).

Table 10.54 Percentage of mothers who are linked to the Internet at work, college or home, by country.

Linked to the Internet at work, college or at home	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	NI (%)	
Yes, at work or college	9.6	12.7	11.1	15.6	10.1
Yes, at home	29.8	24.0	27.2	23.8	29.0
Yes, both	16.8	13.7	17.1	12.5	16.5
No, Neither	43.9	49.6	44.5	48.1	44.4
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	11484	2750	2326	1910	18470

Sample: All MCS Mothers (natural, adoptive, step, foster).

Table 10.55 Percentage of mothers who are linked to the Internet at work, college or home, by type of ward.

Linked to the Internet at work, college or at home	Type of Ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic* (%)	
Yes, at work or college	10.5	10.0	6.0	10.1
Yes, at home	33.9	22.3	15.2	29.0
Yes, both	21.0	9.9	6.5	16.5
No, Neither	34.6	57.8	72.3	44.4
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	7298	8796	2376	18470

Sample: All MCS Mothers (natural, adoptive, step, foster). * Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 10.56 Percentage of mothers who are linked to the Internet at work, college or home, by country and type of ward.

Country by Type of Ward	Linked to the Internet at work, college or at home				Total (%)	Sample Size (N)
	Yes, at work or college (%)	Yes, at home (%)	Yes, both (%)	No, Neither (%)		
England Advantaged	10.1	34.7	21.2	33.9	**100.0**	4605
England Disadvantaged	9.4	22.9	10.1	57.7	**100.0**	4503
England Ethnic	6.0	15.2	6.5	72.3	**100.0**	2376
Wales Advantaged	14.4	26.6	18.9	40.1	**100.0**	831
Wales Disadvantaged	10.6	20.9	7.7	60.9	**100.0**	1919
Scotland Advantaged	10.1	31.4	21.0	37.5	**100.0**	1142
Scotland Disadvantaged	12.8	20.6	11.0	55.7	**100.0**	1184
NI Advantaged	16.9	29.9	16.9	36.3	**100.0**	720
NI Disadvantaged	14.0	17.0	7.6	61.4	**100.0**	1190
				TOTAL SAMPLE SIZE		**18470**

Sample: All MCS Mothers (natural, adoptive, step, foster).

Table 10.57 Percentage of fathers who are linked to the Internet at work, college or home, by country.

Linked to the Internet at work, college or at home	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	NI (%)	
Yes, at work or college	14.5	16.7	13.2	15.8	14.5
Yes, at home	19.0	19.5	19.6	21.0	19.2
Yes, both	34.6	25.6	32.7	21.8	33.5
No, Neither	31.8	38.2	34.6	41.4	32.8
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	8316	1905	1705	1267	13193

Sample: All MCS Fathers (natural, adoptive, step, foster).

Table 10.58 Percentage of fathers who are linked to the Internet at work, college or home, by type of ward.

Linked to the Internet at work, college or at home	Type of Ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic* (%)	
Yes, at work or college	15.3	13.2	10.9	14.5
Yes, at home	19.1	20.0	13.7	19.2
Yes, both	40.9	19.9	14.4	33.5
No, Neither	24.7	46.9	61.0	32.8
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	6016	5737	1440	13193

Sample: All MCS Fathers (natural, adoptive, step, foster). * Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 10.59 Percentage of fathers who are linked to the Internet at work, college or home, by country and type of ward.

Country by Type of Ward	Linked to the Internet at work, college or at home				Total (%)	Sample Size (N)
	Yes, at work or college (%)	Yes, at home (%)	Yes, both (%)	No, Neither (%)		
England Advantaged	15.4	18.8	42.1	23.7	**100.0**	3845
England Disadvantaged	12.8	20.4	20.3	46.4	**100.0**	3031
England Ethnic	11.0	13.7	14.4	61.0	**100.0**	1440
Wales Advantaged	19.0	19.6	31.4	29.9	**100.0**	662
Wales Disadvantaged	13.3	19.3	17.2	50.2	**100.0**	1243
Scotland Advantaged	12.3	20.5	38.6	28.6	**100.0**	922
Scotland Disadvantaged	15.1	17.9	21.1	46.0	**100.0**	783
NI Advantaged	16.2	22.3	27.9	33.6	**100.0**	587
NI Disadvantaged	15.1	18.8	11.9	54.1	**100.0**	680
				TOTAL SAMPLE SIZE		**13193**

Sample: All MCS Fathers (natural, adoptive, step, foster).

Table 10.60 Percentages of mothers who can read aloud to a child from a children's storybook, by country.

Can read aloud from a children's storybook	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	NI (%)	
Yes, easily	94.0	93.7	94.3	87.4	93.8
Yes, with difficulty	1.6	1.3	1.2	1.4	1.5
No	4.4	5.0	4.5	11.3	4.7
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	11489	2752	2326	1911	18478

Sample: All MCS Mothers (natural, adoptive, step, foster).

Table 10.61 Percentages of mothers who can read aloud to a child from a children's storybook, by type of ward.

Can read aloud from a children's storybook	Type of Ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic* (%)	
Yes, easily	94.2	93.9	87.9	93.8
Yes, with difficulty	1.1	1.9	4.1	1.5
No	4.7	4.2	8.0	4.7
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	7301	8801	2376	18478

Sample: All MCS Mothers (natural, adoptive, step, foster). * Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 10.62 Percentages of mothers who can read aloud to a child from a children's storybook, by country and type of ward.

Country by Type of Ward	Can read aloud from a children's storybook			Total (%)	Sample Size (N)
	Yes, easily (%)	Yes, with difficulty (%)	No (%)		
England Advantaged	94.5	1.1	4.4	**100.0**	4608
England Disadvantaged	94.2	2.0	3.8	**100.0**	4505
England Ethnic	87.9	4.1	8.0	**100.0**	2376
Wales Advantaged	93.9	1.2	4.9	**100.0**	831
Wales Disadvantaged	93.5	1.4	5.0	**100.0**	1921
Scotland Advantaged	95.0	1.0	4.0	**100.0**	1142
Scotland Disadvantaged	93.2	1.5	5.2	**100.0**	1184
NI Advantaged	85.0	0.8	14.2	**100.0**	720
NI Disadvantaged	90.0	1.9	8.1	**100.0**	1191
				TOTAL SAMPLE SIZE	**18478**

Sample: All MCS Mothers (natural, adoptive, step, foster).

Table 10.63 Percentages of fathers who can read aloud to a child from a children's storybook, by country.

Can read aloud from a children's storybook	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	NI (%)	
Yes, easily	93.2	91.9	94.3	86.8	93.0
Yes, with difficulty	2.9	1.9	1.7	2.3	2.7
No	4.0	6.2	3.9	10.9	4.3
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	8321	1905	1706	1268	13200

Sample: All MCS Fathers (natural, adoptive, step, foster).

Table 10.64 Percentages of fathers who can read aloud to a child from a children's storybook, by type of ward.

Can read aloud from a children's storybook	Type of Ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic* (%)	
Yes, easily	93.4	92.5	90.4	93.0
Yes, with difficulty	2.3	3.3	3.9	2.7
No	4.3	4.1	5.6	4.3
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	6015	5744	1441	13200

Sample: All MCS Fathers (natural, adoptive, step, foster). * Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 10.65 Percentages of fathers who can read aloud to a child from a children's storybook, by country and type of ward.

Country by Type of Ward	Can read aloud from a children's storybook			Total	Sample Size
	Yes, easily (%)	Yes, with difficulty (%)	No (%)	**(%)**	**(N)**
England Advantaged	93.6	2.4	4.0	**100.0**	3844
England Disadvantaged	92.6	3.6	3.8	**100.0**	3036
England Ethnic	90.4	4.0	5.7	**100.0**	1441
Wales Advantaged	91.1	1.7	7.3	**100.0**	662
Wales Disadvantaged	93.0	2.3	4.7	**100.0**	1243
Scotland Advantaged	94.8	1.8	3.4	**100.0**	922
Scotland Disadvantaged	93.4	1.5	5.1	**100.0**	784
NI Advantaged	86.0	1.4	12.6	**100.0**	587
NI Disadvantaged	88.1	3.8	8.1	**100.0**	681
				TOTAL SAMPLE SIZE	**13200**

Sample: All MCS Fathers (natural, adoptive, step, foster).

Table 10.66 Percentages of mothers who can usually read and fill out forms, by country.

Can usually read and fill out forms	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	**Wales (%)**	**Scotland (%)**	**NI (%)**	
Yes, easily	94.2	95.5	95.4	90.7	94.2
Yes, with difficulty	2.9	2.6	2.0	2.2	2.8
No	3.0	1.9	2.7	7.0	3.0
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	11487	2752	2326	1911	18476

Sample: All MCS Mothers (natural, adoptive, step, foster).

Table 10.67 Percentages of mothers who can usually read and fill out forms, by type of ward.

Can usually read and fill out forms	Type of Ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic* (%)	
Yes, easily	95.4	93.2	86.2	94.2
Yes, with difficulty	1.9	3.9	5.4	2.8
No	2.6	3.0	8.4	3.0
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	7301	8801	2374	18476

Sample: All MCS Mothers (natural, adoptive, step, foster). * Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 10.68 Percentages of mothers who can usually read and fill out forms, by country and type of ward.

Country by Type of Ward	Can usually read and fill out forms			Total (%)	Sample Size (N)
	Yes, easily (%)	Yes, with difficulty (%)	No (%)		
England Advantaged	95.5	2.1	2.5	**100.0**	4608
England Disadvantaged	93.0	4.0	3.0	**100.0**	4505
England Ethnic	86.2	5.4	8.4	**100.0**	2374
Wales Advantaged	96.5	2.3	1.2	**100.0**	831
Wales Disadvantaged	94.3	3.0	2.7	**100.0**	1921
Scotland Advantaged	96.1	1.2	2.6	**100.0**	1142
Scotland Disadvantaged	94.2	3.1	2.7	**100.0**	1184
NI Advantaged	89.6	0.7	9.7	**100.0**	720
NI Disadvantaged	92.0	3.9	4.0	**100.0**	1191
			TOTAL SAMPLE SIZE		**18476**

Sample: All MCS Mothers (natural, adoptive, step, foster).

Table 10.69 Percentages of fathers who can usually read and fill out forms, by country.

Can usually read and fill out forms	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	NI (%)	
Yes, easily	92.8	93.4	94.1	88.2	92.8
Yes, with difficulty	4.1	3.5	3.1	3.5	3.9
No	3.1	3.0	2.8	8.3	3.3
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	8321	1905	1706	1268	13200

Sample: All MCS Fathers (natural, adoptive, step, foster).

Table 10.70 Percentages of fathers who can usually read and fill out forms, by type of ward.

Can usually read and fill out forms	Type of Ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic* (%)	
Yes, easily	93.7	91.3	89.1	92.8
Yes, with difficulty	3.2	5.2	5.3	3.9
No	3.0	3.5	5.6	3.3
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	6015	5744	1441	13200

Sample: All MCS Fathers (natural, adoptive, step, foster). * Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 10.71 Percentages of fathers who can usually read and fill out forms, by country and type of ward.

Country by Type of Ward	Can usually read and fill out forms			Total	Sample Size
	Yes, easily (%)	Yes, with difficulty (%)	No (%)	(%)	(N)
England Advantaged	93.8	3.3	2.9	**100.0**	3844
England Disadvantaged	91.1	5.6	3.3	**100.0**	3036
England Ethnic	89.0	5.3	5.7	**100.0**	1441
Wales Advantaged	94.1	3.0	2.9	**100.0**	662
Wales Disadvantaged	92.4	4.3	3.3	**100.0**	1243
Scotland Advantaged	94.5	3.3	2.3	**100.0**	922
Scotland Disadvantaged	93.4	2.8	3.8	**100.0**	784
NI Advantaged	88.1	1.9	10.1	**100.0**	587
NI Disadvantaged	88.4	6.0	5.6	**100.0**	681
				TOTAL SAMPLE SIZE	**13200**

Sample: All MCS Fathers (natural, adoptive, step, foster).

Table 10.72 Percentage of mothers who can usually tell if they have the right change from purchases, by country.

Can usually tell if have the right change from purchases	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	NI (%)	
Yes, easily	97.1	97.5	97.4	93.1	97.0
Yes, with difficulty	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.9
No	2.0	1.7	2.0	6.3	2.1
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	11488	2752	2326	1910	18476

Sample: All MCS Mothers (natural, adoptive, step, foster).

Table 10.73 Percentage of mothers who can usually tell if they have the right change from purchases, by type of ward.

Can usually tell if have the right change from purchases	Type of Ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic* (%)	
Yes, easily	97.2	96.9	94.8	97.0
Yes, with difficulty	0.6	1.3	2.3	0.9
No	2.2	1.8	3.0	2.1
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	7301	8800	2375	18476

Sample: All MCS Mothers (natural, adoptive, step, foster). * Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 10.74 Percentage of mothers who can usually tell if they have the right change from purchases, by country and type of ward.

Country by Type of Ward	Can usually tell if have the right change from purchases			Total (%)	Sample Size (N)
	Yes, easily (%)	Yes, with difficulty (%)	No (%)		
England Advantaged	97.4	0.6	2.0	**100.0**	4608
England Disadvantaged	96.9	1.3	1.8	**100.0**	4505
England Ethnic	94.7	2.3	3.0	**100.0**	2375
Wales Advantaged	97.7	0.5	1.8	**100.0**	831
Wales Disadvantaged	97.3	1.0	1.7	**100.0**	1921
Scotland Advantaged	97.6	0.4	2.0	**100.0**	1142
Scotland Disadvantaged	97.0	1.2	1.9	**100.0**	1184
NI Advantaged	90.3	0.1	9.6	**100.0**	720
NI Disadvantaged	96.2	1.2	2.6	**100.0**	1190
			TOTAL SAMPLE SIZE		**18476**

Sample: All MCS Mothers (natural, adoptive, step, foster).

Table 10.75 Percentages of fathers who can usually tell if they have the right change from purchases, by country.

Can usually tell if have the right change from purchases	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	NI (%)	
Yes, easily	97.6	97.5	97.6	92.1	97.4
Yes, with difficulty	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.5	0.5
No	1.8	2.1	2.1	7.4	2.0
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	8321	1905	1706	1268	13200

Sample: All MCS Fathers (natural, adoptive, step, foster).

Table 10.76 Percentages of fathers who can usually tell if they have the right change from purchases, by type of ward.

Can usually tell if have the right change from purchases	Type of Ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic* (%)	
Yes, easily	97.5	97.4	96.8	97.4
Yes, with difficulty	0.4	0.6	1.3	0.5
No	2.1	2.0	1.9	2.0
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	6015	5744	1441	13200

Sample: All MCS Fathers (natural, adoptive, step, foster). * Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 10.77 Percentages of fathers who can usually tell if they have the right change from purchases, by country and type of ward.

Country by Type of Ward	Can usually tell if have the right change from purchases			Total	Sample Size
	Yes, easily (%)	Yes, with difficulty (%)	No (%)	(%)	(N)
England Advantaged	97.7	0.5	1.8	**100.0**	3844
England Disadvantaged	97.6	0.7	1.8	**100.0**	3036
England Ethnic	96.9	1.2	1.8	**100.0**	1441
Wales Advantaged	97.6	0.2	2.3	**100.0**	662
Wales Disadvantaged	97.3	0.8	1.9	**100.0**	1243
Scotland Advantaged	97.7	0.3	2.0	**100.0**	922
Scotland Disadvantaged	97.3	0.3	2.4	**100.0**	784
NI Advantaged	90.6	0.2	9.2	**100.0**	587
NI Disadvantaged	94.4	1.0	4.6	**100.0**	681
				TOTAL SAMPLE SIZE	**13200**

Sample: All MCS Fathers (natural, adoptive, step, foster).

Table 10.78 Percentage of mothers who have been on any courses to improve their reading or number skills, by country.

Whether mother has been on any courses to improve their reading or number skills	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	NI (%)	
Yes, reading	1.7	1.1	0.5	0.6	1.5
Yes, number	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.5	0.5
Yes, both	1.2	1.0	0.2	0.7	1.1
No, Neither	96.6	97.5	98.9	98.3	96.9
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	11484	2752	2326	1912	18474

Sample: All MCS mothers (natural, adoptive, step, foster).

