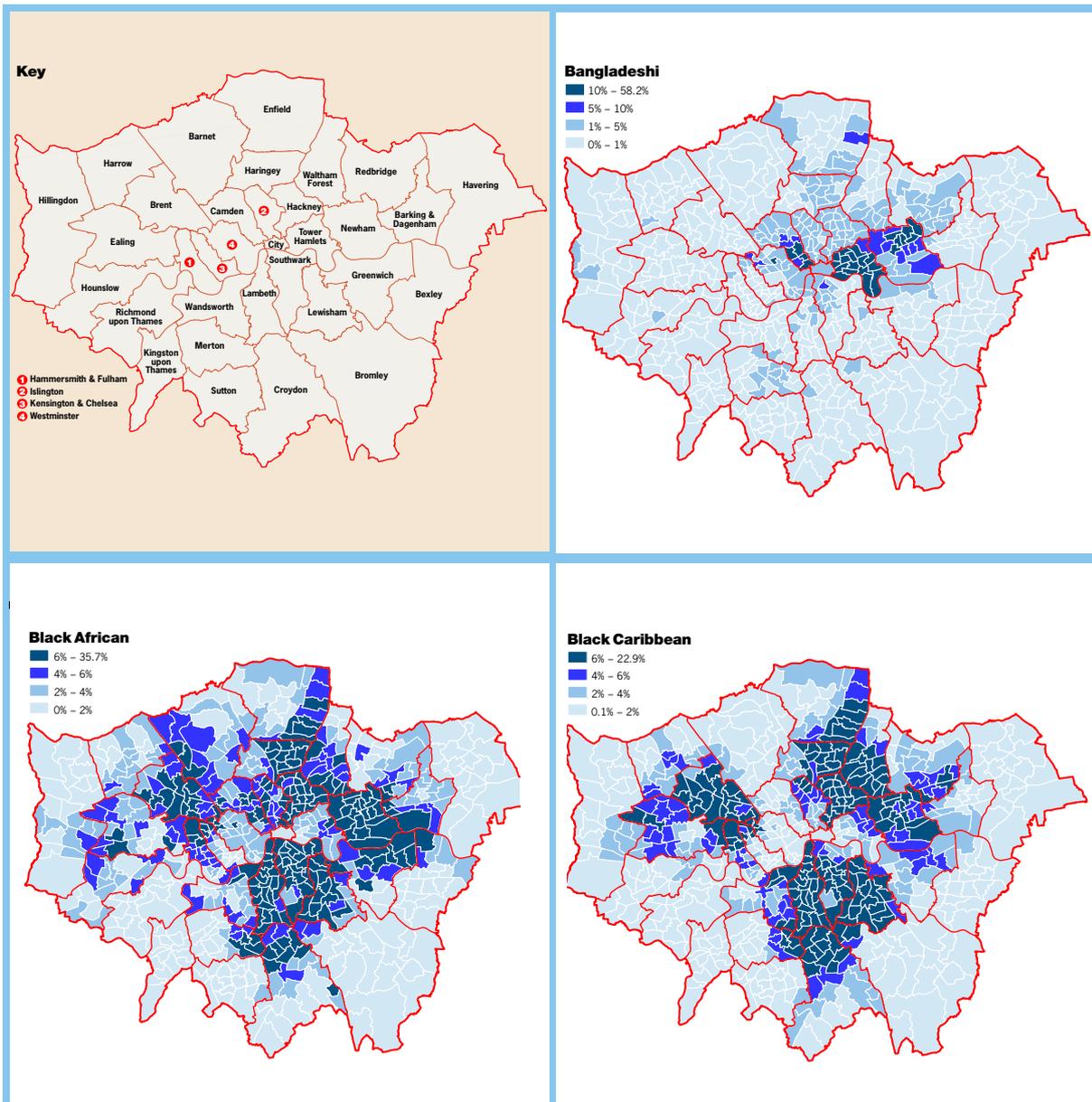
