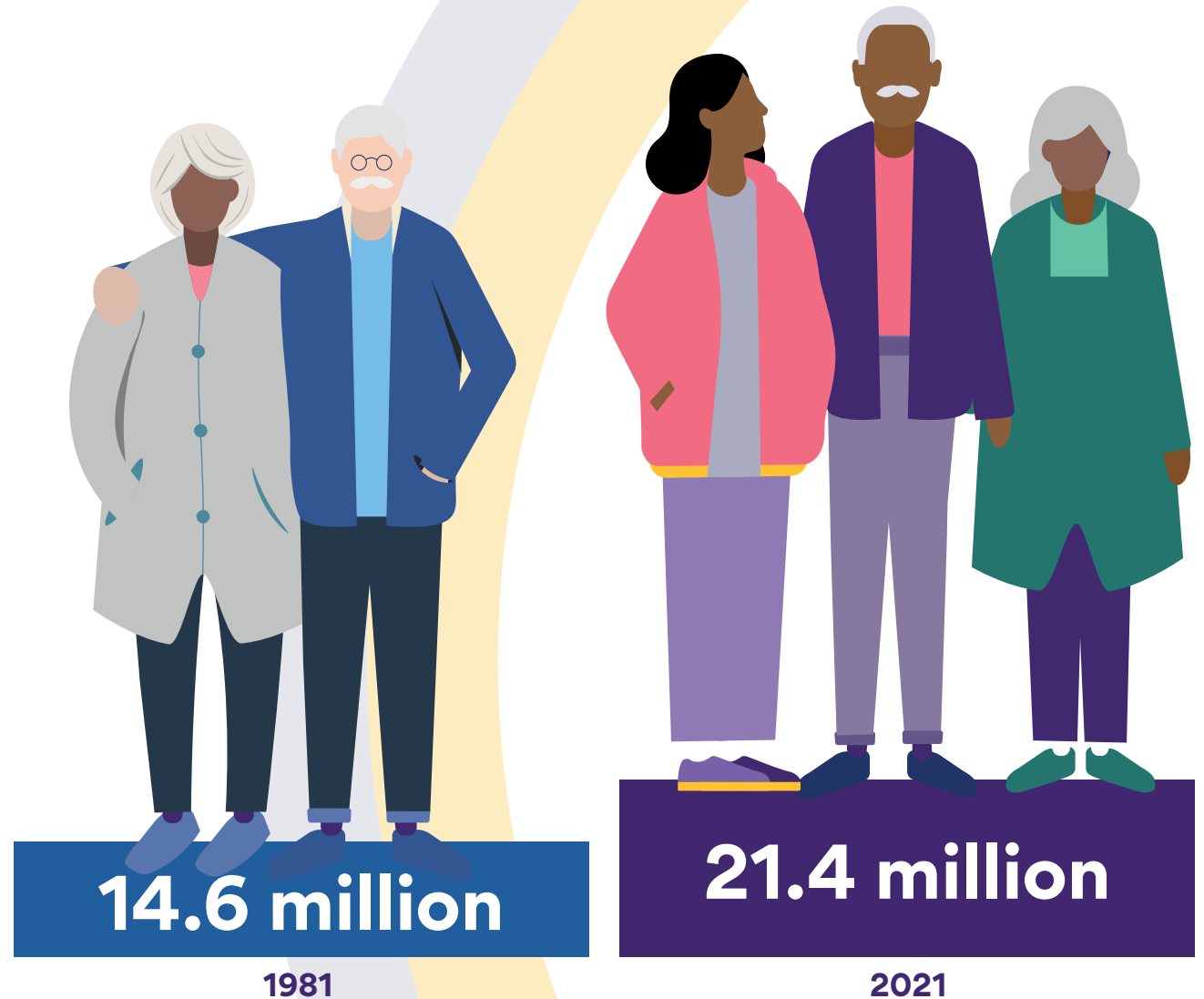
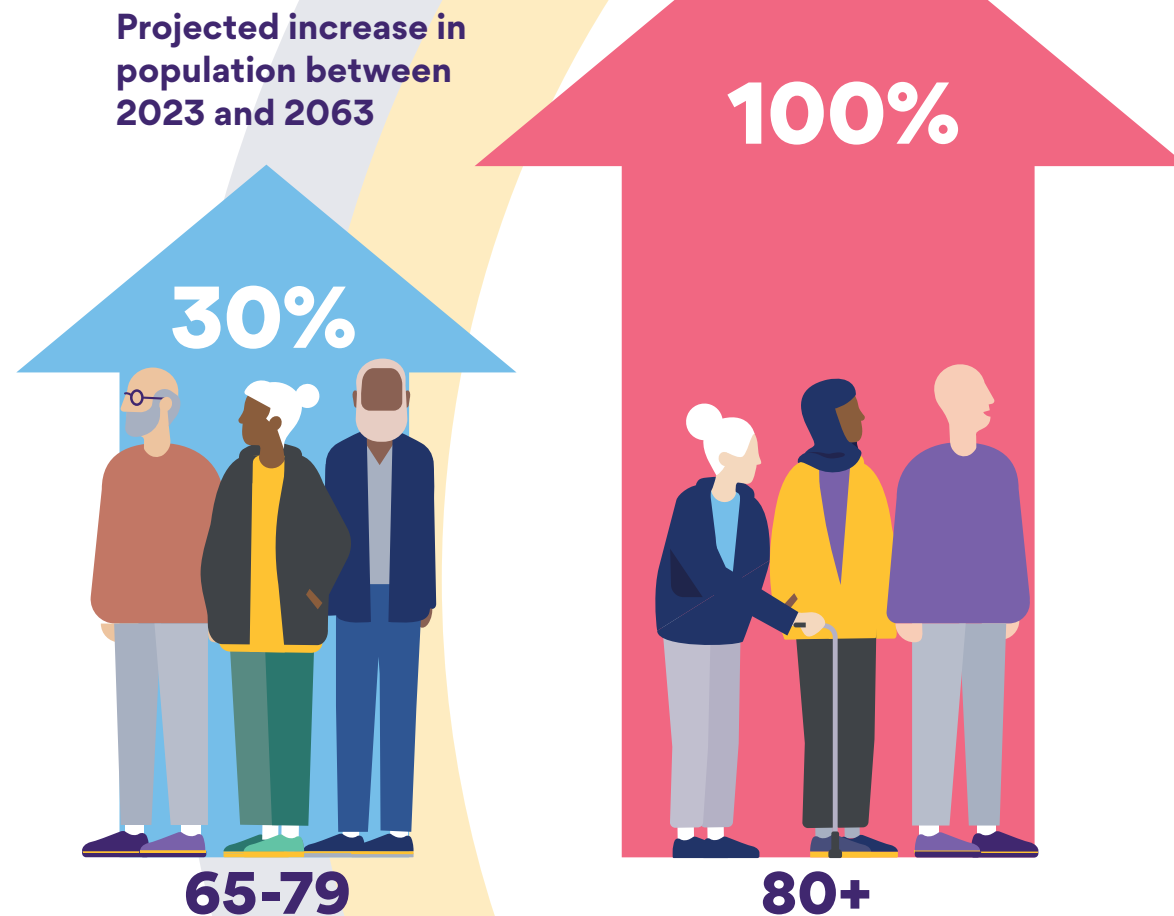


The number of people aged 50 and over in England increased by 7 million in the last 40 years.

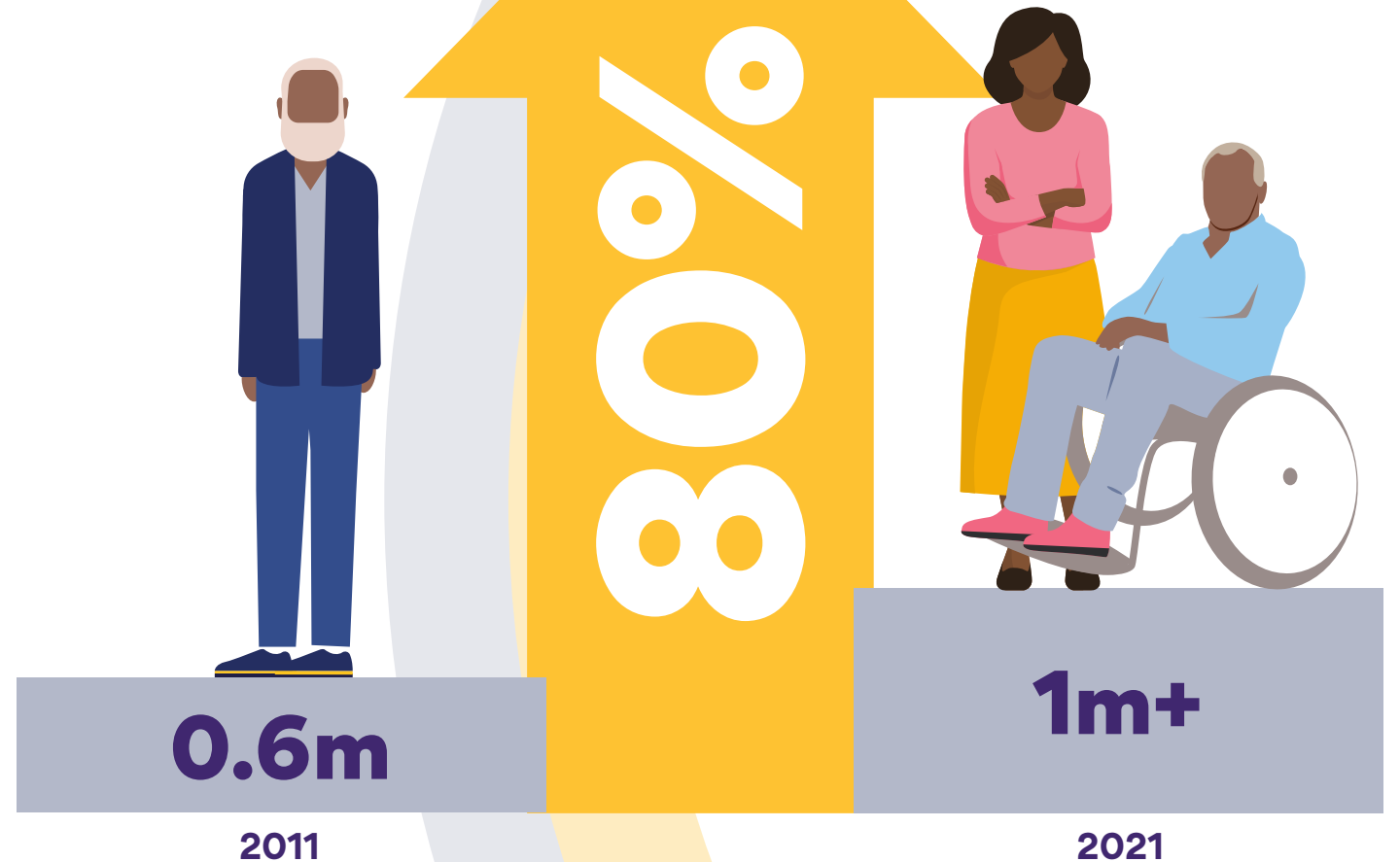


The changes in the age structure that we have seen over the last 40 years are set to continue over the next 40 years.