Table 10.79 Percentage of mothers who have been on any courses to improve their reading or number skills, by type of ward.

Whether mother has been on any courses to improve their reading or number skills	Type of Ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic* (%)	
Yes, reading	0.9	2.0	6.4	1.5
Yes, number	0.4	0.6	1.0	0.5
Yes, both	0.7	1.4	4.6	1.1
No, Neither	98.1	96.0	88.0	96.9
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	7301	8802	2371	18474

Sample: All MCS mothers (natural, adoptive, step, foster). * Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 10.80 Percentage of fathers who have been on any courses to improve their reading or number skills, by country.

Whether father has been on any courses to improve their reading or number skills	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	NI (%)	
Yes, reading	2.2	1.8	1.3	1.0	2.0
Yes, number	0.5	0.5	0.2	0.5	0.4
Yes, both	1.1	1.1	0.5	0.5	1.1
No, Neither	96.2	96.7	98.0	97.9	96.5
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	8319	1905	1706	1268	13198

Sample: All MCS Fathers (natural, adoptive, step, foster).

Table 10.81 Percentage of fathers who have been on any courses to improve their reading or number skills, by type of ward.

Whether father has been on any courses to improve their reading or number skills	Type of Ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic* (%)	
Yes, reading	1.6	2.4	7.0	2.0
Yes, number	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.4
Yes, both	0.6	1.5	5.6	1.1
No, Neither	97.4	95.7	86.8	96.5
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	6015	5744	1439	13198

Sample: All MCS Fathers (natural, adoptive, step, foster). * Ethnic wards are all in England.

11. CHILDCARE

Shirley Dex, Kelly Ward

SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

Childcare has become an important policy issue in the UK. The government's target to address and reduce child poverty in the UK has childcare as one of its major planks. This is because an important component of addressing child poverty is getting parents, especially lone parents, off benefits and into employment. For this transition to be practical, these parents are assumed to need subsidised childcare, provided, since 2003, through Child Care Tax credits and, at the time of the MCS, sweep one survey, a Childcare Credit which was included as part of the Working Families Tax Credit.

11.1. Main carer while at work or at other times

Who is the main carer of your baby while you are at work? Apart from when you are at work does anyone else apart from yourself and your partner regularly look after the baby?

The Millennium Cohort Study asked parents about their use of childcare, specifically for the cohort baby, in two parts. Main respondents (the main carer and usually the mother) who were employed or full-time students, were asked what childcare arrangements were used for the period while they were working or at college. All respondents were asked if they used childcare at any other time and, if so, what types they used. Some of these responses came from employed or student parents, who made childcare arrangements additional to those to cover work or college. Under half of the childcare arrangements for other than employment reasons, were from employed or student parents. In both of the MCS questions, the different arrangements used by parents were recorded, for as many types as parents indicated. The responses given to these questions are described in Table 11.1.

Nearly all the employed or student parents reported making some arrangements for childcare, although in some cases care was carried out by themselves (5.7%; Table A11.1), either because they could take their child to work with them or they worked at home and could manage work and care. The figures for the employed or students who reported care arrangements in Table 11.1 include a small proportion of main respondents

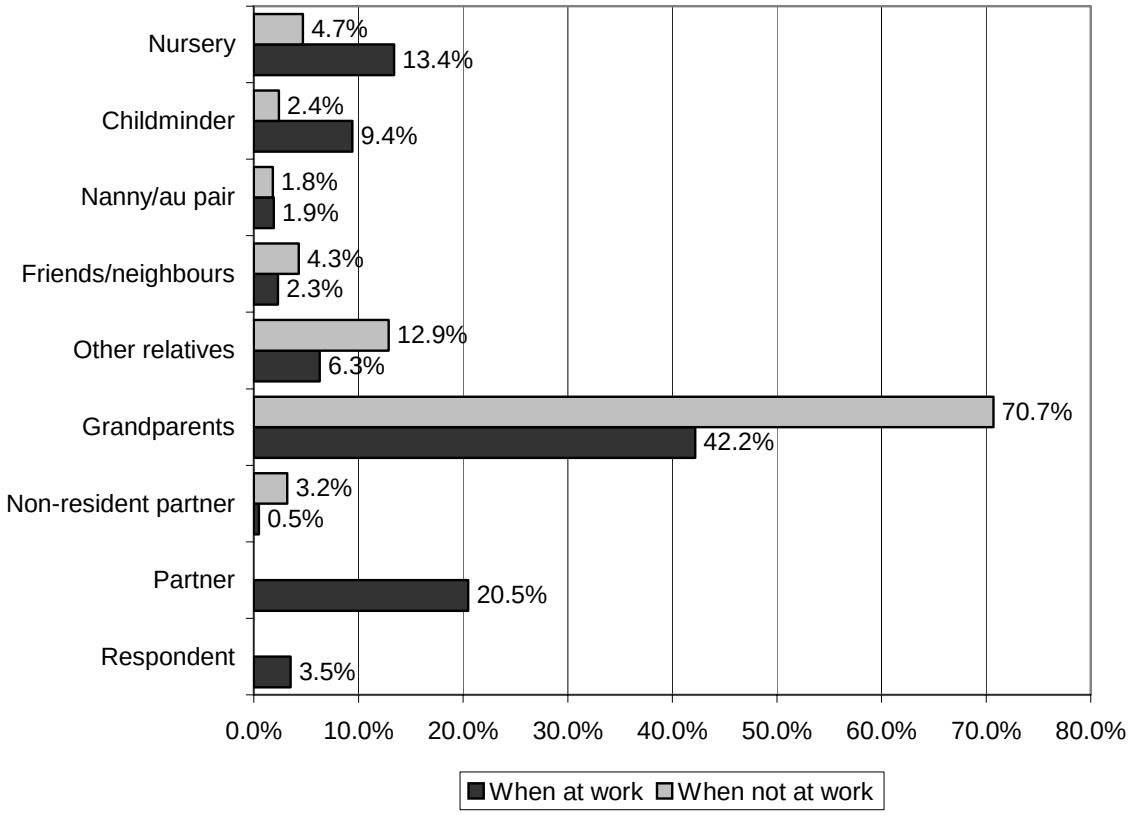
who provided childcare themselves, for reasons described above. (All other Tables omit this small group.) Overall, two thirds or more of the main respondents made some sort of child care arrangements. Approximately one-fifth to one quarter of main respondents made arrangements for children to be cared for outside of needing childcare cover for employment or full-time education.

11.2. Childcare by fathers

Partners could provide care for the cohort child while the main respondent worked (see Table 11.2).

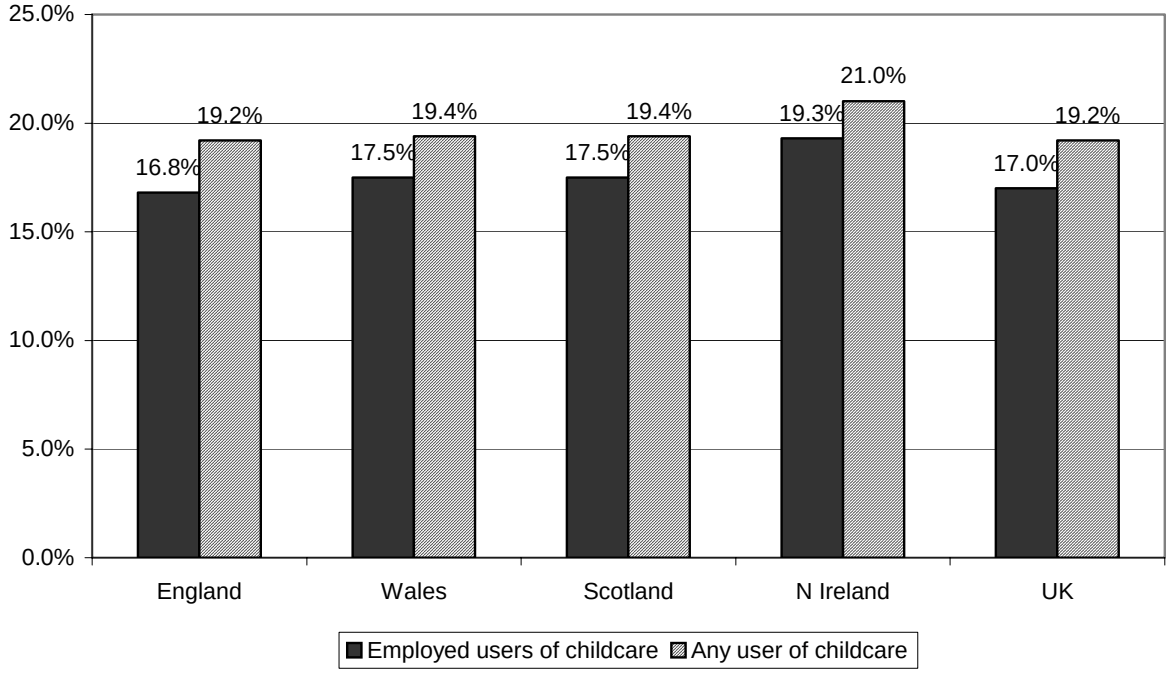
Between a quarter and a third of fathers in different wards were assisting in the childcare of the cohort baby while mothers worked, not necessarily as sole carers. Fathers' participation in childcare was greater where mothers were employed and living in disadvantaged wards, except in Scotland. However, mothers were far more likely to be employed in advantaged wards compared with disadvantaged wards or wards with high minority ethnic populations. Northern Ireland had the lowest participation of fathers in childcare, across the UK countries.

Figure 11.1 Types of childcare used when main respondent a) at work or college and b) at other times.



Sample: a) Main respondents 'employed or full time students or
b) All main respondents

Figure 11.2 Per cent of main respondents' using formal childcare.



Sample: a) Main respondents employed or full time students
b) All Main respondents

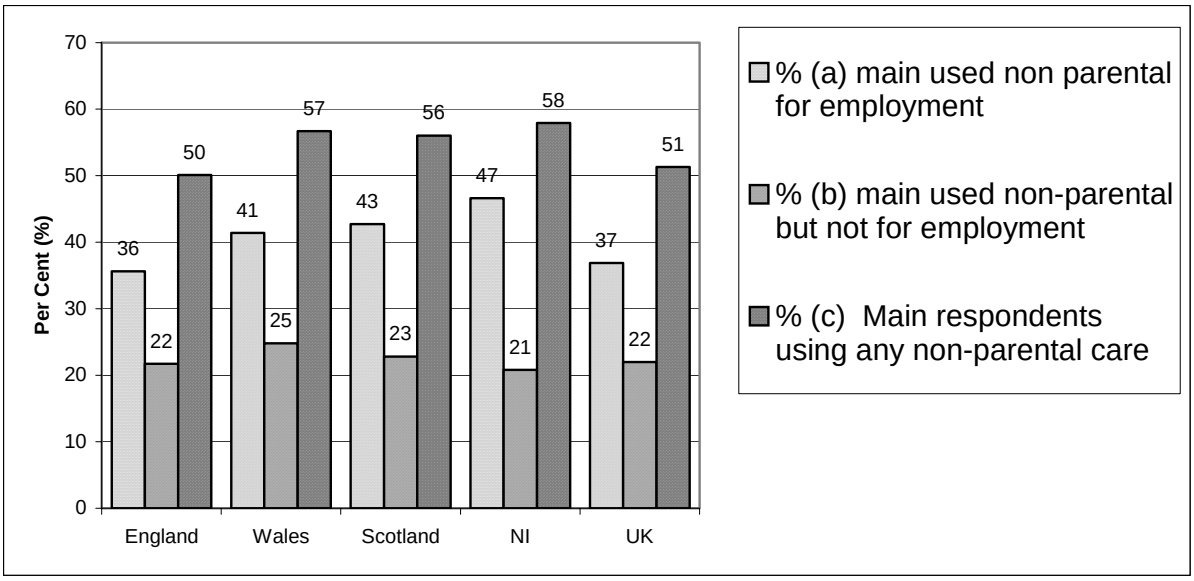
11.3. Types of childcare

A range of different types of childcare were used (see Figure 11.1, Table A11.1). These figures have aggregated the multiple responses. It is clear that grandparents play a large role in the care of the cohort babies when they were 9-10 months old, while babies' mothers were at work and at other times. These results are consistent with other findings that informal arrangements using grandparents, partners, family and friends constitute a substantial proportion of child carers for young children in the UK. However, since we do not know the hours they spent on the various arrangements when there is more than one arrangement, we cannot say which type of care is most significant at this point in the child's life.

Formal arrangements constituted only approximately one fifth of arrangements (Figure 11.2) and were most common in Northern Ireland and least common in England. Some of the childcare arrangements made for reasons of work or college were also formal arrangements, as Figure 11.2 displays.

Figure 11.3 displays the extent of non-parental childcare by country for different reasons. There are sizeable variations by country in the extent of using non-parental care for reasons of employment or full-time education although less variation in the use of non-parental care for reasons outside of employment or full-time education.

Figure 11.3 Main respondent's use of non-parental childcare by country.

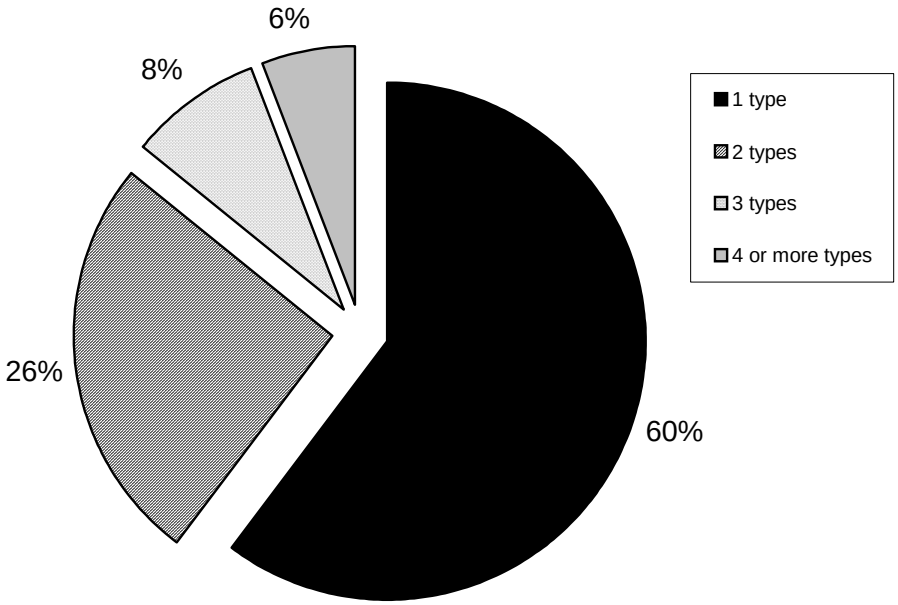


Sample: MCS a) main respondents employed or full time students b) All main respondents c) All main respondents

11.4. Number of different types of care

The number of different types of care used for any reason by those using some form of childcare is displayed in Figure 11.4. The majority (60.0%) used one main type of care; a quarter used two types and which smaller proportions used three or 4 or more types of care arrangements. The maximum number of arrangements used, by very few families, was 6 for covering employment, but up to 10 types when childcare for any reason was added in (Tables A11.2 and A11.3).

Figure 11.4 Number of types of non-parental childcare used, by those using any.

