



# C19 National Foresight Group: Intelligence Briefing Paper 2 YouGov, Apple Mobility and ONS data and Academic Denial Review 21/05/2020

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This briefing synthesizes data with systematic findings from across academic subjects. These data contribute to our existing knowledge on who is mostly likely to be experiencing adversity in our communities. To start to build a (provisional) picture about who is likely to be most affected by Covid-19 and the impacts from measures we had to implement.

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## Accumulation of Adversity vs Intersectionality:

The National Foresight Group should soon be able to start using the data trends and varying data sources, with existing evidence bases of vulnerabilities, compound to effect groups. Using data in this way, we could start to build existing and emerging risk profiles from Covid-19. This could inform the priorities of need and consequent priorities of support for the recovery cells. It could also contribute to future response (see ‘suggestion’ detailed under figure 17). With this in mind, understanding how these factors compound would be useful. There are two ways in which this compound or ‘layering’ effects effect individuals:

- Intersectionality = the multiple memberships of discriminated against groups (*existing* membership of groups – female, BAME, disability, lower socio-economic status)
- Accumulation of Adversity = the ‘layering’ of adversity (emerging membership of groups from Covid-19, primary impacts and secondary impacts)
- Academic research across large bodies of work considers intersectionality and have concluded that complex crises affect men, women, boys and girls (as defined by sex not gender) differently and that vulnerability to crisis is compounded by intersecting identities, such as age, caste, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation and gender identity.

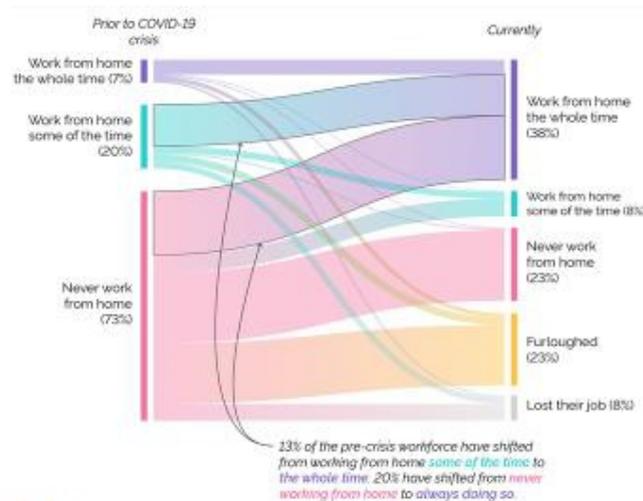
## YouGov Data

### YouGov Workers Survey

This survey was conducted *prior* to the recent announcement.

Figure 1: Working Location Changes

## Working Location Changes



We can see from this visual that:

- 8% of people report losing their job because of coronavirus
- 23% of people furloughed
- at least 23% of people are still working from a place other than their home (as of 11th May)

There is only one data point for this survey currently, so although static, it does give some indication of how our communities are experiencing this change and the proportions of which they are experiencing these changes.

If YouGov will do the same survey next week we will continue to monitor this to see how this shifts.

Figure 2: Working Location Changes

Those in C1, C2, D are more likely to have been working from a place that is not their home. This may partially explain a higher rate of confirmed cases in these groups.

## Working Location Changes

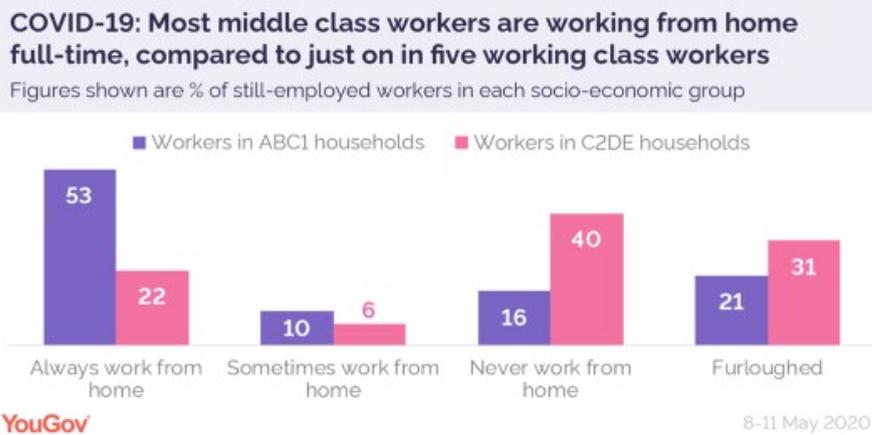
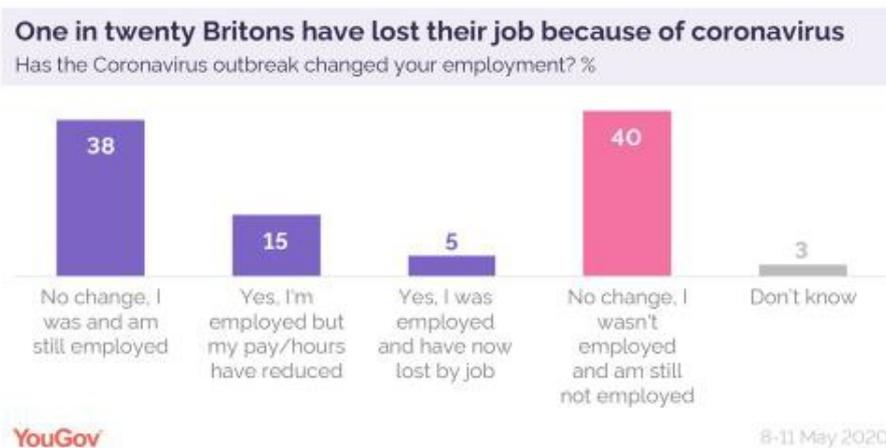


