

Ethnicity and Inequalities in Health Expectancies

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InHALE -

Inequalities in Healthy Active Life Expectancy: the role of time, place, person and methods

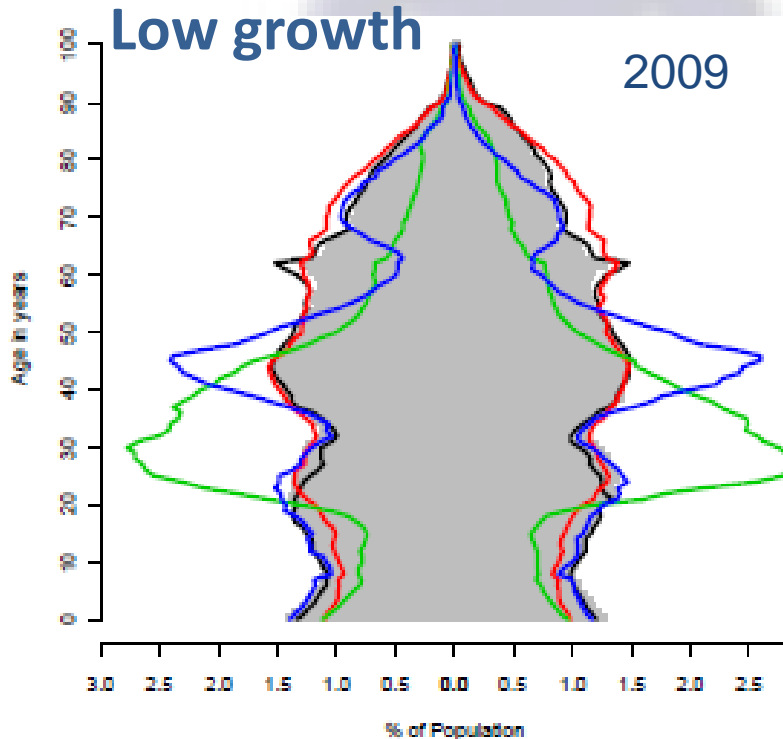
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<http://research.ncl.ac.uk/InHALE>

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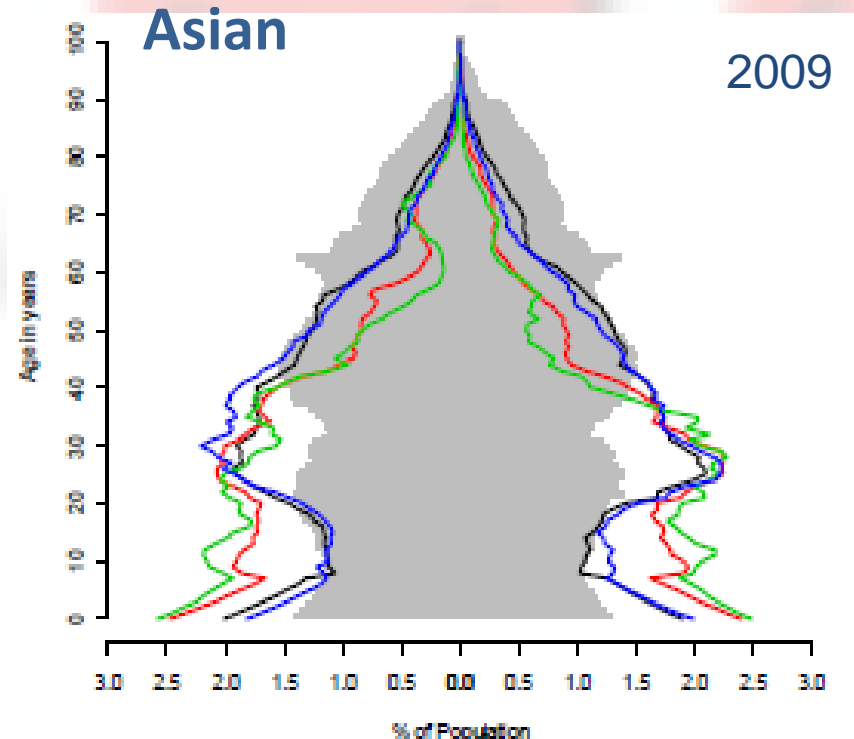
Rationale

- Population ageing



White British
White Irish
White Other
Black Caribbean

Total population



Indian
Pakistani
Bangladeshi
Other Asian

Rationale

- Compositional change

Today (2011)

- ~14% of the population belong to ethnic minority group other than White
- 1 in 5 considers themselves as not White British

Figure 2. Growth in ethnic minority group population in England & Wales, 1991-2001-2011



Jivraj S. How has ethnic diversity grown 1991-2001-2011? In: Simpson LaJ, Stephen editor. *Dynamics of diversity: evidence from the 2011 Census*. Manchester: Centre on Dynamics of Ethnicity, The University of Manchester, 2012.