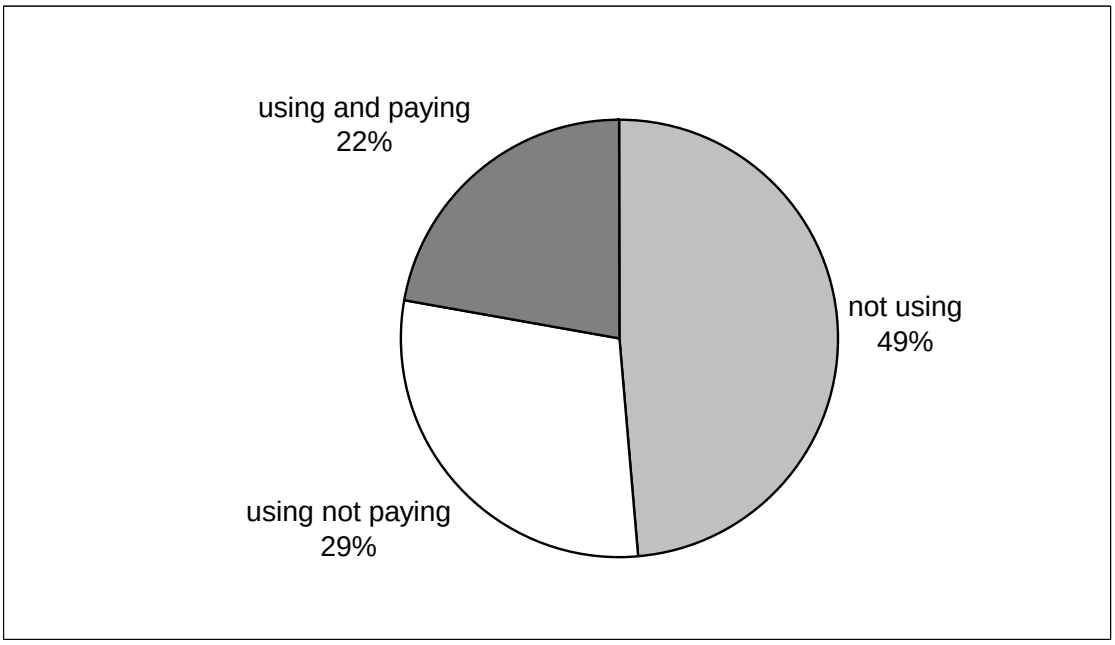


Sample: MCS main respondents who used any non-parental childcare either while they were at work or college or at other times.

11.5. Paying for child care

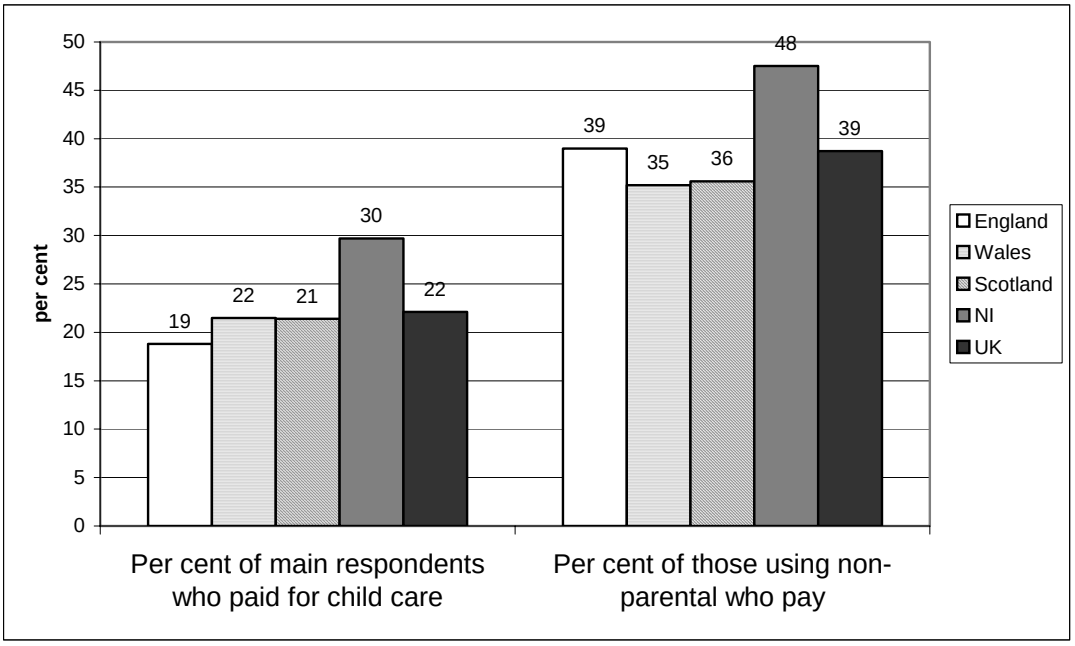
Payment for childcare has been seen as a problem for some families, hence the subsidy. MCS parents were asked about payments for childcare separate to the arrangements they made. It is not always possible, in these data, to link payment to the type of care it pays for, where more than one arrangement is in place. As Figure 11.5 shows, 22 per cent of MCS families were using and paying for childcare. A further 29 per cent were using but not paying for childcare. Northern Ireland has the highest proportion of families paying for childcare (Figure 11.6) (who also had the highest proportion of families using formal child care arrangements above). Once those using parental care were subtracted from the sample, the proportion of parents who pay for childcare increased substantially. Again Northern Ireland had the highest proportion of families paying for child care (47%), but the lowest level of using but not paying for child care (Figure 11.7).

Figure 11.5 Use and payment for Childcare, UK.



Sample: MCS main respondents.

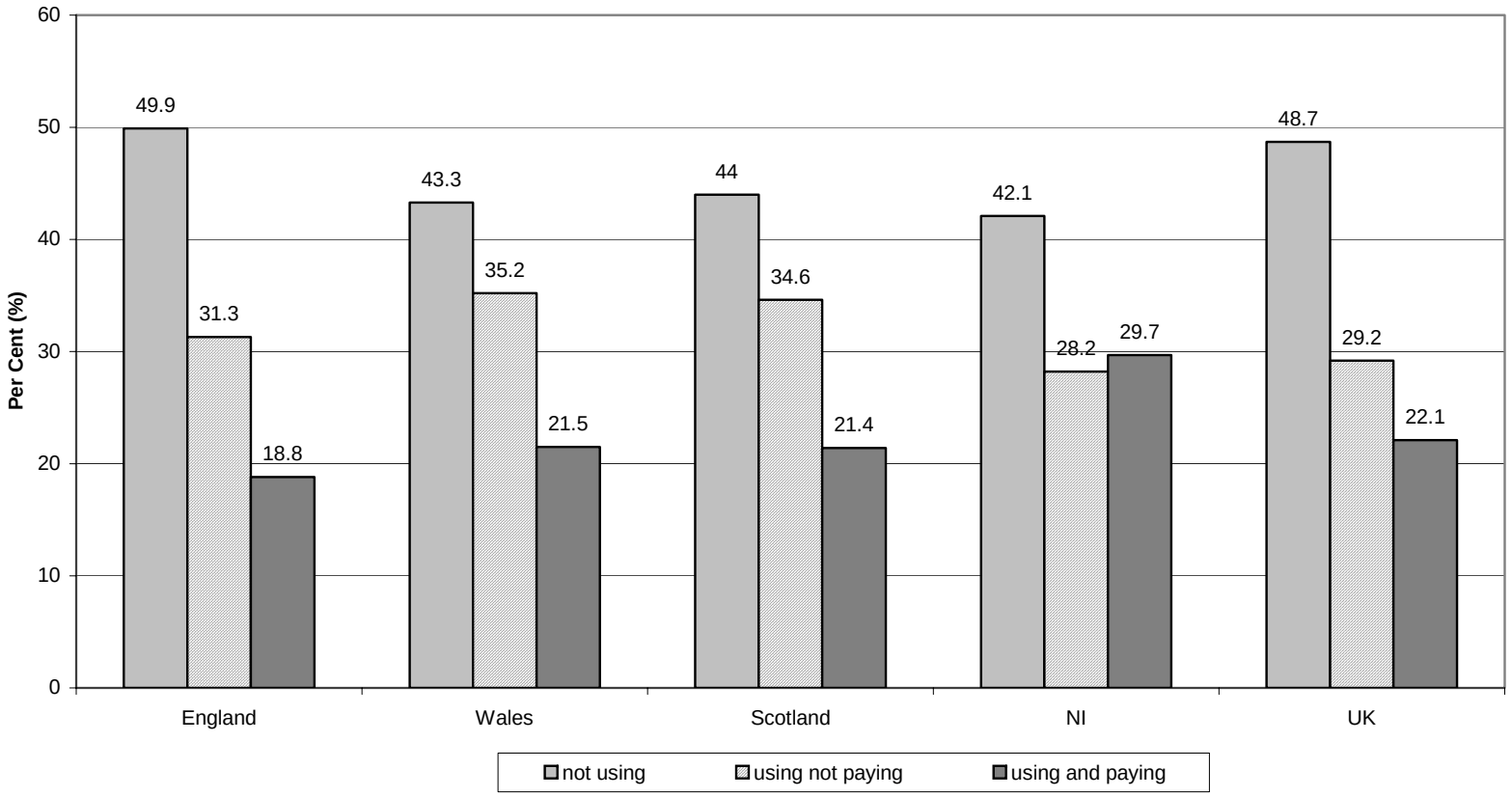
Figure 11.6 Payment for childcare.



Sample: MCS main respondents who used childcare

Figure 11.7

Paying for childcare



Sample: All MCS main respondents

Table 11.1 Responses on childcare in first sweep of MCS

Childcare Responses	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	N Ireland (%)	
% main respondents reporting care while employed or full time student *	44.8	48.5	50.3	52.1	45.8
% employed or full time students reporting use of childcare at other times **	9.3	11.1	11.4	10.7	9.7
% reporting use of care when they are not employed or full-time student ***	12.8	11.8	11.8	11.0	12.7
% total main respondents reporting childcare *	66.9	71.4	73.5	73.8	68.2
N	**9880**	**2726**	**2302**	**1931**	**18392**

Sample: * All MCS Main Respondents. **All employed or full-time student main respondents
*** Main respondents not employed or full-time students

Table 11.2 Per cent of employed mothers in country and ward who used resident or non-resident fathers for childcare while employed.

Type of ward	Country			
	England % (N)	Wales % (N)	Scotland % (N)	N Ireland % (N)
Advantaged	28.8 (2183)	27.6 (440)	25.6 (595)	15.6 (416)
Disadvantaged	32.8 (1689)	30.4 (723)	23.7 (531)	18.6 (514)
Ethnic	23.9 (460)			
Sample Size (N)	**4332**	**1163**	**1126**	**930**
			Total Sample Size	**7551**

Sample: All MCS main respondents who were employed or full time students in each ward/country.

12. INCOME AND BENEFITS

Shirley Dex, Kelly Ward and Heather Joshi

SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

12.1. Income

'Usual annual take home income of parent or parents?'

Main respondents were asked to give information about their personal earnings and their net annual household incomes. They were asked to locate their earnings and incomes in a set of bands. Two sets of annual household income bands were used; one for couple households and one for lone parent households. The bands were devised to show approximately equivalent purchasing power given number of adults only when reading across from one scale to another with couple parent bands being equal to 1.6 times the equivalent level of income for a lone parent. The responses across all UK parents on the two separate scales are displayed in Table 12.1. Note that only 7.5 per cent of main respondents were unable or declined to answer this question.

The two sets of net household incomes have been combined and grouped, for further analysis into 4 groups; very low, low, intermediate, and high household incomes as indicated in Table 12.2. No attempt has yet been made to approximate the 'official child poverty line'. Proportionately more lone parents were in the very low or low income categories.

The country breakdowns of these annual household income groupings are displayed in Table 12.3. Wales has a higher proportion than other countries of very low household incomes (20.6%) compared to the average for the UK of 16.6 per cent. The figures in Table 12.5 show that this difference is not a product of sample design and composition since the lower incomes of families in Wales are still evident when controlling for type of ward. However, these figures show that it is the low incomes of those living in advantaged areas that are an important factor in families in Wales appearing to have lower incomes than families in other countries.

High household incomes were more likely overall in England and Wales than in Scotland and Northern Ireland (Table 12.3). Again the breakdown by country and ward shows that England and Scotland retain this advantage in the advantaged wards, but only Scotland had a substantially higher proportion of families than the other countries with high household incomes in the disadvantaged wards.

The differences in income distributions between types of ward are broadly as we might expect (Table 12.4). Larger proportions of families with very low and low household incomes are found in disadvantaged wards. Wards with high minority ethnic populations were at the bottom of the household income distribution with 40.4 per cent of families having very low incomes compared with 10.4 per cent of families in advantaged wards and 28.3 per cent in disadvantaged wards of the UK. At the high end of the income distribution, 33.6 per cent of advantaged wards, but only 11.6 per cent of disadvantaged wards and 8.9 per cent of families in wards with high minority ethnic populations had high household incomes. These differences remained after controlling for country (Table 12.5), leaving some country differences as well, as mentioned above. However, differences between types of ward are very large compared with the much smaller variations across UK countries.

12.2. Additional income – government sources

Do you or your husband receive any additional income?

Table 12.6 shows the extent of other sources of income from government coming into these families at the time of the interview, from information supplied by the main respondent. Child Benefit was clearly the income source that almost all these families received. Given that the sample was drawn from the Child Benefit register it might be expected that this should be 100 per cent. However, some respondents may have omitted to report Child Benefit and a few families, identified by health visitors as moving into the survey areas very recently, may not have been in receipt of child benefit if they were international migrants to the UK.

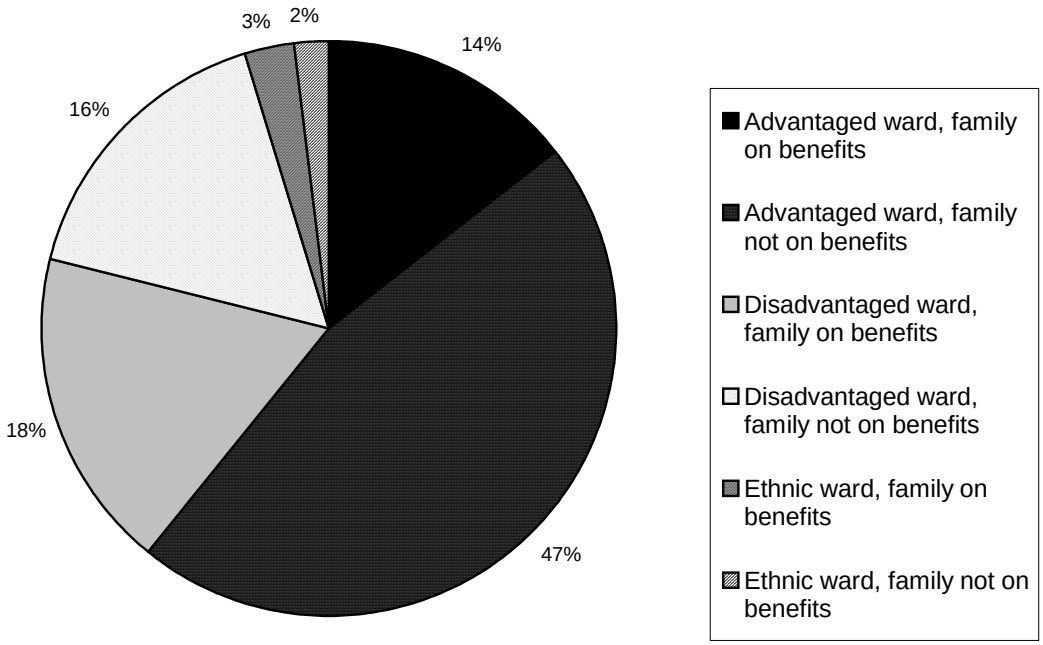
Approximately one sixth of families in each country, but one-fifth in Wales were receiving Working Families Tax Credit at the interview, and similar proportions were receiving Children's Tax Credit, except in Northern Ireland where the receipt of Children's Tax Credit was much lower than the receipt of Working Families Tax Credit.

Income Support (15.6% of the UK sample), housing benefit (13.5% for the UK) and council tax benefit (12.5% for the UK) were the only other benefits being received by sizeable proportions of families. There properties also varied across the UK countries, mostly in small ways. 2.7 per cent of UK families were receiving disability living allowance, but 4.8 per cent in Northern Ireland, which also had a slightly higher proportion of families receiving incapacity benefit.

The breakdown of other sources of income from government (Table 12.7) shows a clear gradient for sources being received by sizeable groups; Working Families Tax Credit, Income Support, Housing Benefit and Council Tax Credit. The proportions receiving these additions to household income were higher in disadvantaged compared with advantaged wards and, in many cases, higher in wards with high minority ethnic populations compared with disadvantaged wards. One benefit that did not follow this progression was Children's

Tax Credit. These differences remain after controlling for country and type of ward (Table A12.1) where the groups are large enough to allow further breakdown. Country differences appear greater after controlling for type of ward.