Figure 3: Working Hours Changes

## Working Hours Changes



One in 5 people perceive that they have reduced their hours or lost their job as a result of Covid-19 and the impacts. These groups would not be eligible for furlough, and so gives some indications about the proportion of people who are financially affected from Covid-19 by their employment status.

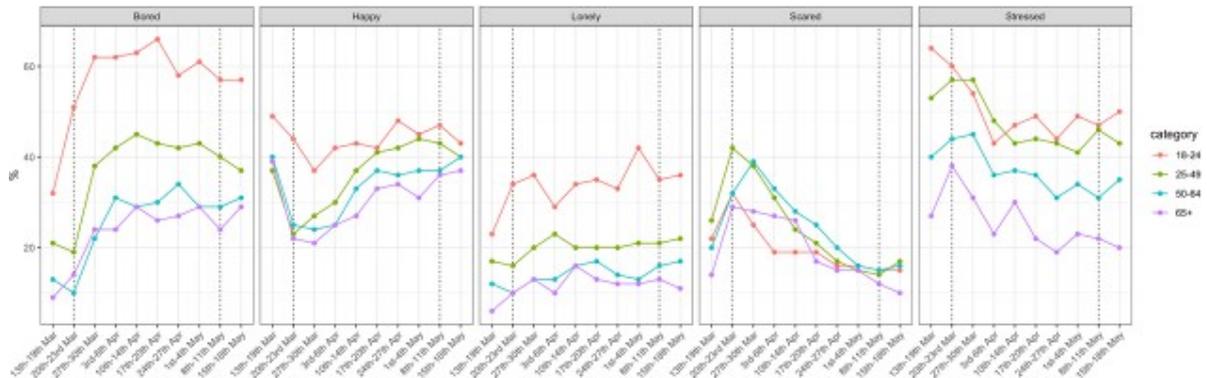
Again, it would be useful to know if this has changed since the Government recent announcement, so we will track this data.

### YouGov Mood Data

- Please note that the two vertical dotted lines in the following graphs indicate:
- the one on the left is when lockdown measures started
- the one on the right indicates the announcement to indicate the change in advice from the British Government

Figure 4: Age

## YouGov Mood Survey: age

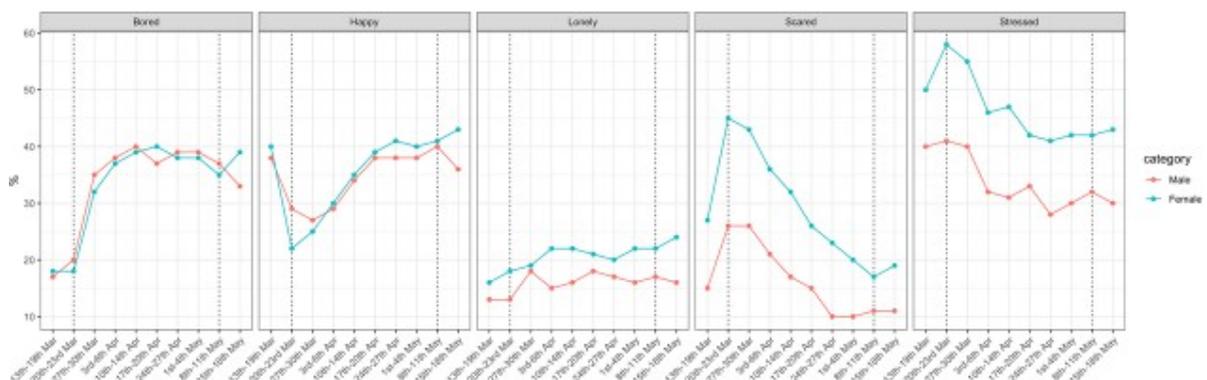


The data above shows that younger adults (under 50s) continue to be more bored, lonely, and stressed than older adults (over 50s). Younger adults are also less happy this week (while older adults are more happy). There are no age group specific changes in loneliness this week, although over 65s have a slightly decreased. Over 65s are also less scared and stressed this week.

The takeaway message from these graphs, and those of other data sets and other time points is that the differences in age hold more consistently than the differences in social class. We might have more on this next week.