Research Questions

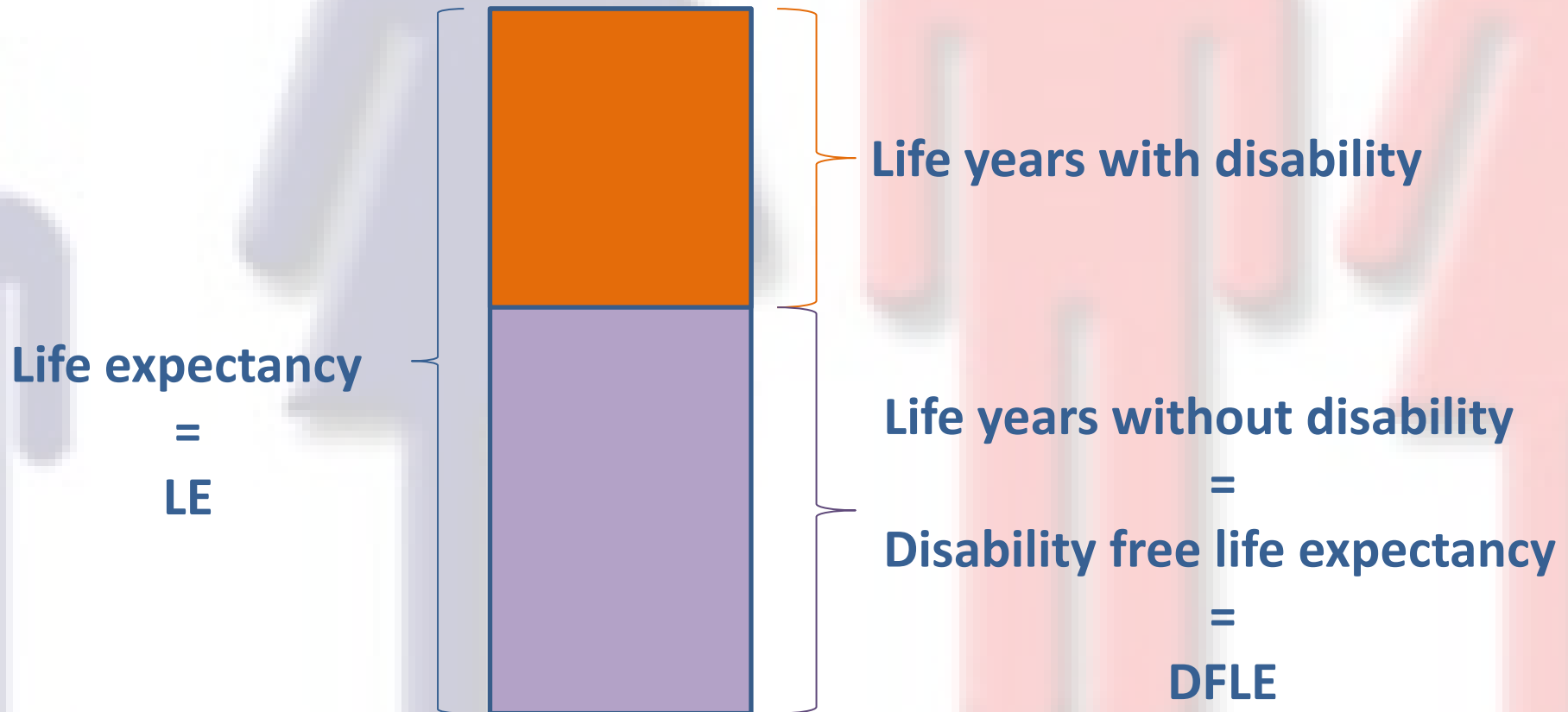
- How do health expectancies vary for ethnic groups in England and Wales?
- Are those differences significant?

Why don't we know this already?

➔ Lack of mortality data for ethnic groups

What are health expectancies?

Example: Disability free life expectancy



Ethnic groups England & Wales (2001)

☐ Self identified / 16 options

- **White** (British, Irish, Other)
- **Mixed** (White & Black Caribbean, White & Black African, White & Asian, Other)
- **Asian or Asian British** (Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi, Other)
- **Black or Black British** (Caribbean, African, Other)
- Chinese or **Other** Ethnic Group.