Figure 12.1 Families on benefit by type of ward



Sample: All MCS main respondents
Note: Benefits are means tested. Percentage re-weighted to reflect proportion in population
Disadvantaged wards: High proportion of children in families receiving income support, housing benefit and family credit.
Benefits reported at interview: Income support, Disabled tax credit, Working families tax credit.

12.3. Additional income – other sources

Main respondents were also asked about eleven other sources of income to the household at the interview (Table 12.8). In all cases, the frequencies of receipt of these other sources are very small. Maintenance allowances were received by 4 per cent of families, but a higher proportion (12.6%) of lone parents and hardly at all by families living in wards with high minority ethnic populations (0.7%). Income from investments was being received by 6.0 per cent of families, but 8.5 per cent of those living in advantaged wards, 2.0 per cent in disadvantaged and 1.0 per cent in wards with high minority ethnic populations. While there were country differences in receipt of these other sources of income, the sample sizes are too small to make analyses worth carrying out.

12.4. Money management and savings

Have you (and your partner) had a bank, building society or post office account during the past 12 months?
Main respondents were asked whether they or their partner had a bank, building society or post office account during the past 12 months. A small number of families (0.5 per cent of UK families) volunteered that they had a different type of account for their money and this was noted by the interviewers. These responses have been combined. The vast majority of these families had at least one of these accounts (90.3%), but this varied substantially by country and by type of ward. Northern Ireland families stood out as being less likely to have one of these accounts (Table 12. 9); 17.3 per cent did not have an account compared to 9 per cent in each of England and Scotland. Advantaged wards had the highest frequency of families with bank accounts (96%), followed by disadvantaged wards (82.2%) and wards with high minority ethnic populations (76.2%) (Table 12.10).

Having a bank or savings account varied considerably by ethnic identity (Table 12.11). Indian families indicated the highest proportions of bank accounts (95.9%) followed by whites (91.0%). The lowest levels of bank accounts were found among black (78.9%) and Pakistani (81.8%) families.

What effect has your baby had on your savings?

The main respondent was asked whether the cohort baby had any impact on their savings (including money, investments and shares). Approximately one third of families said they had no savings when the baby was born (Table 12.12). A further 9.9 per cent said they had spent all savings they had since the baby was born. One fifth of families still had the same level of savings. Five per cent of families had managed to add to their savings since the baby was born. There were some fairly small country differences in levels of savings with families in Wales being slightly less likely to have savings at the cohort baby's birth than other families. This is consistent with other findings suggesting that families in Wales were more disadvantaged than those in other countries. However, in this case, it is primarily because families in Wales living in advantaged wards had fewer savings than families living in advantaged wards in the other countries (Table A12. 2).

Figures about the effects of the new baby on savings varied more substantially by type of ward, in ways we would expect (Table 12.13). Disadvantaged wards and wards with high ethnic minority populations had higher percentages of families without any savings, higher percentages who had spent all of their savings after the baby was born, and lower percentages who had the same or higher levels of savings. These differences all remained after controlling for country and type of ward (Table A12.2) although the extent of these gaps between the types of ward varied by country.

Changes in savings since the cohort baby's birth varied considerably by ethnic identity (Table 12.14). Bangladeshi and black families were least likely to have any savings when the baby was born. Indian origin families were the most likely to have savings.

12.5. Coping financially

How well are you (and your partner) managing financially these days?

Main respondents were asked how they perceived their finances in summary terms. Approximately one quarter felt they were 'living comfortably', just over one third thought they were 'doing alright' and another quarter felt they were 'just about getting by'. 10.2 per cent in the UK sample were finding it difficult, either 'quite difficult' (7.7%) or 'very difficult' (2.5%). There were country variations (Table 12.15) but far more pronounced differences by type of ward (Table 12.16). Northern Ireland families were less likely to say that they were finding it difficult to manage financially compared with families in other countries. The variations by ward type were as we would expect; families living in advantaged wards being more likely to think they were comfortable or managing financially than those living in disadvantaged wards who appeared to feel better off than those living in wards high in minority ethnic populations (Table 12.16). The country and ward differences remained when both factors were considered simultaneously (Table A12.3).

There were large variations by ethnic identity in how well families felt they were doing financially (Table 12.17). Bangladeshi and black families were having the most financial problems and Indian, followed closely by white families, the least.

Compared with a year ago would you say that you (and your partner) are better off or worse off financially?

When asked to compare their financial position at the interview with one year earlier (Table 12.18), a time before the birth of the cohort baby:

- 40.6 per cent of families considered they were financially 'about the same';
- 40.5 per cent thought they were worse off; and
- 19.0 per cent thought they were better off.

The percentage who thought they were better off financially is much higher than the 5.7 per cent who thought their savings had increased (Table 12.12). Presumably the 'better off' feeling has another source, most likely through spending or earnings' increases, unless having the cohort baby has made the family feel better off.

Perceptions about changes in finances varied by country (Table 12.18) and by type of ward (Table 12.19). Feeling better off was highest among families in Wales and lowest among Northern Ireland families, although the Northern Ireland families were far more likely (56.9%) to think financial circumstances were unchanged. Interestingly, families living in advantaged wards were far more likely (43.6%) than those in disadvantaged wards (36.6%) or wards high in minority ethnic populations (27.5%) to think their finances were worse than a year ago. In parallel, a greater proportion of families in disadvantaged than advantaged (but not other) wards felt they were better off than one year ago. This is an interesting finding. A very high proportion of families living in wards with high minority ethnic populations (57.8%) thought that their finances remained about the same. The same findings are evident when both country and type of ward were controlled (Table A12.4).

Changes in finances also varied by ethnic identity (Table 12.20). White and black families felt they had become worse off to a greater extent than other ethnic identities. Over four in ten of these ethnic identities felt worse off financially compared with one year earlier. There was less variation in the proportions of each ethnic identity who felt they were better off.

Table 12.1 Distribution of household incomes for UK couple and lone parents.

Couple parents	UK responses %		Lone parents	UK responses %
Less than £1600	0.3		Less than £1050	1.2
£1600 to < £3100	0.4		£1050 to < £2100	1.5
£3100 to < £4700	0.8		£2100 to <£3100	2.0
£4700 to <£6200	1.6		£3100 to <£4200	7.4
£6200 to <£7800	2.1		£4200 to <£5200	19.7
£7800 to <£10400	4.1		£5200 to <£7000	23.8
£10400 to <£13000	6.6		£7000 to <£8600	12.2
£13000 to <£15600	8.1		£8600 to <£10400	9.4
£15600 to <£18200	8.8		£10400 to l<£12200	5.9
£18200 to <£20800	8.4		£12200 to <£13800	3.8
£20800 to <£26000	13.9		£13800 to <£17400	3.1
£26000 to <£31200	10.3		£17400 to <£20800	1.4
£31200 to <£36400	7.4		£20800 to <£24200	0.8
£36400 to <£41600	5.4		£24200 to <£27800	0.7
£41600 to <£46800	3.5		£27800 to <£31200	0.2
£46800 to <£52000	2.9		£31200 to <£34600	0.1
£52000 to <£80000	5.0		£34600 to <£52000	0.2
£80000 +	2.8		£52000 +	0.1
Don't know	5.4		Don't know	4.0
Refused	2.1		Refused	2.5
Total %	**100**		**Total %**	**100**
N	**14928**		**N**	**3588**

Sample: MCS Main respondents

Table 12.2 Net annual household income band groupings in equivalent bands for couples and lone parents.

	Couples	Lone parents
Very low *	Less than £10,400	Less than £7000
Low *	£10400 to less than £18200	£7000 to less than £12200
Intermediate	£18200 to less than £31200	£12200 to less than £20800
High	£31200 or more	£20800 or more

Sample: MCS Main respondents

* These groupings are not based on any official definitions of low income or poverty

Table 12.3 Household income groups by country.

Income Band	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	NI (%)	
Very Low *	16.1	20.6	17.3	18.2	16.6
Low*	24.0	27.0	23.8	24.9	24.2
Intermediate	29.1	28.8	27.2	27.2	28.8
High	23.7	18.3	23.0	18.2	23.1
Don't Know	5.1	4.0	5.8	7.2	5.2
Refused	2.0	1.3	2.9	4.3	2.1
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	11512	2758	2330	1916	18516

Sample: All MCS main respondents.
** These groupings are not based on any official definitions of low income or poverty

Table 12.4 Household income groups by type of ward.

Additional Income Type	Type of Ward			ALL UK (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic** (%)	
Very Low *	10.4	28.3	40.4	17.9
Low *	21.3	33.7	34.8	26.1
Intermediate	34.7	26.4	15.9	31.0
High	33.6	11.6	8.9	24.9
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	7309	8823	2384	18516

Sample: All MCS main respondents
* These groupings are not based on any official definitions of low income or poverty
** Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 12.5 Household income groups by country and type of ward.

Country and Type of Ward	Income Band				TOTAL	Sample Size
	Very Low * (%)	Low * (%)	Intermediate (%)	High (%)	(%)	(N)
England Advantaged	10.0	21.0	34.8	34.2	100.0	4614
England Disadvantaged	27.9	33.9	27.0	11.3	100.0	4514
England Ethnic	40.3	34.8	15.9	9.0	100.0	2384
Wales Advantaged	14.1	22.8	36.5	26.5	100.0	831
Wales Disadvantaged	30.7	35.1	23.2	11.0	100.0	1927
Scotland Advantaged	12.0	22.9	32.6	32.5	100.0	1142
Scotland Disadvantaged	29.1	30.7	25.8	14.4	100.0	1188
NI Advantaged	11.7	20.7	37.7	29.8	100.0	722
NI Disadvantaged	30.6	36.8	22.7	9.9	100.0	1194
					Total Sample Size	**16600**

Sample: All MCS main respondents. * These groupings are not based on any official definitions of low income or poverty

Table 12.6 Families receiving income from government at interview by country.

Additional Income Type	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	NI (%)	
Child Benefit	98.8	98.3	98.6	97.9	98.7
Children's Tax Credit	17.5	20.3	17.0	12.0	17.4
Working Families Tax Credit	17.2	20.2	17.6	19.3	17.5
Disabled Persons Tax Credit	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.2
Guardian's Allowance	0.0	0	0.1	0	0.0
Income Support	15.1	20.2	15.9	18.4	15.6
Jobseekers Allowance	2.7	3.3	2.4	2.5	2.7
Housing Benefit	13.4	16.6	13.1	10.8	13.5
Council Tax Benefit	12.8	15.8	12.4	0	12.5
Invalid Care Allowance	1.1	1.8	1.7	1.7	1.2
Widows Pension or Widowed mothers allowance	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3
Disability Living Allowance	2.6	3.5	2.7	4.8	2.7
Incapacity Benefit	1.8	3.8	3.3	4.2	2.2
Maternity Allowance	0.1	0.1	0	0.3	0.1
Statutory Maternity Pay from Employer or former employer	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1
Grant from the Social Fund for Maternity Expenses	0.3	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.3
Other care grant from the social fund	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.2
Severe Disablement Allowance	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1
Industrial Injuries Benefit	0.0	0.0	0	0.1	0.0
Statutory Sick Pay	0.0	0.1	0	0.0	0.0
Other	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.3
N	11479	2756	2327	1903	18465

Sample: All MCS Main respondents.

Table 12.7 Families receiving additional income from government at interview by ward.

Additional Income Type	Type of Ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic* (%)	
Child Benefit	98.9	98.5	97.3	98.7
Children's Tax Credit	19.6	15.2	5.9	17.4
Working Families Tax Credit	13.9	22.6	25.7	17.5
Disabled Persons Tax Credit	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2
Guardian's Allowance	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0
Income Support	8.5	26.5	27.4	15.6
Jobseekers Allowance	1.6	4.1	6.3	2.7
Housing Benefit	7.0	23.3	24.5	13.5
Council Tax Benefit	6.7	24.4	21.5	12.5
Invalid Care Allowance	0.9	1.6	1.7	1.2
Widows Pension or Widowed mothers allowance	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3
Disability Living Allowance	2.2	3.6	3.2	2.7
Incapacity Benefit	1.6	3.2	1.8	2.2
Maternity Allowance	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.1
Statutory Maternity Pay from Employer or former employer	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0
Grant from the Social Fund for Maternity Expenses	0.1	0.5	0.5	0.3
Other care grant from the social fund	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2
Severe Disablement Allowance	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Industrial Injuries Benefit	0.1	0.0	0	0.0
Statutory Sick Pay	0.0	0.0	0	0.0
Other	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.3
N	**7294**	**8802**	**2369**	**18465**

Sample: All MCS Main respondents. * Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 12.8 Families receiving regular payment from other sources at interview by country.

Payment Received From Different Sources	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	NI (%)	
Education Grants/ Student Shops	0.7	0.8	1.2	0.6	0.7
Training/ Government Scheme	0.3	0.4	0.1	0.3	0.2
Employers Maternity/Paternity Pay	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.3	0.2
Maintenance Allowance or other regular payments	4.0	4.3	4.2	2.5	4.0
Regular cash help from parents	1.6	1.2	1.3	1.6	1.5
Regular cash help from other relatives or friends	0.4	0.2	0.5	0.4	0.4
Rent from boarders/lodgers	2.4	2.6	2.0	1.0	2.3
Other income from organisations	0.2	0.2	0.6	0.3	0.2
Pension from a former employer	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.1	0.5
Income from investments including interest on savings	6.4	4.6	4.4	2.8	6.0
Allowance for a foster child	0.0	0.1	0.0	0	0.0
Other	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.3	0.1
N	**15029**	**958**	**1742**	**640**	**18369**

Sample: All MCS Main respondents answering this question.

Table 12.9 Percentage of families who have had a bank, building society or post office account in the last 12 months, by country.

Bank Account	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	NI (%)	
Has bank/building society, post office or other account	90.7	87.9	91.0	82.7	90.3
Has no account	9.2	12.1	9.0	17.3	9.7
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	11481	2756	2322	1906	18465

Sample: All MCS main respondents

Table 12.10 Percentage of families who have had a bank, building society or post office account in the last 12 months, by type of ward.

Bank Account	Type of Ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic* (%)	
Has bank/building society, post office or other account	96.0	82.2	76.2	90.3
Has no account	4.0	17.8	23.8	9.7
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	7294	8810	2361	18465

Sample: All MCS main respondents. * Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 12.11 Percentage of families who have had a bank, building society or post office account in the last 12 months, by ethnic identity.

Bank Account	Ethnic identity					
	White (%)	Indian (%)	Pakistani (%)	Bangladeshi (%)	Black (%)	Mixed /Other (%)
Has bank/building society, post office or other account	91.0	95.9	81.8	83.4	78.9	85.6
Has no account	9.0	4.1	18.3	16.6	21.1	14.4
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	15497	475	876	362	672	555
				Total Sample Size		**18437**

Sample: All MCS main respondents.

Table 12.12 Effect that cohort birth has had on savings, by country.

Savings	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	NI (%)	
No savings when baby was born and still none now	34.4	37.3	33.9	31.1	34.4
Had savings but now all spent	9.7	12.0	10.9	9.3	9.9
Most of the savings have been spent	10.1	10.0	9.5	9.5	10.1
Some of the savings have been spent	17.5	14.0	18.2	17.4	17.4
Still have about the same savings	22.2	21.6	22.7	29.0	22.4
Now have more savings than when baby was born	6.0	5.1	4.7	3.7	5.7
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	11455	2756	2325	1907	18443

Sample: All MCS main respondents.

Table 12.13 Effect that cohort birth has had on savings, by type of ward.

Savings	Type of Ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic* (%)	
No savings when baby was born and still none now	26.4	47.1	45.5	34.5
Had savings but now all spent	8.4	12.2	13.1	9.9
Most of the savings have been spent	10.1	9.7	11.6	10.0
Some of the savings have been spent	20.4	12.2	16.2	17.4
Still have about the same savings	27.9	14.4	10.7	22.4
Now have more savings than when baby was born	6.7	4.4	2.9	5.8
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	7295	8797	2351	18443

Sample: All MCS main respondents. * Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 12.14 Effect that cohort child has had on savings, by ethnic identity.