Figure 5: Sex

## YouGov Mood Survey: sex



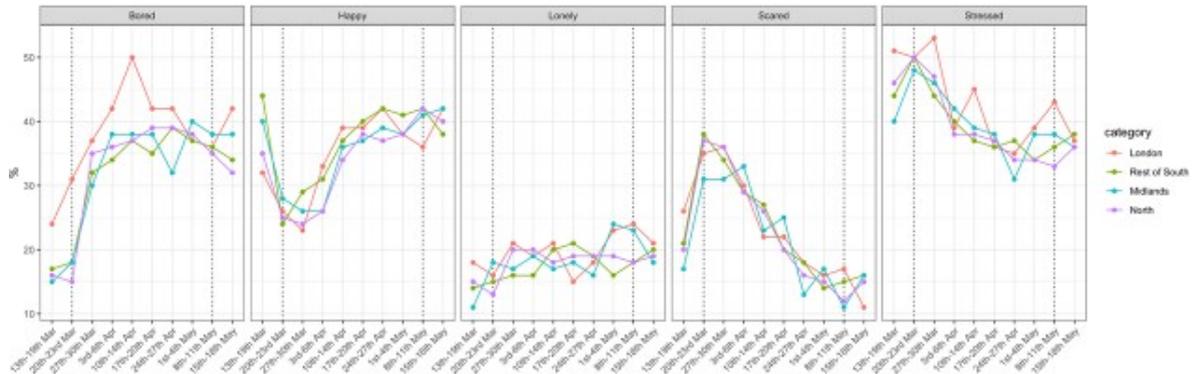
Females are showing more heightened emotions across all of the mood categories/items this week, whereas males are "less" so; that is, while more females report negative emotions (boredom, loneliness, fear, and stress), more also report being happy

Conversely, males are less bored, lonely, scared, and stressed, but also less happy.

We are working on theories about why this might be, but it is evident that there's some underlying factor(s) driving the difference. We have seen over the past few weeks and from other data and academic research that economic and social adversity of Covid -19 accumulate on females rather than males.

Figure 6: Location

## YouGov Mood Survey: location (England)

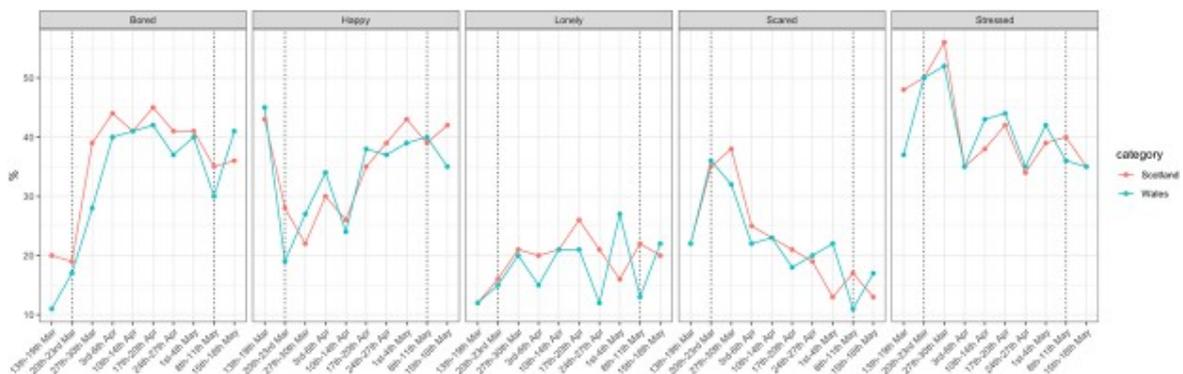


There is no clear picture in mood across the UK. If we look closer at the devolved nations (YouGov include Scotland and Wales) we can see that they are more bored, and less stressed this week than they were.

London is more bored, but also happier, less lonely, scared, and stressed than last week, while the rest of England shows a different picture, with the rest of the south and the north showing less boredom and happiness, and more loneliness, fear, and stress than last week. We are reporting London separately here as the data is showing a different pattern. However, we are just theorising why London is different. This might be a sampling or reporting bias, and we are scoping any indicators which point to this, but we are also looking at other literature to offer an explanation.