Data

- **Mortality estimates** for ethnic groups (Rees *et al.* 2009)

- **2 Census questions**

11 Over the last twelve months would you say your health has on the whole been:

- Good?
- Fairly good?
- Not good?

*Healthy life expectancy
-HLE*

13 Do you have any long-term illness, health problem or disability which limits your daily activities or the work you can do?

◆ Include problems which are due to old age.

- Yes
- No

*Disability free life
Expectancy -DFLE*

- **Sullivan method**

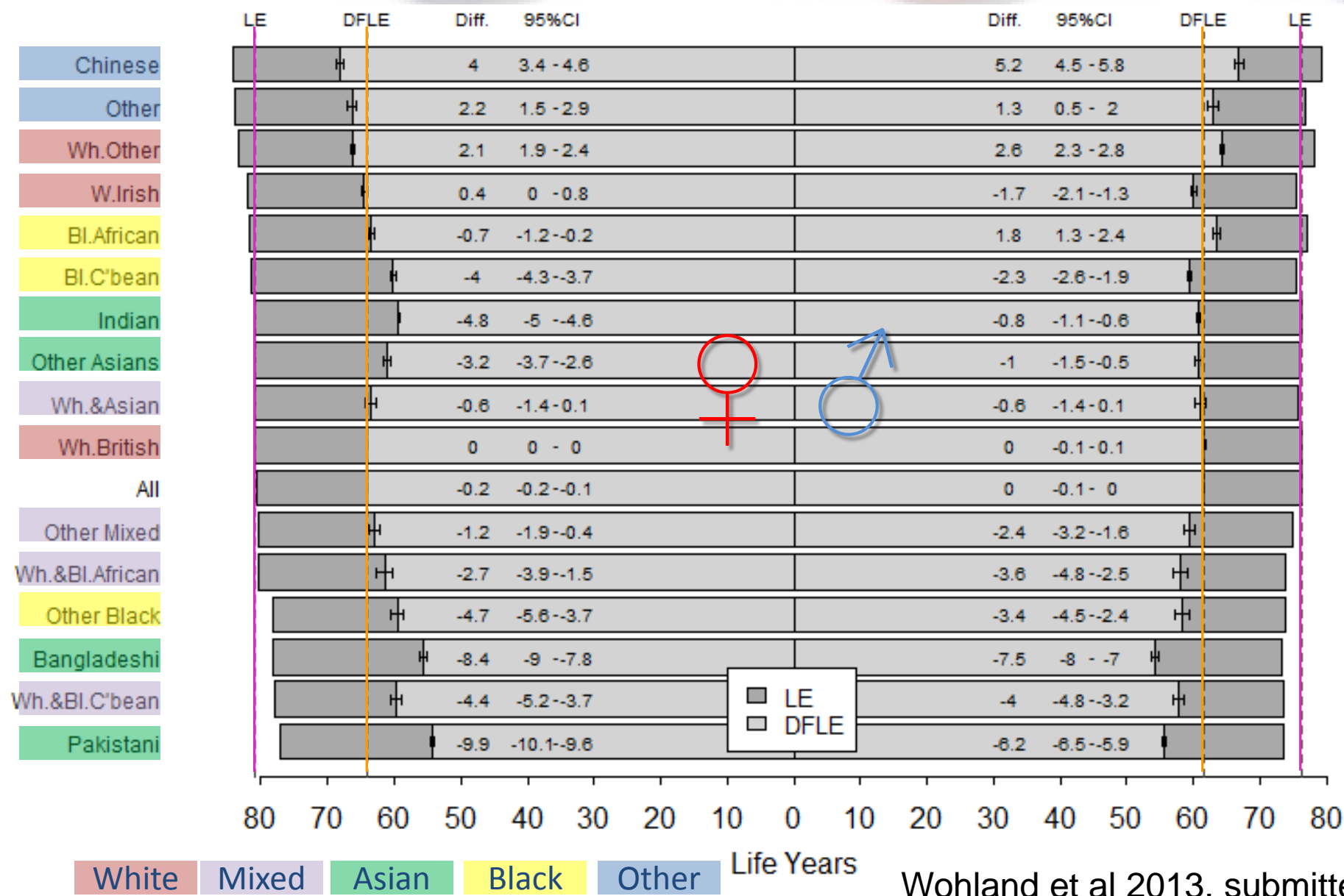
The background features a row of stylized human icons. From left to right, there is a partial blue male icon, a blue female icon, a red male icon, and a red female icon. The icons are semi-transparent and blurred.

