

Group I: Ex-Council Community

Kyle, Kayleigh, Brett or Toni

Type I40: Legacy of Labour

Older families on low incomes living on council estates in areas where industry was once prevalent

2.68%  |  3.46%

Overview

Key Features

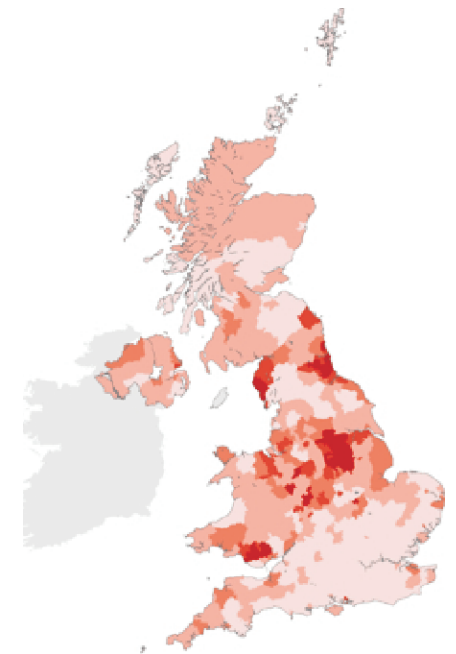
- Middle aged couples
- Industrial towns
- Small houses
- Routine occupations
- Some problem debt
- Few qualifications
- Low incomes
- Benefits claimants
- Tabloid readers
- Budget brands

Rankings

- Age 35/67
- Presence of Children <18 12/67
- Household Income 54/67
- Gross Financial Assets 56/67
- Non-Mortgage Debt 45/67
- Indebtedness Indicator 12/67
- Level of Urbanisation 38/67



Typical Houses



Top Postal Areas

- Sheffield S
- Newcastle on Tyne NE
- Nottingham NG
- Doncaster DN
- Birmingham B



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Overview

Legacy of Labour are older people living on limited incomes in the better council estates of Northern and Midland industrial towns, as well as in some areas of better quality, privately owned older terraced housing. Many of these people have been, or are still, employed in manufacturing industry, but demand for their craft skills is now less than it used to be, and many have had to be adaptable in finding employment in new service jobs. Relatively few people have advanced educational qualifications, and of those that currently work in offices, few are employed other than in routine administrative roles. They tend to have conservative attitudes and are careful with their money. This type is common in many ex-mining communities.

Many neighbourhoods were laid out by local authorities using basic, standardised designs, on greenfield sites often at some distance from the town centre. Houses were built to accommodate, what might at the time have been described as, the respectable working class, on large estates, sometimes served by a neighbourhood shopping centre and a bus service taking residents to the town centre.

People on these estates tended to conform to a set of norms which would lead to a relatively early marriage, to a family of modest size, and to responsible tenancy of homes and gardens for which rent would be paid regularly and on time.

Many of the residents have adapted quite successfully to the economic transformation of their local economies and had the financial acumen to acquire the freehold of their homes at knock down prices from their local authority. Such households have often made improvements to the external appearance of the homes, for example, the addition of a porch, the replacement of the front door with one of a more ornamented design, leaded and/or double glazed windows, small conservatories and gnomes in the front garden.

Though there remains a culture of municipal dependency for services such as health, education, public transport and pensions, this is a type that has embraced the modern market economy to the extent that homes are now equipped with a full range of consumer durables, living rooms are comfortably furnished, with access to the Internet as well as other modern electronic sources of entertainment, and cars are used for expeditions into the country and for summer holidays by the sea.

By contrast consumer tastes have not changed much. These are not places where people experiment with international foods or indeed worry much about the impact of their diet on their health. Because people are too well known by their extensive network of local relatives and friends, they are reluctant to display any prosperity too ostentatiously lest they be criticised for trying to rise above their station.

Traditionally these neighbourhoods have been supportive of institutions such as the Co-op and local building societies. In the past they have been good areas for catalogue mail order systems based on local agents. Brand images most likely to resonate with this type are ones which emphasise reassurance, security and which are associated with pleasure from simple leisure activities.

Legacy of Labour use consumer credit for high ticket purchases, for cars in particular. If they have a mortgage it will take a relatively small share of their monthly income. People will have often built up modest savings in building society and bank current accounts and they trust personal contacts more highly than impersonal channels such as the Internet. Older members of the community worry about how they will be able to sustain their lifestyle after retirement, given their reliance on the state pension.

Historically this type has been one of the most dependable sources of support for Labour. However the declining strength of trades unions in local industry, of labour clubs and of the co-operative movement have weakened ties of solidarity, to the extent that many fewer residents now turn out to vote than they did during the 1960s and 1970s.

Demographics and Behaviour

Who we are

Legacy of Labour contains older families, often with adult children, where the parents are between 40 and 55 years old, and mainly of white British origin. Most are married, though there is a higher proportion than average of lone parents in this type of neighbourhood. While many are on sickness benefits or unemployed, the majority have jobs, albeit often part-time, in routine occupations in manufacturing or low-level service industries. They are poorly-educated and did not have the skills to survive the transition from an industrial to post-industrial economy in comfort.



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Where we live

Unsurprisingly, these neighbourhoods are concentrated in areas where smokestack industries were once prevalent but are now in decline, the old factories and warehouses being converted into luxury flats, art galleries and retail destinations, but the old workers' terraces still filled with old workers. Cities such as Newcastle, Manchester, Birmingham and Cardiff contain many of these areas on their outskirts. Legacy of Labour's terraces are now owned by the council, and most of the current residents have lived in their homes for a very long time.

How we live our lives

Legacy of Labour live simple lives, but try their best to remain respectable. Families are close-knit in these neighbourhoods, with children staying with their parents well into working life, and much leisure time being spent at home. Television is the main activity at home, and Legacy of Labour tend to watch many hours of television a day, often in a social setting with children, grandchildren and other friends and family all watching together. Reality TV and talk shows are popular, as are soaps like Emmerdale and Holby City.

While many of these households do have Internet connections, often on creaking old desktop computers, the older generation do not use it much. Even the kids are not frequent users, going online to check their social networks and find out information, but many don't do this more than a couple of times a week. Most of their information about the world comes instead through their television and the red-top press.

For those who work, their jobs tend to be nearby and within reach by foot or public transport. Many households do not have a car, and most walk everywhere. If they do have a car, it was bought secondhand. Most of their shopping is done from the value ranges at local supermarkets, particularly Asda.

Legacy of Labour are not so badly off that they cannot afford an annual holiday, and tend to go somewhere sunny in the Mediterranean, often as a family. They also enjoy gambling, particularly playing bingo and the national lottery, though unlike many of similar incomes, few have been lured by the delights of online gambling.

How we view the world

Legacy of Labour do not feel as though they are caught in the kind of grinding poverty that can wear a person down. While they are aware that their lifestyles are not as rich as they could be, they are not, on the whole, overtaken by despair. Money is important to them, but few see work as the route out of poverty. The few jobs open to them pay little, and the stable jobs they once had were taken from them by industrial collapse, shaking their faith in the importance of work. Nevertheless, many are still Labour voters, though many no longer vote at all, and a few are drawn to the BNP, which seems to offer an alternative.

While many have vocational qualifications, these may be out of date, and have not helped them get the jobs they want. This has also turned them off retraining in order to get ahead. Instead of working their way to a more comfortable existence, they reduce their expenditure to a minimum and place their faith in state benefits, which deliver them a baseline of comfort. The monotony of this lifestyle is broken up by the occasional small lottery win or treat bought on credit, which can get them into difficulties.

How we get by

Legacy of Labour have very low personal incomes, though each household usually has at least two earners. In most cases the state tops up these incomes, with tax credits for those who are working and benefits for those who are not. Most people in this type are under-employed, neither working full-time nor studying. The part-time jobs that many of them have are concentrated in whatever manual work is left – automotive, construction and transport are all big employers, as is the retail industry in low-level service positions.

Legacy of Labour have very low savings, if any, and their main contact with financial services is through their debts. These often take the form of mail-order catalogue accounts, or personal loans. These are often taken out to consolidate other debts, and bought with payment protection insurance. While few of Legacy of Labour have sizeable debts, many have CCJs for small amounts, and many are under severe financial strain.

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Online Behaviour

Legacy of Labour are not big Internet users, and if they do have an Internet connection at home it will be slower than average. The one area where they make up a significant percentage of the online population is on gambling sites, particularly bingo. When shopping online this type prefers budget retailers and auction and classifieds sites. In the households that still contain children, these will tend to be teenagers who spend a lot of time on social networking sites.

