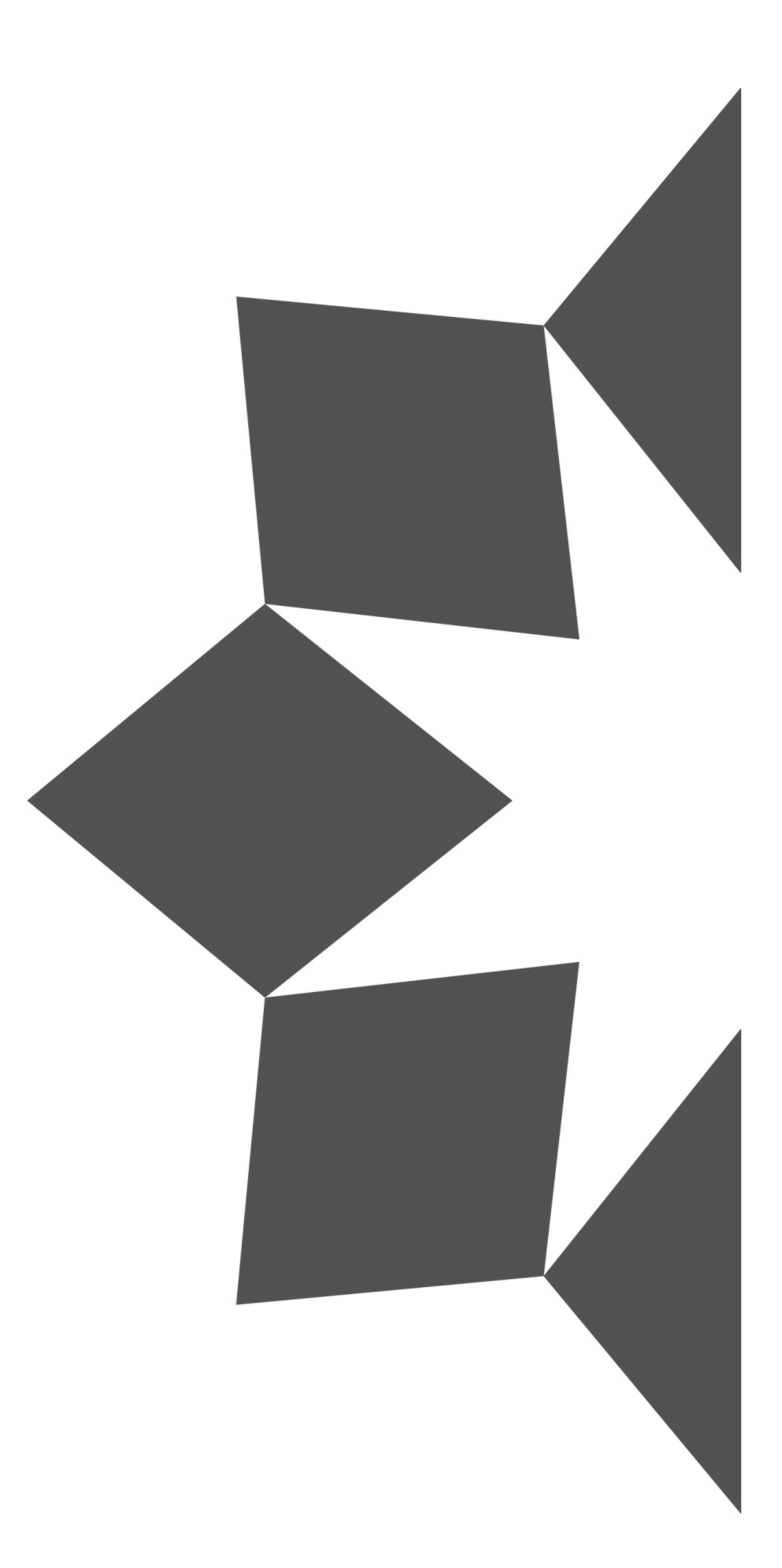
**June 2022**

**Co-POWeR Survey 2022**

**Technical Report**



A drawing of a cartoon character

Description automatically generated

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Project details

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Title** | Co-POWeR Survey 2022 |
| **Client** | Co-POWeR |
| **Project number** | 21199 |
| **Author** | Kirsty Marshall, Associate Director |

This project has been delivered to ISO 9001:2015, 20252:2019 and 27001:2013 standards.

