Some of Sheffield’s African communities have lived in the UK since the 19th century. For example, early Somali immigrants were seamen or traders who originally settled during the 1930s.

The 1950s and 1960s saw large scale immigration, encouraged to cover the shortfall in labour following the Second World War. Many immigrants, including those from the Black African community settled in industrial cities, including Sheffield.

The biggest wave of African immigration has occurred relatively recently. Political instability and war have led to many seeking asylum, whilst others have arrived as part of the Highly Skilled Migrant Programme (HSMP). This encouraged migration to cover shortages of skilled workers, such as nurses and teachers.

In recent years people from countries such as Eritrea, Somalia, Zimbabwe, Kenya, Ethiopia, Liberia and Congo have come to Sheffield seeking asylum.

Africa

Data is not currently available to link people’s specific country of birth with ethnicity. However, the 2011 Census does identify continent of birth and the approximate region of that continent.

In Sheffield, 7,475 Black African residents were born in Africa (65% of the community). Within this total, 4,580 people were born in Southern and Eastern Africa, 2,622 were born in Central and Western Africa and 242 were born in North Africa. The remaining 31 did not specify in which part of Africa they were born. Additionally, 24% of the community were born in the UK, and 11% were born in other countries.

This profile is part of a series of profiles about different communities in Sheffield: www.sheffield.gov.uk
Nationally, Sheffield’s Black African community ranks as the 26th largest, on a par with Bristol and Hillingdon. Sheffield has the 5th largest Core City Black African population.

**HOUSEHOLDS**

- **3,763** 1.6% of Sheffield’s households are Black African
- **3.1** The average household size is higher than the citywide average of 2.4
WHERE DOES THE COMMUNITY LIVE?
Black African Population in Sheffield

19%
2,183 Black African people live in the Burngreave Ward, nearly a fifth of the whole community and 8% of the ward’s total population.

19%
Additionally, City ward has nearly another fifth of the community, 6% of all residents who live in that ward.

41%
Poverty and Deprivation
Two fifths of the Black African community live in areas that are amongst the 10% most deprived in the country. This is above the citywide average of 23%.

Top 5 Black African ward populations*:
1. Burngreave: 2,165 (8%)
2. Manor Castle: 813 (4%)
3. City: 743 (4%)
4. Firth Park: 793 (4%)
5. Walkley: 863 (4%)

* percentage represents community population as a proportion of the total ward population
A list of equality awareness events are available on the Sheffield City Council website:

www.sheffield.gov.uk/content/sheffield/home/your-city-council/equality-events.html
ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

Males

- 69% Economically Active (66% citywide)
- 31% Economically Inactive (34% citywide)

Economically Inactive (31%)

- 2% Retired
- 20% Full-time students
- 1% Looking after the home or family
- 3% Long-term sick or disabled
- 5% Other

18% of Black African males are unemployed compared with 7% citywide
18% of 16-24 year old males are unemployed compared with 14% citywide

Females

- 55% Economically Active (65% citywide)
- 45% Economically Inactive (35% citywide)

Economically Inactive (45%)

- 2% Retired
- 24% Full-time students
- 11% Looking after the home or family
- 3% Long-term sick or disabled
- 5% Other

13% of Black African females are unemployed, compared with 4% citywide
17% of 16-24 year old females are unemployed compared with 14% citywide

INDUSTRY

Top 5 Industries of Employment

- Health and social work activities: 20%
- Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motor cycles: 13%
- Manufacturing: 11%
- Admin and support service activities: 10%
- Accommodation and food services activities: 8%

Top 5 Industries of Employment

- Health and social work activities: 50%
- Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motor cycles: 9%
- Manufacturing: 9%
- Education: 8%
- Accommodation and food services activities: 5%

1% of Sheffield City Council’s workforce are Black African

Source: Census 2011
Source: SCC 2015
The number of Black African pupils (years 0-14) has increased by 38% in the last 8 years.