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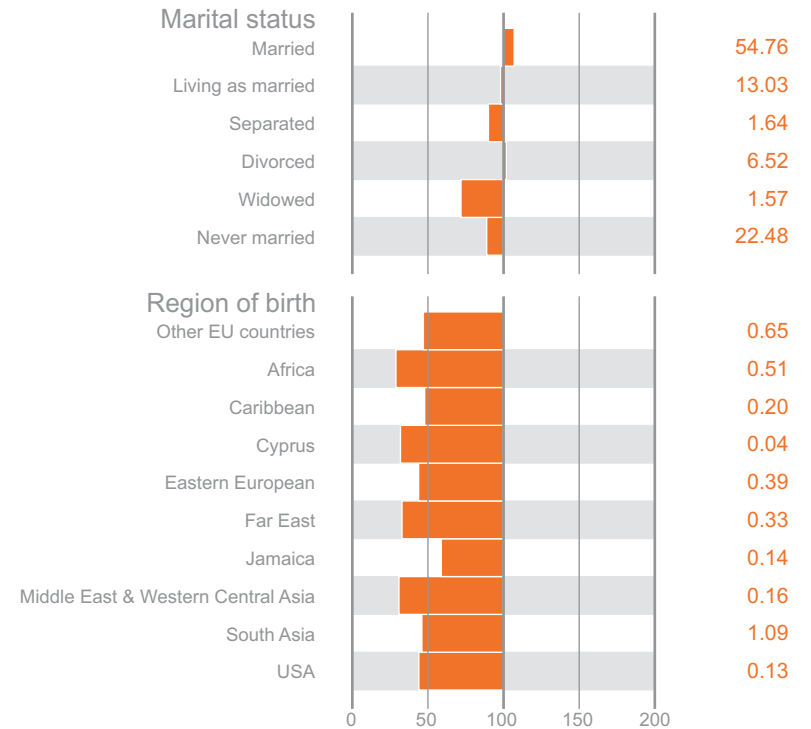
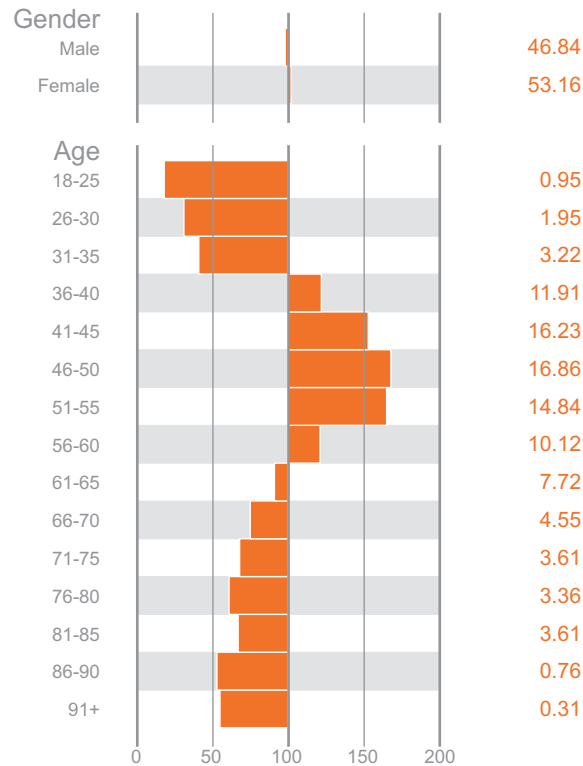
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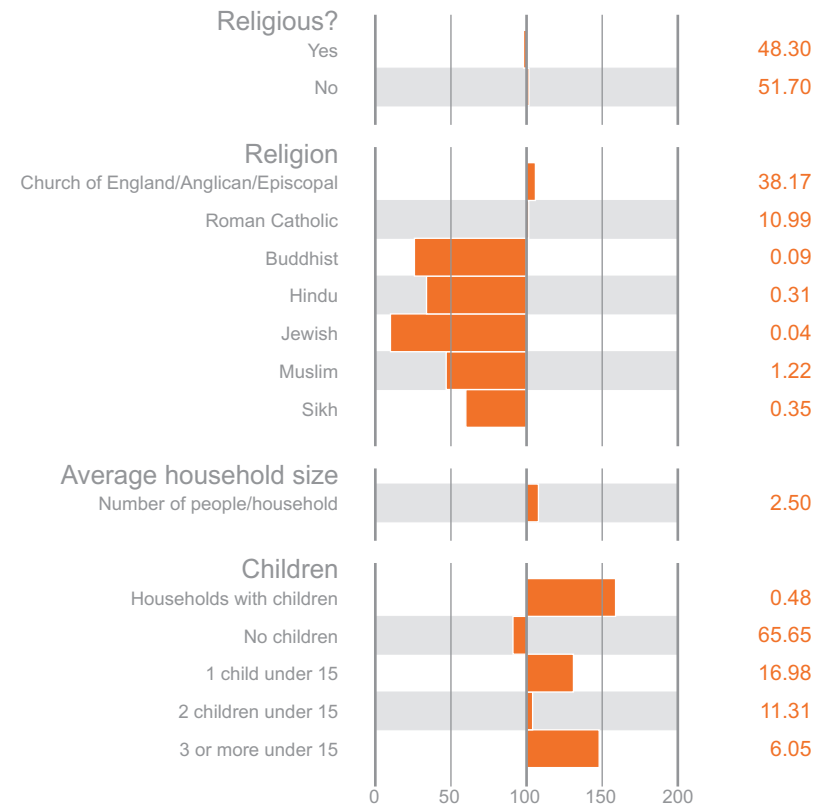
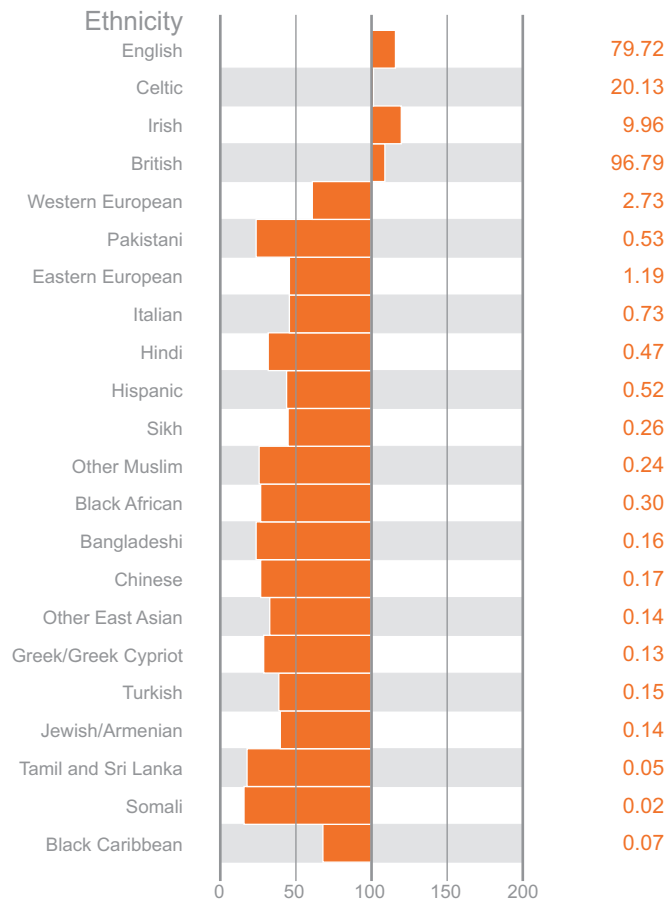
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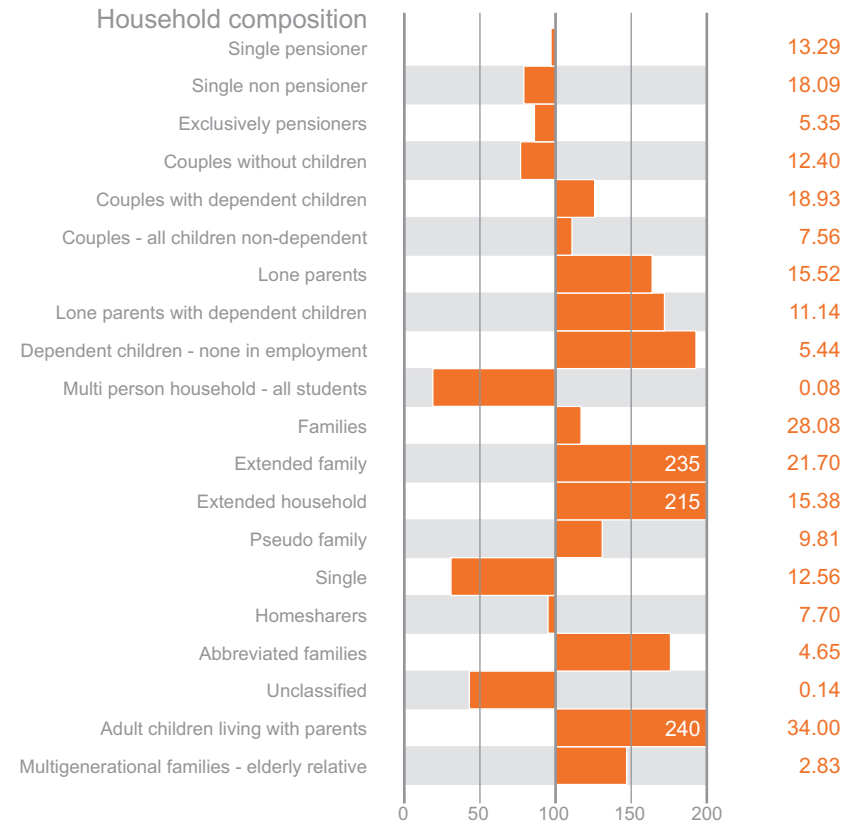
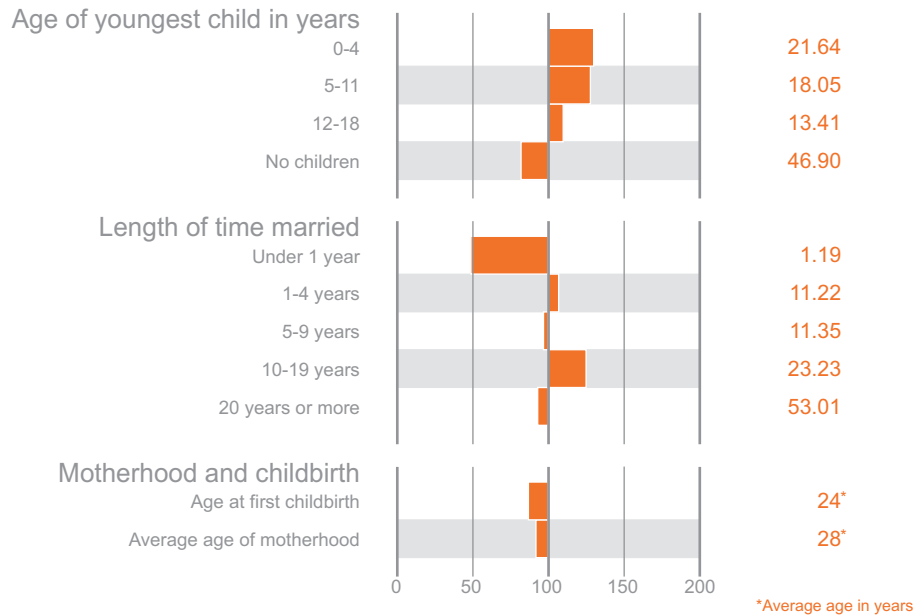
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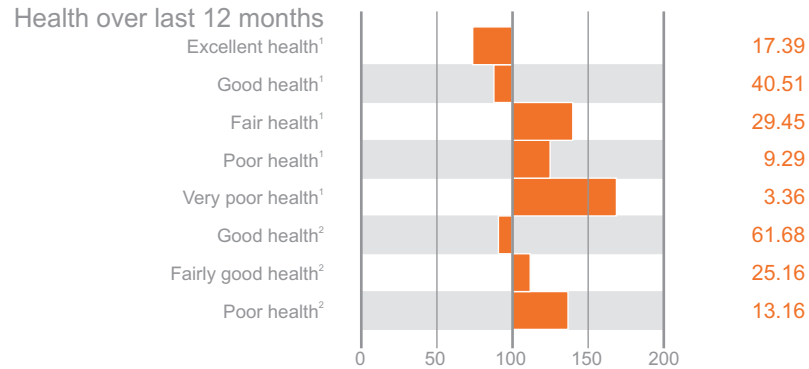
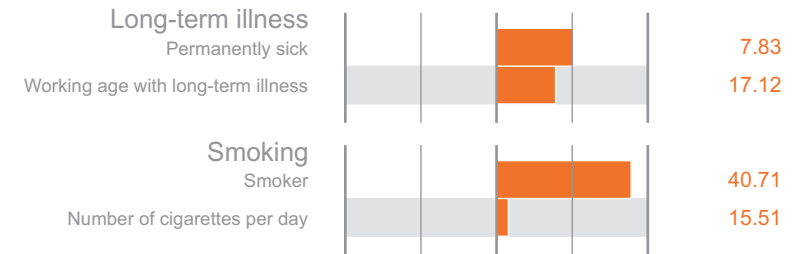
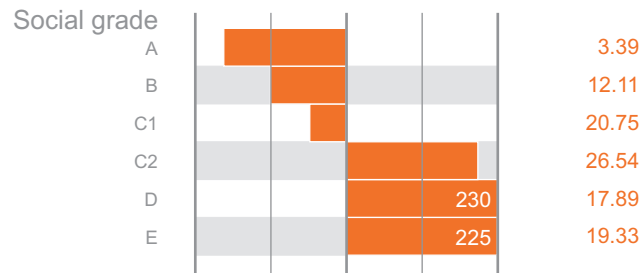
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¹ BHPS data
² Census CYE data