Figure 7: Location

## YouGov Mood Survey: location (Scotland and Wales)

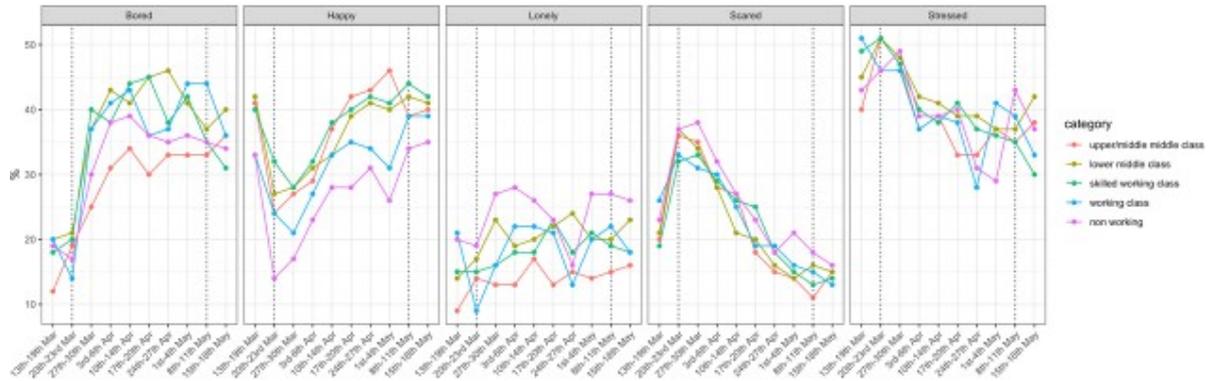


There is no clear picture in mood across the UK. If we look closer at the devolved nations (YouGov include Scotland and Wales) we can see that they are more bored, and less stressed this week.

However, Wales is more lonely, bored, and scared, and less happy than they were last week, and Scotland is more happy, and less scared, lonely, and stressed. We suggest this might start to reflect differences in governmental approach and narrative.

Figure 8: Social Class

## YouGov Mood Survey: social class



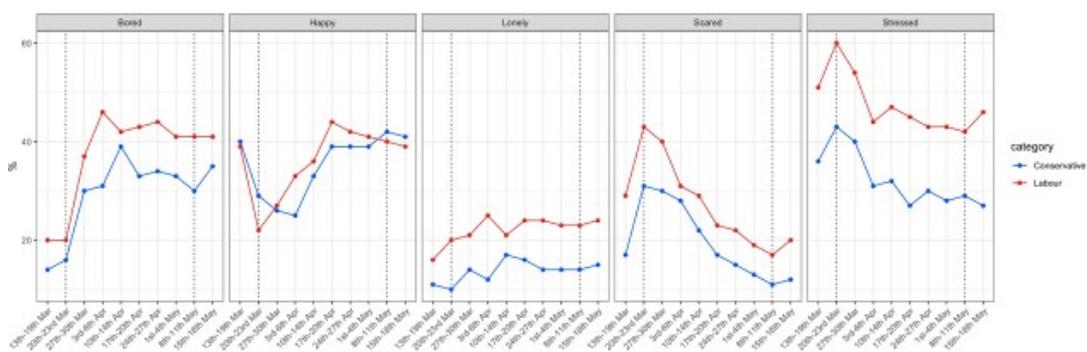
However, this increase in fear seems to be driven by those reporting as middle class, who are also more scared and lonely this week; this may reflect these groups are more likely to continue to work from home, and having less “in person but physically distanced” social contact with others. If so, this raises whether this has reached possible limits as to how effective online socializing is. We saw last week the plateau in the online support – this might be picking up on the same phenomena. We look to contextualise this with the academic literature to inform if there is any evidence that contact with any person (i.e. also work colleagues) can reduce loneliness.

Those reporting as working class are less bored and lonely this week, which may reflect increases in these populations returning to work. If that assumption holds and they are returning to places of work, might this reflect the beneficial effects of having ‘in person but physically distanced’ social contact with others, even if these are not friends and family, Conversely, this may simply be capturing that more hours are filled in the day with tasks around employment than they were previously.

There is also a reduction in stress for these groups. This is potentially a surprising result, as one might expect those returning to work to be more stressed. This may reflect reductions in financial uncertainty.

Figure 9: Political Affiliation

## YouGov Mood Survey: political affiliation



The plots those who voted Labour or Conservative at the 2019 general election.

graph

➤ **Please note**, the split between the two predominant parties is because splitting this any further into other political affiliations no longer makes any meaningful group size to complete analysis with integrity.

In the graphs exploring boredom we can see that there has been a plateauing out over the whole since lockdown measures were implemented.

Both political affiliated groups report being as happy as each other.

The general trends in loneliness reflect an increasing picture, however one is higher than the other. This may reflect slight differences in social identity, echoed in the psychological and political literatures. Differences in political views may be explained through Conservatives feeling less lonely if they identify/agree with the national message, which they may be more inclined to do if they trust the Government.