Our older population is becoming more ethnically diverse.

The number of people aged 60 and over with Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic backgrounds in England increased by 80% between 2011 and 2021.



Diversity in sexual orientation and gender identity among older people is set to increase.

Among people aged 45-64 in England, over four times as many identify as LGB+ and over twice as many identify as trans, as among those currently aged 65 and over.

177,810

Over 55s identify as LGB+

48,550

Over 55s identify as trans

Almost 5 million people aged 50 and over live alone in England – almost a quarter (23%) of this age group.

The number of people living alone has increased over time: the largest increase between 2011 and 2021 was among men aged 65 and over.

For source see chart 2.10 here: <https://ageing-better.org.uk/our-ageing-population-state-ageing-2023-4>



Almost one in five women aged 50-64 in England is an unpaid carer.

Among these women:

- those living in deprived areas
- those from minority ethnic groups with the worst health*

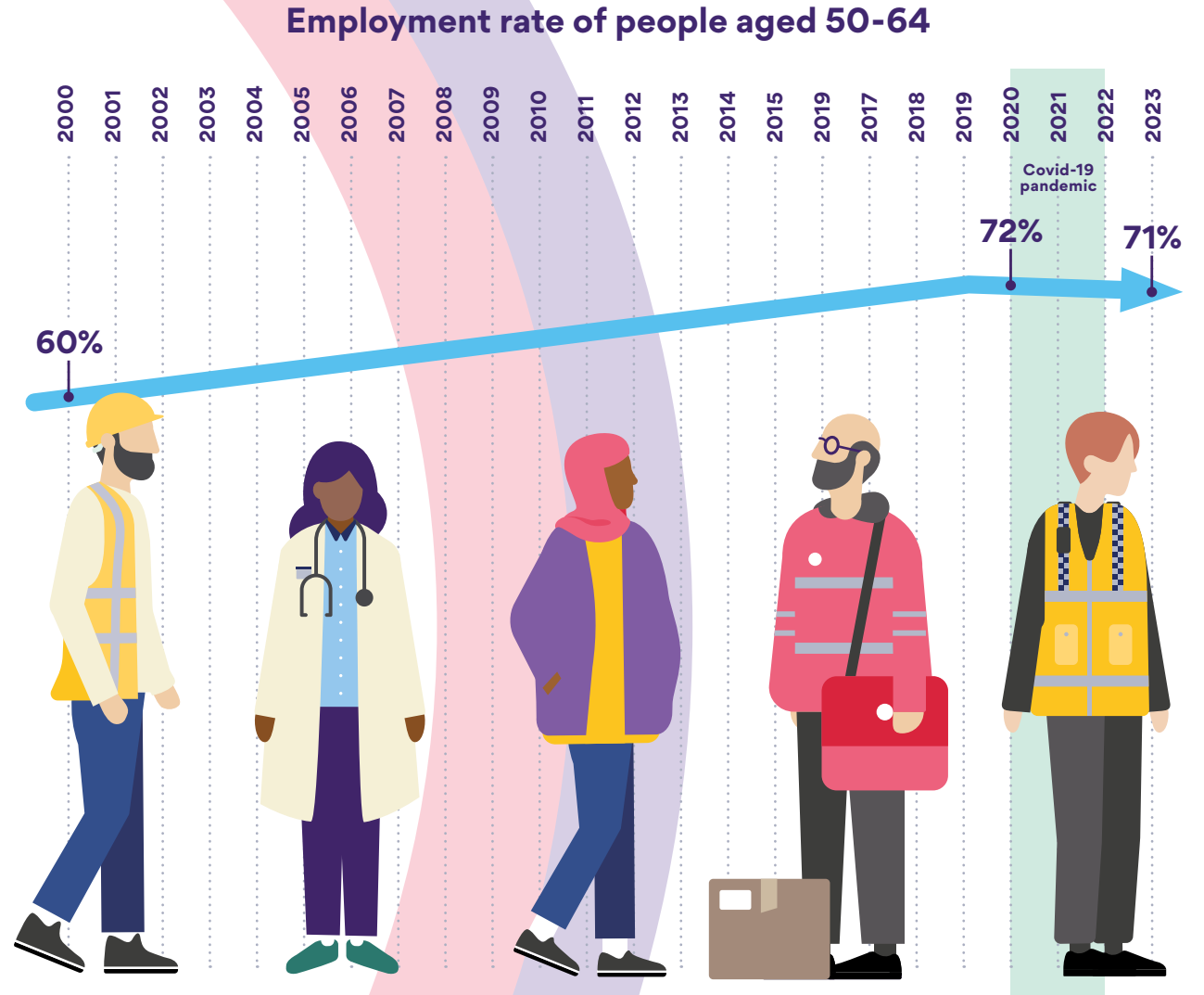
are most likely to provide 50 or more hours of unpaid care per week.



*White Gypsies and Irish Travellers, Bangladeshi and Pakistani people.

For sources see charts 2.14 and 2.15 here: <https://ageing-better.org.uk/our-ageing-population-state-ageing-2023-4> and chart 7.03 here: <https://ageing-better.org.uk/society-state-ageing-2023-4>

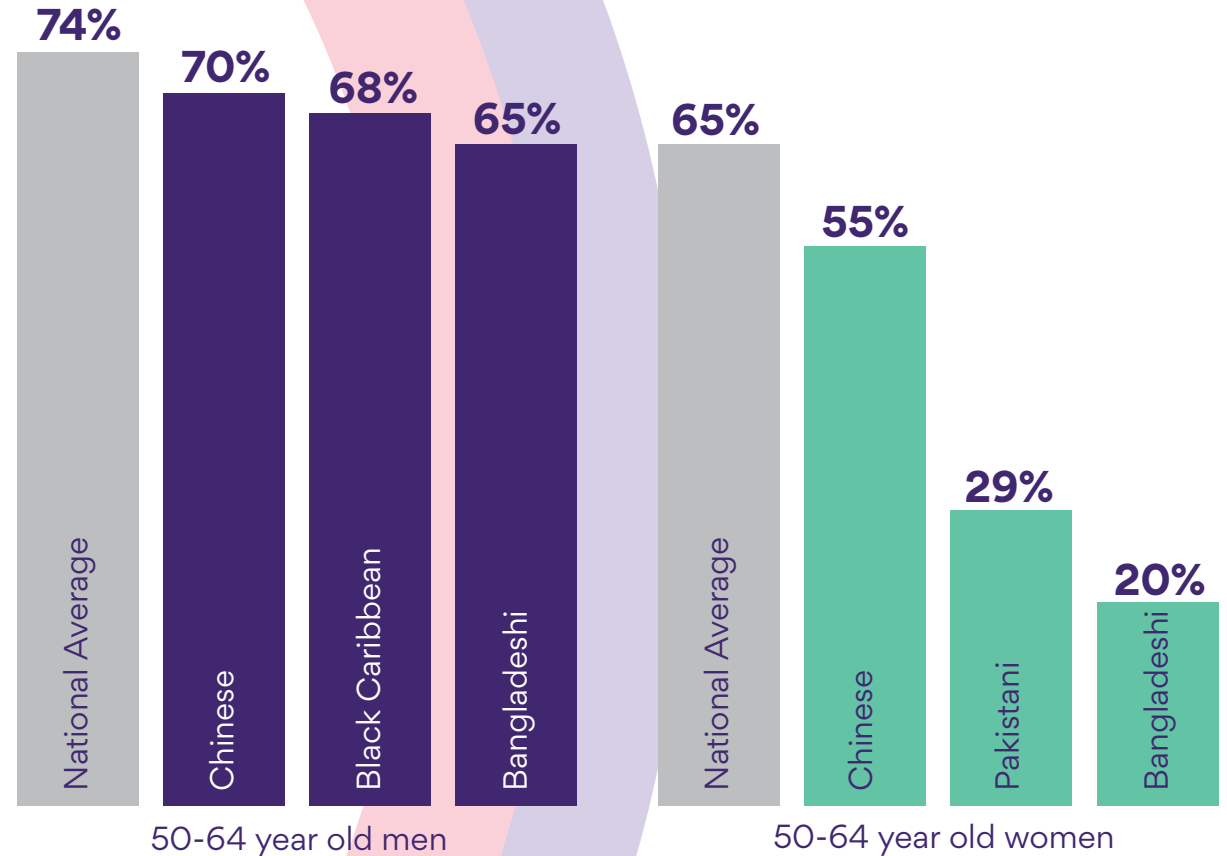
Employment rates of older age groups improved over the past two decades, but this was stalled by the pandemic.



*March-May 2023.
For source see chart 3.02 here: <https://ageing-better.org.uk/work-state-ageing-2023-4>

Employment rates vary widely across ethnic groups, the result of discrimination and inequalities across the life course.

Employment rates of selected ethnic groups, England, 2021



For source see chart 3.04 here: <https://ageing-better.org.uk/work-state-ageing-2023-4>

Sickness is the main reason that people aged 50-64 are economically inactive.