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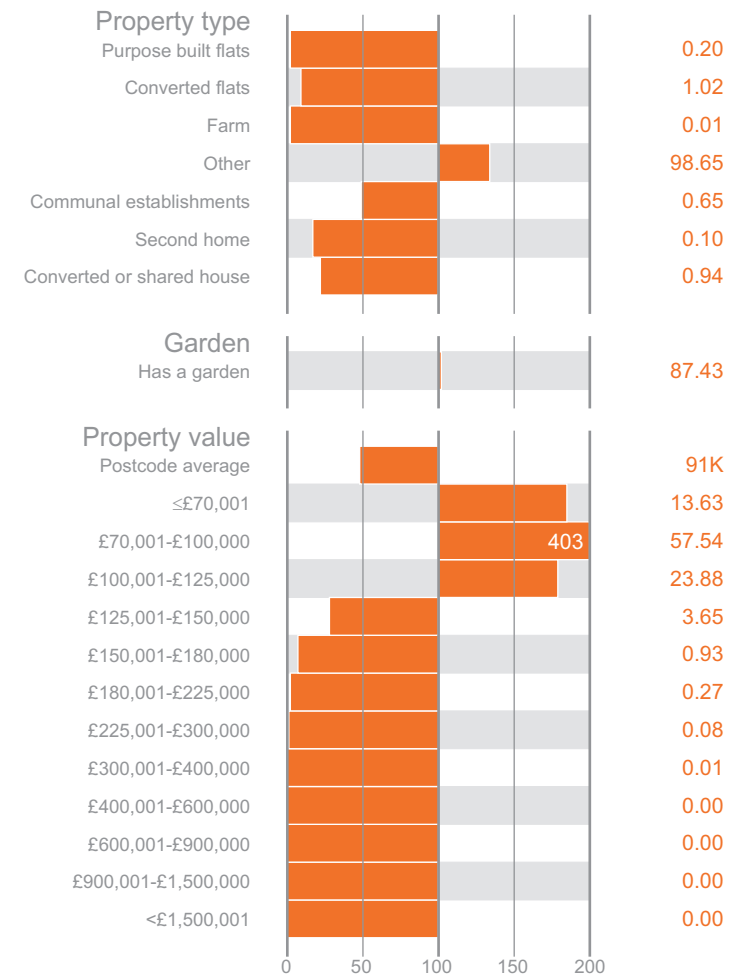
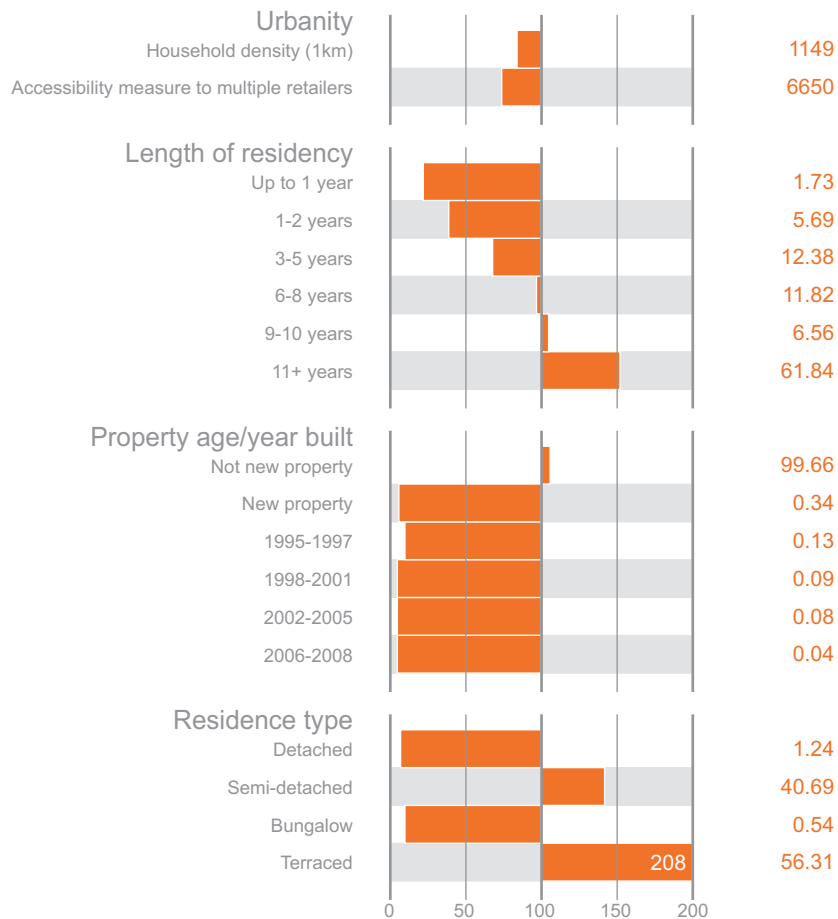
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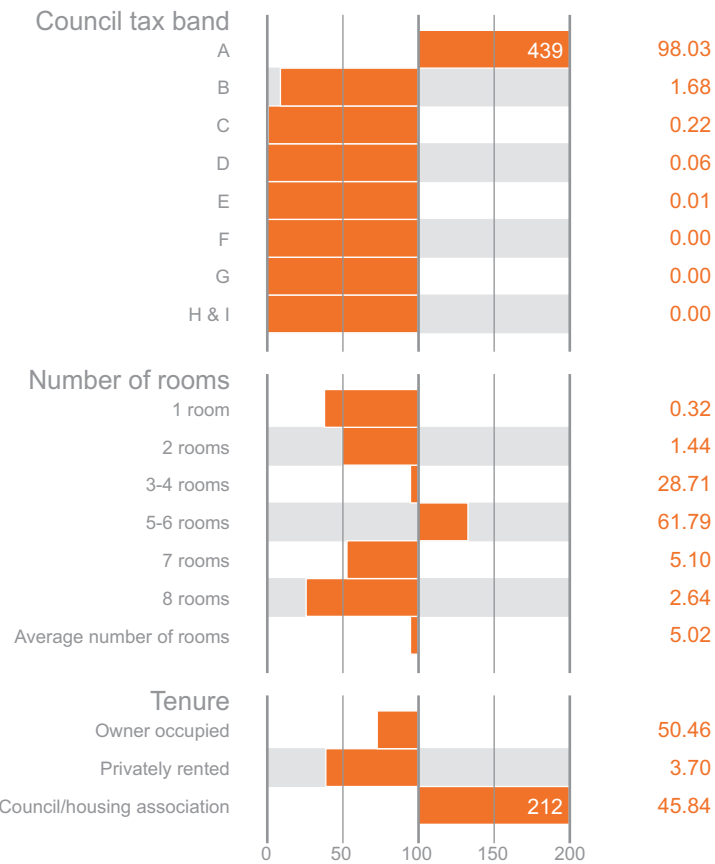
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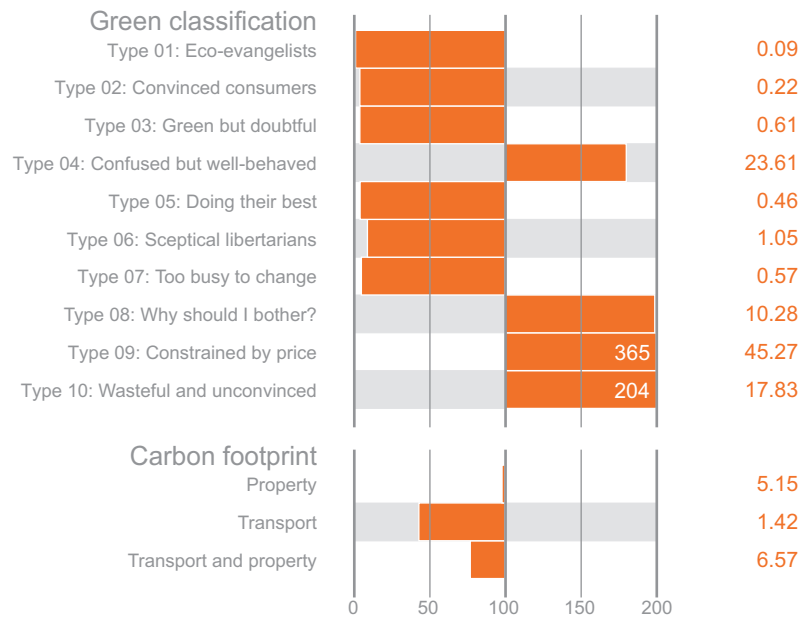
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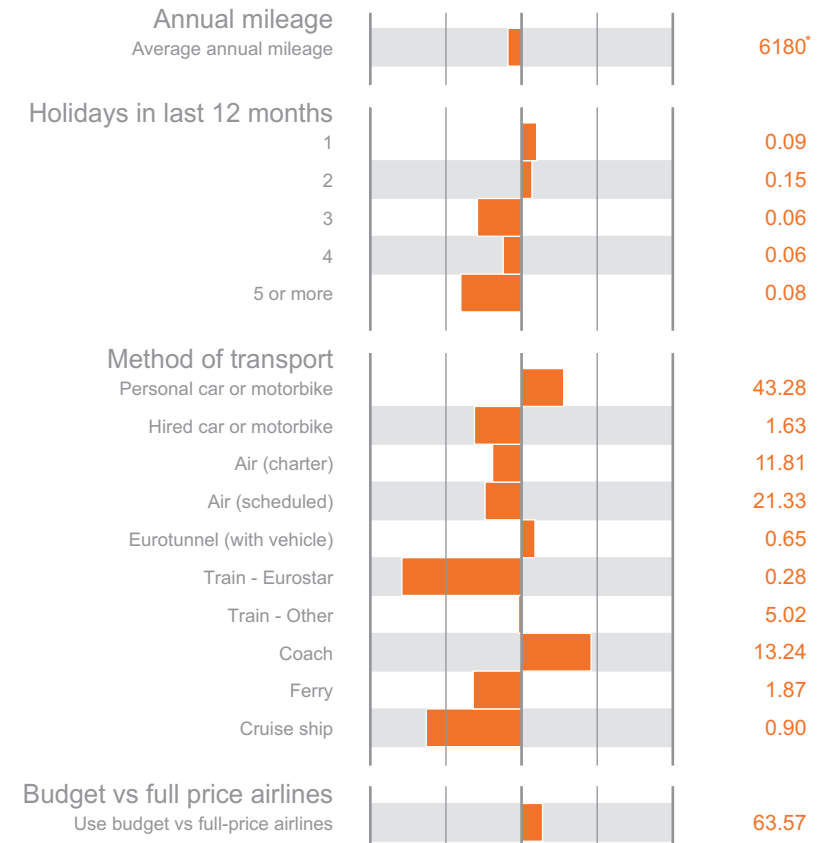
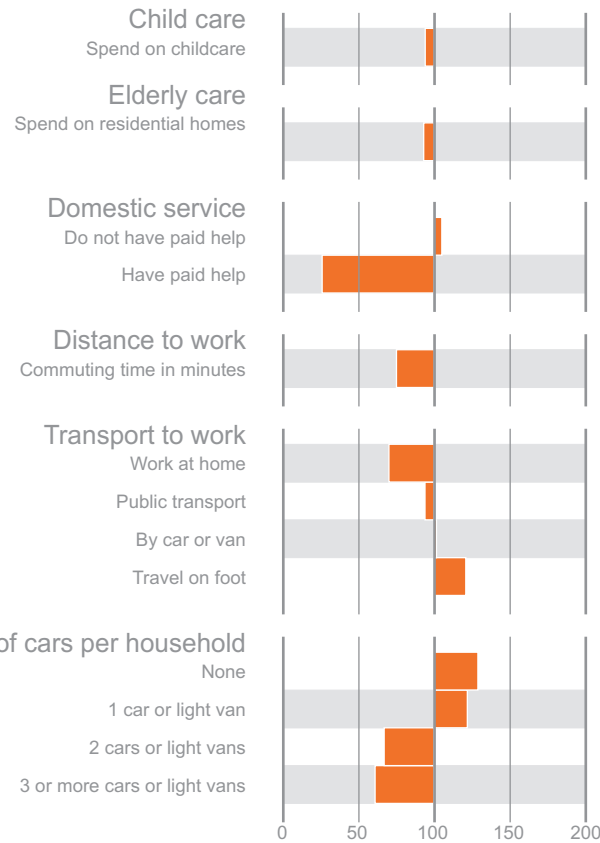
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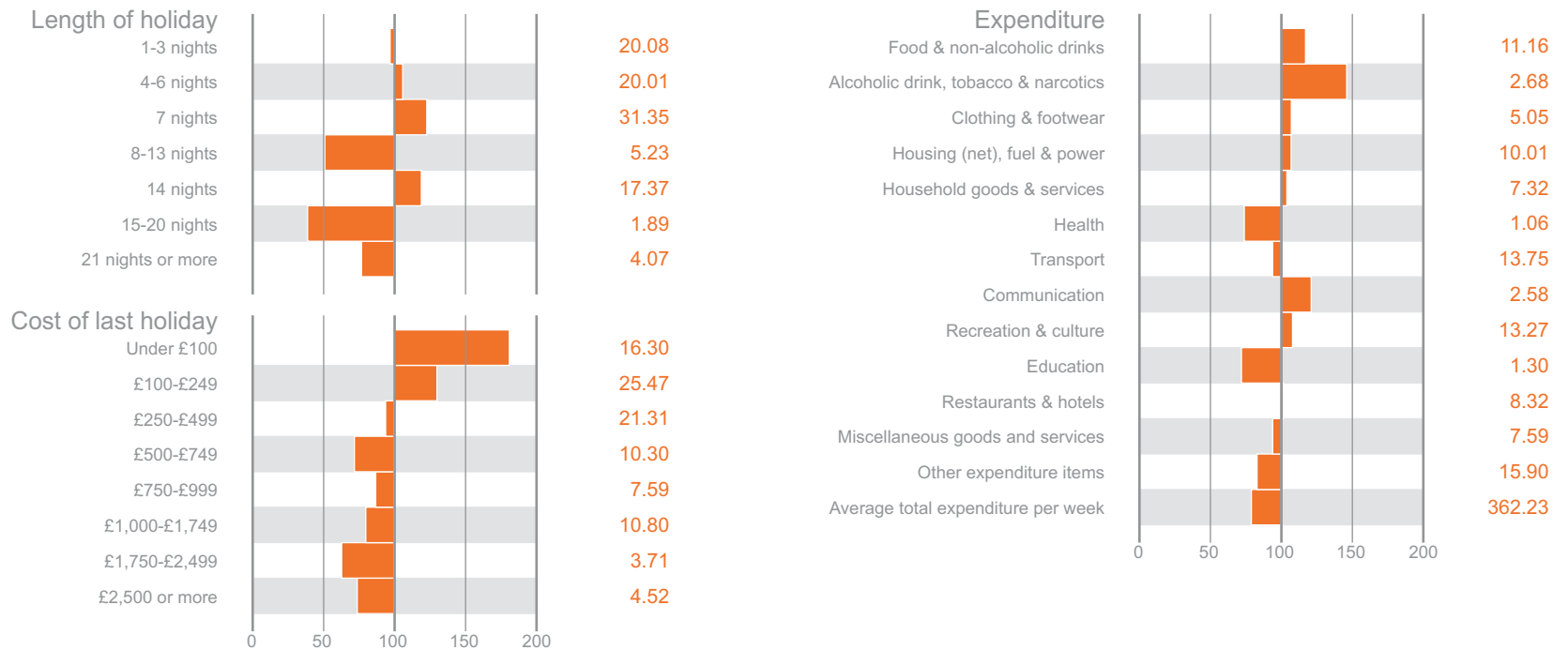