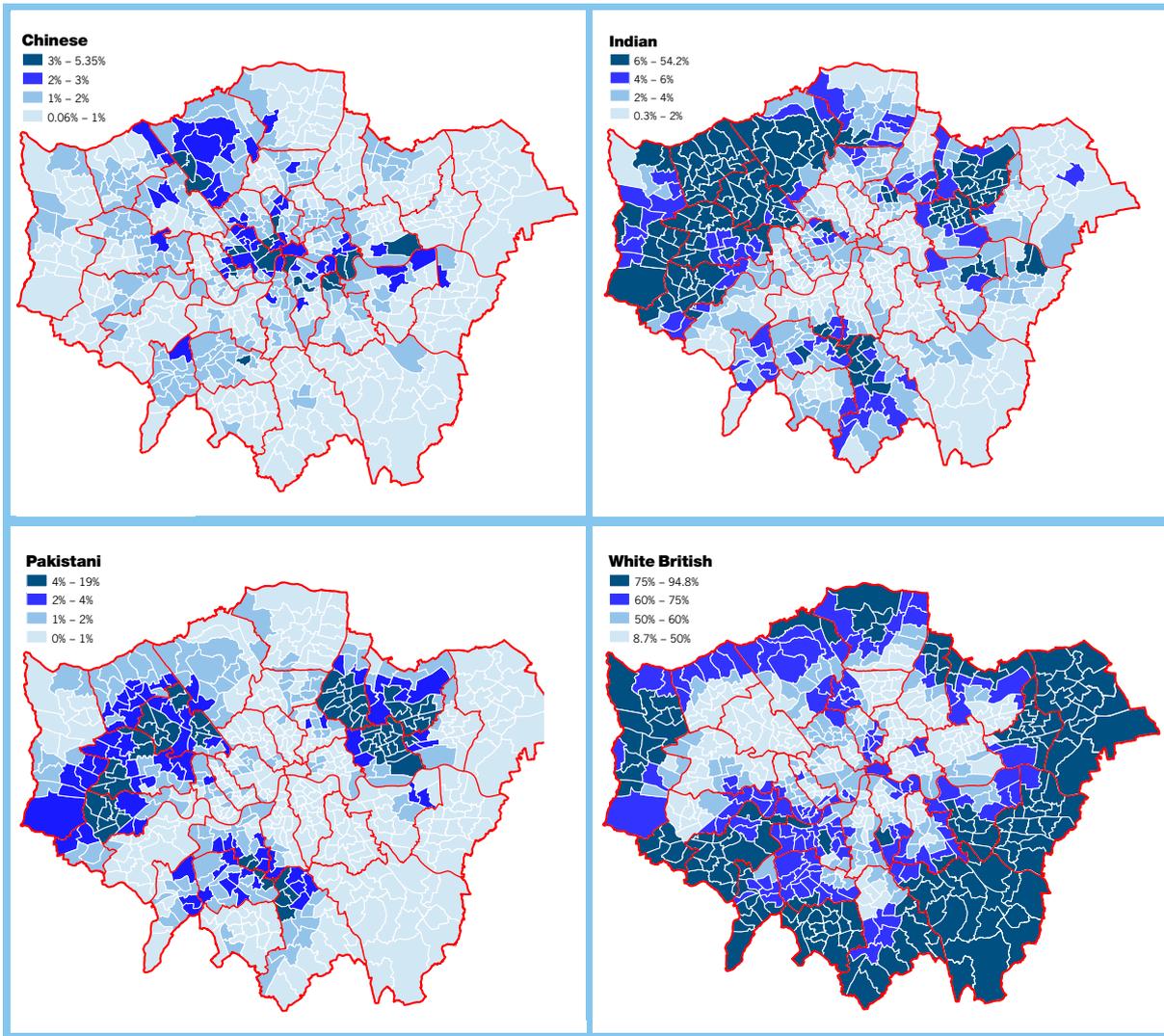


