



PACIFIC ISLAND COMMUNITY HEALTH PROFILE **2022**



A BOLDER HEALTHIER BIRMINGHAM

INTERNATIONAL, NATIONAL AND BIRMINGHAM CONTEXT

ACCORDING TO THE 2011 CENSUS, THERE ARE **8,604** Antarctica and Oceania-born people in England and Wales. Fillans account for the largest proportion **73%**

ACCORDING TO THE 2011 CENSUS THERE ARE **728** people born in the nine nations across the West Midlands and **97** IN BIRMINGHAM

63% of the communities' UK population are 25 to 44 year olds, which is a significantly larger proportion compared to the general population

There are sizable populations around British arm bases, with **1,300** SERVING FIJIANS IN UK ARMED FORCES 

INTERNATIONAL CONTEXT

The Pacific Islands is a vast and unique region, made up of three subregions: Melanesia, Micronesia and Polynesia. 

IT SPANS ACROSS **15%** OF THE EARTH'S SURFACE A COMBINED POPULATION OF **2.3** MILLION PEOPLE

According to the UNESCAP figures, over **430,000** people have emigrated from the nine Pacific nations covered in this community profile, with approximately **50%** (222,000) emigrating from Fiji.

Pacific Islanders have overwhelmingly migrated to four countries: Australia, New Zealand, USA and Canada

MIGRATION, LANGUAGES AND FAITH

MIGRATION 

According to the 2011 Census, the main wave of migration from the Pacific Islands region to England and Wales was before 1981, with a smaller wave from 2001 to 2003

 IN 2011 CENSUS **1,729**

PEOPLE RECORDED 'OCEANIC / AUSTRALIAN LANGUAGE AS THEIR MAIN LANGUAGE with 149 of these people resident in the West Midlands

THE MAJORITY OF PACIFIC ISLANDERS IN THE UK ARE CHRISTIAN

63% A minor proportion of the community are of Hindu (12%), Muslim (3%) and Sikh (3%) faiths

ETHNICITY WITHIN THE NINE PACIFIC ISLAND COMMUNITIES IN THE UK

18% White (English/Welsh/Scottish/ Northern Irish/British)	15% Other Black (not African or Caribbean)
16.5% Indian	8% Mixed/ multiple ethnic group

DISTRIBUTION OF THE PACIFIC COMMUNITY

MAJORITY OF THOSE FROM ANTARCTICA AND OCEANIA RESIDE IN ENGLAND

8,423

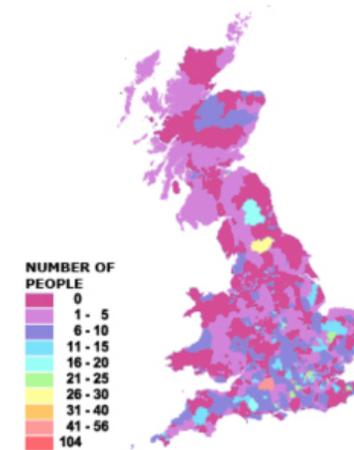
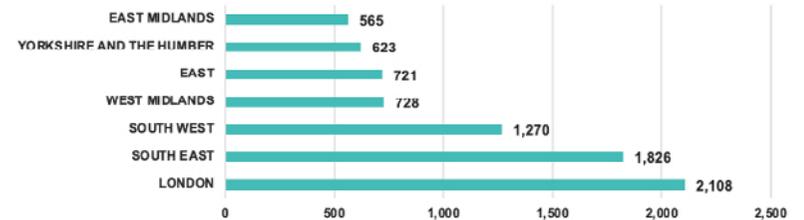
WITH A SMALL NUMBER IN WALES

181

THE LARGEST PRESENCE OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDER COMMUNITY IS IN **LONDON**

COMMUNITY'S FIGURES ARE TOO SMALL TOO ACCURATE WARD-LEVEL DATA IN BIRMINGHAM

According to the 2011 Census, the community is mainly concentrated in



Source: BBC Born Abroad: Oceania. The map shows if areas with roughly equal populations were the same size, e.g. densely populated London takes up much more space than sparsely populated Scottish Highlands

MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS

MENTAL HEALTH

Research from the United States found community rarely seek mental health treatment and the need to culturally tailor anti-stigma interventions to appropriately target mental health attitudes and beliefs within the community



2019 DATA FROM NEW ZEALAND REVEALS

63.5%

of Pacific adults had consumed alcohol in the previous year, significantly lower than the total New Zealand population



81.5%

DRUG USE

Research commissioned by Australia has found cannabis to be the most common and widespread illicit drug in six Pacific Island countries. Heroin, methamphetamines and cocaine are not used commonly due to high cost compared to the average income