Results

Life expectancy and disability free life expectancy at birth

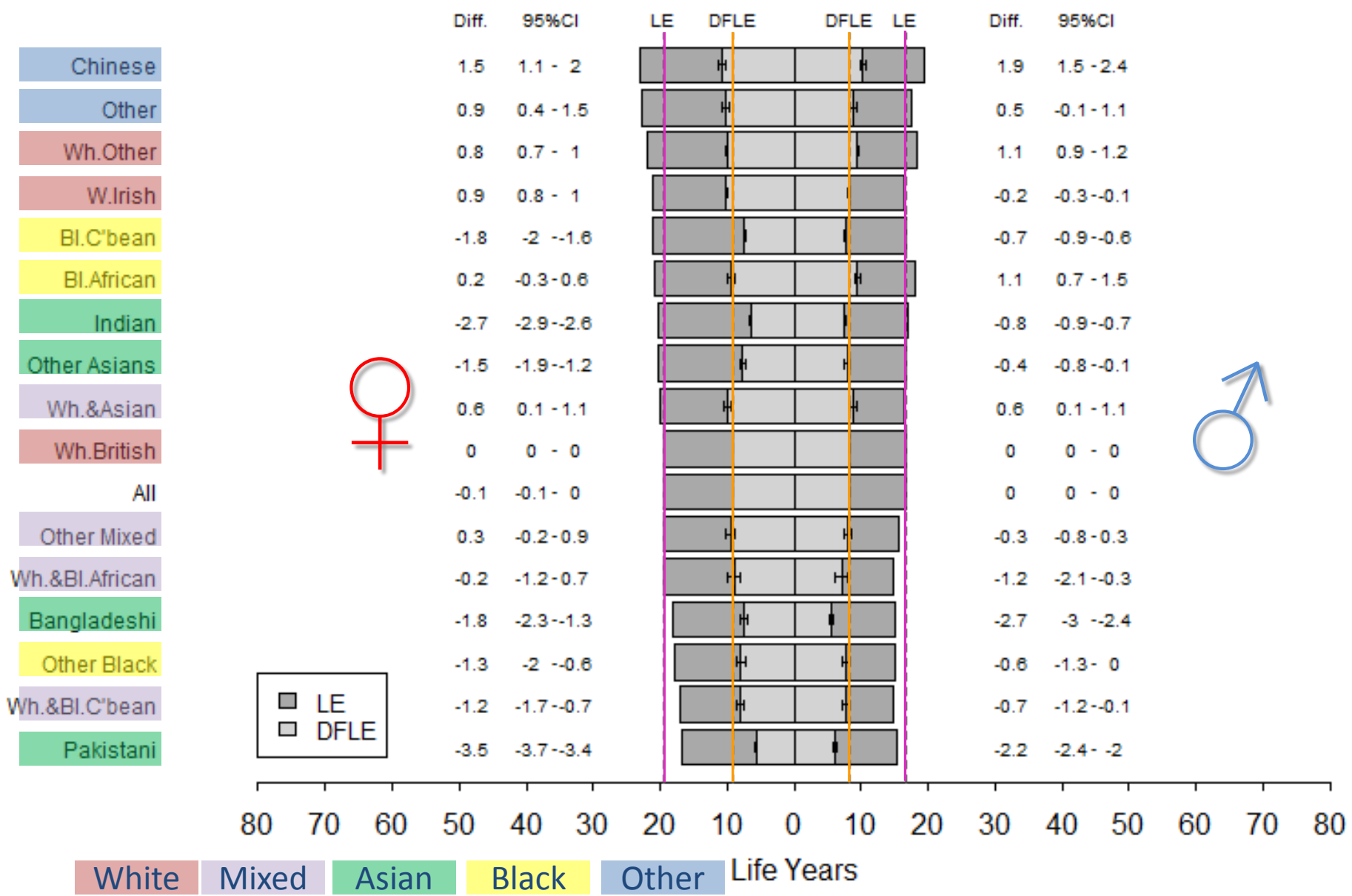
• Ordered by Women LE

Differences compared to White British group

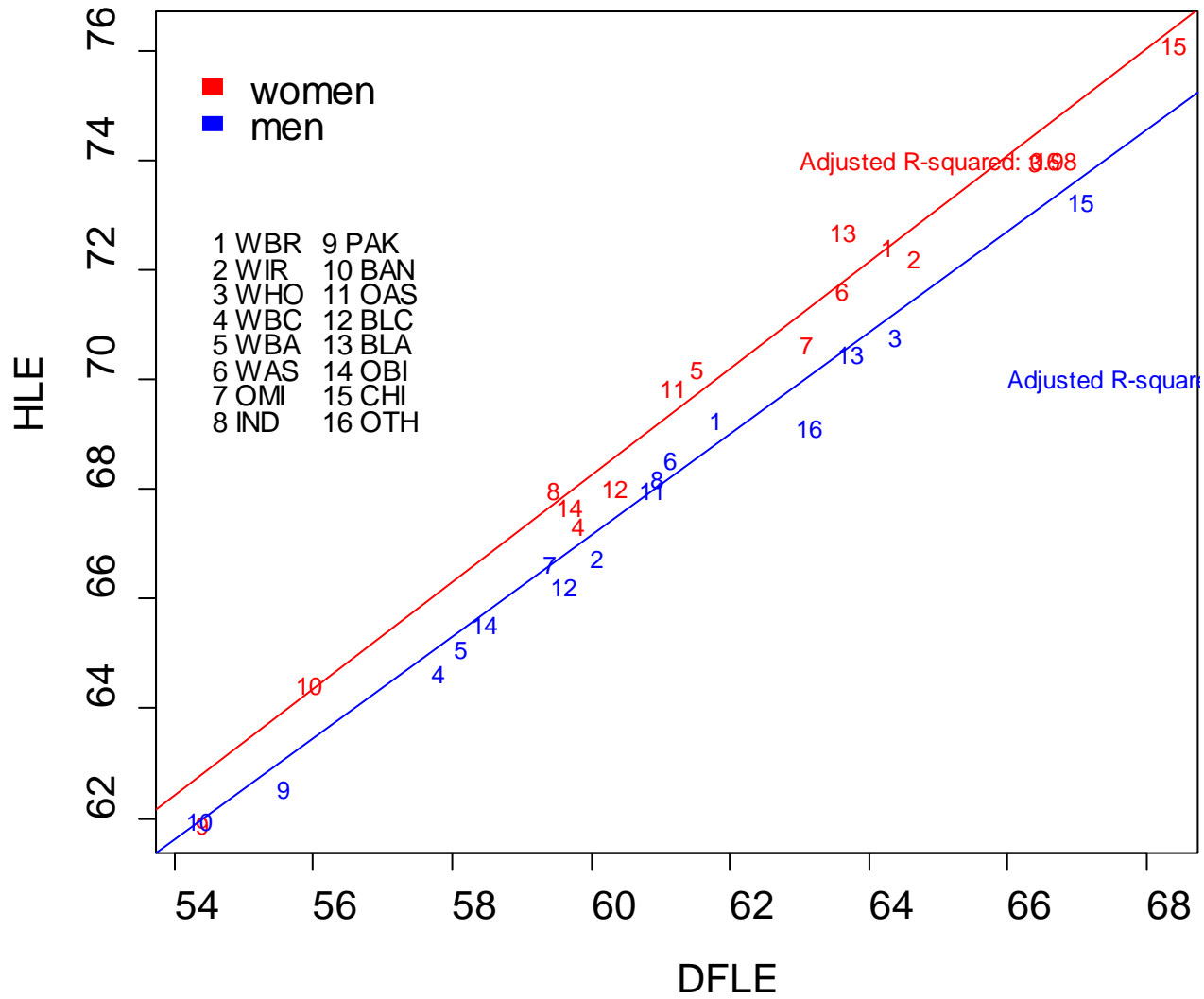


Life expectancy and disability free life expectancy at 65

- Ordered by Women LE
- Differences compared to White British group



DFLE & HLE at birth, ethnic



Summary

- **Variation in DFLE at birth: men 12.7 years, women 13.9 years for women, double of life expectancy**
- **DFLE at birth highest for Chinese men & women**
- **Over half of ethnic groups (men:10, women:9) significantly lower DFLE than White British**
- **Low DFLE in some Black, Asian and Mixed ethnic groups, lowest: Bangladeshi men & Pakistani women**
- **Indian women LE similar to White British, but low DFLE**

Conclusions and Discussions

- **Mortality inequalities underestimate health inequalities**
- **Two Health expectancy measures – more confident in results**
- **Not all variation explained by socioeconomic factors**
- **More non-White British people in population – importance to pick ethnic groups at higher risk of disability to target appropriate interventions**



THANKS



Questions?



Scotland - Edinburgh - REVES 2014



**How does England and Wales
compare to other countries?**

References

- Data source: Adapted from data from the Office for National Statistics licensed under the Open Government Licence v.1.0.
- R Core Team (2012). R: A language and environment for statistical computing. R Foundation for Statistical Computing, Vienna, Austria. ISBN 3-900051-07-0, URL <http://www.R-project.org/>.
- Rees PH, Wohland PN, Norman PD: The estimation of mortality for ethnic groups at local scale within the United Kingdom. Soc Sci Med; 2009 Dec;69(11):1592-607 . PMID: 19781840.
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