This number increased from just over 1.1 million in 2019 to 1.32 million in 2022. Those on lower incomes are more likely to have left or be considering leaving work because of ill health than those on higher incomes

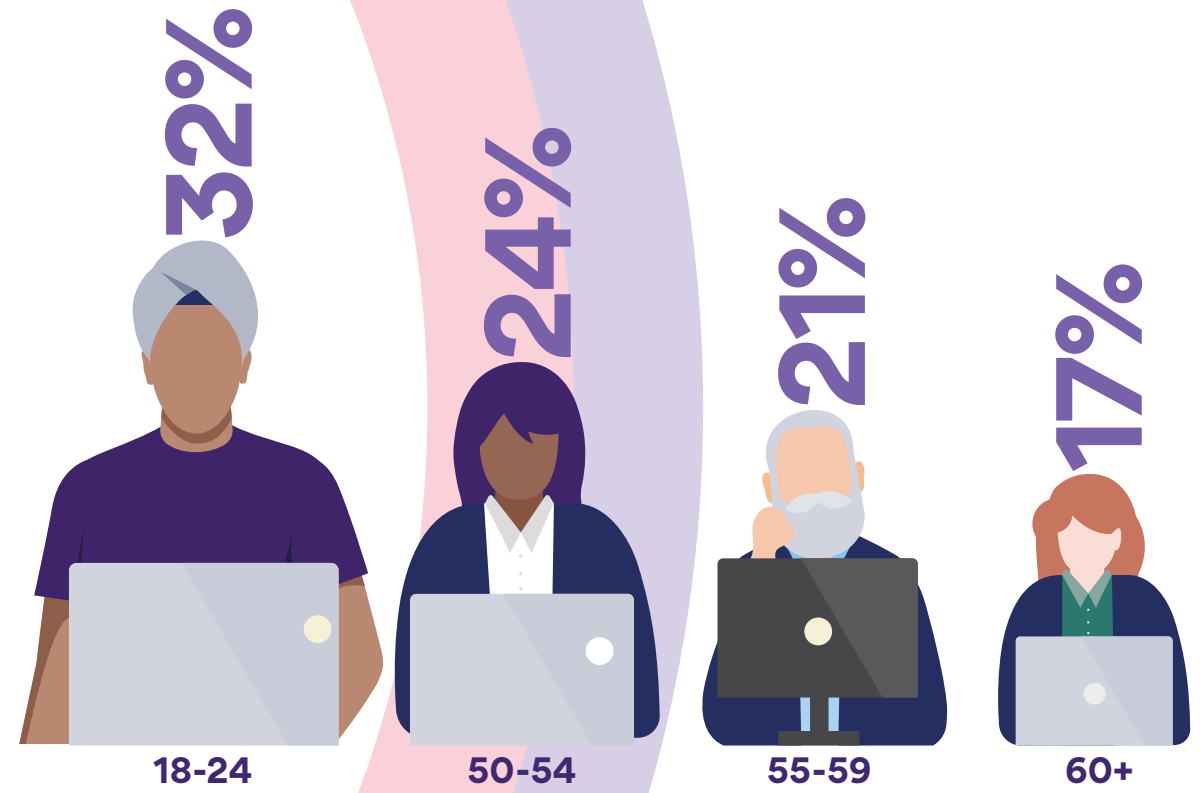
Number of people aged 50-64 who would like to be working but aren't, by reason



* Economically inactive means neither working nor looking for work.
For sources see charts 3.06, 3.10 and 3.12 here: <https://ageing-better.org.uk/work-state-ageing-2023-4>

People aged 50 and over who are looking for work are less likely to secure employment than those aged under 50.

Percentage of people who got a job through the Work and Health programme within 24 months between November 2017 and February 2021.



For sources see charts 3.15 and 3.16 here: <https://ageing-better.org.uk/work-state-ageing-2023-4>

Older workers are the least likely to receive on-the-job training.

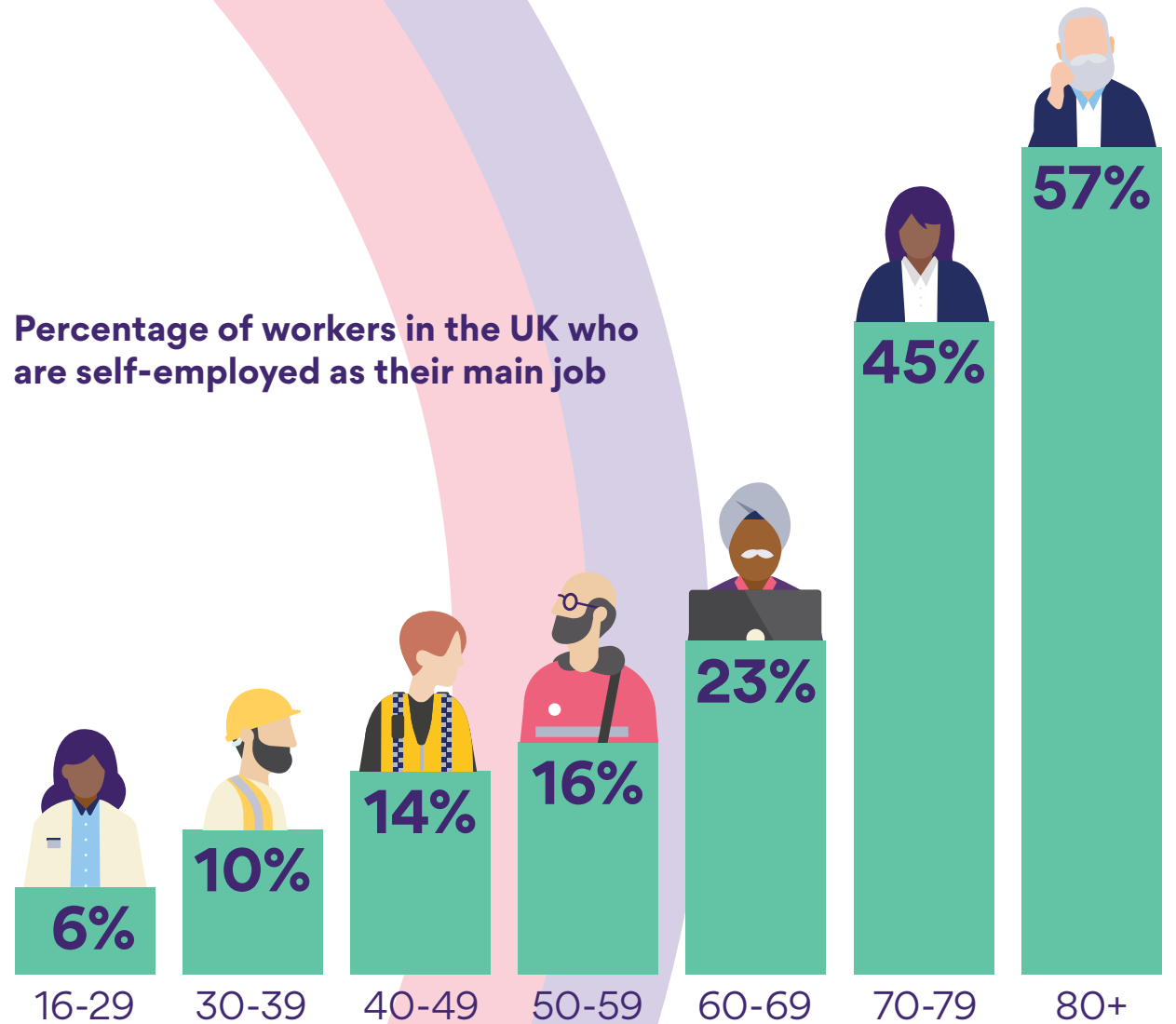
Over one-fifth (22%) of 18-24 year old workers in the UK received job-related training in early 2023 compared to just 15% of 50-64 year old workers.



Self-employment becomes more common with age.

But rates of self-employment have declined in all age groups since the start of the pandemic.

Percentage of workers in the UK who are self-employed as their main job



For source see chart 3.22 here: <https://ageing-better.org.uk/work-state-ageing-2023-4>

There are 3.5 million non-decent homes in England: half are headed by someone aged 55 and over.

Homes are classed as non-decent for one of four reasons:

- A serious hazard which poses a risk to health.
- Not providing a reasonable degree of thermal comfort.
- In disrepair.
- Not having sufficiently modern facilities.

For source see chart 4.03 here: <https://ageing-better.org.uk/homes-state-ageing-2023-4>



In England there are 1.3 million owner occupied homes headed by someone aged 55 or over that are non-decent.

A fifth of owner-occupied homes headed by someone 55 or over in the lowest income bracket are non-decent, compared to a tenth in the highest income bracket.*

*income brackets in fifths.
For sources see charts 4.03 and 4.08 here: <https://ageing-better.org.uk/homes-state-ageing-2023-4>



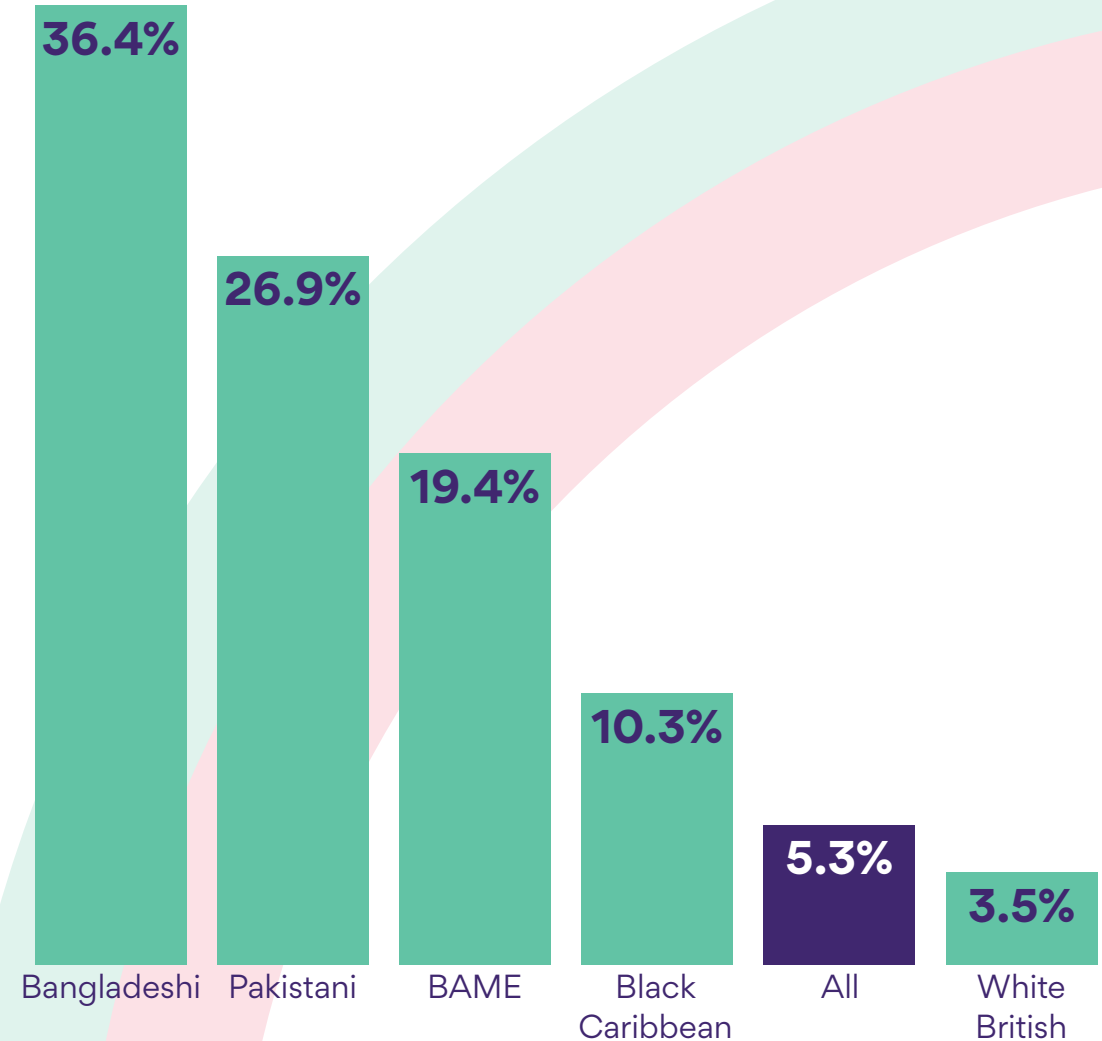
A quarter of a million privately rented homes headed by someone aged 55 and over in England are non-decent.