SMOKING

PACIFIC ISLANDS HAVE HIGH LEVELS OF SMOKING PREVALENCE

2017/18 New Zealand Health Survey shows current smokers reported compared to the total population

23%

PACIFIC ADULTS

15%

TOTAL POPULATION



HEALTHY AND AFFORDABLE FOOD

DIET NEW ZEALAND HEALTH SURVEY 2006/07 FOUND APPROXIMATELY

1 in 4

Pacific children aged two to 14 years had three to four fizzy drinks in a typical week



NEW ZEALAND HEALTH SURVEY 2006/07 REPORTED PACIFIC CHILDREN WERE

TWICE AS LIKELY

to have eaten take-away food, three or more times in the previous week, compared to children in the total population in New Zealand



OBESITY PREVALENCE



PREVALENCE OF OBESITY IS NEARLY **2x**

in Pacific adults compared to the European population



PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

RESEARCH FROM NEW ZEALAND REVEALS **52.6%**

of Pacific adults meet the physical activity guidelines of 30 minutes of moderate intensity physical activity on five or more days of the week similar to the level for all New Zealand adults of 48.2%



GETTING THE BEST START IN LIFE

88

CHILDREN WERE REGISTERED AS ANTARCTICA AND OCEANIA-BORN IN THE WEST MIDLANDS IN THE 2011 CENSUS



CHILDHOOD OBESITY

3x

35.3% of Pacific Island children in New Zealand are obese, and are 3 times more likely to be obese than non-Pacific children



48.2%

48.2% of Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander high school students in USA are either overweight or obese, compared to 26.5% for the non-Hispanic white community

ONLY

50%

OF PREGNANT PACIFIC WOMEN RECEIVED PRENATAL CARE IN THE FIRST TRIMESTER

INFANT MORTALITY RATE

Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islander infant mortality rate in USA is more than double the non-Hispanic White population

MORE THAN 2x

MATERNAL MORTALITY RATE

Pacific pregnant mothers in New Zealand have the highest mortality rate in the country at 23.88 per 100,000

23.88 PER 100,000

95%

VACCINE TAKE-UP

Immunisation rates for two-year-old Pacific Island children in New Zealand is over 95%, higher than the national average



WORKING AND LEARNING WELL

FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT
 **50%**  **28%**

Antarctica and Oceania-born residents in the West Midlands

PROFESSIONS

The overwhelming majority of males from the nine Pacific Islands in the UK define their occupation as



TECHNICIAN AND ASSOCIATE PROFESSIONAL

EDUCATION **45%** **35%**
 **UNIVERSITY GRADUATES** **COLLEGE GRADUATES**

A detailed breakdown on the UK-based Pacific Islander communities' qualifications is not available. Data from a Marama Alliance UK survey provides useful insight

HOME OWNERSHIP

21% **34%**

of residents from Antarctica and Oceania own their property outright

own their property with a mortgage / loan or shared ownership



PROTECT AND DETECT

OVERALL HEALTH  **82%**

of residents from Antarctica and Oceania surveyed in the West Midlands felt they have very good or good health, slightly lower than counterparts in England and Wales (86%)

DIABETES
2.5x
TIMES THE RISK



Diabetes is one of the main causes of mortality for the community. In the USA, almost 20% of Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders over the age of 18 were diagnosed with diabetes, a rate 2.5 times higher than the non-Hispanic white population

LIVING WITH A DISABILITY

84% of those from Antarctica and Oceania living with a long-term health problem or disability in the West Midlands felt it did not impact their day-to-day activities

CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE

#1 **CAUSE OF DEATH**

for Pacific people in New Zealand. Ischaemic heart disease is the leading cause of death in Kiribati, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, The Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu



TUBERCULOSIS (TB)

37x **HIGHER** The incidence of TB in the Native Hawaiians / Pacific Islander community in the USA is 37 times higher than the non-Hispanic white community



CHRONIC OBSTRUCTIVE PULMONARY DISEASE (COPD)

1.4% **PREVALENCE RATE** of the condition among people over the age of 15 in the Pacific community New Zealand

AGEING AND DYING WELL

END OF LIFE

THE OLDER AGE POPULATION IS GROWING RAPIDLY. IN FIJI, THE OVER 65S HAVE INCREASED FROM

3.4% **5.8%**

of the population over the past two decades



DEMENTIA

Tonga has the highest overall share of population over 65. This correlates to higher mortality rates for Alzheimer's and dementia, with an incidence of almost

13
PER 100,000