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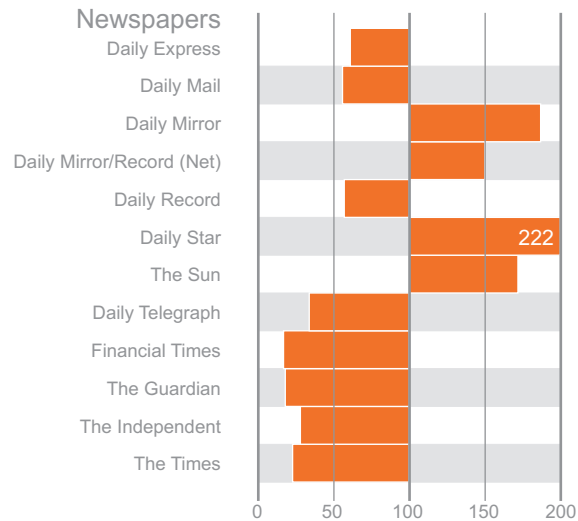
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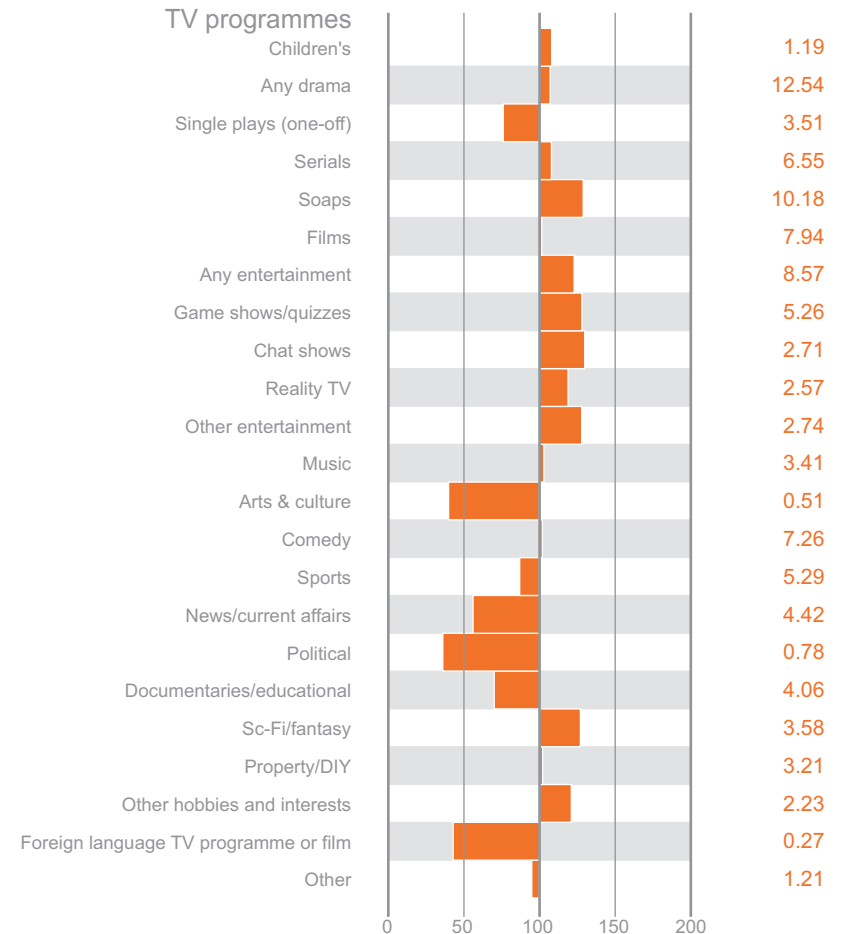
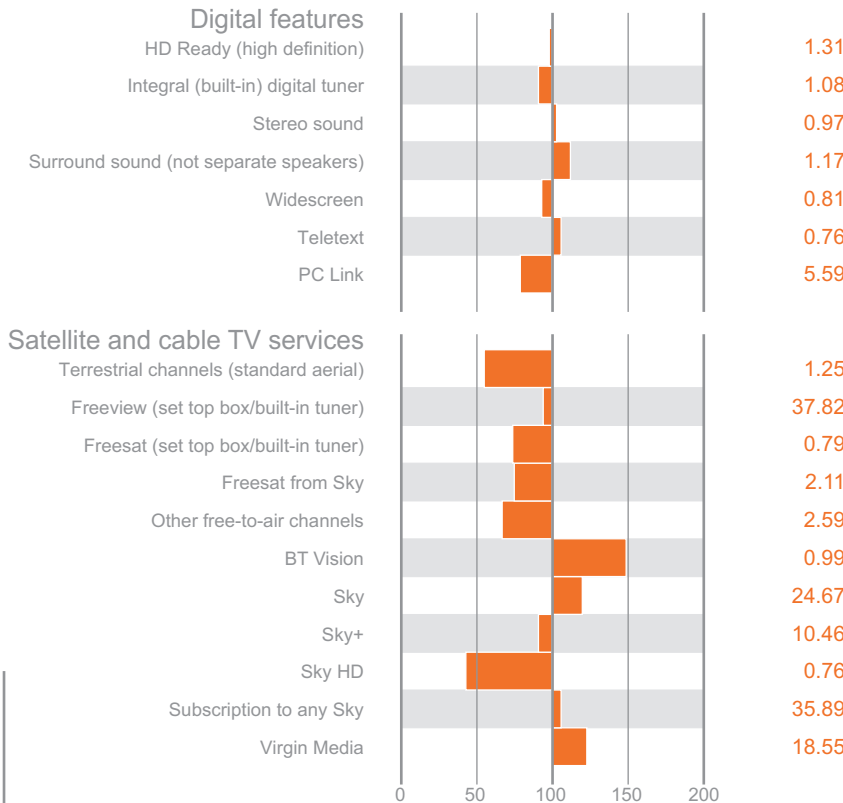
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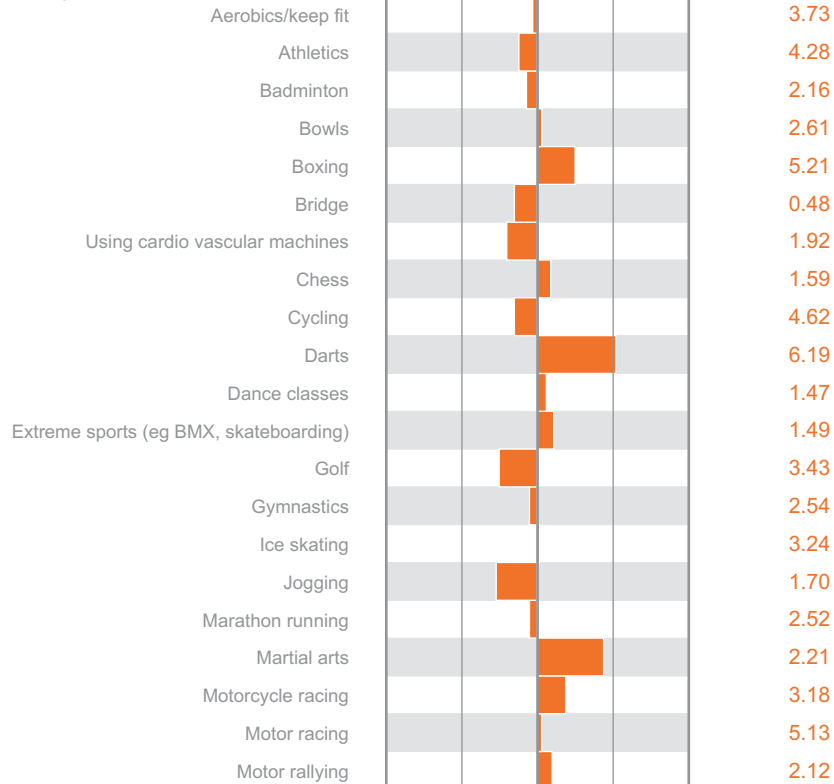
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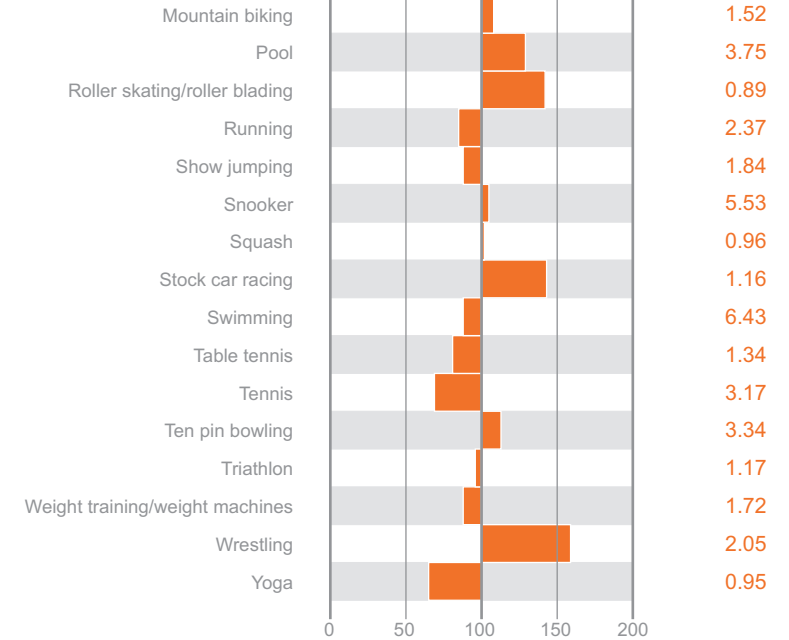
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How we live our lives