Two in five homes privately rented by someone aged 50-69 have condensation, damp or mould. The number of private renters aged 50 and over doubled in the 20 years to 2021 and is set to continue to increase.

For sources see charts 4.03, 4.05 and 4.09 here: <https://ageing-better.org.uk/homes-state-ageing-2023-4>

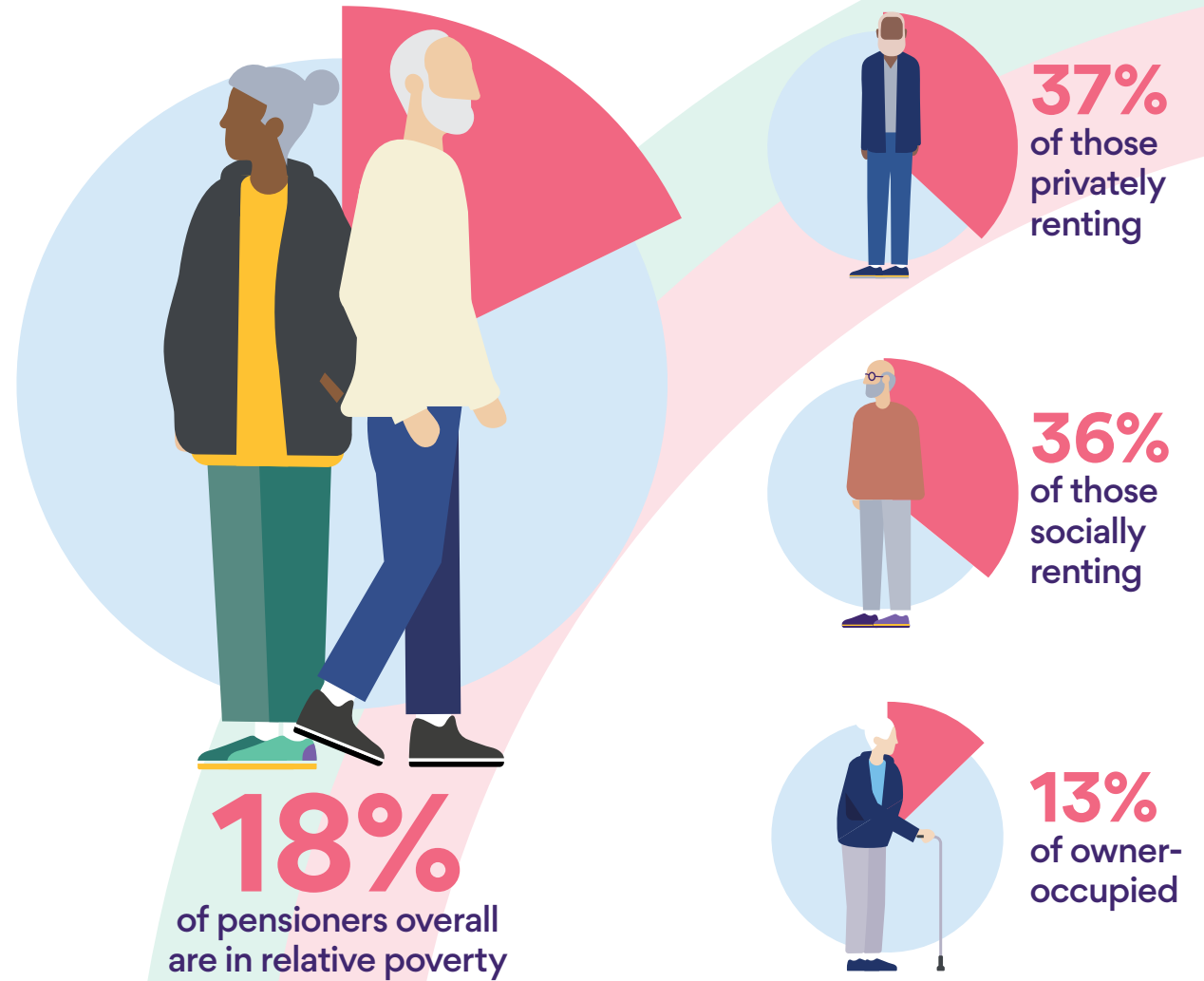


Nearly one in five people aged 50 and over from Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic backgrounds in England is living in housing deprivation.

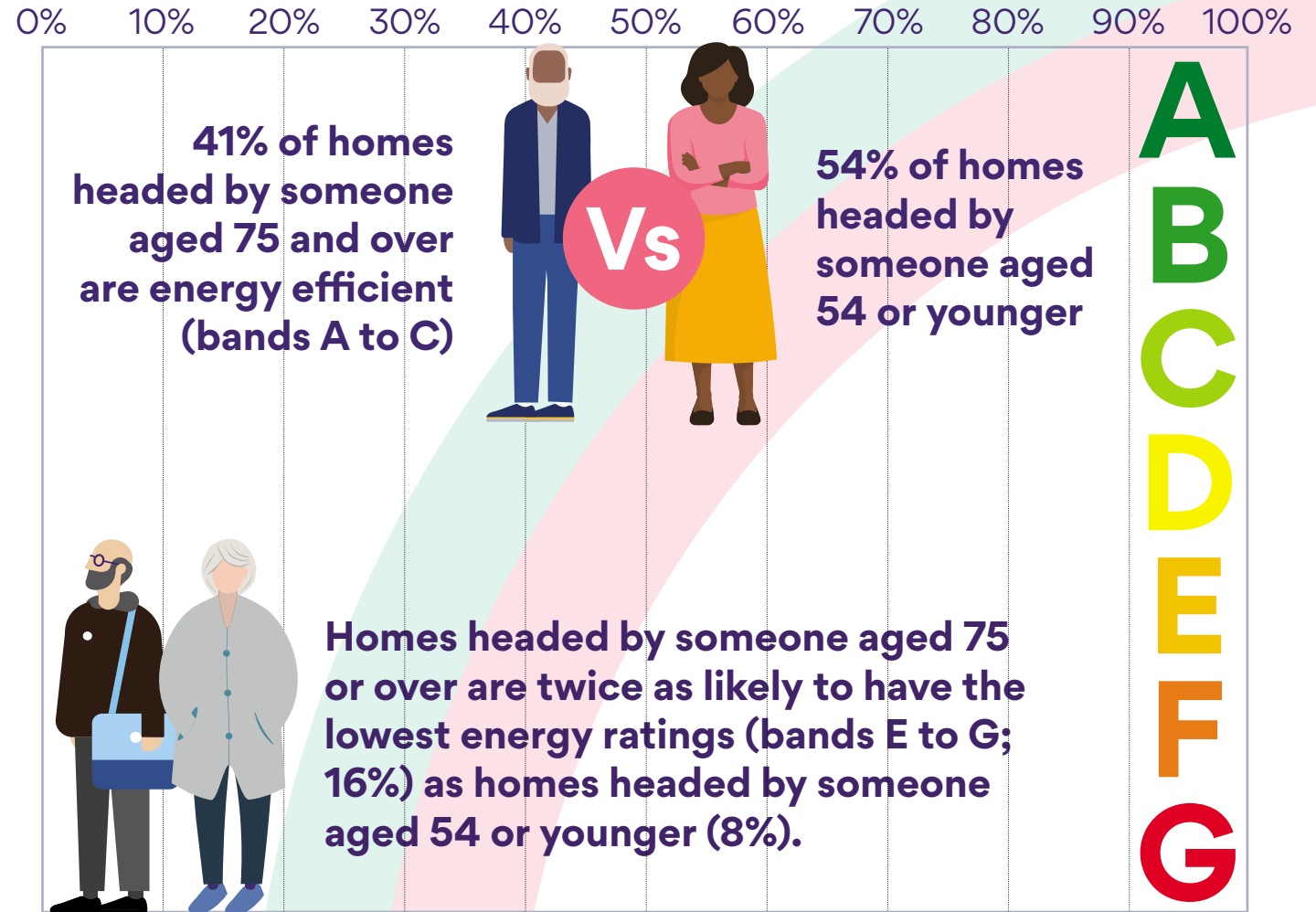


A household is classified as deprived in the housing dimension if the household's accommodation is either overcrowded, in a shared dwelling, or has no central heating. Selected ethnic groups shown; see source for others. For source see chart 4.06 here: <https://ageing-better.org.uk/homes-state-ageing-2023-4>

Almost 2 in 5 pension-age adults who are renting privately were in relative poverty in the UK in 2020/21.