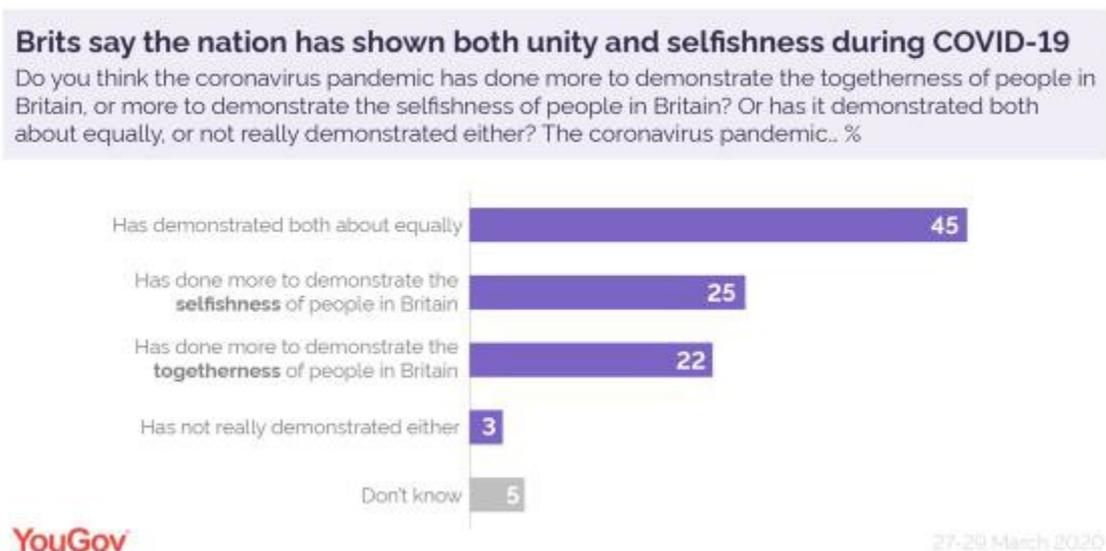
With trends for both groups being scared and being stressed generally went up before lockdown and now decreases. This may reflect the data we covered a couple of weeks ago of trusting in government, and is also reflective to literature on stressful events.

Stress increasing for labour voters and decreasing for Conservative voters. There is a slight increase in fear and loneliness in both groups of voters. More Conservative voters report being bored this week than last, with no change for labour voters.

## YouGov Togetherness Data

Figure 10: Togetherness

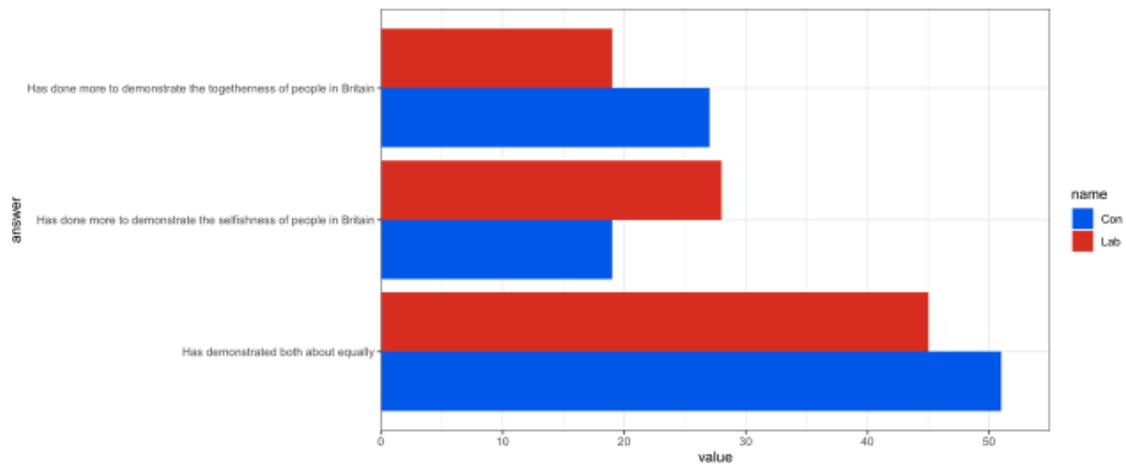
### YouGov: Togetherness



The dual endorsement of Covid-19 showing both unity and selfishness is supported by a finding from YouGov that Covid has done more to demonstrate selfishness than togetherness.

Figure 11: Togetherness

## YouGov: Togetherness

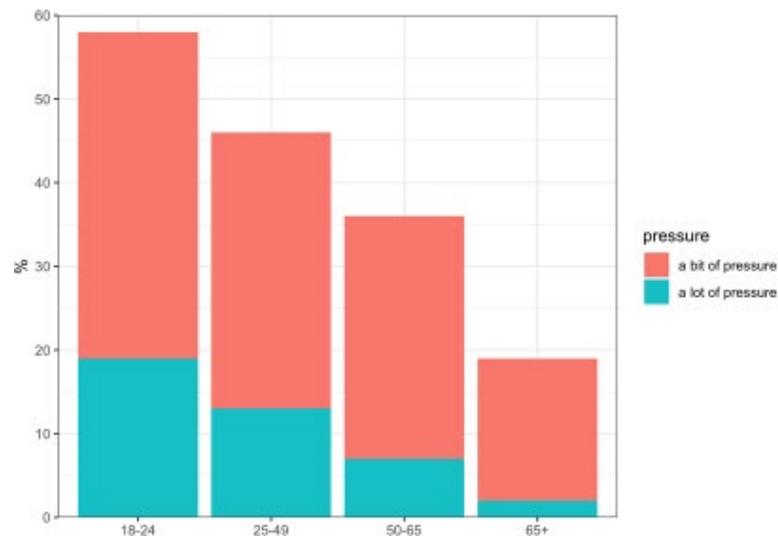


More Conservative voters think the virus has done more to demonstrate togetherness than selfishness. While more Labour voters think that the virus has done more to demonstrate selfishness than togetherness.