Sport and leisure activities



Sports and leisure activities, cont...



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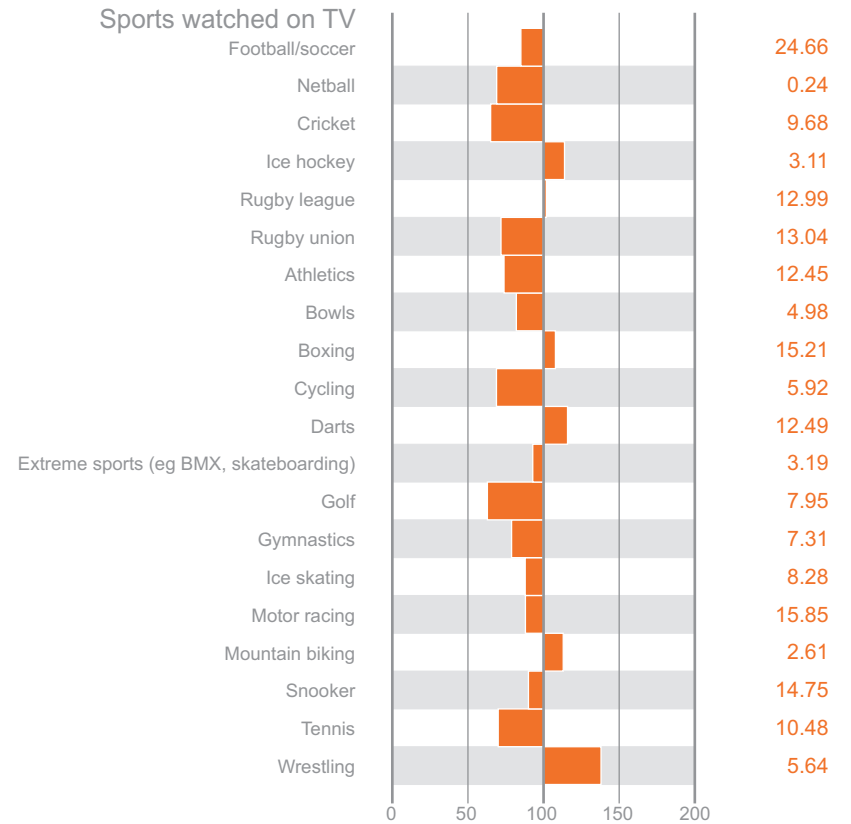
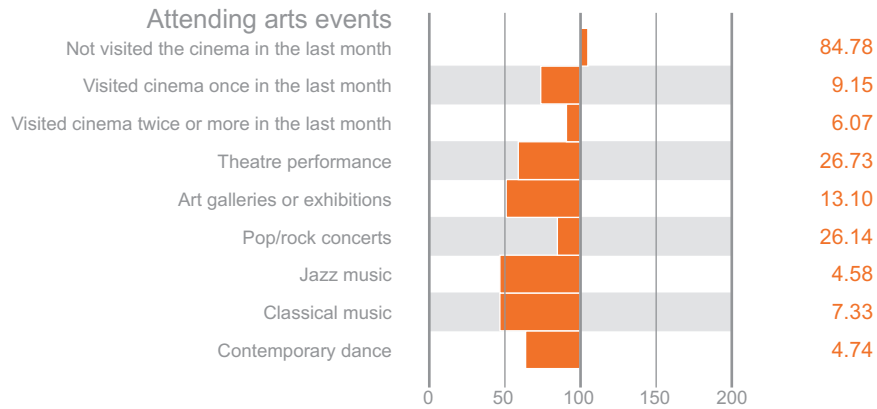
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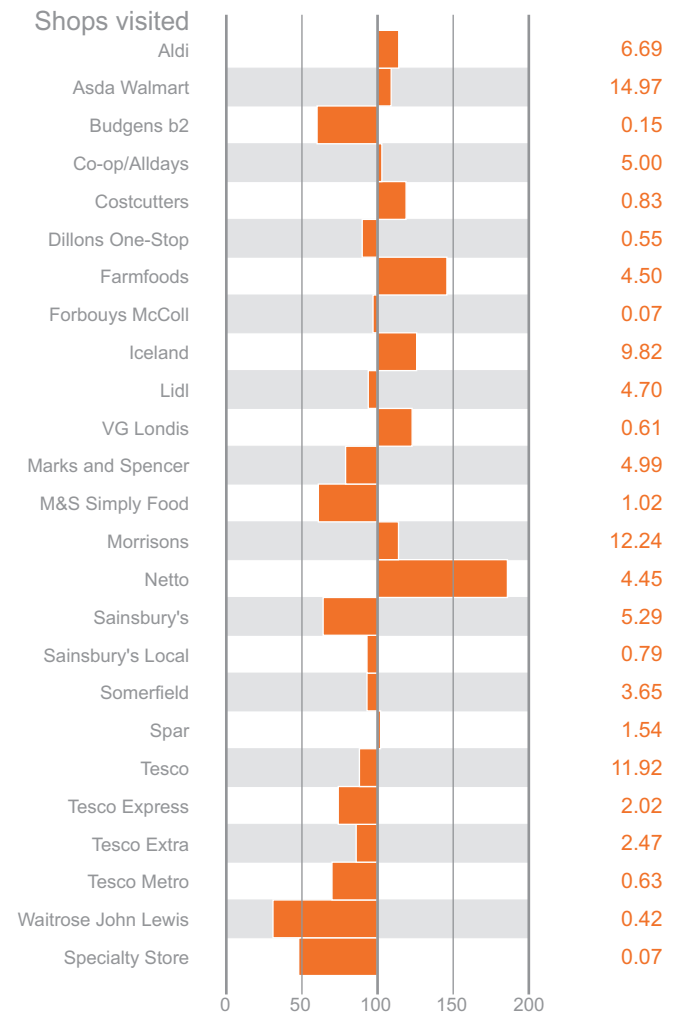
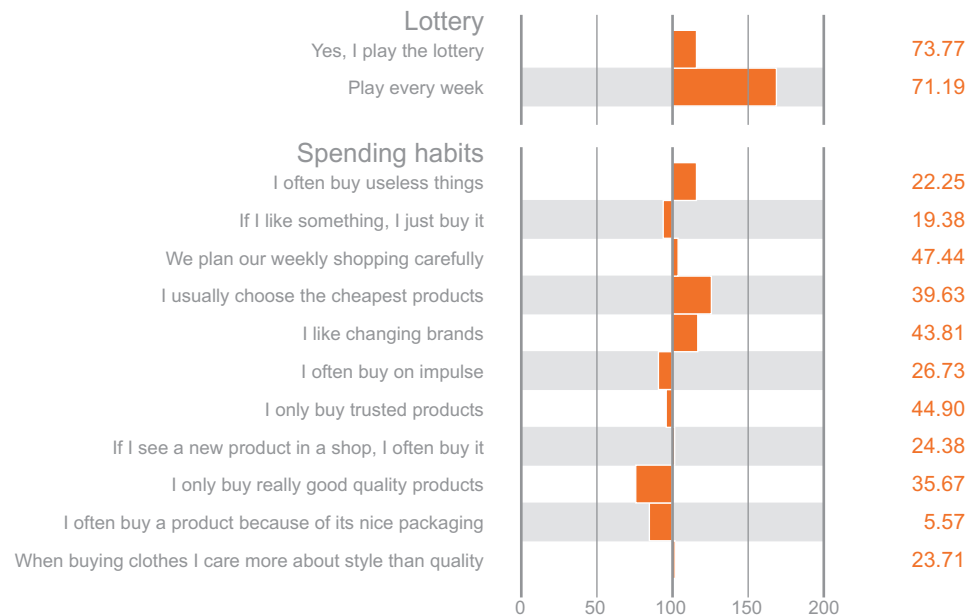
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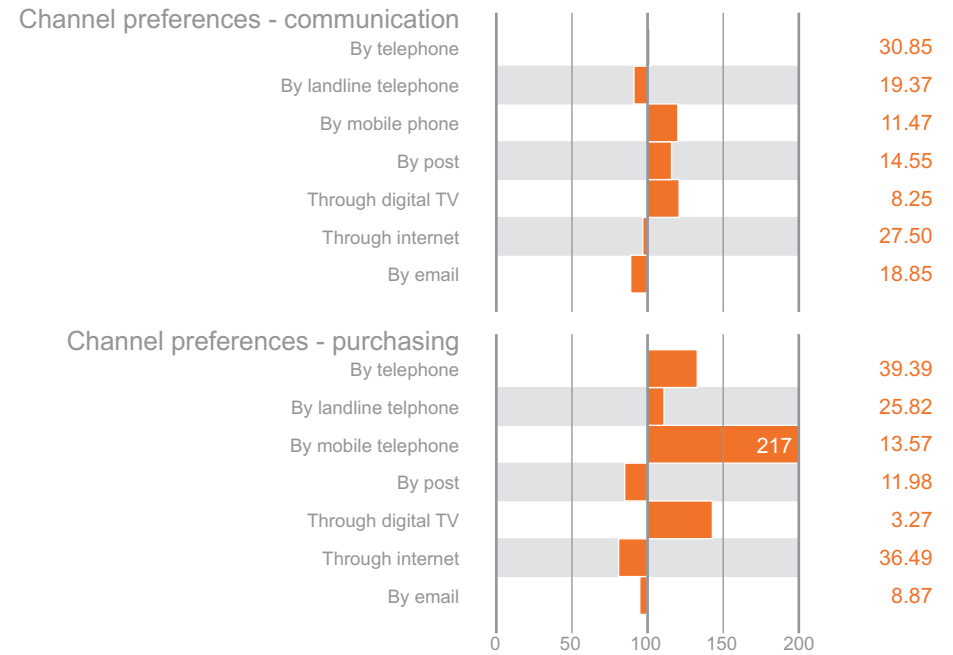
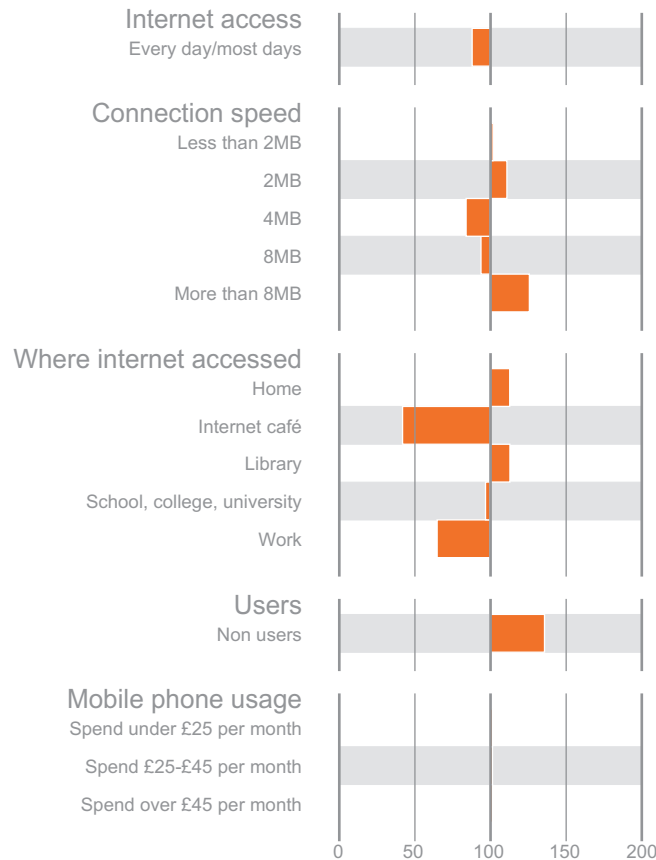
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How we communicate