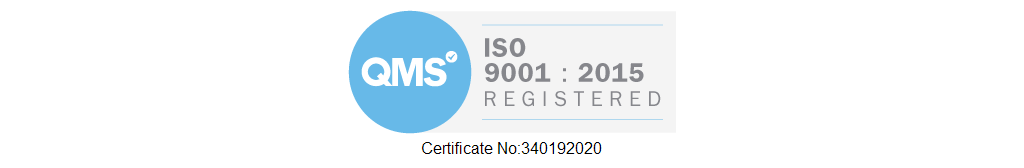
**M·E·L Research Ltd**

Somerset House, 37 Temple Street, Birmingham, B2 5DP

Email: info@melresearch.co.uk

Web: www.melresearch.co.uk

Tel: 0121 604 4664



Introduction and background

This report outlines the methodology and design of the 2022 CO-POWeR Survey, which was conducted by M·E·L Research on behalf of the University of Leeds and Co-POWeR.

The aim of this research is to understand how COVID-19 has affected wellbeing and resilience amongst people of all ages and the experiences of people from racialised/ethnic minority families and communities during the COVID-19 pandemic. The survey data will be used to inform government policy, ensuring that the experiences of racial/ethnic minority groups inform the planning of the COVID-19 pandemic recovery.

Methodology summary

The data collection methodology was computer aided face to face interviewing at pre-selected sampling points. Data collection took place between 7th April and 18th May 2022.

Survey participants were reached using a door-knocking approach, whereby M·E·L Research interviewers knocked on doors within specific target areas and invited residents from racialised/ethnic minorities to take part in the survey. All data collection was undertaken by interviewers who themselves are from Black and Asian Minority communities. The profile of the interviewing team was of particular importance for this research, helping to establish buy in to the research among residents, given its sometimes sensitive subject matter.

All those who agreed to take part were handed a (clean and sterilised) tablet to allow the respondent to read and answer the survey questions (self-completion). Using this approach, interview questions could be answered anonymously and truthfully, minimising the risk of social acceptability bias (where a respondent’s answers are influenced or moderated by the presence of an interviewer). The participant handed back the tablet upon completion of the survey with the ‘interviewer’ having no knowledge of responses given. The interviewer was on hand, however, if the participant needed any help with the survey.

To ensure the research approach was inclusive, participants had a choice of eight languages in which they could complete the the survey. These were:

* English
* Bengali
* Gujarati
* Punjabi
* Somali
* Tamil
* Urdu
* Welsh

Almost all interviews were conducted in English, with only two participants opting to do the survey in another language.

Eight cities selected as sampling points. These were Birmingham, Cardiff, Coventry, Leeds, Leicester, London, Luton, and Southampton. These were selected by Co-POWeR because of their relatively high ethnic diversity.

Within each city, Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) where non-white residents make up at least 75% population were identified. In instances where this 75% threshold could not be reached, LSOAs with the highest proportion of minority residents were targeted. In total, 26,067 address were selected across the eight cities to form the sample frame for data collection.

In order to encourage participation, the following steps were taken:

* All survey communications provided clear information on the value of taking part in the research including how data will be used to inform government policy and ensure the experiences of racial/ethnic minority groups are considered across a range of topics and issues as plans are made to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic.
* A statement was provided covering the confidentiality of survey responses and how M·E·L Research as an independent research agency protects this.
* Signposting to support via a freephone helpline and dedicated email address was included in the authorisation letter carried by interviewers.
* The option to complete in one of eight languages was provided to encourage participation from those who do not speak English as their first language.
* An incentive of a £5 voucher was paid for completion of the survey and was administered by the interviewer

All responses were collected processed and checked by M·E·L Research, while the majority of the analysis will be conducted by Co-POWeR.

The questionnaire was designed by Co-POWeR, with M·E·L reviewing and finalising the design. The questionnaire was then scripted by M·E·L, with Co-POWeR reviewing and signing off the final design. The questionnaire was translated into the seven languages as stated on the previous page by Brasshouse Translation & Interpreting Services, part of Birmingham City Council.

Sampling

A sample of 26,067 addresses was drawn from the Royal Mail’s Postal Address File, which is considered the most complete list of residential addresses available. The sample was drawn from the eight cities selected by Co-POWeR. (Birmingham, Cardiff, Coventry, Leeds, Leicester, London, Luton, and Southampton). The sampling points selected within each city were chosen on the basis that they had the highest incidence of those from ethnic minorities.

Sample size targets for each city were set in broad alignment with the population size and proportion of Black and Asian Minority ethnic residents per city. For example, more interviews were targeted in London and Birmingham, and less in Cardiff (see Table 1).

Prescriptive quotas on age, gender, or ethnicity were not set, however the profile of interviews across these characteristics were monitored throughout fieldwork to ensure a good spread in each city.