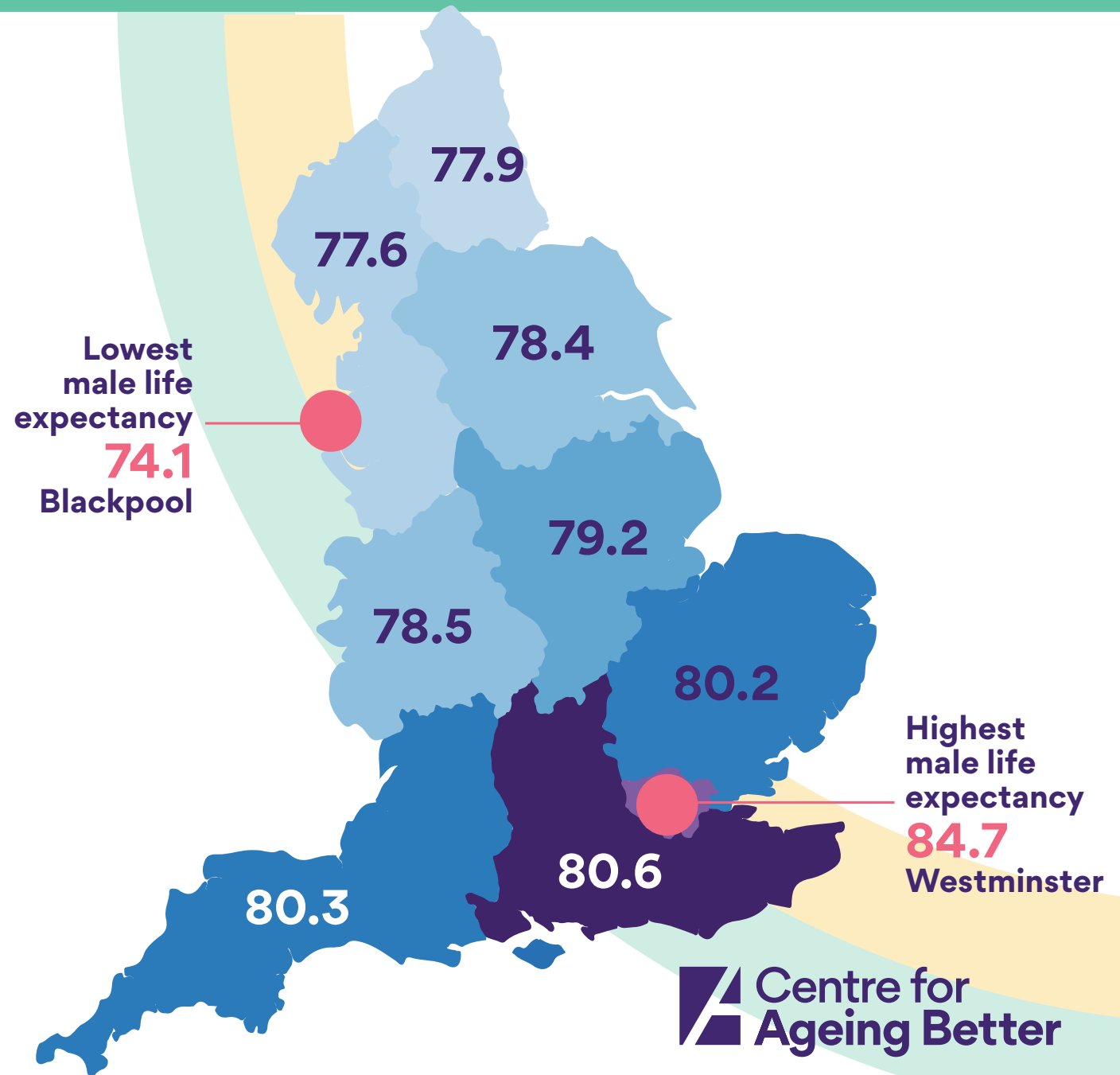
Older people are the most likely to live in the hardest to heat homes.



Men living in more deprived areas live shorter lives.

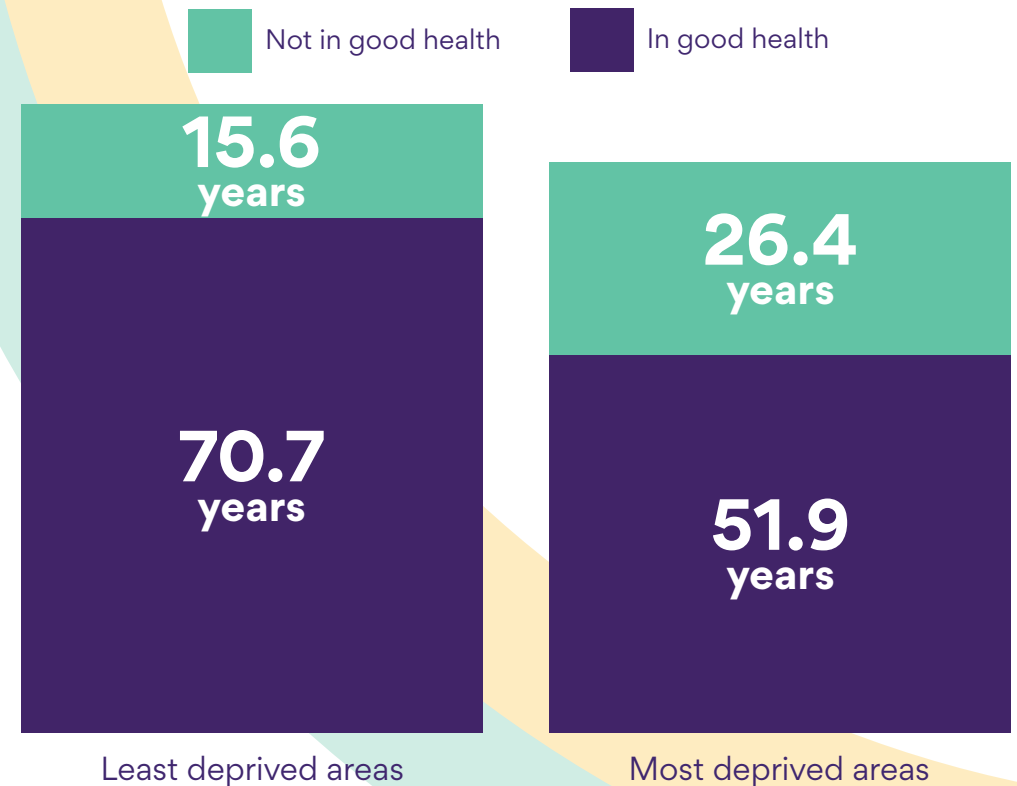
We see the same pattern for women for whom life expectancy ranges from 81.5 in the North East to 84.3 in London.

Source: <https://ageing-better.org.uk/health-and-wellbeing-state-ageing-2023-4> ONS (2022). Health state life expectancies, UK: 2018-2020. Available at: <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/healthandsocialcare/healthandlifeexpectancies/bulletins/healthstatelifeexpectanciesuk/2018to2020>



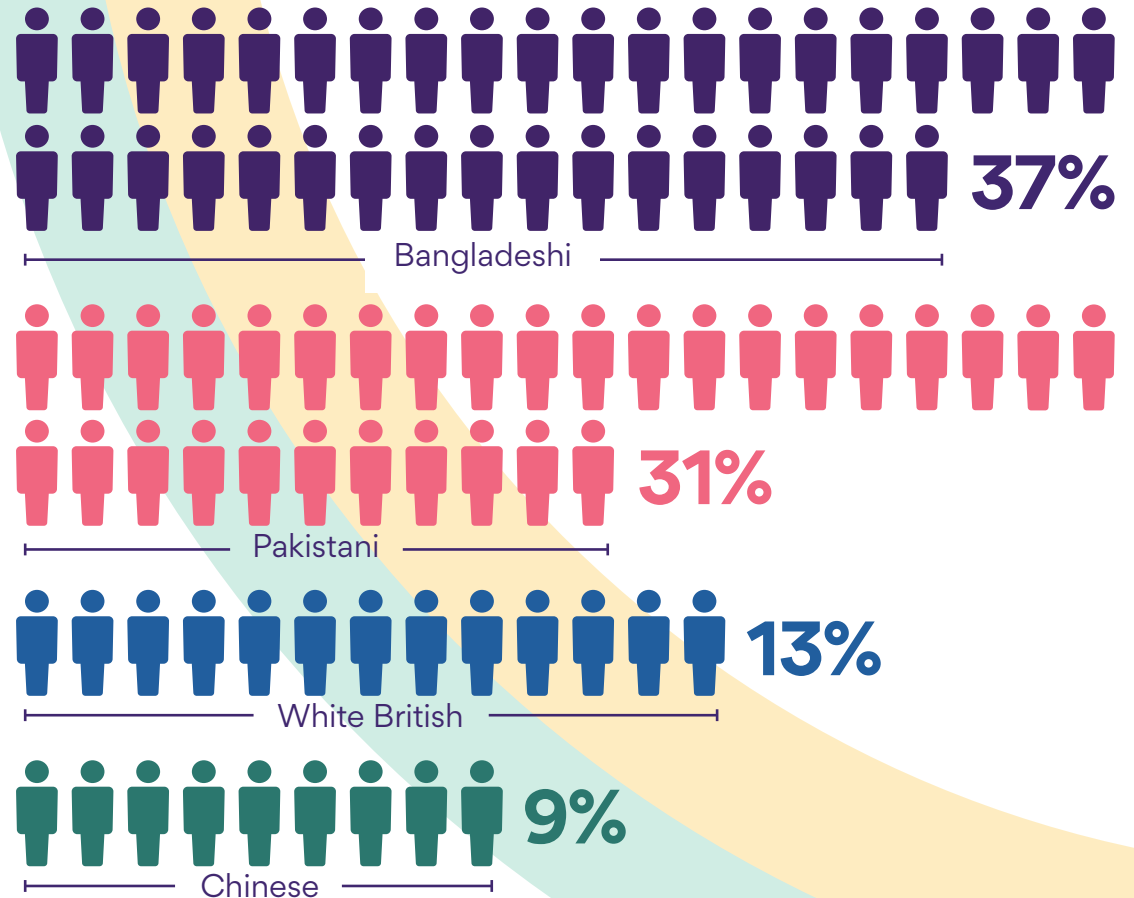
People living in the least deprived areas of England spend more of their lives in good health than those in the most deprived areas.