Savings	Ethnic identity					
	White (%)	Indian (%)	Pakistani (%)	Bangladeshi (%)	Black (%)	Mixed /Other (%)
No savings when baby was born and still none now	34.2	16.7	36.2	51.5	46.4	37.9
Had savings but now all spent	9.6	6.4	11.5	12.4	17.9	11.9
Most of the savings have been spent	9.6	16.1	15.0	8.9	12.4	11.9
Some of the savings have been spent	17.3	28.7	17.9	11.2	12.6	17.2
Still have about the same savings	23.2	28.1	15.6	13.0	8.8	19.1
Now have more savings than when baby was born	6.1	4.1	3.8	3.0	1.9	2.1
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	15492	473	869	358	669	554
				Total Sample Size		**18415**

Sample: All MCS Main respondents

Table 12.15 How well cohort parents are managing financially, by country.

Financial Status	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	NI (%)	
Living comfortably	26.4	23.6	26.3	28.4	26.3
Doing alright	36.7	37.9	37.7	44.5	37.1
Just about getting by	26.3	29.4	27.4	21.2	26.4
Finding it quite difficult	7.9	7.1	6.7	4.3	7.7
Finding it very difficult	2.7	2.1	1.9	1.6	2.5
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	11497	2757	2328	1913	18495

Sample: All MCS Main respondents.

Table 12.16 How well cohort parents are managing financially, by type of ward.

Financial Status	Type of Ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic* (%)	
Living comfortably	31.2	19.7	12.2	26.3
Doing alright	37.6	36.5	35.5	37.1
Just about getting by	23.1	31.2	33.7	26.4
Finding it quite difficult	6.2	9.4	13.7	7.7
Finding it very difficult	2.0	3.2	5.0	2.5
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	7305	8813	2377	18495

Sample: All MCS main respondents. * Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 12.17 How well parents are managing financially by ethnic identity.

Financial Status	Ethnic identity					
	White (%)	Indian (%)	Pakistani (%)	Bangladeshi (%)	Black (%)	Mixed /Other (%)
Living comfortably	27.3	27.5	18.6	11.7	9.8	20.7
Doing alright	37.5	39.5	36.3	35.1	25.5	32.9
Just about getting by	25.8	23.1	32.1	32.2	38.6	28.5
Finding it quite difficult	7.1	7.3	10.2	14.6	15.9	12.4
Finding it very difficult	2.2	2.6	2.8	6.4	10.2	5.5
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	15507	476	885	368	673	557
				Total Sample Size		**18466**

Sample: All MCS Main respondents.

Table 12.18 Percentage of families who are better or worse off financially compared with a year ago, by country.

Financial Situation	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	NI (%)	
Better off	19.2	21.4	17.3	13.9	19.0
Worse Off	41.2	38.4	39.5	29.2	40.5
About the same	39.6	40.2	43.2	56.9	40.6
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	11478	2754	2329	1912	18473

Sample: All MCS mothers (natural, foster, adoptive, step).

Table 12.19 Percentage of families who are better or worse off financially compared with a year ago, by type of ward.

Financial Situation	Type of Ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic* (%)	
Better Off	18.5	20.4	14.6	19.0
Worse Off	43.6	36.6	27.5	40.5
About the same	37.8	43.0	57.8	40.6
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	7304	8803	2366	18473

Sample: All MCS Main respondents. * Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 12.20 Percentage of families who are better or worse off financially compared with a year ago, by ethnic identity.

Financial Situation	Ethnic identity					
	White (%)	**Indian (%)**	**Pakistani (%)**	**Bangladeshi (%)**	**Black (%)**	**Mixed /Other (%)**
Better off	19.5	18.7	15.3	13.5	14.9	13.1
Worse Off	41.5	27.7	22.7	27.1	42.2	37.7
About the same	39.1	53.6	61.9	59.4	42.9	49.2
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	15501	475	882	363	669	554
				Total Sample Size		**18444**

Sample: All MCS Main respondents.

13. HOUSING AND THE LOCAL AREA

Ian Plewis, Shirley Dex and Kelly Ward

SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

13.1. Housing

How many rooms do you and your family have, excluding bathrooms, toilets, halls and garages?

One quarter of families lived in accommodation with 4 or less rooms. Approximately one third had 5 rooms. A further fifth had 6 rooms and a fifth had more than 6 rooms (Table 13.1). There were sizeable variations by country with Scotland having the highest proportion with only 4 or fewer rooms in their accommodation. Northern Ireland families had the largest proportion with 7 or more rooms. Country differences remained after also controlling for the type of ward (Table 13.3). There was a clear gradient of number of rooms across the type of ward (Table 13.2). Disadvantaged wards and wards high in minority ethnic populations had similar distributions. Families in these wards had much smaller accommodation in general.

Do you (and your partner) own or rent your home or have some other arrangement?

Rates of ownership of housing was fairly similar across the 4 UK countries with approximately two thirds owning, (outright or through a mortgage) their housing (Table 13.4). There were greater variations by country in the extent to which families were renting from a housing association, privately or from local authorities. Ownership rates were highest in advantaged wards and lowest in wards high in minority ethnic populations (Table 13.5). Country differences became more pronounced after controlling for type of ward (Table 13.6).

Do you have access to a garden?

Access to gardens was very high in this sample and varying by country (Table 13.7) as well as by type of ward (Table 13.8). Across the UK, 86.5 per cent of main respondents said they had access to a garden for their sole use and a further 3.6 per cent had a shared garden. Access to a garden was highest in Wales and lowest in England and Scotland. Access to a garden was highest in advantaged wards and lowest in wards with high minority ethnic populations (Table 13.8). However, Wales was an exception in that over 90 per cent of families had access to a garden in both advantaged and disadvantaged

wards. The general high access to a garden across the UK may be related to families moving to houses with gardens when they have children.

What kind of heating do you use?

Central heating was common. Over 90 per cent of the UK sample had central heating, with small variations by country (Table 13.10) but larger variations by type of ward (Table 13.11). Central heating was least evident in the housing of wards with high minority ethnic populations where 16.6 per cent did not have central heating.

Is there any damp or condensation on the walls in your home?

Damp was apparent in 13.1 per cent of UK families' housing, but a much lower proportion in Northern Ireland, despite their higher rainfall (Table 13.13). Advantaged wards had the lowest levels of damp (10.9 per cent of families); wards high in minority ethnic populations had the highest levels (20.0% of families) (Table 13.14). Country differences became more pronounced after controlling for type of ward.

Do you (or your partner) have regular use of a car or van as a passenger or driver?

Access to the use of a car or van was also high, possibly because the need for a car is felt to be greater where there are children, the same reason as gardens. Access to a car or van varied markedly by type of ward (Table 13.17) but not by country.

- 85.4 per cent of families had regular use of a car or van. This did not vary by country (Table 13.16).

- 92.7 per cent of families in advantaged wards having the use of such vehicles compared with 75.3 per cent in disadvantaged wards and 66.5 per cent in wards with high minority ethnic populations.

Respondents were asked how satisfied they were with their homes. The rates of satisfaction varied by ethnic identity (Table 13.19), the lowest was 63.9 per cent for black main respondents and the highest levels of satisfaction (fairly or very) was among Indian main respondents (86.9%). Differences in the amounts of dissatisfaction with homes was more marked; 5.2 per cent of Indian, 9.9 per cent of white and Pakistani main respondents compared with 20.1 per cent of Bangladeshi, 19.2 per cent of mixed groups and 26.9 per cent of black main respondents were dissatisfied (fairly or very).

13.2. Perceptions of the local area

How do you feel about your home and the area that you live in?

The main respondents gave their views about their local area, defined as an area 'within a mile or 20 minutes walk from here'. These views were elicited by two broad questions and several more specific ones. Table 13.20 shows how responses to the two broad questions vary by ward and country. In all four countries, respondents in disadvantaged wards had less positive perceptions than main respondents in advantaged wards. Respondents in Northern Ireland were more satisfied with their local area than respondents in the other three UK countries, with the difference between Northern Ireland (90.0% satisfied) and

England (82.0% satisfied) the most marked. Northern Ireland respondents were, however, less positive about their areas in terms of safe places for children to play than respondents elsewhere with only 56 per cent responding positively compared with around 66 per cent in the other three countries. There was considerable variation between wards and countries (Table 13.20), notably in the disadvantaged wards and especially about safe places to play.

A breakdown of main respondents' satisfaction with the local area by ethnic identity (Table 13.21) shows the majority of respondents reported they were satisfied (very or fairly) with their local area (between 74% and 84%). There were variations by ethnic identity between the percentages reporting they were very satisfied. On the whole, white main respondents were more satisfied than the ethnic minority main respondents with their local area; 31.0 per cent of black compared to 45.6 per cent of white main respondents were very satisfied. There was also some variation in the extent of dissatisfaction with the area; 17.2 per cent of black but around 10 per cent of other ethnic identities of main respondents were dissatisfied.

Table 13.22 presents data for the seven specific questions main respondents were asked about their area. These all took the form of asking to what extent respondents thought there were problems, based on a 4-point scale of responses (very common/fairly common/not very common/not at all common). The figures in Table 13.22 group very or fairly common responses together. This creates a measure of the extent to which the area suffers these problems. Setting aside the questions about public transport and food shops, overall problems in the areas were greatest for 'rubbish and litter', followed by 'pollution', 'vandalism', 'noisy neighbours' and very few reported racist insults. We find the expected higher rate of problems in disadvantaged wards compared with advantaged wards, although there are no consistent differences between the English disadvantaged wards and wards with high minority ethnic populations. These five items were moderately inter-related and were therefore combined into a single scale. Table 13.23 gives the mean and standard deviation for the neighbourhood problem score by ward and country. Higher scores indicate fewer problems. The score is both lower and more variable for respondents for disadvantaged wards, lowest in the English wards with high minority ethnic populations and also more variable from ward to ward in the disadvantaged areas and the English wards. Overall problems in Northern Ireland were fewer than in England so that the mean in disadvantaged areas in Northern Ireland is close to the corresponding mean in the English advantaged wards. There are differences in the mean neighbourhood score between NS-SEC categories within type of ward but generally the differences between type of ward within NS-SEC categories are greater than the differences between NS-SEC categories within type of ward.

Poor public transport was much more common than the other problems and shows a different pattern to the other specific items. Northern Ireland main respondents indicated the highest frequencies of poor public transport. There was little variation by type of ward within countries.

The responses in relation to easy access to food shops were coded in a different order. These therefore give an indication of how difficult it is to access food shops and supermarkets. Table 13.22 indicates some variation by type of ward but mainly suggests that problems accessing food shops and supermarkets are not very common. However,

problems in access to these food shops reaches the higher frequency of one in five or one in four of main respondents in Northern Ireland.

In Northern Ireland, an additional item about religious insults was included – overall 8 per cent reported that these were common, only 2 per cent in advantaged areas but 14 per cent in disadvantaged areas. Racist insults were reported most frequently in English disadvantaged (10%) and English wards with high minority ethnic populations (13%) and rarely in the smaller UK countries. In English wards with high minority ethnic populations, 22 per cent of the white main respondents reported that racist insults were common; 17 per cent of non-white respondents in these English wards and 14 per cent in English disadvantaged wards also reported that they were common.

Table 13.1 Number of rooms in household' accommodation, excluding bathrooms, toilets, halls and garages, by country.

Number of Rooms in Household	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	NI (%)	
Up to 4 rooms	25.4	17.5	40.8	12.8	26.0
5 rooms	32.0	29.9	25.4	35.4	31.4
6 rooms	22.9	28.3	16.9	20.8	22.5
Between 7 and 8 rooms	15.3	19.5	13.7	23.5	15.6
9+ rooms	4.4	4.8	3.2	7.5	4.4
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	11505	2757	2329	1913	18504

Sample: All MCS main respondents

Table 13.2 Number of rooms in household's accommodation, excluding bathrooms, toilets, halls and garages, by type of ward.

Number of Rooms in Household	Type of Ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic* (%)	
Up to 4 rooms	19.4	35.9	39.1	26.0
5 rooms	28.8	36.0	31.4	31.4
6 rooms	25.0	18.5	20.7	22.5
Between 7 and 8 rooms	20.4	8.3	7.6	15.6
9+ rooms	6.4	1.4	1.3	4.4
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	7308	8817	2379	18504

Sample: All MCS main respondents. * Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 13.3. Number of rooms in household's accommodation, excluding bathrooms, toilets, halls and garages, by country and type of ward.

Country by Type of Ward	Number of rooms in household					Total (%)	Sample Size (N)
	Up to 4 rooms (%)	5 rooms (%)	6 rooms (%)	Between 7 and 8 rooms (%)	9+ rooms (%)		
England Advantaged	18.6	29.7	25.4	19.9	6.5	**100.0**	4614
England Disadvantaged	35.7	36.6	18.6	7.9	1.1	**100.0**	4512
England Ethnic	39.1	31.4	20.7	7.6	1.3	**100.0**	2379
Wales Advantaged	14.4	24.8	29.0	25.0	6.7	**100.0**	831
Wales Disadvantaged	21.0	35.9	27.4	13.0	2.6	**100.0**	1926
Scotland Advantaged	32.0	23.8	20.6	19.4	4.2	**100.0**	1142
Scotland Disadvantaged	54.7	27.8	11.0	4.9	1.7	**100.0**	1187
NI Advantaged	7.9	27.7	21.9	31.1	11.4	**100.0**	721
NI Disadvantaged	18.3	44.0	19.5	14.9	3.3	**100.0**	1192
					TOTAL SAMPLE SIZE		**18504**

Sample: All MCS main respondents

Table 13.4 Percentages of main respondents who own or rent their accommodation by country.

Accommodation	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	NI (%)	
Own outright/mortgage or shared equity	63.9	64.5	63.6	68.3	63.9
Rent from local authority	15.3	17.9	20.2	12.6	15.8
Rent from housing association or private	15.5	12.3	9.4	13.0	14.7
Living with parents/rent free	4.8	4.7	4.6	5.6	4.8
Squatting / other	0.6	0.5	2.1	0.4	0.7
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	11496	2757	2328	1912	18493

Sample: All MCS main respondents

Table 13.5. Percentages of main respondents who own or rent their accommodation by type of ward.

Accommodation	Type of Ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic* (%)	
Own outright/mortgage or shared equity	74.4	48.9	39.6	64.0
Rent from local authority	8.9	27.0	24.0	15.8
Rent from housing association or private	11.8	18.3	24.8	14.7
Living with parents/rent free	4.0	5.4	10.4	4.8
Squatting / other	0.9	0.4	1.3	0.7
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	7303	8814	2376	18493

Sample: All MCS main respondents. * Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 13.6. Percentages of main respondents who own or rent their accommodation by country and type of ward.

Country by Type of Ward	Accommodation					Total (%)	Sample Size (N)
	Own outright/ mortgage or shared equity (%)	Rent from local authority (%)	Rent from housing association or private (%)	Living with parents / rent free (%)	Squatting / other (%)		
England Advantaged	74.2	8.4	12.6	4.1	0.7	**100.0**	4610
England Disadvantaged	48.5	26.8	19.2	5.2	0.3	**100.0**	4510
England Ethnic	39.6	23.9	24.8	10.4	1.3	**100.0**	2376
Wales Advantaged	77.0	10.5	8.1	3.9	0.6	**100.0**	831
Wales Disadvantaged	49.9	26.6	17.4	5.7	0.4	**100.0**	1926
Scotland Advantaged	72.2	13.7	7.6	3.5	3.0	**100.0**	1142
Scotland Disadvantaged	50.2	30.4	12.2	6.3	0.8	**100.0**	1186
NI Advantaged	83.1	3.8	8.1	4.9	0.3	**100.0**	720
NI Disadvantaged	51.8	22.6	18.6	6.5	0.6	**100.0**	1192
TOTAL SAMPLE SIZE							**18493**

Sample: All MCS main respondents

Table 13.7 Percentages of main respondents with access to a garden by country.

Access to a garden	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	NI (%)	
Yes, Sole use	86.5	93.6	81.2	91.6	86.5
Yes, Shared	3.2	1.9	9.6	1.3	3.6
No	10.3	4.4	9.2	7.1	9.8
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	11505	2758	2329	1913	18505

Sample: All MCS main respondents

Table 13.8. Percentages of main respondents with access to a garden by type of ward.