**Table 1: Sampling**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| City | Number of addresses selected | Sampling points used | Sample target | Sample achieved |
| **Birmingham** | 3053 | 7 | 200 | 200 |
| **Cardiff** | 3516 | 3 | 50 | 50 |
| **Coventry** | 2103 | 3 | 100 | 100 |
| **Leeds** | 4380 | 7 | 100 | 99 |
| **Leicester** | 3474 | 7 | 100 | 100 |
| **London (Ealing, Lambeth, Newham, Southwark)** | 5371 | 15 | 250 | 250 |
| **Luton** | 2624 | 5 | 100 | 101 |
| **Southampton** | 1546 | 3 | 100 | 100 |
| Total | 26067 | 50 | 1000 | 1000 |

Data collection

Pilot phase

The questionnaire was piloted in field ahead of full launch. Interviewers were instructed to feed back any issues they encountered in deploying the research. The feedback from the interviewers was that the pilot interviews went well. The team did not report any problems with comprehension of the questions, just that the question asking about artistic creative activities tried/learnt during lockdown (Q10) had a low number of people saying they had done such activities.

The pilot phase was also used to provide a final check on the presence of all survey codes and on the functionality of the routing within the survey script.

In the pilot phase length of interviews ranged between 12-15 minute for most participants. As the survey text used to gain consent from residents to participate mentioned a 15 minute survey, no changes were required to reduce the survey length.

Fieldwork

Data collection took place between 7th April and 18th May 2022.

For the full data set the survey length average was 15 minutes 50 seconds (mean).

The data collection period included Ramadan. Productivity (the number of interviews completed) was impacted by Ramadan, but once Ramadan had ended it was easier to get residents to agree to participate.

While the sampling strategy deployed for this study sought to give the M·E·L team the best possible chance of reaching the communities in scope for this research, this still did not guarantee that at every address visited there would be an eligible individual. The interviewing team inevitably visited numerous addresses containing White British residents. On this basis the recording of detailed call outcomes for over 25,000 addresses was not practical, nor necessary as it would be if using a true random probability sampling method.

Data processing

The data was processed by the data services team at M·E·L Research.

Data checking process

At least 10% of those who completed the survey received a call back to check they had completed the survey, and that their answered matched what they had entered. The following questions were used to check the data.

* Q1. Age
* Q3. Ethnicity
* Q7. Were you on furlough for any length of time during the pandemic?
* Q28. Have provided care for children under 18 years old since March 2020
* Q33. Do you look after, or give any help or support to anyone because they have long-term physical or mental health conditions or illnesses, or problems related to older age?

The only question where there were answers that didn’t match in the quality checking process was for Q28, whereby there was some confusion on whether the question was asking if they had children, or they had children with additional needs. This resulted in 16 people who changed their answer for this question in the checking process (from answering no to answering yes). This was updated in the data, so for questions Q29 and Q30, there were 16 people where we didn’t have an answer for these questions, as these questions routed from Q28.

Data Cleaning

The total number of completed surveys were 1,002, but we removed two responses during the data cleaning process, as their ethnicity was recorded as White.

Data weighting

No weighting was applied to the data.

Data tables

A full set of data tables including all questions has been sent to Co-POWeR. Please see below for a summary of key demographics (table 2).

**Table 2: Summary of key demographics**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Demographic | Count | % |
| **Age** | | |
| 16-24 | 129 | 12.9% |
| 25-34 | 201 | 20.1% |
| 35-44 | 223 | 22.3% |
| 45-54 | 198 | 19.8% |
| 55-64 | 134 | 13.4% |
| 65+ | 115 | 11.5% |
| **Gender** | | |
| Female | 532 | 53.2% |
| Male | 468 | 46.8% |
| Other | 0 | 0% |
| Prefer not to say | 0 | 0% |
| **Racial/ethnic identity** | | |
| Indian | 232 | 23.2% |
| Pakistani | 256 | 25.6% |
| Chinese | 3 | 0.3% |
| Bangladeshi | 102 | 10.2% |
| Any other Asian background | 34 | 3.4% |
| Caribbean | 150 | 15.0% |
| African | 152 | 15.2% |
| Any other Black, Black British, or Caribbean background | 15 | 1.5% |
| White and Asian | 6 | 0.6% |
| White and Black African | 0 | 0% |
| White and Black Caribbean | 19 | 1.9% |
| Any other mixed or multiple ethnic background | 5 | 0.5% |
| Arab | 7 | 0.7% |
| Gypsy, Roma, and Travellers | 6 | 0.6% |
| Other | 13 | 1.3% |