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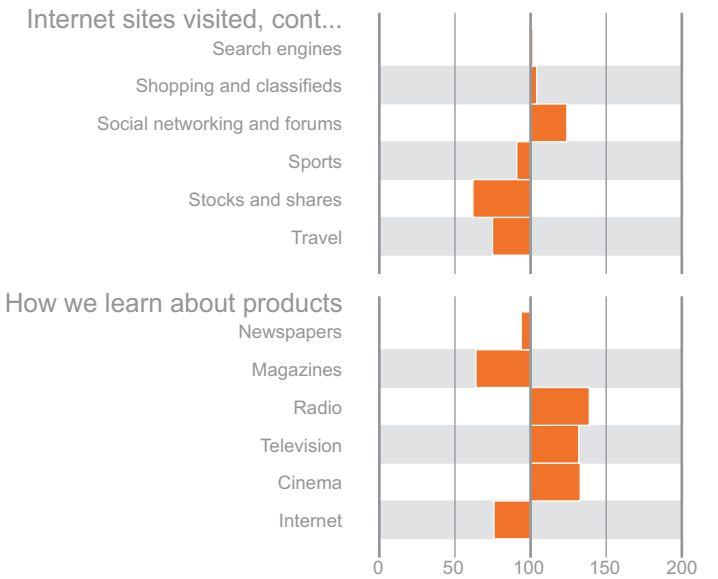
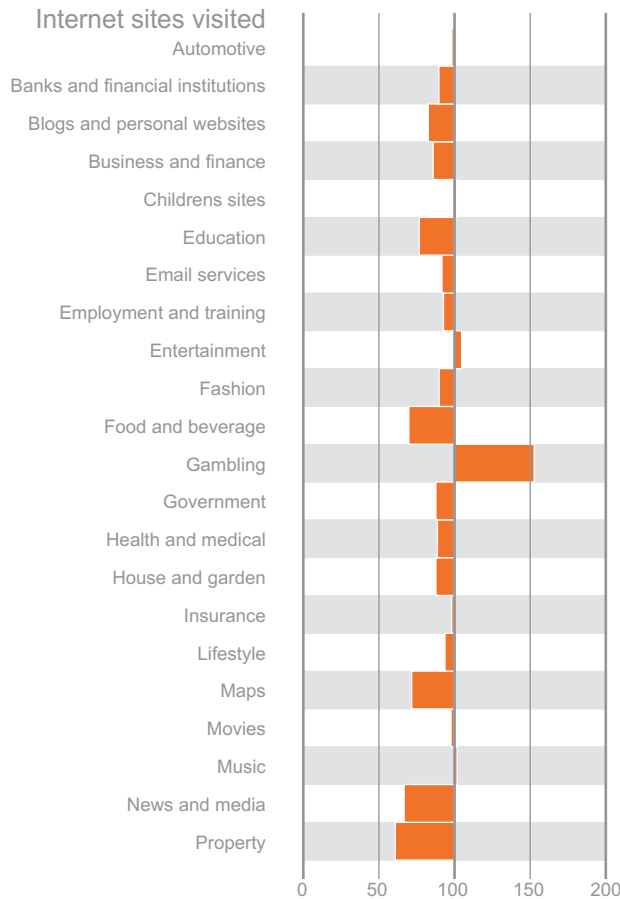
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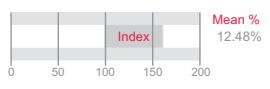
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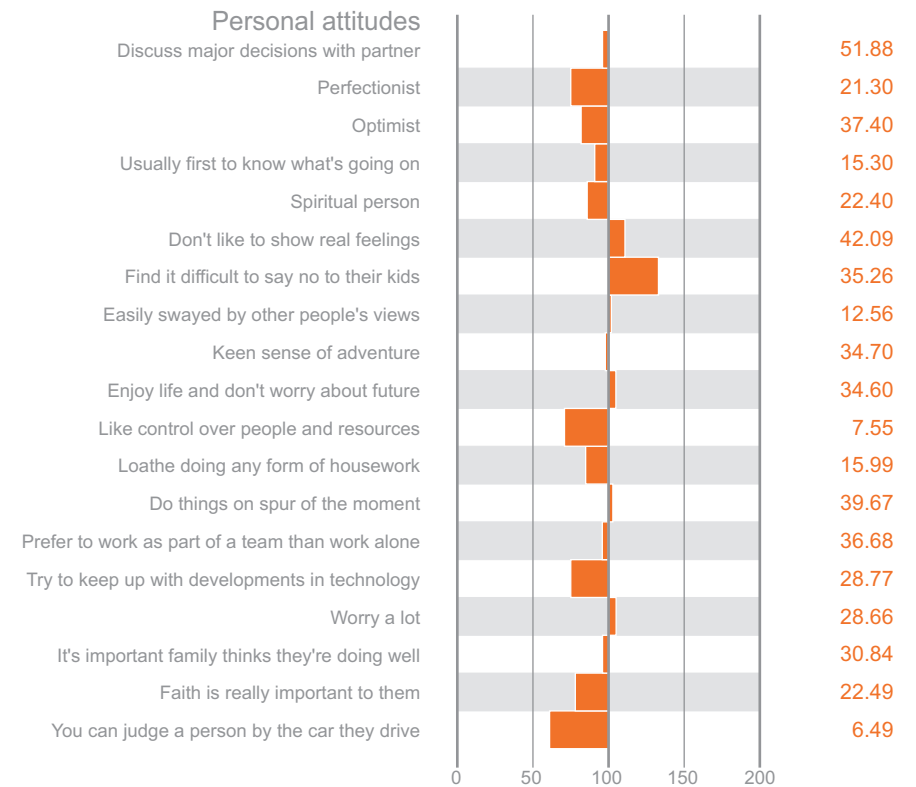
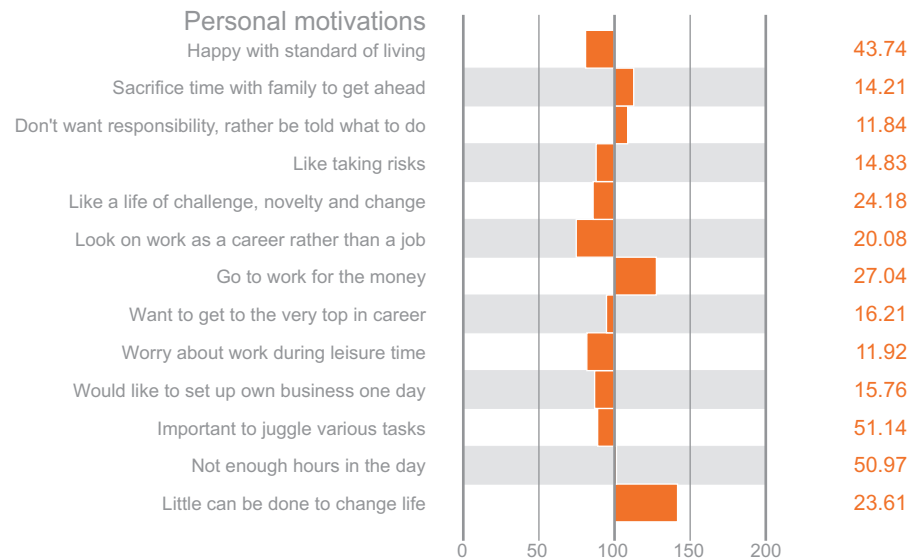
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How we view the world