So, while there is definitely an increase in togetherness, there are some social caveats to this. We will look to contextualise this with academic insights next week.

## YouGov Pressure

Figure 12: Pressure

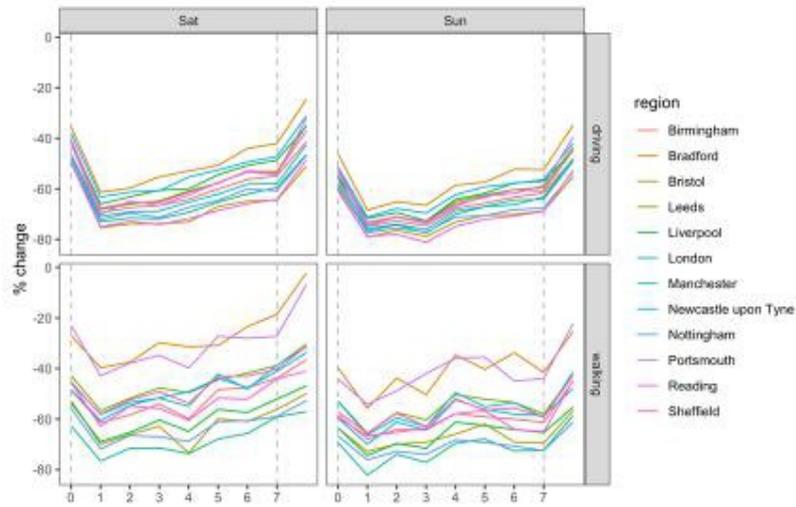


Very few people reported having 'no spare time' (1-4% of people, though those in the 25-49 age bracket were most likely to not have any spare time). Young adults are most likely to feel pressure to be productive in their spare time, with almost 60% of young adults feeling a bit/lot of pressure to be productive. More women than men also felt pressure to be productive, though this was less prominent.

## Apple Mobility Data

Figure 13: English Cities

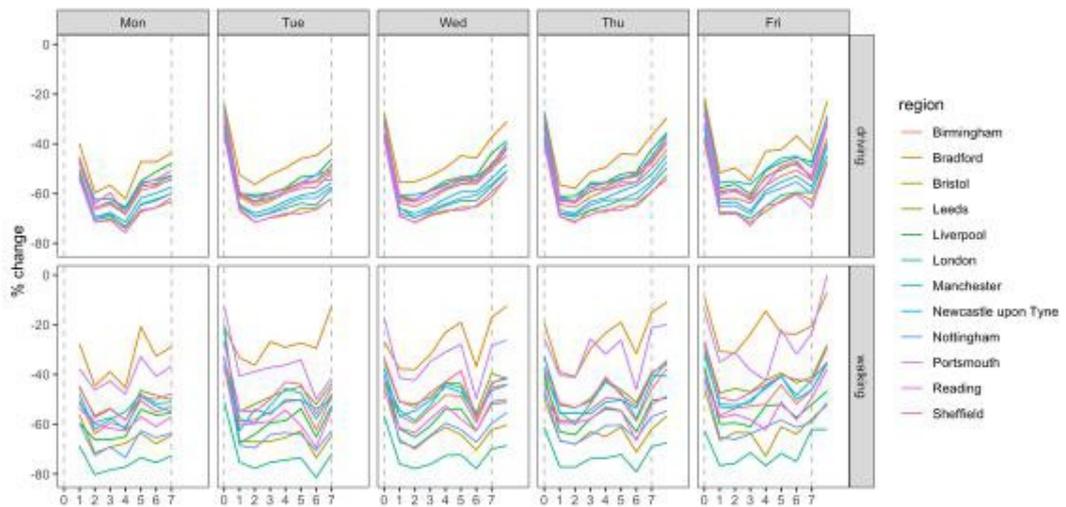
## Weekend Mobility: English Cities



There was a gradual increase in driving and walking on weekends, with a small but notable additional increase after the Government announcement was made.

Figure 14: English Cities

## Weekday Mobility: English Cities

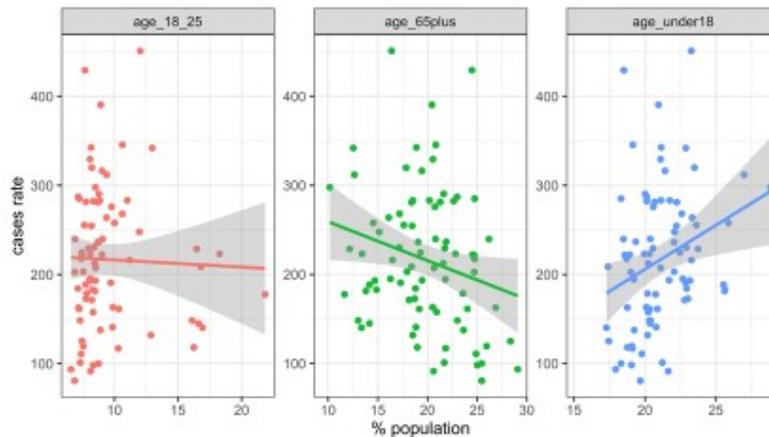


There is far more variability in walking than driving. On weekdays, the trending increase in driving is gradual for all days except Friday, which has seen a big surge since the announcement.