**NUMBER OF PUPILS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number of Pupils</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2008/09</td>
<td>1,217</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009/10</td>
<td>1,285</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010/11</td>
<td>1,336</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011/12</td>
<td>1,314</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012/13</td>
<td>1,397</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013/14</td>
<td>1,531</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014/15</td>
<td>1,713</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015/16</td>
<td>1,677</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: SCC Children's Services 2015

**GCSE ATTAINMENT**

Proportion of pupils achieving 5 or more GCSEs at A* - C including maths and English.

- **2015/16**
  - Black African pupils: 60%
  - All pupils: 54%

- **Gender Attainment Gap**
  - Boys: 52%
  - Girls: 70%

**GCSE Attainment 2003/04 - 2013/14**

Black African attainment has improved in the last 10 years, compared with a growth of 17% for all pupils.

**PERSISTENT ABSENCES**

- **1%** Black African pupils
- **5%** All pupils

Change in the last 7 years, -3% citywide

**FIXED TERM EXCLUSIONS (SECONDARY)**

- **5%** Black African pupils
- **7%** All pupils

Change in the last 7 years, -1% citywide

Source: SCC Children's Services 2015
**POST-16 EDUCATION**

15%
The proportion of Black African adults with no formal qualifications, below the citywide average of 24%

31%
Nearly a third of Black African adults are qualified at level 4 and above (including Higher Education Certificates and professional diplomas), compared with a quarter in Sheffield as a whole.

**HEALTH AND WELLBEING**

**GENERAL HEALTH**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Very good, good or fairly good health</th>
<th>Bad or very bad health</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>92%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: 2011 Census

**UNPAID CARERS**

Black African people providing unpaid care, compared with 10% citywide.

Source: 2011 Census

**HEALTH CONDITIONS**

**DIABETES**
Nationally, the prevalence of doctor-diagnosed diabetes is slightly higher amongst Black African men, 5.0% compared with the average of 4.3%

Source: NHS 2004

**OBESITY**
Black African women had the highest obesity prevalence (38.5%) of any BME group, 20 percentage points higher than Black African males. This was the most significant difference between genders for any observed ethnic group.

Source: NHS 2004

**POST-16 EDUCATION**

The proportion of Black African 16 to 18 year olds not in education, employment or training (NEET)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Black African pupils</th>
<th>All pupils</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010/11</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011/12</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012/13</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013/14</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014/15</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: 2011 Census

**DIABETES**
Nationally, the prevalence of doctor-diagnosed diabetes is slightly higher amongst Black African men, 5.0% compared with the average of 4.3%

Source: NHS 2004

**OBESITY**
Black African women had the highest obesity prevalence (38.5%) of any BME group, 20 percentage points higher than Black African males. This was the most significant difference between genders for any observed ethnic group.

Source: NHS 2004
**Housing**

**Tenure**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Black African</th>
<th>All persons</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>19% Owned</strong></td>
<td><strong>59% Owned</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>49% Social Rented</strong></td>
<td><strong>25% Social Rented</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>32% Private Rented</strong></td>
<td><strong>16% Private Rented</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Overcrowding**

25% of Black African households have at least one fewer bedrooms than they require, compared to the citywide average of 5%. This is based on the Office of National Statistics occupancy rating.

Source: 2011 Census

**Community Activity**

A list of organisations, including contact details, is available from the [Sheffield Directory](#) websites.

Sheffield Directory is managed by Sheffield City Council. Whilst every effort is made to ensure accuracy, Sheffield City Council cannot accept responsibility for any errors or omissions. Please note that the inclusion of any group in this report does not mean they have been vetted or recommended by Sheffield City Council.

**Sources**

- DCLG 2015, Indices of Deprivation
- NHS 2004, Health Survey for England
- Indices of Deprivation 2010, Communities and Local Government
- Runnymede (2012)
- Runnymede 2012, Sheffield Migration Stories