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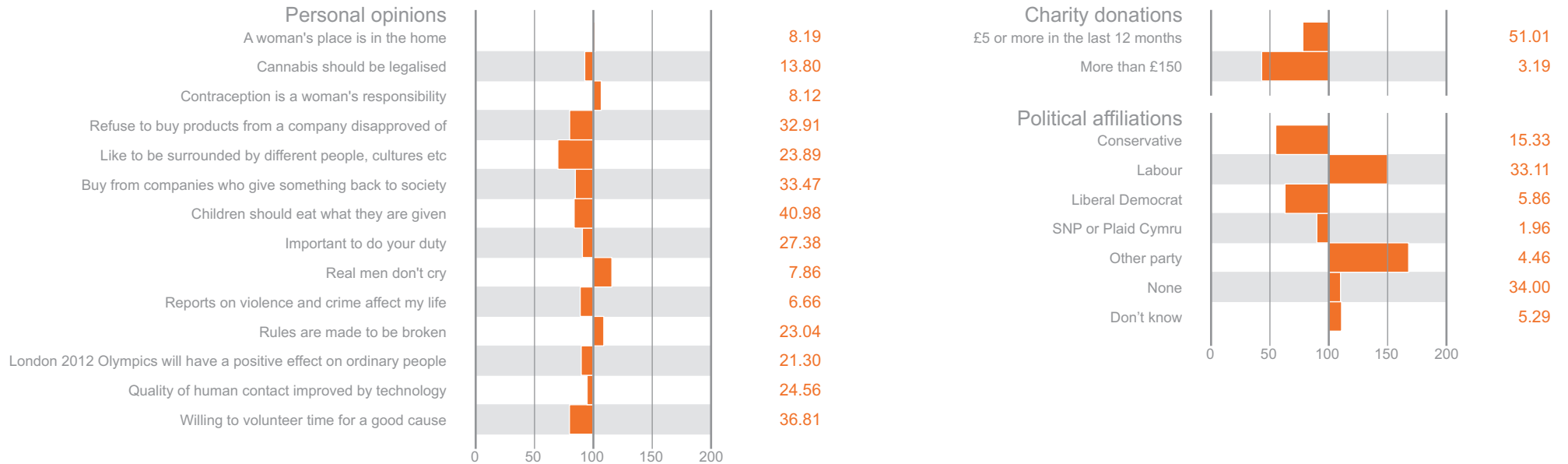
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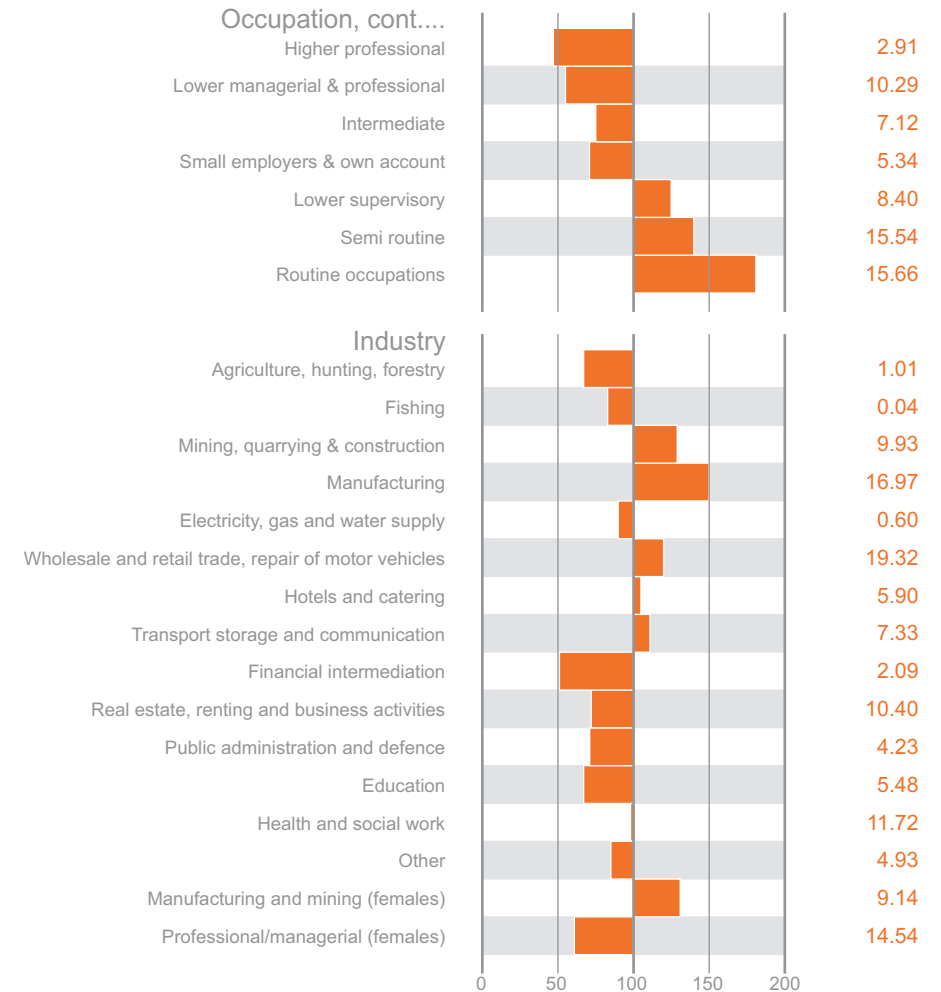
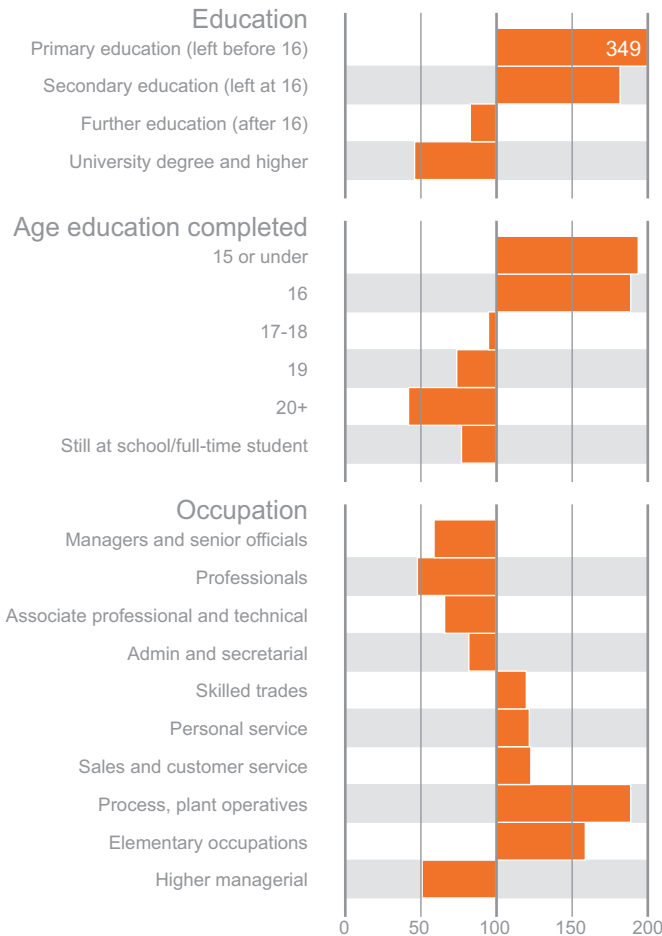
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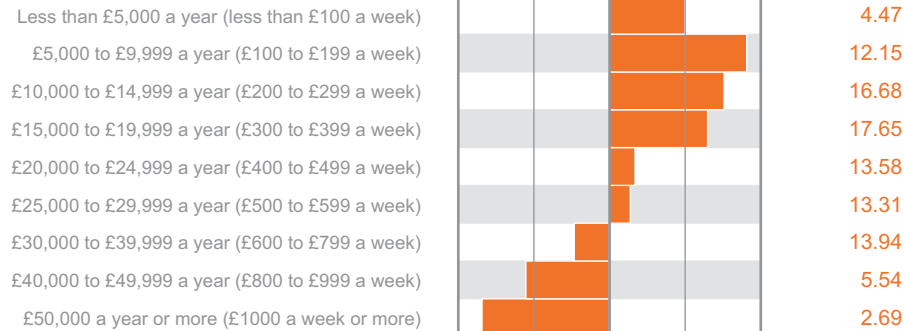
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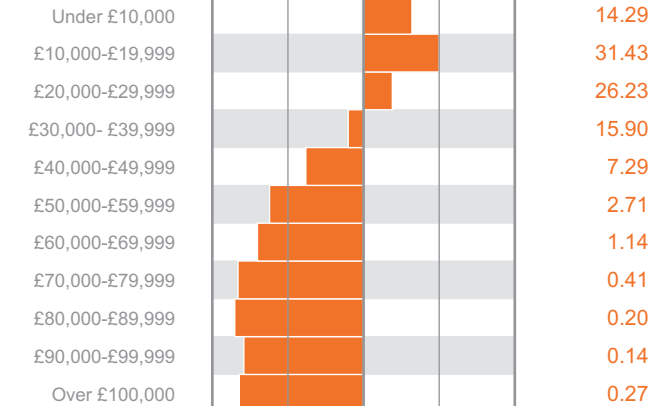
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Our financial circumstances