## ONS cases by UTLA characteristics

Figure 15: UTLA by Age

### Cases by Age

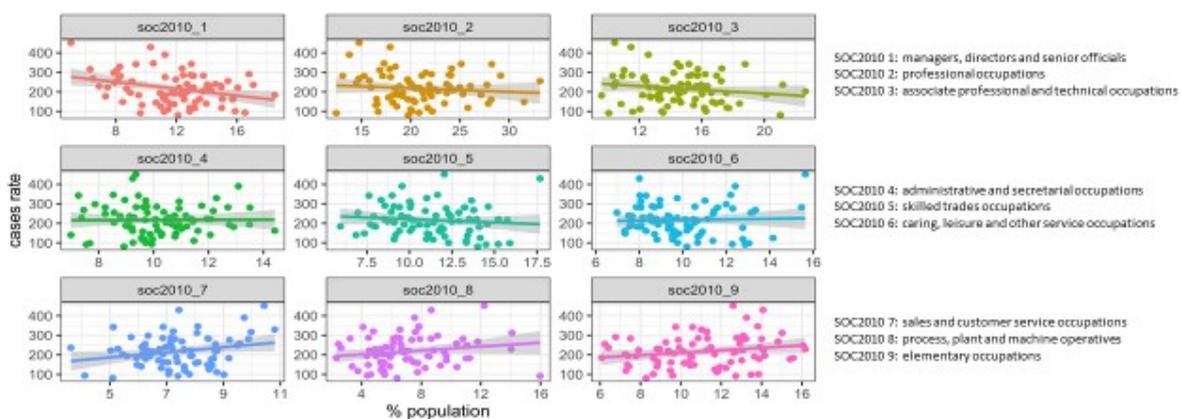


Using regression analysis, UTLAs (Upper Tier Local Authority) with more over 65s have fewer confirmed cases of Covid ( $R^2 = 0.06$ ), while UTLAs with greater percentages of the population are under 5 have more cases of Covid ( $R^2 = 0.09$ ). There is no relationship between the percentage of 18-25s in the population and confirmed cases of Covid ( $R^2 = 0$ ).

➤ **Caveat:** we are not epidemiologists

Figure 16: UTLA by Occupation

### Cases by Occupation



UTLAs in England with a higher percentage of managers, directors, and senior officials (SOC2010 1) have fewer cumulative confirmed cases of Covid-19 ( $R^2 = 0.1$ ). As expected, UTLAs with higher percentages of caring, leisure, and other service occupations (SOC2010 6) have more cases of Covid-19 ( $R^2 = 0$ ), while UTLAs with a higher proportion of people in process, plant, and machine operatives, and elementary occupations have higher cases of Covid-19 (SOC2010 8 and 9;  $R^2 = 0.03$  &  $0.04$  respectively). These last two may indicate the relatively increased risk of people in these occupations, as people whose workplaces have remained open during this time may have had increased contact with others. Conversely, those in other professional roles (SOC2010 2 and 3), administrative (SOC2010

4), and skilled trade occupations (SOC2010 5) have remained stable or have a slightly decreasing trend.

**Suggestion:** The findings from these last two slides are presented to highlight the kind of cluster and trend analysis the tracking data could be used for once a sufficient data set has been developed. These trends (as previously completed with indices of multiple deprivation, child poverty, density of housing and proportion of relevant protected characteristics within local populations) could be used to focus efforts at local level of asset management and planning around likely areas of cluster emergence of Covid-19 in the community. We will continue to track this kind of data which could feed into local and regional planning assumptions.

**Caveat:** we are not epidemiologists

There is currently lots of discussion about children returning to school. We have completed a longer review of the academic literature applying to universities and then a shorter three-day rapid consultation with academics to establish what academics in education and educational psychology are mindful of when thinking through the return of children to school.

## **Academic Synthesis: General scope of factors affecting academic denial during the Coronavirus pandemic:**

(gathered from webpages, academic articles, pre-prints, academic expertise)

**N.B.** This is not a literature review, but a review of the broad area (balanced with C19 specific) to see what topics lie within the area to inform future work. Predominantly based on systematic literature reviews and rapid reviews. This is to indicate the size of the literature review should we wish to commission one. Carried out by Rosie Daly, Stacey Stewart with revisions and edits by Dr Rowena Hill, NTU. Please contact us if you require a list of sources consulted to develop your own literature review.

With a cohort of young people missing education, we report here on trends in findings across many papers. We hope this will help inform and frame priority areas. Older children were more aware of falling behind academically and are therefore likely to teach themselves. Younger children were not as concerned, but missed social interactions. Parents/carers helped with schoolwork where possible, if they were unable to help children with their schoolwork, they taught them skills such as cooking and sewing. Some carers were unable to provide the degree of attention needed for learning, due to issues around domestic abuse and caring for the other children within the home.