Years spent in good health for women at birth in the poorest and wealthiest areas, England, 2018/20



Bangladeshi and Pakistani women in England are most likely to experience bad health as they age.

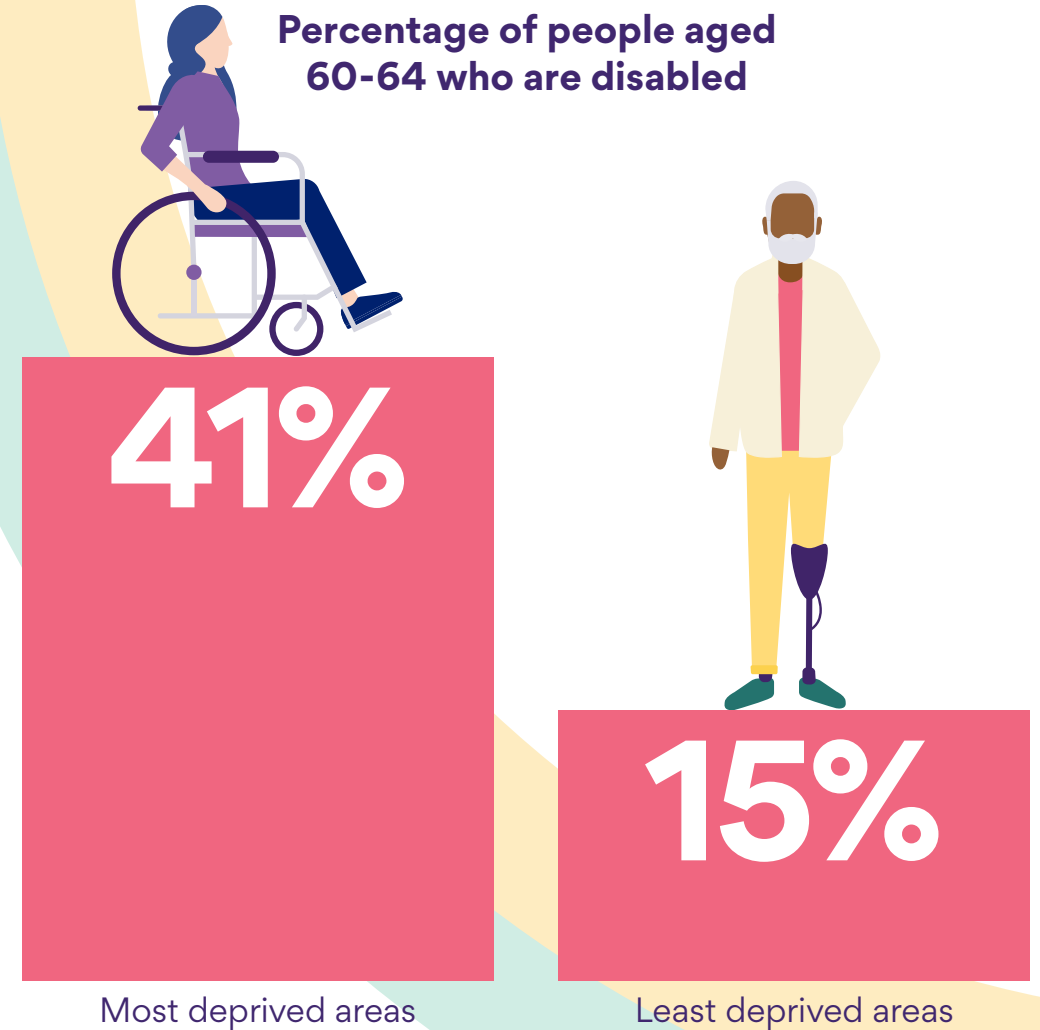
Percentage of women aged 65 and over from selected ethnic groups who are in bad health



For source see chart 5.04 here: <https://ageing-better.org.uk/health-and-wellbeing-state-ageing-2023-4>

Rates of disability among people in their 50s in the most deprived areas are equal to those of people 25 years older in the least deprived areas.

For source see chart 5.08 here: <https://ageing-better.org.uk/health-and-wellbeing-state-ageing-2023-4>



The cost-of-living crisis is making people's mental and physical health worse.



29%

of all people aged 50-69 in the UK say their **mental** health has become worse.

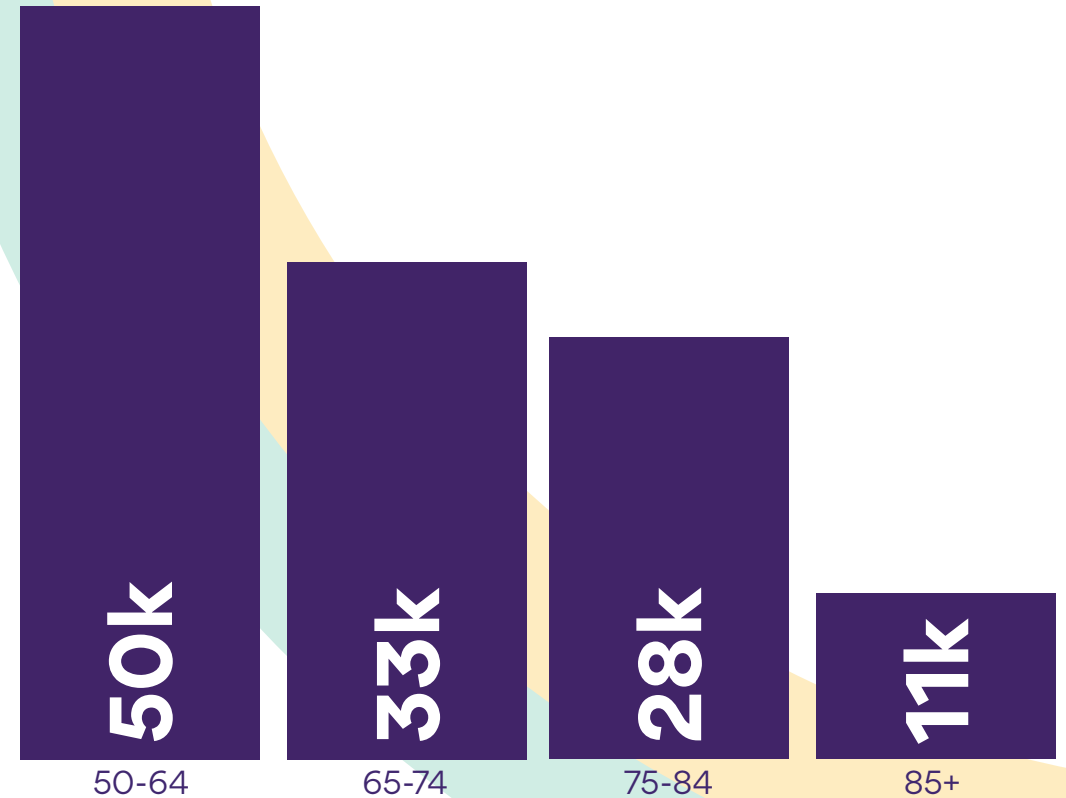


23%

of all people aged 50-69 in the UK say their **physical** health has become worse.

Over 230,000 carers aged 50 and over in England are in bad or very bad health themselves.

Number of people in bad or very bad health who also provide 50 or more hours of care per week



For source see chart 5.12 here: <https://ageing-better.org.uk/health-and-wellbeing-state-ageing-2023-4>

Almost one in five pensioners in the UK lives in relative poverty.

The poverty rate for single pensioners (25%) is almost double that for couple pensioners (14%).



Relative poverty is an income below 60% - and deep poverty an income below 50% - of median income after housing costs
For source see charts 6.01a and 6.01b here: <https://ageing-better.org.uk/financial-security-state-ageing-2023-4>

Over a quarter of people aged 50 and over from Pakistani and Bangladeshi backgrounds in the UK were living in deep poverty in 2021/22.

Deep poverty is an income below 50% of median income after housing costs
For source see chart 6.03 here: <https://ageing-better.org.uk/financial-security-state-ageing-2023-4>