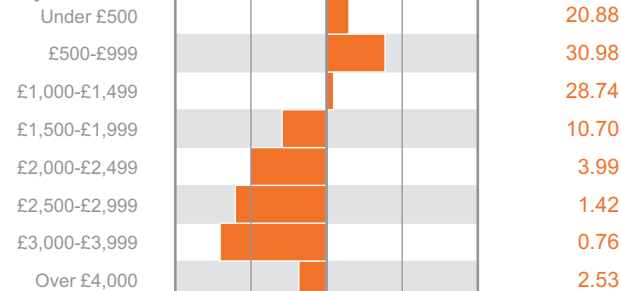
Net household income



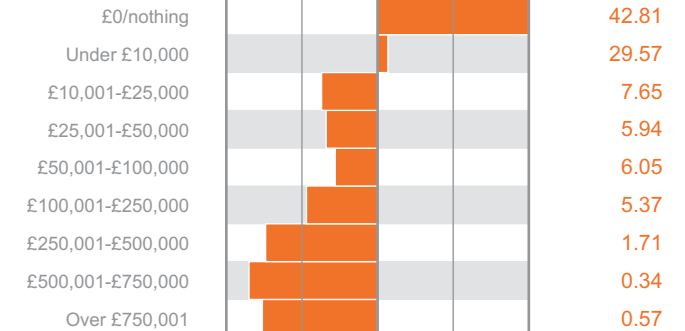
Gross annual household income



Net individual monthly income



Net household wealth



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Supporting Notes

These pages have been designed to help you understand the essence of each of the groups and types. We have sought to highlight the key features which make each group distinctive, and which would be useful to bear in mind when devising communications or treatment strategies. The descriptive pages are necessarily subjective and are intended to highlight key issues rather than to be comprehensive.

We have taken account of a wealth of information from both census and non census sources - such as the electoral register, shareholder and directors' lists, and local levels of council tax. This information is supplemented with information from market research surveys which can be cross tabulated by Mosaic, including the ONS Annual Expenditure and Family Survey, University of Essex's British Household Panel Survey, Research Now's online panel, YouGov's specialist financial survey, GfK NOP's Financial Research Survey, BMRB's Target Group Index Survey, Experian Hitwise's online competitor intelligence, the National Readership Survey and the British Crime Survey.

We have also made use of information cross tabulated by Mosaic from Experian's lifestyle questionnaires. To complement this formal information there is of course a large body of knowledge, accumulated over the years, on the relationship between customer behaviour and previous versions of Mosaic which has been used to support the patterns highlighted in these pages.

In building a picture of each of these categories this wealth of statistical information has been enhanced by a comprehensive series of visits to each of the different types of neighbourhood. Likewise much of the historic context which is contained within these portraits results from many decades of geodemographic analysis and of visits to assess the vitality of different regions.

Caveats

Clearly not every postcode matches exactly to just one of the groups and types. These descriptions are therefore what sociologists would describe as 'ideal types', pure examples to which individual cases approximate only with various degrees of exactness. They focus on the statistical bias of a type of neighbourhood, on the demographic categories which are more numerous there than elsewhere in the area and which give the neighbourhood its distinctive character. In addition, because the boundaries of postcodes and census output areas do not exactly match boundaries in housing type, it is inevitable that addresses close to the boundary of many output areas may in certain cases not appear to have been allocated to the most suitable category. There are cases too where the same types of neighbourhood will contain people of similar character and behaviour but living in very different types of accommodation according to where in the area they may live.

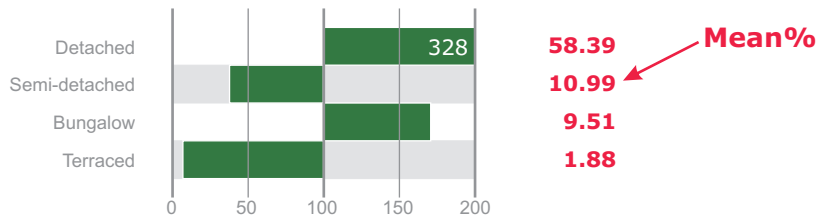
Supporting Notes

Variables - Mean% and Index

Charts are provided for each of the variables used to build and describe the UK segments. The variables are grouped together by category. For each group, the charts show the Mean% and Index for each variable.

Understanding Mean% and Index

Mean% show the percentage of this group/type with this characteristic. For example, consider Residence Type for Group C:

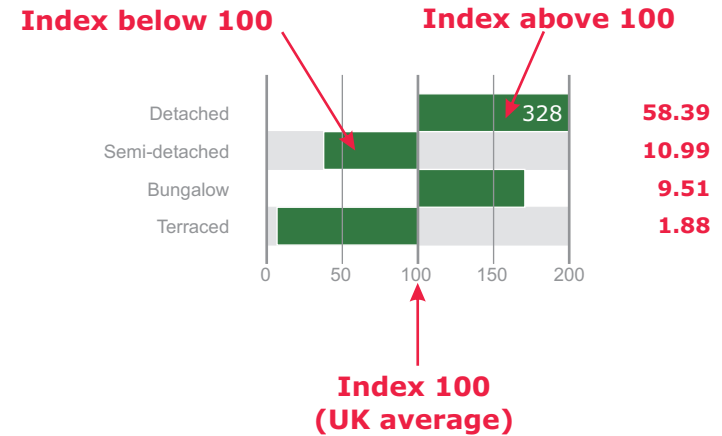


This shows that:

- 58.39% of Group C have a detached house
- 10.99% of Group C have semi-detached house
- 9.51% of Group C have a bungalow
- 1.88% of Group C have a terraced house

The **Index** shows how the variable compares with all households in the UK. An **Index of 100** is the average. An **Index greater than 100** shows that this variable is over-represented when compared with the average. An **Index less than 100** shows that this variable is under-represented when compared with the average.

The Index is shown on the chart as a bar:



The chart shows the Index value from 0 to 200. If the Index value is greater than 200, the bar is shown as 200 along with the exact Index.