### **Impact of absence on attainment**

A wide body of literature has established that the longer the break from education, the more affect it had on children's learning. Whilst there is little evidence for different genders or races, children with a lower socioeconomic status experienced difference more harshly, with the same effect not being observed for children with a higher socioeconomic status. This could be due to a number of reasons such as, lack of access to computers/internet/a place in the house, parental ability/knowledge or numerous children to care for at home. In summary, it means that inequalities for already disadvantaged children are further deepened.

### **Impact of absence on lack of socialisation, boredom, risk taking behaviour**

Whilst there are known positives for children spending large quantities of time at home, in terms of spending more time with parents and carers, there were also tensions from being around one another more frequently. Due to lockdown measures, the frictions families have felt during lockdown may lead to tension between family members. This links with our vulnerable children document, outlining the academic insights in to risks associated with children not being seen/observed/monitored, particularly when one of the usual and main processes for identifying neglect and abuse (teachers/school) is removed. Children are less likely to be able to access their teachers or trusted people, so their opportunity to disclose abuse is lessened or removed.

For those children who are ringing Childline, a summary outlines that they are lonely and feel isolated, they are having trouble getting to sleep and having nightmares, they are not receiving the support they are used to (wellbeing services), they are experiencing online bullying and there are tensions within the

home.

≡ (Caution, this reports the findings of just one paper, included here as it was research conducted after a pandemic outbreak). Araújo (et al. 2020) explored the impact of SARS and found that students may experience depression and anxiety, stress may manifest, and they may feel lonely. They report that each of these aspects have a negative impact on education.

In summary, academic colleagues active in education recommend the following is considered in the return to schools of children:

- Leading practice to re-integrate students to traditional education settings following absence. We would advocate schools considering what they have in place to identify, monitor and support children re-entering after COVID absence, and consider this resource: <https://www.risingstars-uk.com/subjects/assessment/wellbeing-and-attitudes-to-learning>
- Looking forward, we advocate LRFs and local education leaders are aware of school emergency and disaster management practices and protocols to be equipped to react to future local resurgence of the virus
- We suggest education leaders engage in reviewing the material on Forest Schools as there has been some discussion of locating as much teaching as possible outdoors, as part of the transition process to both help with social distancing but to also reconnect children to their outdoor spaces for wellbeing reasons
- There is a call to focus on the realities of classroom management and effective allocation of staff in relation to supporting face to face and online contact
- We advocate education leaders review trauma informed approaches as lots of returning children will have been impacted by loss of relatives and others, aside from other issues that may have created trauma for children

### **The impact for individuals leaving University in the current COVID-19 situation**

We have also reviewed the literature relevant to universities and university students.

Graduation and the completion of University is viewed in the literature as a rite of passage, whereby a separation takes place and individuals enter a transitional period moving from one stage of life to the next. This is often viewed as a period whereby they enter adulthood. There is some discussion in the literature regarding ceremonies being of symbolic importance during the transitional phase, which may be relevant when considering graduation.

The transition from University to the next stage creates a liminal period whereby individuals are between life stages. Liminality is evidenced by solitude, alienation from social existence, and withdrawal from the present social structure. This period is ended via the passage into a newly defined role and the return to relative stability i.e. employee or post-grad.

A change in a significant life role marked by a transitional or liminal period during which personal identities are suspended can produce significant psychological consequences. The duration of this liminal period may fluctuate widely across individuals, although a prolonged liminal state may have severe emotional consequences.

This stage is likely to be delayed due to COVID-19 with individuals remaining in the unstable, ambiguous, isolated period of liminality. A gap develops between perceptions of actual and ideal selves and may be accompanied by shock, confusion, disorientation, inherent stress and anxiety i.e. less psychologically healthy than those in non-liminal periods. Some studies have found that these psychological effects are reduced on completion of the transition.

Some individuals are likely to experience the impact of this liminal period more severely than others. The ambiguity associated with a major life change can lead to feelings of stress, particularly when the individual has limited social support. Students who attended University without moving away from home may adapt to the current situation better than those who had to separate themselves from the life back at home on entering University life.



Studies examining the impact of natural disasters and terrorist attacks view re-engagement with scholarly occupation as an essential part of the recovery process. The literature points to the notion that, although occupation is compromised in a natural disaster, it also serves a significant role in the physical, emotional and social recovery processes. With this in mind, substantial gains could be made for both individuals and communities through the enablement of occupational recovery and adaptation as part of the disaster response. The liminal period may remain for graduates however, if they can only secure temporary employment.

All of these things will frustrate the natural identity-transition from UG student to employee or postgrad. These things (as with most effects of the crisis) are likely to hit the poorest hardest as they have least resources to cope and their families are already enduring the most uncertainty and stress from the impacts of Covid-19. Long-term planning needs to consider what the economic situation is going to be like for this cohort of graduates. Uncertainty and financial deprivation will exacerbate the negative psychological impacts on this socially vulnerable group.

END.

**Contact us:** If you have any questions about this output please email: [c19foresight@ntu.ac.uk](mailto:c19foresight@ntu.ac.uk)

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