Access to a garden	Type of Ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic* (%)	
Yes, Sole use	91.8	79.5	70.3	86.5
Yes, Shared	2.9	4.8	4.4	3.6
No	5.3	15.7	25.2	9.8
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	7308	8819	2378	18505

Sample: All MCS main respondents. * Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 13.9 Percentages of main respondents with access to a garden by country and type of ward.

Country by Type of Ward	Access to a garden			Total	Sample Size
	Yes, Sole use (%)	Yes, Shared (%)	No (%)	(%)	(N)
England Advantaged	91.7	2.7	5.6	**100.0**	4614
England Disadvantaged	79.5	3.8	16.7	**100.0**	4513
England Ethnic	70.4	4.4	25.2	**100.0**	2378
Wales Advantaged	95.2	1.4	3.4	**100.0**	831
Wales Disadvantaged	91.9	2.4	5.7	**100.0**	1927
Scotland Advantaged	89.2	6.3	4.5	**100.0**	1142
Scotland Disadvantaged	68.6	14.9	16.5	**100.0**	1187
NI Advantaged	96.3	0.8	2.9	**100.0**	721
NI Disadvantaged	86.4	1.8	11.7	**100.0**	1192
			TOTAL SAMPLE SIZE		**18505**

Sample: All MCS main respondents

Table 13.10 Percentages of main respondents who have central heating by country.

Central Heating	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	NI (%)	
Yes	91.3	92.5	94.3	93.8	91.8
No	8.7	7.5	5.7	6.2	8.2
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	11533	2761	2336	1923	18553

Sample: All MCS main respondents

Table 13.11. Percentages of main respondents who have central heating by type of ward.

Central Heating	Type of Ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic* (%)	
Yes	93.6	89.6	83.4	91.8
No	6.4	10.4	16.6	8.2
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	7317	8842	2394	18553

Sample: All MCS main respondents. * Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 13.12. Percentages of main respondents who have central heating by country and type of ward.

Country by Type of Ward	Central Heating		Total	Sample Size (N)
	Yes (%)	No (%)	(%)	
England Advantaged	93.3	6.7	**100.0**	4617
England Disadvantaged	89.1	10.9	**100.0**	4522
England Ethnic	83.4	16.6	**100.0**	2394
Wales Advantaged	93.0	7.0	**100.0**	832
Wales Disadvantaged	91.9	8.1	**100.0**	1929
Scotland Advantaged	96.1	3.9	**100.0**	1145
Scotland Disadvantaged	91.4	8.6	**100.0**	1191
NI Advantaged	96.8	3.2	**100.0**	723
NI Disadvantaged	90.5	9.5	**100.0**	1200
		TOTAL SAMPLE SIZE		**18553**

Sample: All MCS main respondents

Table 13.13. Whether there is ever any damp or condensation on the walls in the main respondents' home by country.

Damp or Condensation	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	NI (%)	
Yes	13.9	13.1	8.9	7.0	13.1
No	86.1	86.9	91.1	93.0	86.9
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	11492	2756	2329	1912	18489

Sample: All MCS main respondents

Table 13.14. Whether there is ever any damp or condensation on the walls in the main respondents' home by type of ward.

Damp or Condensation	Type of Ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic* (%)	
Yes	10.9	16.1	20.0	13.1
No	89.1	83.9	80.0	86.9
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	7305	8810	2374	18489

Sample: All MCS main respondents. * Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 13.15. Whether there is ever any damp or condensation on the walls in the respondent's home by country and type of ward.

Country by Type of Ward	Damp or Condensation		Total	Sample Size (N)
	Yes (%)	No (%)	(%)	
England Advantaged	11.5	88.5	**100.0**	4611
England Disadvantaged	17.2	82.8	**100.0**	4507
England Ethnic	20.1	79.9	**100.0**	2374
Wales Advantaged	11.4	88.6	**100.0**	831
Wales Disadvantaged	15.0	85.0	**100.0**	1925
Scotland Advantaged	7.6	92.4	**100.0**	1142
Scotland Disadvantaged	11.0	89.0	**100.0**	1187
NI Advantaged	4.3	95.7	**100.0**	721
NI Disadvantaged	10.0	90.0	**100.0**	1191
		TOTAL SAMPLE SIZE		**18489**

Sample: All MCS main respondents

***Table 13.16 Percentages of main respondents who have regular use or a car or van by country*.**

Has regular use of a car or van	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	NI (%)	
Yes	85.4	86.0	85.8	86.2	85.4
No	14.6	14.0	14.2	13.8	14.6
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	11503	2758	2329	1913	18503

Sample: All MCS main respondents

Table 13.17 Percentages of main respondents who have regular use or a car or van by type of ward.

Has regular use of a car or van	Type of Ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic* (%)	
Yes	92.7	75.3	66.5	85.4
No	7.3	24.7	33.5	14.6
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	7308	8818	2377	18503

Sample: All MCS main respondents. * Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 13.18 Percentages of main respondents who have regular use or a car or van by country and type of ward.

Country by Type of Ward	Has regular use of a car or van		Total	Sample Size (N)
	Yes (%)	No (%)	(%)	
England Advantaged	92.8	7.2	100.0	4614
England Disadvantaged	74.8	25.2	100.0	4512
England Ethnic	66.5	33.5	100.0	2377
Wales Advantaged	92.9	7.1	100.0	831
Wales Disadvantaged	77.9	22.1	100.0	1927
Scotland Advantaged	91.5	8.5	100.0	1142
Scotland Disadvantaged	76.7	23.3	100.0	1187
NI Advantaged	94.3	5.7	100.0	721
NI Disadvantaged	77.0	23.0	100.0	1192
		TOTAL SAMPLE SIZE		**18503**

Sample: All MCS main respondents

Table 13.19 Satisfaction with home by mother's ethnic identity

Satisfaction with Home	Main Respondent's ethnic identity						All Total (%)
	White (%)	Indian (%)	Pakistani (%)	Bangladeshi (%)	Black (%)	Mixed/other (%)	
Very satisfied	36.5	43.9	38.5	27.6	21.0	25.8	35.9
Fairly satisfied	46.2	43.0	42.3	43.7	42.9	46.3	45.9
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	7.4	8.4	9.4	8.6	9.2	8.7	7.6
Fairly dissatisfied	6.5	3.2	7.0	12.6	15.2	10.1	6.8
Very dissatisfied	3.4	2.0	2.8	7.5	11.7	9.1	3.8
Total	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**
N	15508	475	884	367	673	557	18464

Sample: All MCS main respondents.

Table 13.20:

Neighbourhood perceptions by country and type of ward.

Country by Type of Ward	Neighbourhood Perceptions				Maximum Sample Size for both categories (N)
	Satisfaction with area (%)	Safe places to play (%)	Ward Range: Satisfaction with area	Ward range: Safe places to play	
England Advantaged	89.0	74.3	78-100	39-100	4611
England Disadvantaged	71.7	50.2	55-100	13-88	4512
England Ethnic	71.6	55.8	66-97	27-70	2368
Wales Advantaged	92.6	75.3	73-100	39-96	831
Wales Disadvantaged	78.4	55.9	53-100	12-92	1927
Scotland Advantaged	91.4	78.6	80-100	36-100	1142
Scotland Disadvantaged	75.1	51.5	60-100	20-89	1187
NI Advantaged	94.3	60.2	87-100	10-93	720
NI Disadvantaged	85.0	50.5	42-100	10-81	1192
				TOTAL SAMPLE SIZE	**18490**

Sample: All MCS main respondents. Figures do not add to 100% as only indicate those who were very or fairly satisfied and those who answered yes to safe place to play.

Table 13.21 Satisfaction with area by mother's ethnic identity

Satisfaction with Area	Main Respondent's ethnic identity						All Total (%)
	White (%)	Indian (%)	Pakistani (%)	Bangladeshi (%)	Black (%)	Mixed/other (%)	
Very satisfied	45.6	43.5	37.6	32.4	31.0	30.2	44.4
Fairly satisfied	38.0	39.4	40.4	51.8	42.7	49.5	38.7
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	6.6	7.8	10.3	7.6	9.2	7.6	6.8
Fairly dissatisfied	6.0	6.4	7.5	5.9	10.5	8.5	6.3
Very dissatisfied	3.8	2.9	4.1	2.4	6.7	4.2	3.9
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
N	15508	477	885	364	671	556	18461

Sample: All MCS main respondent mothers.

Table 13.22:

Neighbourhood perceptions by country and type of ward

Country by Type of Ward	Neighbourhood Perceptions							Maximum Sample Size for both categories (N)
	Noisy Neighbours (%)	Rubbish and litter (%)	Vandalism (%)	Racist Insults (%)	Poor Public Transport (%)	Easy access to Food Shops* (%)	Pollution (%)	
England Advantaged	10.2	18.7	12.0	2.0	29.8	14.8	16.5	4610
England Disadvantaged	23.8	44.7	33.8	10.1	24.0	13.6	30.4	4511
England Ethnic	24.4	50.7	27.6	12.6	23.7	9.7	42.9	2371
Wales Advantaged	9.7	16.4	8.9	1.1	28.1	17.1	15.6	831
Wales Disadvantaged	21.0	37.1	27.7	4.6	29.1	16.7	18.2	1927
Scotland Advantaged	7.7	14.5	10.7	1.4	32.5	18.5	8.8	1142
Scotland Disadvantaged	20.9	35.1	29.5	6.3	21.0	13.4	21.1	1187
NI Advantaged	4.3	8.2	5.4	0.7	39.9	23.5	7.2	720
NI Disadvantaged	12.7	27.6	23.0	5.1	34.3	20.3	16.7	1192
TOTAL SAMPLE SIZE								**18491**

Sample: All MCS main respondents. Figures do not add to 100% as only describes those who indicated very common or fairly common responses.
***** Figures in this column (easy access to food shops) relate to those who indicated not very common or not at all common responses.

Table 13.23: Neighbourhood satisfaction score (mean and standard deviation) by ward and country

Country by Type of Ward	Neighbourhood Satisfaction Score	
	Score	Ward Range
England Advantaged	11.8 (2.6)	9.4 – 14.3
England Disadvantaged	9.8 (3.4)	6.7 – 12.4
England Ethnic	9.2 (3.2)	6.3 – 10.9
TOTAL	11.0 (3.2)	-
Wales Advantaged	12.2 (2.6)	9.5 – 14.9
Wales Disadvantaged	10.7 (3.2)	7.0 – 14.6
TOTAL	11.6 (3.0)	-
Scotland Advantaged	12.7 (2.5)	9.6 – 14.8
Scotland Disadvantaged	10.6 (3.4)	6.5 – 13.7
TOTAL	11.9 (3.1)	-
NI Advantaged	13.2 (2.1)	11.6 – 14.6
NI Disadvantaged	11.5 (3.2)	7.9 – 14.6
TOTAL	12.4 (2.8)	-

Sample: All MCS main respondents. (SD – Standard Deviation).

14. CITIZENSHIP

Shirley Dex, Kelly Ward

SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

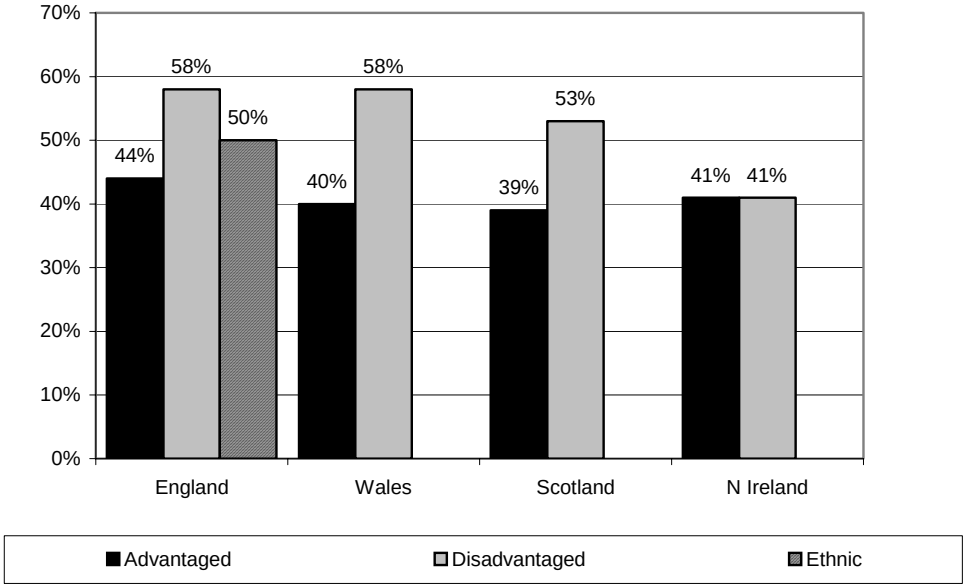
Main respondents and partners were both asked a few questions, in a final section, on their political affiliations, voting and general interests in politics as well as their religion (described in Chapter 2). Table 14.1 displays the findings by country for some of these questions for the main respondents, virtually all mothers.

14.1. Voting, politics and newspapers

Did you manage to vote in the General Election? How interested are you in politics? Do you normally read any morning newspaper at least 3 times per week?

Only just over half of the main respondents, voted in the last general election. Northern Ireland had the largest percentage of main respondents voting (58.8%) and England the lowest (51.2%). In the light of this, it is interesting to see main respondents in Northern Ireland expressing less interest in politics in general than those in other countries; 37.7 per cent of Northern Ireland main respondents indicated they were 'not at all' interested in politics compared with 31.6 per cent in Scotland, 33.0 per cent in Wales and 28.7 per cent in England. Newspaper reading was also slightly less in Northern Ireland than in England and Wales. The big difference was that newspaper reading of morning newspapers was substantially higher among main respondents in Scotland than in the other 3 UK countries.

Figure 14.1 Main respondents who did not vote at 2001 General Election by type of ward.



Sample: MCS Main respondents

Table 14.2 considers the same measures of citizenship by type of ward. The contrasts for voting and interest in politics are similar and more consistent. Main respondents in advantaged wards were more likely to have voted at the last general election, and were also more likely to express general interest in politics than those living in wards with high minority ethnic populations. Main respondents in wards high in minority ethnic populations expressed the same positive interest in politics as those in disadvantaged wards, but were more likely than them to have voted. Newspaper reading was highest among the main respondents living in disadvantaged areas at 35.7 per cent compared with 33.5 per cent in advantaged but only 27.9 per cent in wards with high minority ethnic populations.

14.2. Citizenship by ethnic identity

A breakdown of voting, interest in politics and newspaper reading by ethnic identity is displayed in Table 14.3. Voting was highest among Bangladeshi (71.9%), followed by Pakistani (59.4%), Indian (58.1%) and white (52.0%) main respondents. Black (44.3%) and mixed origin (33.4%) main respondents had low levels of voting. On the general interest in politics among main respondents, those of black and mixed origin expressed the highest and Pakistani and Bangladeshi the lowest levels of interest in national politics.

Newspaper reading was highest among black main respondents (38.0%) followed by whites (34.4%) and lowest among Bangladeshi (24.0%) and Pakistani (24.5%) main respondents.

Table 14.1 Citizenship of main respondents, by country

		Country				All UK Total (%)
		England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	NI (%)	
Voting	Voted in Last Election	51.2	51.8	55.2	58.8	51.8
	N	11491	2755	2320	1893	18459
Interest in Politics	Very	3.8	3.7	3.6	3.6	3.8
	Fairly	30.0	26.5	27.4	20.3	29.2
	Not Very	37.5	36.8	37.5	38.4	37.5
	Not At All	28.7	33.0	31.6	37.7	29.6
	Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
	N	11490	2757	2329	1907	18483
News - paper Reading	Read Morning paper 3 times per week	32.2	34.2	50.8	30.9	34.0
	N	11498	2758	2329	1911	18496

Sample: All MCS main respondents

Table 14.2 Citizenship of main respondents, by type of ward.

		Type of Ward			All UK Total (%)
		Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic * (%)	
Voting	Voted in Last Election	57.0	43.0	49.8	51.8
	N	7290	8794	2375	18459
Interest in Politics	Very	4.1	3.3	3.6	3.8
	Fairly	33.1	23.2	22.6	29.2
	Not Very	38.5	35.5	39.0	37.5
	Not At All	24.3	38.0	34.8	29.6
	Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
	N	7304	8811	2368	18483
News - paper Reading	Read Morning paper 3 times per week	33.5	35.7	27.9	34.0
	N	7305	8818	2373	18496

Sample: All MCS main respondents. * Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table 14.3. Citizenship of main respondents, by ethnic identity.