28%



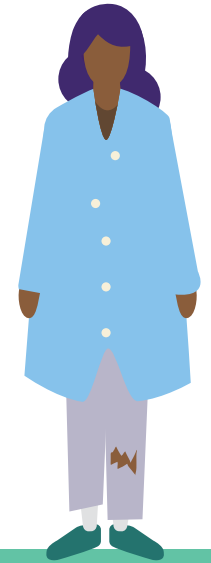
Pakistani

26%



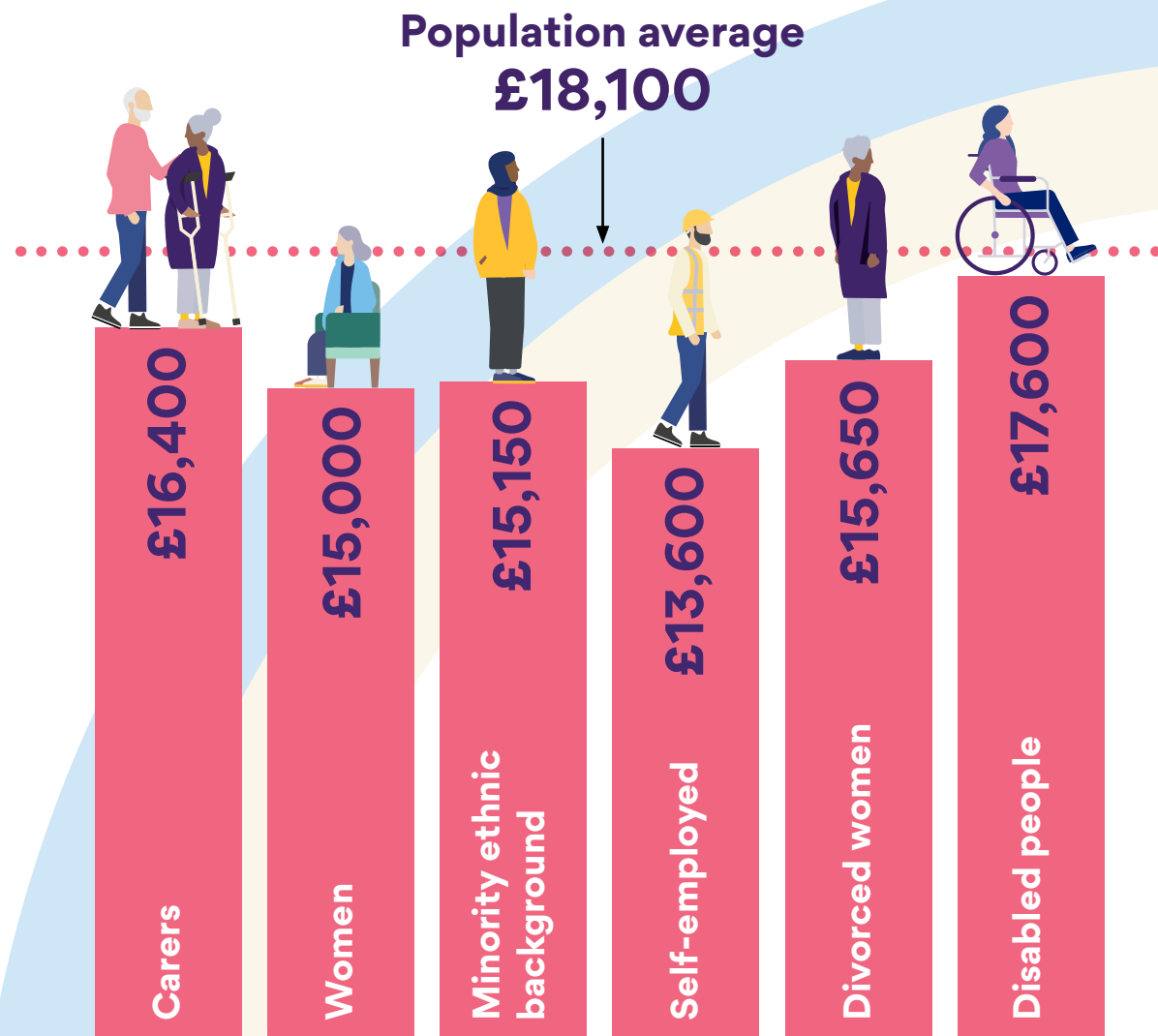
Bangladeshi

13%



Total population

Some groups, including Disabled people and divorced women, have lower than average income from their pensions and other benefits.



Full state pension only gets pensioners to 80% of the Minimum Income Standard.

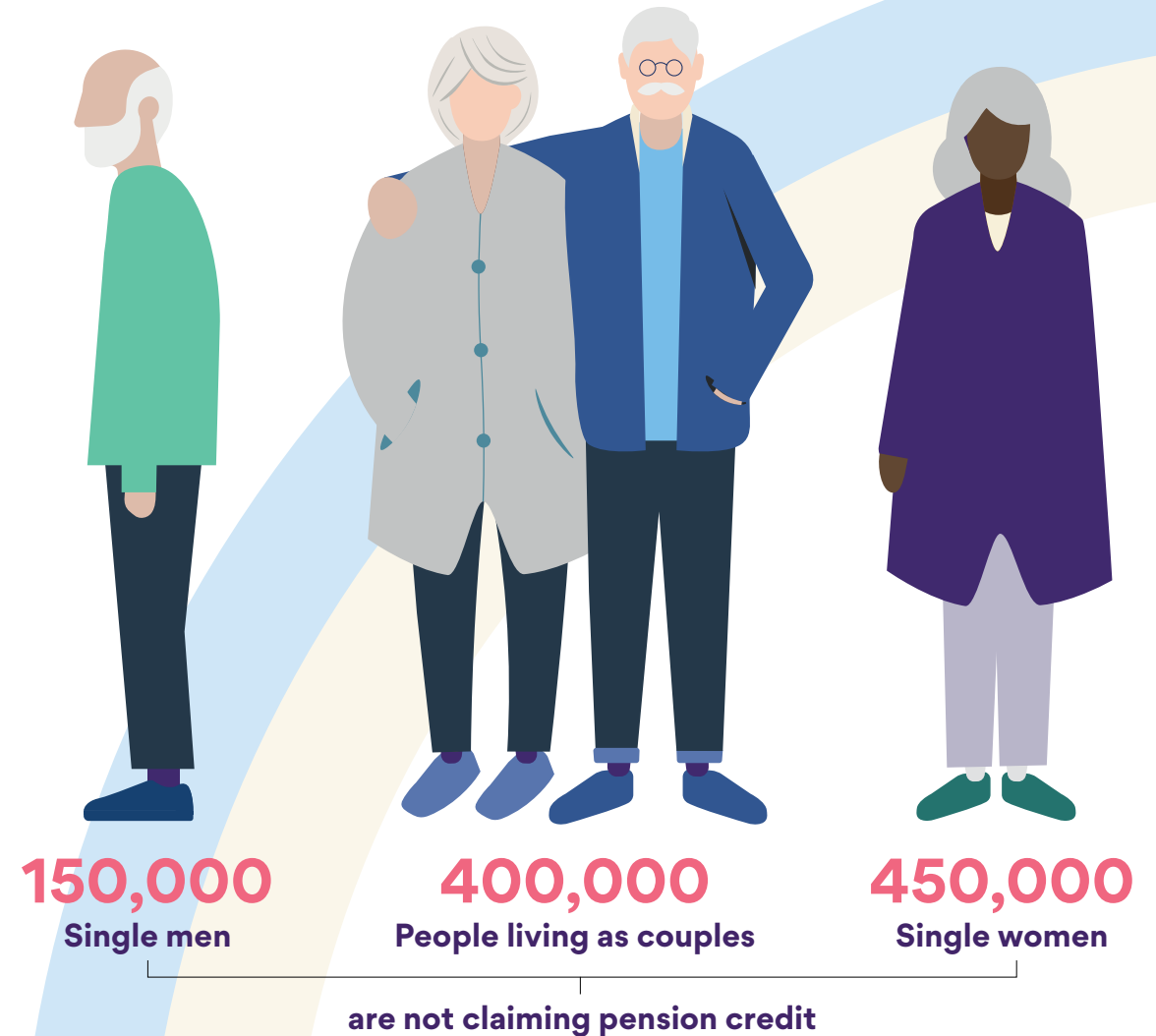
So pensioners wholly reliant on state pension (plus Pension Credit) will have to cut back on spending that is viewed as essential.

For source see chart 6.08 here: <https://ageing-better.org.uk/financial-security-state-ageing-2023-4>



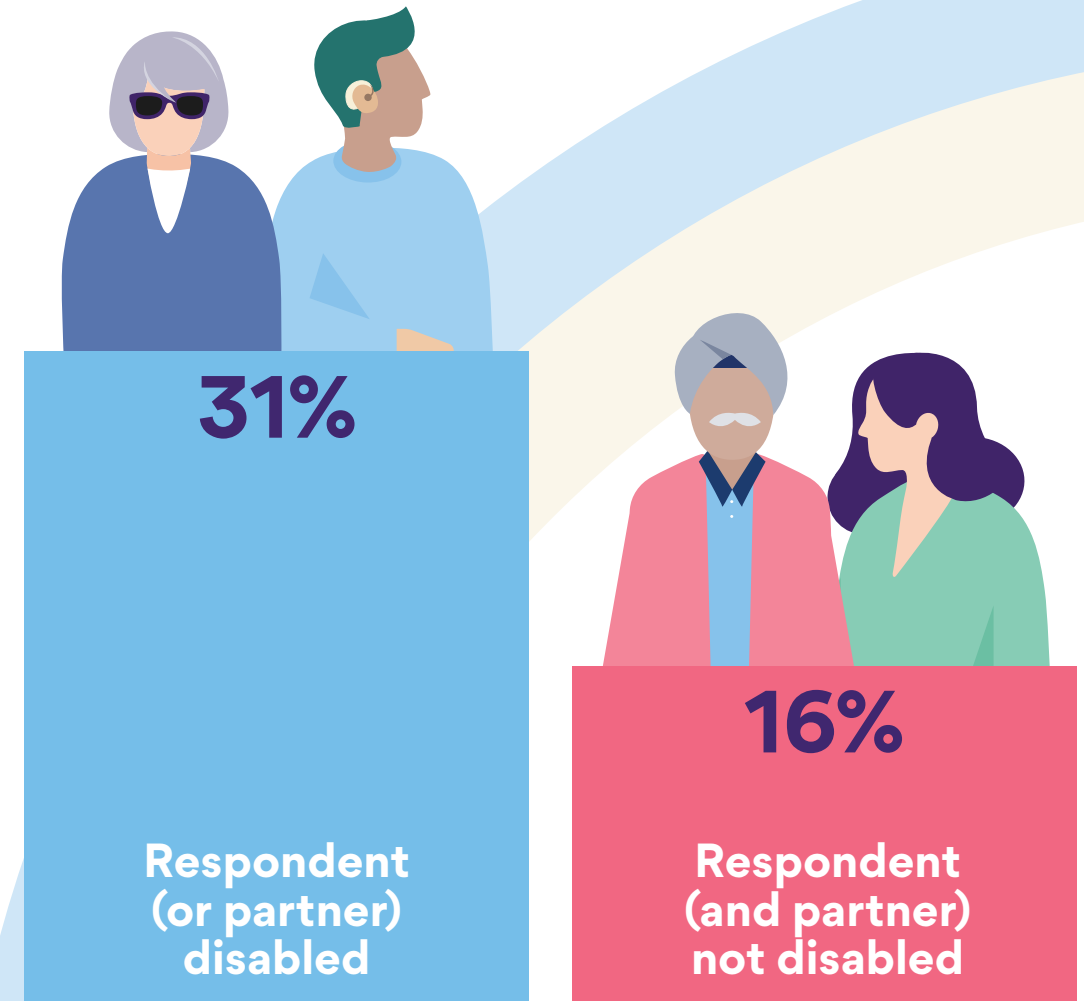
1 million people eligible for Pension Credit are not claiming it.

Three times as many single women as single men are not receiving Pension Credit to which they are entitled, compounding the financial disadvantage faced by older women.



Pension Credit tops up weekly income to £201.05 for a single person and tops up joint weekly income to £306.85 for a couple. For source see chart 6.09 here: <https://ageing-better.org.uk/financial-security-state-ageing-2023-4>

Households with at least one Disabled adult are more likely to have no savings.