London's multi-ethnic population



The proportion of citizens belonging to ethnic minorities is not the same everywhere in the UK. London has a relatively high proportion, but as the following maps and analysis from *The Guardian* newspaper show, even here the different ethnic groups are not spread equally over all parts of the city.





The **White British** map clearly shows how many white Londoners have deserted¹ the city centre for the outer boroughs. ‘Traditional’ eastenders have moved east, into Barking, Havering, Bexley and Bromley, while affluent² white families have congregated in the suburbs of the north, west and southwest. According to Rob Lewis, a senior demographer at the Greater London Authority, the map also depicts something else. “In reverse³,” he explains, “it is a way of showing where all the ethnic minority populations live.”

The large concentration in south London on the **Black Caribbean** map is said to have originated in 1948, when many people from the *Empire Windrush*, the first boat bringing large numbers of migrants from the Caribbean, were housed temporarily in old air-raid shelters⁴ in Clapham. The Caribbean areas in west London and north-east London are centred on two other cheap housing districts⁵ of the time, Notting Hill and Hackney.

The **Black African** pattern⁶ is similar to the Caribbean one, but more diffuse. Why the two communities overlap so much is not clear, but one can guess. “If you were a Nigerian student coming to London in the 1960s,” hazards⁷ Lewis, “you might think you stood a better chance in south London, where there are already lots of black people.” A wider range of⁸ people is covered by the term ‘Black African’, however, which might explain why the community is more dispersed⁹. “The maps show that you can’t treat south-Asians as a single¹⁰ group,” says Lewis. “And the **Bangladeshis** are unique, as they are very concentrated.”

The **Chinese** population is extremely dispersed, but theirs is an unusual case¹¹. “The reason for their thin spread all over London,” says Lewis, “is because of the idea that you want to set up a Chinese restaurant that’s a little way away from the next one.”

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¹to desert [dɪ'zɜ:t] verlassen • ²affluent [æ'fluənt] wohlhabend • ³in reverse [rɪ'vɜ:s] umgekehrt • ⁴air-raid shelter ['eə,raɪd 'ʃeltə] Luftschutzkeller • ⁵district ['dɪstrɪkt] Stadtviertel • ⁶pattern ['pætən] Muster • ⁷to hazard [ˈhæzəd] sich eine Bemerkung erlauben • ⁸a range of [rɪ'neɪdʒ,əv] eine Reihe von • ⁹dispersed [dɪ'spɜ:sɪt] verstreut • ¹⁰single ['sɪŋɡl] einzelne/-r/-s • ¹¹case [keɪs] Fall

1 Understanding the maps

Study the maps and say whether these statements are true or false.

1. The colours do not represent the same percentages on every map.
2. In Tower Hamlets over 75 percent of the population is Bangladeshi.
3. There are very few Black Africans in Kingston upon Thames.
4. In the parts of London where Black Caribbean people live, there are usually also Black Africans.
5. Chinese people form the majority in one borough of London.
6. Many people of Indian origin live in the west of the capital.
7. No more than 4 percent of the population is of Pakistani origin anywhere in London.
8. More Indians than Pakistanis live in Greenwich.
9. In the suburbs of London the large majority of people are White British.
10. There are some parts of central London where the proportion of White British is fewer than one in twenty.

2 Putting the maps together

Find the following boroughs and collect the statistics for the ethnic groups. Then write one or two sentences saying where each borough is and commenting on the population.

TIP

Collecting statistics in a grid can help to give you a quick overview.

1. Westminster
2. Bromley
3. Tower Hamlets
4. Hillingdon

Example: Newham

Newham, in the east of London, has a very mixed population. In some parts of the borough the White British are in the minority because of the large number of Asians and Blacks who live there.

3 Finding out more

Use the information given in the analysis to answer the following questions.

1. How are the White British in the eastern suburbs of London different from those in the other suburbs?
2. What was the *Empire Windrush*? Why was it important in the history of immigration to the UK?
3. Why did the three main Black Caribbean areas in London develop in those parts of the city?
4. What might explain the fact that Black Africans are spread more widely than Black Caribbean people?
5. In what way is London's Bangladeshi population different from other ethnic groups?
6. How do many Chinese people earn their money? What effect has this had on where they live?

4 Discussing the topic

- a) Say why you think people from the same ethnic group often live near one another, as in London. What are the advantages and disadvantages of this?
- b) Give examples of places you know in Germany where there are ethnic minority communities.

Lösungen/Lösungsvorschläge

1

1. true
2. false
3. true
4. true
5. false
6. true
7. false
8. true
9. true
10. false

2

1. Westminster is in the centre of London. Mainly White British people live there, although there are also some ethnic minorities, especially Chinese, Indian and Black African.
2. The population in Bromley, a suburb in the south-east, is almost completely white. Very few people from ethnic minorities live there.
3. Tower Hamlets is in the centre of London. In some parts of this borough there are more Bangladeshis than white people.
4. Although White British form the majority in most parts of the western suburb of Hillingdon, there are also large numbers of Indians, especially in the south of this borough.

3

1. The White British in the eastern suburbs of London are not as likely to be rich as the White British in the other suburbs.
2. The *Empire Windrush* was the boat that brought the first immigrants from the Caribbean in 1948. It was important because that was the beginning of mass immigration to the UK.
3. The Black Caribbean area in the south of London developed because that was where many people from the *Empire Windrush* lived at first. The other Caribbean areas in the west and the north-east developed because at that time houses were cheap there.
4. Black Africans are not just one group of people, so maybe that is why they are spread more widely than Black Caribbean people.
5. Compared to other ethnic minorities, Bangladeshis are spread less widely, so they form a higher percentage of the local population in the districts they settled in.
6. Many Chinese people have a Chinese restaurant. Since they do not want to be too near other Chinese restaurants, this ethnic group is spread all over London.

4

Individuelle Antworten