		Ethnic identity						All UK Total (%)
		White (%)	Indian (%)	Pakistani (%)	Bangladeshi (%)	Black (%)	Mixed (%)	
Voting	Voted in Last Election	52.0	58.1	59.4	71.9	44.3	33.4	51.8
	N	15475	477	883	367	672	556	14459
Interest in Politics	Very	3.6	4.1	3.8	2.3	6.5	6.5	3.8
	Fairly	29.2	32.8	22.6	25.6	34.3	30.8	29.2
	Not Very	37.7	40.7	36.5	40.7	32.4	34.8	37.5
	Not At All	29.5	22.4	37.1	31.4	26.8	27.8	29.5
	Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
	N	15503	477	882	366	670	556	18483
News - paper Reading	Read Morning paper 3 times per week	34.4	29.1	24.5	24.0	38.0	33.0	34.0
	N	15510	477	885	366	672	557	18496

Sample: All MCS main respondents

Appendix

Additional tables for chapters,

Table A2.1 Partnership and household structure by country and type of ward.

Country by Type of Ward	Partnership					Total (%)	Sample Size (N)
	2 Resident Parents (%)	1 Resident Parent, 1 part time resident parent (%)	1 Resident Parent and 1 Absent but involved parent (%)	1 Resident Parent and 1 Absent not involved parent (%)	1 Resident Parent and 1 Died (%)		
England Advantaged	90.5	1.1	5.4	2.9	0.1	**100.0**	4615
England Disadvantaged	75.7	2.8	12.9	8.4	0.2	**100.0**	4516
England Ethnic	77.7	2.2	10.6	9.4	0.1	**100.0**	2386
Wales Advantaged	88.7	0.7	6.9	3.7	0	**100.0**	831
Wales Disadvantaged	72.3	1.9	15.8	9.6	0.4	**100.0**	1923
Scotland Advantaged	89.6	1.4	5.4	3.5	0.1	**100.0**	1145
Scotland Disadvantaged	74.7	2.7	12.4	10.2	0.1	**100.0**	1188
NI Advantaged	90.2	1.7	4.8	3.2	0.1	**100.0**	723
NI Disadvantaged	70.5	3.3	16.7	9.5	0.1	**100.0**	1198
TOTAL SAMPLE SIZE							**18525**

Sample: All MCS main respondents

Table A3.1

Main respondent's ethnic identity by country.

Respondent's Ethnic identity	Country				All UK Totals (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	NI (%)	
White	87.8	97.7	97.8	99.5	89.6
Mixed - White and Black Caribbean	0.5	0.2	-	-	0.4
Mixed – white and black African	0.2	0.0	-	-	0.1
Mixed white and Asian	0.2	0.1	-	-	0.2
Any other mixed background	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2
Asian/Asian British Indian	2.2	0.3	0.4	0.1	1.9
Asian/Asian British Pakistani	3.5	0.3	0.6	0.1	2.9
Asian/Asian British Bangladeshi	1.1	0.4	-	-	0.9
Any other Asian background	0.9	0.4	0.7	-	0.8
Black/Black British Caribbean	1.3	0.1	0.3	-	1.1
Black/Black British African	1.7	0.3	-	-	1.4
Any other black background	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1
Chinese	0.3	0.1	-	0.2	0.2
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	11496	2758	2330	1921	18505

Sample: All MCS main respondents.

Table A3. 2 Main respondent's ethnic identity by region

Region	Main Respondent's Ethnic identity													All Total (%)
	White (%)	Mixed - White and Black Caribbean (%)	Mixed – white and black African (%)	Mixed white and Asian (%)	Any other mixed back – ground (%)	Asian/ Asian British Indian (%)	Asian/ Asian British Pakistani (%)	Asian/Asian British Bangladeshi (%)	Any other Asian back – ground (%)	Black/ Black British Caribbean (%)	Black/ Black British African (%)	Any other black back – ground (%)	Chinese (%)	
E Midlands	5.0	5.8	-	12.0	-	15.3	1.4	-	2.8	3.0	0.6	5.9	-	6.9
E England	6.7	11.5	6.7	8.0	14.3	2.5	8.3	17.6	3.7	6.0	3.4	5.9	15.6	9.4
London	6.3	28.8	66.7	36.0	14.3	40.7	11.1	41.2	46.8	67.2	79.7	47.1	37.5	12.6
N East	2.8	-	-	4.0	2.9	0.4	1.1	0.8	-	-	-	-	3.1	3.7
N West	7.3	5.8	13.3	12.0	-	6.8	21.4	0.8	3.7	4.5	7.9	5.9	9.4	10.5
S East	10.7	15.4	-	4.0	20.0	13.1	6.1	2.5	12.8	3.0	2.8	5.9	9.4	14.6
S West	6.0	9.6	-	-	2.9	0.8	0.3	0.8	0.9	-	-	-	-	7.8
W Midlands	5.2	7.7	6.7	8.0	5.7	8.9	16.1	18.5	3.7	6.0	1.1	11.8	3.1	7.8
York & Hum	5.7	5.8	-	8.0	8.6	3.8	27.5	8.4	2.8	3.0	0.6	-	3.1	8.5
Wales	17.2	9.6	6.7	8.0	14.3	3.4	2.5	9.2	9.2	1.5	4.0	5.9	6.3	5.3
Scotland	14.6	-	-	-	11.4	3.8	3.9	-	13.8	6.0	-	5.9	-	9.5
NI	12.5	-	-	-	5.7	0.4	0.3	-	-	-	-	5.9	12.5	3.5
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
(N)	15532	84	30	33	45	479	888	371	182	264	377	35	43	18363

Sample: All MCS main respondents.

Table A3.3. Main respondent's ethnic identity by type of ward (England only)

Type of Ward	Main Respondent's Ethnic identity													All Total (%)
	White (%)	Mixed - White and Black Caribbean (%)	Mixed – white and black African (%)	Mixed white and Asian (%)	Any other mixed back – ground (%)	Asian/ Asian British Indian (%)	Asian/ Asian British Pakistani (%)	Asian/Asian British Bangladeshi (%)	Any other Asian back – ground (%)	Black/ Black British Caribbean (%)	Black/ Black British African (%)	Any other black back – ground (%)	Chinese (%)	
Advantaged	50.1	18.2	3.4	40.0	27.3	15.2	4.2	3.1	17.5	7.1	7.6	3.1	27.0	40.3
Disadvantaged	44.5	36.4	48.3	16.7	42.4	15.2	22.8	7.2	21.3	36.1	30.0	28.1	37.8	39.3
Ethnic	5.3	45.5	48.3	43.3	30.3	69.6	73.1	89.7	61.3	56.9	62.4	68.8	35.1	20.3
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	8665	77	29	30	33	460	861	359	160	255	367	32	37	11365

Sample: All MCS main respondents in England Only.

Table A5.1 Mortality of respondents' parents by ethnic identity of respondent

Mortality of Respondent's Parents	Main respondent's ethnic identity						All Total (%)
	White (%)	Indian (%)	Pakistani (%)	Bangladeshi (%)	Black (%)	Mixed/other (%)	
Both alive	82.1	72.2	73.9	56.9	64.4	70.6	80.7
1 dead	15.9	24.9	23.8	39.1	26.9	24.8	17.0
Both dead	2.0	2.9	2.3	4.0	8.8	4.6	2.3
Total	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**
N	15532	479	888	371	676	559	18505

Sample: All MCS main respondents.

Table A5.2 Mortality of partners' parents by ethnic identity of main respondent

Mortality of Partner's Parents	Main Respondent's ethnic identity						All Total (%)
	White (%)	Indian (%)	Pakistani (%)	Bangladeshi (%)	Black (%)	Mixed/other (%)	
Both alive	75.8	64.5	64.9	49.2	53.3	63.9	74.4
1 dead	20.6	28.6	28.3	41.5	33.6	29.3	21.6
Both dead	3.6	7.0	6.8	9.2	13.1	6.8	4.0
Total	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**
N	11318	359	588	264	279	385	13193

Sample: All partners of MCS main respondents.

Table A5.3

Mother: Change in frequency of contact with own father by country and type of ward

Country by Type of Ward	Mother: Change in frequency of contact with own father since birth			Total	Sample Size
	More Often (%)	About the same as before (%)	Less Often (%)	(%)	(N)
England Advantaged	27.7	63.6	8.7	100.0	3892
England Disadvantaged	18.9	70.4	10.8	100.0	3717
England Ethnic	11.1	70.3	18.6	100.0	1759
Wales Advantaged	26.5	66.1	7.4	100.0	691
Wales Disadvantaged	19.7	69.6	10.7	100.0	1642
Scotland Advantaged	28.0	63.2	8.8	100.0	946
Scotland Disadvantaged	24.5	65.3	10.2	100.0	989
NI Advantaged	20.1	70.5	9.4	100.0	563
NI Disadvantaged	17.2	72.0	10.8	100.0	970
				Total Sample Size	**15169**

Sample: All MCS mothers with own father alive.

Table A5.4

Partner: Change in frequency of contact with own father by country and type of ward

Country by Type of Ward	Partner: Change in frequency of contact with own father since birth			Total (%)	Sample Size (N)
	More Often (%)	About the same as before (%)	Less Often (%)		
England Advantaged	22.0	68.1	9.9	100.0	3102
England Disadvantaged	16.3	72.6	11.1	100.0	2349
England Ethnic	9.6	74.9	15.5	100.0	960
Wales Advantaged	20.9	71.3	7.8	100.0	526
Wales Disadvantaged	17.5	71.7	10.8	100.0	975
Scotland Advantaged	22.7	67.1	10.2	100.0	706
Scotland Disadvantaged	18.9	70.1	10.9	100.0	603
NI Advantaged	16.3	73.0	10.7	100.0	460
NI Disadvantaged	12.2	75.9	11.8	100.0	507
				Total Sample Size	**10188**

Sample: All MCS partner respondents with own father alive.

Table A10.1 Mother's economic activity by ethnic identity.

Mother's Economic Activity	Ethnic identity – All UK						All UK (%)
	White (%)	Indian (%)	Pakistani (%)	Bangladeshi (%)	Black (%)	Mixed /Other (%)	
Currently in paid work	51.0	44.6	12.8	9.8	43.4	32.0	48.7
Has a paid job, but on leave	2.5	3.5	1.1	1.2	5.2	2.1	2.5
No Current paid work	42.5	35.9	41.4	31.2	33.3	41.9	42.0
Has never had a paid job	4.0	16.0	44.7	57.8	18.0	23.9	6.8
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	15489	477	885	369	672	555	18447

Sample: All MCS Mothers (natural, foster, step, adoptive).

Table A10.2 Mothers' employment by type of ward and ethnic identity.

Type of Ward and Ethnic identity	Mother's Employment				Total (%)	Sample Size (N)
	Currently doing paid work (%)	Has a paid job, but on leave (%)	Worked in the past, but no current paid job (%)	Never had a paid job (%)		
White Advantaged	55.6	2.6	40.2	1.6	**100.0**	6984
White Disadvantaged	42.8	2.4	46.6	8.3	**100.0**	8063
White Ethnic	33.3	1.2	53.2	12.3	**100.0**	462
Indian Advantaged	53.8	1.4	35.9	9.0	**100.0**	77
Indian Disadvantaged	44.4	7.4	25.9	22.2	**100.0**	82
Indian Ethnic	34.7	3.4	41.5	20.3	**100.0**	320
Pakistani Advantaged	26.0	0.0	50.6	23.4	**100.0**	43
Pakistani Disadvantaged	12.1	1.3	41.7	44.8	**100.0**	216
Pakistani Ethnic	9.1	1.3	37.9	51.7	**100.0**	626
Bangladeshi Advantaged	20.0	0.0	44.0	36.0	**100.0**	14
Bangladeshi Disadvantaged	6.7	0.0	30.0	63.3	**100.0**	35
Bangladeshi Ethnic	8.4	1.7	28.6	61.3	**100.0**	320
Black Advantaged	69.4	6.1	20.4	4.1	**100.0**	52
Black Disadvantaged	43.8	5.5	38.3	12.3	**100.0**	228
Black Ethnic	25.9	4.1	34.0	36.1	**100.0**	394
Mixed and Other Advantaged	39.4	1.9	39.9	18.8	**100.0**	121
Mixed and Other Disadvantaged	29.3	3.0	52.4	15.2	**100.0**	179
Mixed and Other Ethnic	20.0	1.1	28.4	50.5	**100.0**	255
				Total Sample Size		18471

Sample: All MCS mothers (natural, foster, adoptive, step).

Table A10.3 Percentages of mothers within each age group who have never been in paid work, by country.

Age Group	Country				All UK Total (%)	Sample Size (N)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	NI (%)		
14 to 19	24.8	37.9	22.8	31.8	25.8	1057
20 to 29	10.2	7.2	3.6	5.6	9.3	8191
30 to 39	3.6	1.5	1.2	1.6	3.3	8603
40+	3.2	2.4	1.0	2.8	3.1	623
				Total sample size		**18474**

Sample: All MCS mothers (natural, foster, adoptive, step) who have never been in paid work.

Table A10.4 Percentages of mothers within each age group who have never been in paid work, by type of ward.

Age Group	Type of Ward			All UK Total (%)	Sample Size (N)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic* (%)		
14 to 19	14.5	31.9	43.6	25.8	1057
20 to 29	3.9	11.0	41.9	9.3	8191
30 to 39	0.9	5.5	32.8	3.3	8603
40+	0.2	4.3	37.9	3.1	623
				Total Sample Size	**18474**

Sample: All MCS mothers (natural, foster, adoptive, step) who have never been in paid work.
* Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table A10.5 Mother's economic activity by ethnic identity.

Mother's Economic Activity	Ethnic identity					
	White (%)	Indian (%)	Pakistani (%)	Bangladeshi (%)	Black (%)	Mixed /Other (%)
Employee	45.2	37.8	10.4	7.6	37.6	25.3
Self Employed	4.0	3.8	1.7	0.0	3.1	4.9
Employed, but on leave	4.3	6.7	1.7	3.5	7.7	3.8
Full Time Student	0.7	1.2	0.4	0.6	1.3	1.1
Looking after the home and family	45.4	50.3	85.3	87.8	49.5	64.8
Other	0.5	0.3	0.6	0.6	0.8	0.2
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	15507	478	884	369	675	555
					Total Sample Size	**18468**

Sample: All MCS Mothers (natural, adoptive, foster, step)

Table A10.5a. Percentages of mothers within each age and ethnic identity group who are currently employed or self employed.

Mother's Age at Birth (Years)	Ethnic identity						Year Sample Size (N)
	White (%)	Indian (%)	Pakistani (%)	Bangladeshi (%)	Black (%)	Mixed /Other (%)	
14 to 19	21.1	7.5	11.2	14.3	6.3	12.1	1575
20 to 29	48.3	44.5	9.9	9.7	33.1	25.8	8649
30 to 39	58.0	46.6	20.0	9.1	51.6	37.3	7805
40+	55.2	14.3	18.9	0.0	63.9	80.4	446
						Total Sample Size	**18475**

Sample: All MCS Mothers (natural, adoptive, foster, step) who are currently employed (not on leave) or self employed at the interview.

Table A10.6 Father's economic activity by ethnic identity.

Economic Activity	Ethnic identity					
	White (%)	**Indian (%)**	**Pakistani (%)**	**Bangladeshi (%)**	**Black (%)**	**Mixed /Other (%)**
Employed	76.2	72.1	58.3	61.2	66.0	69.2
Self Employed	15.3	18.8	23.4	17.1	14.6	18.3
Unemployed – Looking for work	3.8	5.1	9.0	16.3	9.9	4.1
Unemployed – Poor Health	2.2	1.5	5.4	4.7	2.8	3.8
New Deal/Government Scheme/ Apprenticeship	0.4	0	0.5	0	0.9	0
Full Time Student	0.5	1.1	1.4	0	2.8	0.6
Other	1.6	1.5	1.9	0.8	2.8	3.8
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
(N)	11310	357	587	264	277	385
				Total Sample Size		**13180**

Sample: All MCS Fathers (natural, foster, step, adoptive).