Percentage of people aged 50 to 69 who have no savings

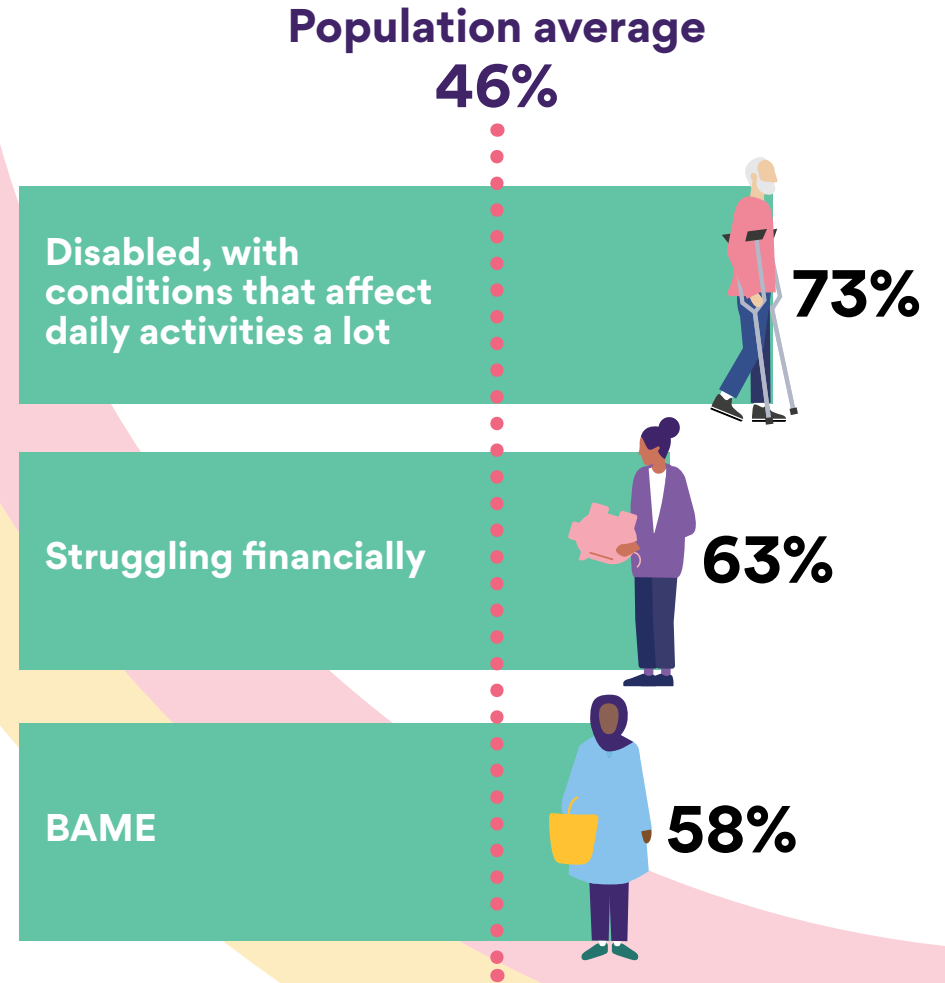
Regular formal or informal volunteering is most common between the ages of 65 and 74.

But since the pandemic, overall rates of volunteering for this age group have not recovered to pre-pandemic levels.

Regular volunteering means at least once a month.
For source see chart 7.01 here: <https://ageing-better.org.uk/society-state-ageing-2023-4>



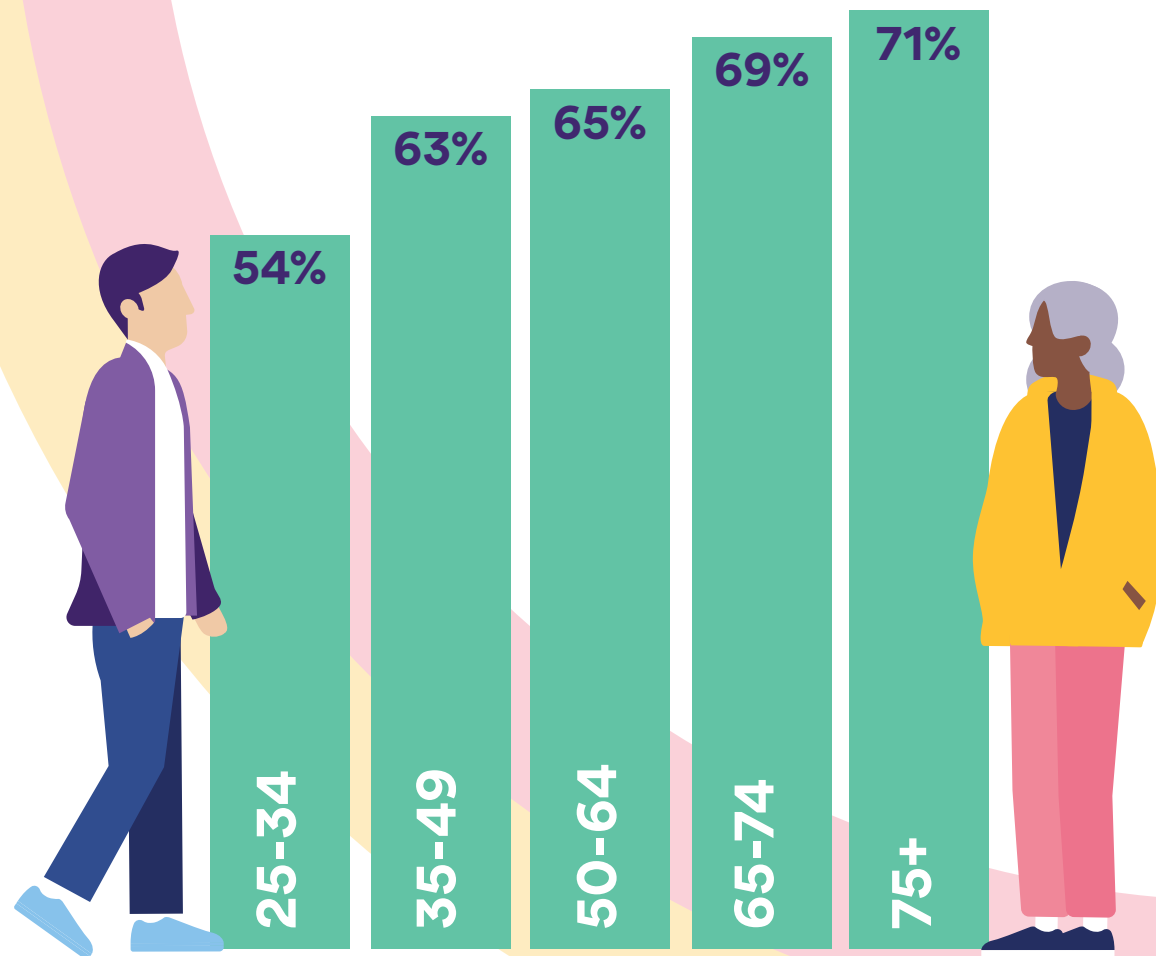
People aged 50 and over are more likely to say they have experienced ageism in the last year if they are disabled, struggling financially, or from Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) backgrounds.



For source see chart 7.07b here: <https://ageing-better.org.uk/society-state-ageing-2023-4>

The proportion of people who feel they belong to their neighbourhood increases with age.

But the gap between the youngest and oldest has been narrowing over time.



As they age, men are less likely than women to say that they have people to rely on if they need help.



78% of women and only **66%** of men aged 65-74 in England have someone to rely on

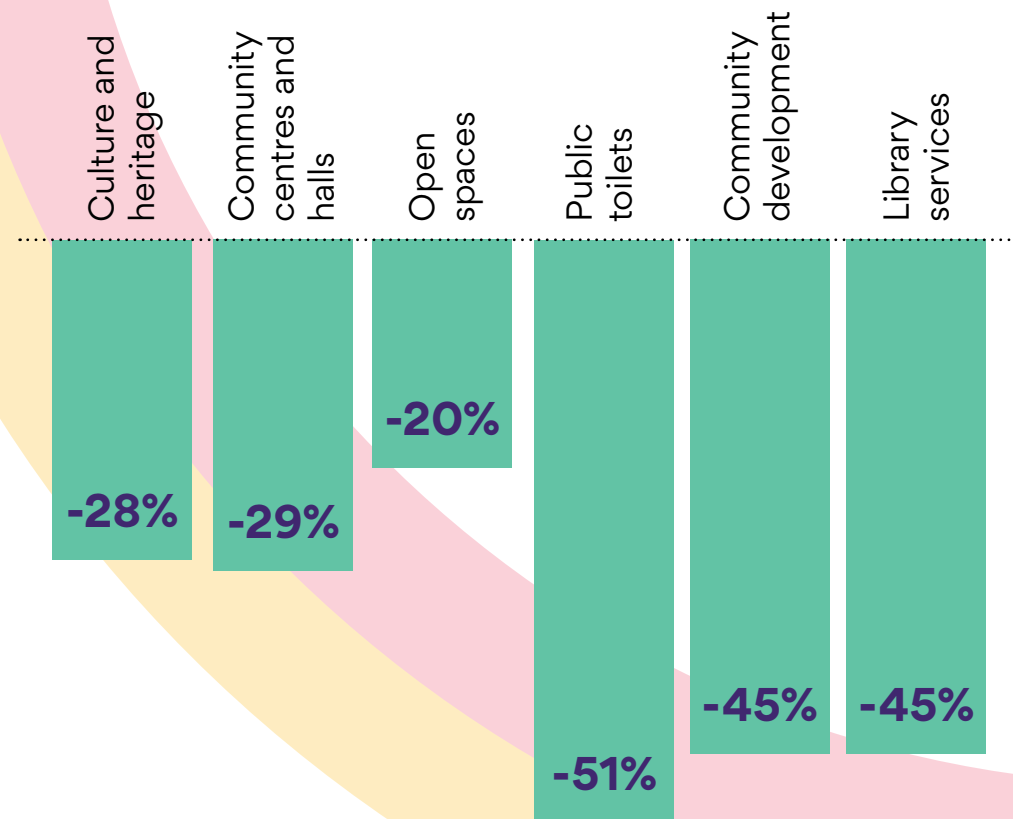


Local authority spending on many community services continues to decline.

These services play valuable roles in enabling older people to stay engaged in their communities, and in promoting better health and wellbeing.

For source see chart 7.14 here: <https://ageing-better.org.uk/society-state-ageing-2023-4>

Real terms Local Authority spending in 2022/23 compared to 2010/11



Just half of people aged 75 and over have all the basic digital skills needed to operate online.

This compares with seven in ten people aged 55-64.