Table A10.7 Couples' employment status by country and by type of ward.

Country by Type of Ward	Couples' Employment Status				Total	Sample Size
	Both employed (%)	Women employed, man not employed (%)	Man employed, women not employed (%)	Both not employed (%)	**(%)**	**(N)**
England Advantaged	57.8	1.6	37.7	2.8	**100.0**	4143
England Disadvantaged	47.3	3.0	38.6	11.1	**100.0**	3369
England Ethnic	23.5	2.1	58.0	16.4	**100.0**	1727
Wales Advantaged	64.8	2.1	28.2	4.9	**100.0**	714
Wales Disadvantaged	48.0	2.9	36.1	12.9	**100.0**	1375
Scotland Advantaged	59.7	2.4	33.3	4.6	**100.0**	1005
Scotland Disadvantaged	52.9	3.9	32.7	10.5	**100.0**	869
NI Advantaged	68.4	2.3	27.4	1.9	**100.0**	645
NI Disadvantaged	51.4	4.5	32.1	12.0	**100.0**	803
				TOTAL SAMPLE SIZE		**14650**

Sample: All MCS main respondents with partners, who are in a two-parent household structure.

Table A10.8 Couples' employment status by country and by type of ward.

Country by Type of Ward	Couples' Employment Status						Total	Sample Size
	Both employed (%)	Women employed, man not employed (%)	Man employed, women not employed (%)	Both not employed (%)	Lone parent employed (%)	Lone parent not employed (%)	**(%)**	**(N)**
England Advantaged	52.9	1.5	34.5	2.6	2.7	5.8	**100.0**	4529
England Disadvantaged	36.7	2.3	29.9	8.6	4.2	18.2	**100.0**	4344
England Ethnic	18.3	1.7	45.2	12.8	3.5	18.4	**100.0**	2213
Wales Advantaged	57.7	1.9	25.0	4.4	2.7	8.3	**100.0**	803
Wales Disadvantaged	35.2	2.1	26.5	9.5	5.2	21.4	**100.0**	1873
Scotland Advantaged	54.2	2.2	30.2	4.2	3.7	5.6	**100.0**	1108
Scotland Disadvantaged	40.4	3.0	24.9	8.0	7.2	16.5	**100.0**	1139
NI Advantaged	62.6	2.1	25.1	1.7	2.7	5.7	**100.0**	704
NI Disadvantaged	36.9	3.2	23.1	8.6	8.5	19.7	**100.0**	1119
							TOTAL SAMPLE SIZE	**17832**

Sample: All MCS main respondents who are in either a two-parent household structure or a one-parent household structure.

Table A10.9 Percentages of mothers who would like to work fewer or more hours per week, by country.

Hours would like to work	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	NI (%)	
More Hours	8.3	6.9	5.6	4.0	7.8
Stay the same	53.5	52.1	55.3	52.5	53.6
Fewer Hours	38.2	41.0	39.0	43.5	38.6
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	5071	1323	1270	1043	8707

Sample: All MCS mothers (natural, foster, adoptive, step) who were in paid work or on leave at interview.

Table A10.10 Percentages of mother who would like to work fewer or more hours per week, by type of ward.

Hours would like to work	Type of Ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic* (%)	
More Hours	7.5	8.3	9.5	7.8
Stay the Same	52.9	54.8	59.0	53.6
Fewer Hours	39.6	36.9	31.5	38.6
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	4274	3891	542	8707

Sample: All MCS mothers (natural, foster, adoptive, step) who were in paid work or on leave at interview.
* Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table A10.11 Percentages of mothers who, every week, worked at time indicated, by type of ward.

Time Worked	Type of Ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic* (%)	
6pm – 10pm	33.9	33.5	23.4	33.6
10am – 7am	9.8	11.1	7.1	10.2
Weekends	21.3	26.3	20.2	22.8
Away Overnight	2.3	2.5	2.2	2.4
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	6119	2607	184	8910

Sample: All MCS mothers (natural, foster, adoptive, step) who are employed.
* Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table A10.12 Percentages of fathers who, every week, worked at time indicated, by type of ward.

Time Worked	Type of Ward			All UK Total (%)
	Advantaged (%)	Disadvantaged (%)	Ethnic* (%)	
6 pm – 10 pm	43.8	37.8	47.9	42.3
10 am – 7 am	14.8	17.3	22.9	15.8
Weekends	25.8	30.6	39.6	27.7
Away Overnight	6.5	5.8	3.4	6.2
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	5650	4745	1108	11503

Sample: All MCS fathers (natural, foster, adoptive, step) who are employed.
* Ethnic wards are all in England.

Table A10.13 Percentages of employed mothers with access to flexible working arrangements, by country.

Flexible Working Arrangements	Country				All UK Total (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	NI (%)	
Part time Working	86.9	83.5	85.0	76.2	86.1
Job-Sharing	35.8	34.4	40.7	35.8	36.2
Flexible Working Hours	43.0	42.1	37.3	35.2	42.0
Working at or from home, occasionally	22.3	16.8	16.6	10.8	20.9
Working at or from home, all the time	6.0	3.8	4.8	1.5	5.5
Special Shifts (i.e. evenings)	30.1	28.0	23.9	20.1	28.9
9-Day fortnights /4½ day working week	5.6	3.7	3.6	5.0	5.3
School term-time contracts	15.7	12.6	13.4	17.9	15.4
None of these	6.8	8.4	6.8	12.1	7.1
N	**4439**	**1168**	**1153**	**940**	**7700**

Sample: All MCS main respondent mothers (natural, foster, adoptive, step) who are in paid work.

Table A10.15 Percentages of mothers who are currently employed or self employed, by total number of children in household and ethnic identity.

Total Number of Children In Household	Ethnic identity					
	White (%)	Indian (%)	Pakistani (%)	Bangladeshi (%)	Black (%)	Mixed /Other (%)
One Child	49.5	46.5	53.8	46.2	40.1	47.8
Two Children	36.0	38.7	23.1	23.1	31.8	34.3
Three or more Children	14.5	14.8	23.1	30.8	28.1	17.9
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	7221	172	88	30	212	140
				Total Sample Size		**7863**

Sample: All MCS Mothers (natural, adoptive, foster, step) who are currently employed or self employed.

Table A10.16 Mothers' highest educational attainments by ethnic identity for all UK.

Educational Attainment	Ethnic identity – All UK					
	White (%)	Indian (%)	Pakistani (%)	Bangladeshi (%)	Black (%)	Mixed /Other (%)
NVQ Level 1	8.5	5.2	6.6	6.4	4.6	3.4
NVQ Level 2	31.1	15.7	16.4	18.5	20.3	17.3
NVQ Level 3	14.6	12.5	12.1	10.4	11.1	9.9
NVQ Level 4	30.5	34.3	9.4	8.7	33.6	29.5
NVQ Level 5	3.6	7.0	3.2	1.2	5.4	6.8
Overseas Qualification Only	1.4	10.2	11.9	13.3	5.4	10.8
None of These	10.3	15.1	40.4	41.6	19.6	22.4
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	15496	477	883	370	672	557
					Total Sample Size	**18455**

Sample: All MCS Mothers (natural, step, foster, adoptive).

Table A10.17 Fathers' highest educational attainments by ethnic identity for all UK.

Educational Attainment	Ethnic identity – All UK					
	White (%)	Indian (%)	Pakistani (%)	Bangladeshi (%)	Black (%)	Mixed /Other (%)
NVQ Level 1	6.9	4.2	7.7	7.3	6.2	4.4
NVQ Level 2	28.5	15.1	16.1	17.1	20.1	15.4
NVQ Level 3	16.4	8.7	9.6	6.5	8.9	10.5
NVQ Level 4	31.9	44.9	15.5	16.3	36.7	36.0
NVQ Level 5	5.9	10.6	8.7	4.1	13.3	11.1
Overseas Qualification Only	1.5	2.6	7.7	6.5	4.1	5.9
None of These	9.0	14.0	34.7	42.3	10.7	16.7
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
N	11062	335	528	241	399	428
					Total Sample Size	**12993**

Sample: All MCS Fathers (natural, step, foster, adoptive).

Table A11.1 Main respondent's use of child care when employed or full-time student by country.

Childcare	Country				ALL UK (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	N Ireland (%)	
Respondent	6	5.3	4.5	3	5.7
Partners	33.1	31.9	29	19.1	32
Grandparents	61.6	79.5	77.8	62	64.4
Other relatives	9.3	8.6	11	11.6	9.6
Friends/neighbours	3.6	2.8	3.6	4.1	3.6
Nanny/au pair	3.4	0.5	1.2	1.2	2.9
Childminder	14.4	10	13.2	22.7	14.3
Workplace nursery	1.7	2.9	1.7	1.1	1.8
Other nursery	18.8	23.2	18.7	12.6	18.8
N	4249	1142	1089	907	7387

Sample: All MCS main respondents who were employed or a full time student at the interview and reported using childcare while they were employed or at college. Figures do not add up to 100% because there can use of more than one kind of childcare.

Table A11.2 Numbers of types of non-parental child care used by main respondents while employed by those who use some.

	Country				ALL UK (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	NI (%)	
1	69.6	64.3	63.2	77.6	68.8
2	22.5	26.3	27.6	18.3	23.0
3	5.1	5.8	6.3	2.4	5.1
4	2.3	3.1	1.9	1.3	2.4
5	0.6	0.5	0.9	0.4	0.5
6	-	-	-	0.0	-
Total %	100	100	100	100	100
Sample Size (N)	3507	1129	983	898	6763

Sample: Employed or FT student main respondents who used non-parental childcare while employed or at college.

Table A11.3 Number of types of non-parental childcare used by main respondent for any reason

	Country				ALL UK (%)
	England (%)	Wales (%)	Scotland (%)	N Ireland (%)	
0	50	43.4	44.1	42.2	48.8
1	30.6	30.6	30.1	36.8	30.8
2	12.4	17.3	16.6	14.4	13.1
3	4	5.3	5.5	4.6	4.2
4	1.9	2.2	2.1	1.5	1.9
5	0.7	0.7	1.1	0.6	0.7
6	0.2	0.1	0.3		0.2
7	0.1	0.1			0.1
8	0.1	0.1	0		0.1
9	0		0		0
10		0			0
Total %	100	100	100	100	100
N	9879	2728	2299	1930	18329

Sample: Main respondents

Table A11. 4 Employed users of formal child care by country

Formal Childcare	Country				UK
	England	Wales	Scotland	N Ireland	
(1) Employed users of formal childcare	16.8	17.5	17.5	19.3	17
Sample Size (N)	4332	1163	1126	930	7551
(2) Any user of formal childcare	19.2	19.4	19.4	21	19.2
Sample Size (N)	11533	2761	2336	1923	18553

Sample: (1) All MCS Main respondents who were employed or a full time student. (2) Main respondents.

Table A12.1 Percentage of main respondents reporting family was receiving additional income at interview, by country and type of ward.

Country and Type of Ward	Additional Income Type										Sample Size (N)
	Child Benefit (%)	Child Tax Credit (%)	Working Families Tax Credit (%)	Income Support (%)	Jobseekers Allowance (%)	Housing Benefit (%)	Council Tax Benefit (%)	Invalid Care Allowance (%)	Disability Living Allowance (%)	Incapacity Benefit (%)	
England Advantaged	99.0	19.8	13.4	8.2	1.7	7.0	6.8	0.8	2.1	1.4	4601
England Disadvantaged	98.6	15.4	22.7	25.9	4.1	23.5	22.6	1.6	3.4	2.6	4495
England Ethnic	97.3	5.9	25.7	27.4	6.3	24.5	21.9	1.7	3.2	1.8	2366
Wales Advantaged	98.7	24.2	16.9	11.7	1.9	9.3	9.1	1.9	3.1	2.6	830
Wales Disadvantaged	97.9	15.9	24.0	30.3	4.9	25.3	23.7	1.6	4.0	5.1	1921
Scotland Advantaged	98.9	17.8	16.1	9.0	1.6	7.2	6.8	1.7	2.3	2.3	1140
Scotland Disadvantaged	98.2	15.8	20.1	26.9	3.6	22.2	21.1	1.9	3.5	4.8	1183
NI Advantaged	97.6	14.7	15.0	8.3	0.8	3.6	0	0.7	3.2	2.6	716
NI Disadvantaged	98.1	9.1	24.2	29.7	4.3	18.9	0	2.8	6.5	5.9	1185
										TOTAL SAMPLE SIZE	18437

Sample: All MCS main respondents.

Table A12.2 Effect that cohort birth has had on savings, by country and type of ward.

Country and Type of Ward	Savings						Total (%)	Sample Size (N)
	No Savings when baby was born and still have none (%)	Had savings but now all spent (%)	Most of the savings have been spent (%)	Some of the savings have been spent (%)	Still have about the same amount of savings (%)	Now have more savings than when baby was born (%)		
England Advantaged	26.4	8.2	10.2	20.5	27.7	7.1	**100.0**	4602
England Disadvantaged	47.7	11.9	9.8	12.1	13.9	4.5	**100.0**	4488
England Ethnic	45.5	13.1	11.7	16.2	10.7	2.9	**100.0**	2349
Wales Advantaged	28.5	10.7	11.2	16.6	27.1	5.9	**100.0**	831
Wales Disadvantaged	47.7	13.5	8.6	10.9	15.1	4.3	**100.0**	1920
Scotland Advantaged	27.4	9.1	9.6	21.6	27.5	4.8	**100.0**	1137
Scotland Disadvantaged	44.3	13.8	9.5	12.9	15.1	4.4	**100.0**	1184
NI Advantaged	22.1	7.2	8.8	20.3	36.8	4.7	**100.0**	718
NI Disadvantaged	41.2	11.7	10.4	14.1	20.2	2.4	**100.0**	1188
						TOTAL SAMPLE SIZE		18417

Sample: All MCS main respondents.

Table A12.3 How well cohort parents are managing financially, by country and type of ward.

Country and Type of Ward	Financial Status					Total (%)	Sample Size (N)
	Living comfortably (%)	Doing alright (%)	Just about getting by (%)	Finding it quite difficult (%)	Finding it very difficult (%)		
England Advantaged	31.4	37.3	22.9	6.5	2.0	**100.0**	4606
England Disadvantaged	19.6	35.6	31.5	9.7	3.5	**100.0**	4500
England Ethnic	12.2	35.5	33.7	13.6	5.0	**100.0**	2375
Wales Advantaged	27.3	37.7	27.9	5.5	1.6	**100.0**	831
Wales Disadvantaged	19.2	38.2	31.1	8.9	2.6	**100.0**	1921
Scotland Advantaged	30.0	37.3	25.4	5.3	2.0	**100.0**	1141
Scotland Disadvantaged	20.5	38.4	30.6	9.0	1.6	**100.0**	1183
NI Advantaged	35.0	45.1	15.1	3.2	1.5	**100.0**	720
NI Disadvantaged	21.1	43.8	27.9	5.6	1.6	**100.0**	1192
					TOTAL SAMPLE SIZE		**18469**

Sample: All MCS main respondents.

Table A12.4 Percentage of those who are better or worse off financially compared with a year ago, by country and type of ward.

Country by Type of Ward	Financial Situation			Total (%)	Sample Size (N)
	Better off (%)	Worse off (%)	About the same (%)		
England Advantaged	18.9	44.6	36.5	**100.0**	4606
England Disadvantaged	20.7	37.2	42.2	**100.0**	4492
England Ethnic	14.6	27.5	57.8	**100.0**	2364
Wales Advantaged	20.5	40.0	39.5	**100.0**	830
Wales Disadvantaged	22.4	36.6	41.0	**100.0**	1919
Scotland Advantaged	16.2	40.5	43.3	**100.0**	1141
Scotland Disadvantaged	19.1	37.9	43.0	**100.0**	1184
NI Advantaged	12.4	33.3	54.3	**100.0**	720
NI Disadvantaged	15.5	24.6	59.9	**100.0**	1191
			TOTAL SAMPLE SIZE		**18447**

Sample: All MCS main respondents.

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