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# LONG-TERM IMPACT OF COVID- 19 ON ETHNIC MINORITIES

**Dr Mohammad Razai NIHR In-Practice Fellow, St  
George's University of London**

# Outline of presentation

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- The long-term impact of COVID-19 on ethnic minorities and migrants
  - Social determinants of health
- Conclusions

## The devastating toll of the syndemic

- More than 250 million infections
- More than 5 million deaths



Credit: Toby Melville/Reuters

# COVID Deaths



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- Risk of death in black men 4 times higher and in Asian men 3 times higher compared to their white counterparts
- Higher rates of cases, hospitalization and ICU admissions

# COVID-19 Syndemic

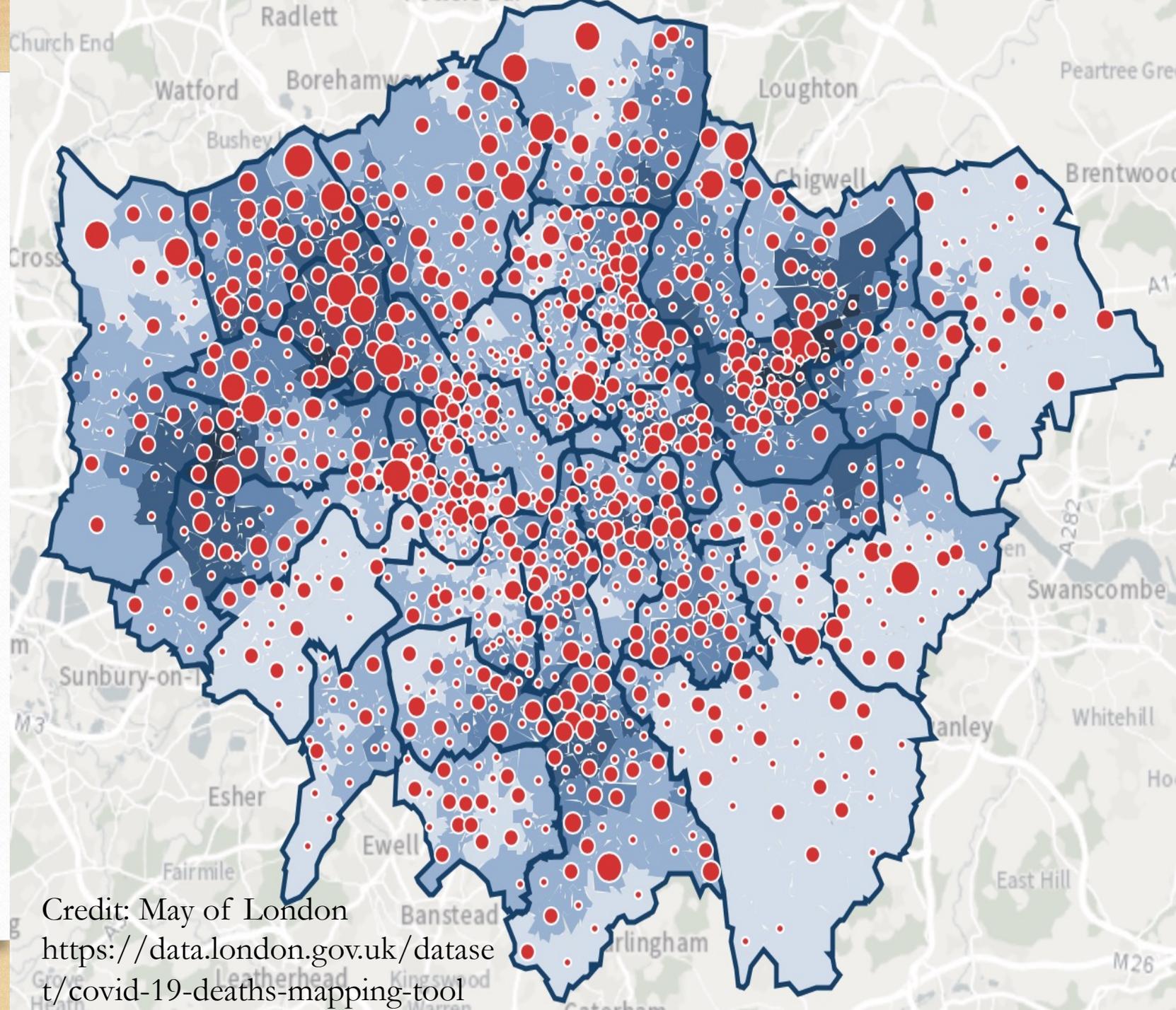
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- “It means we have to consider not just biological issues but the social structural forces that propel disease interaction, population vulnerability and unequal access to healthcare, including Covid-19 vaccines.” Merrill Singer



## COVID Maps

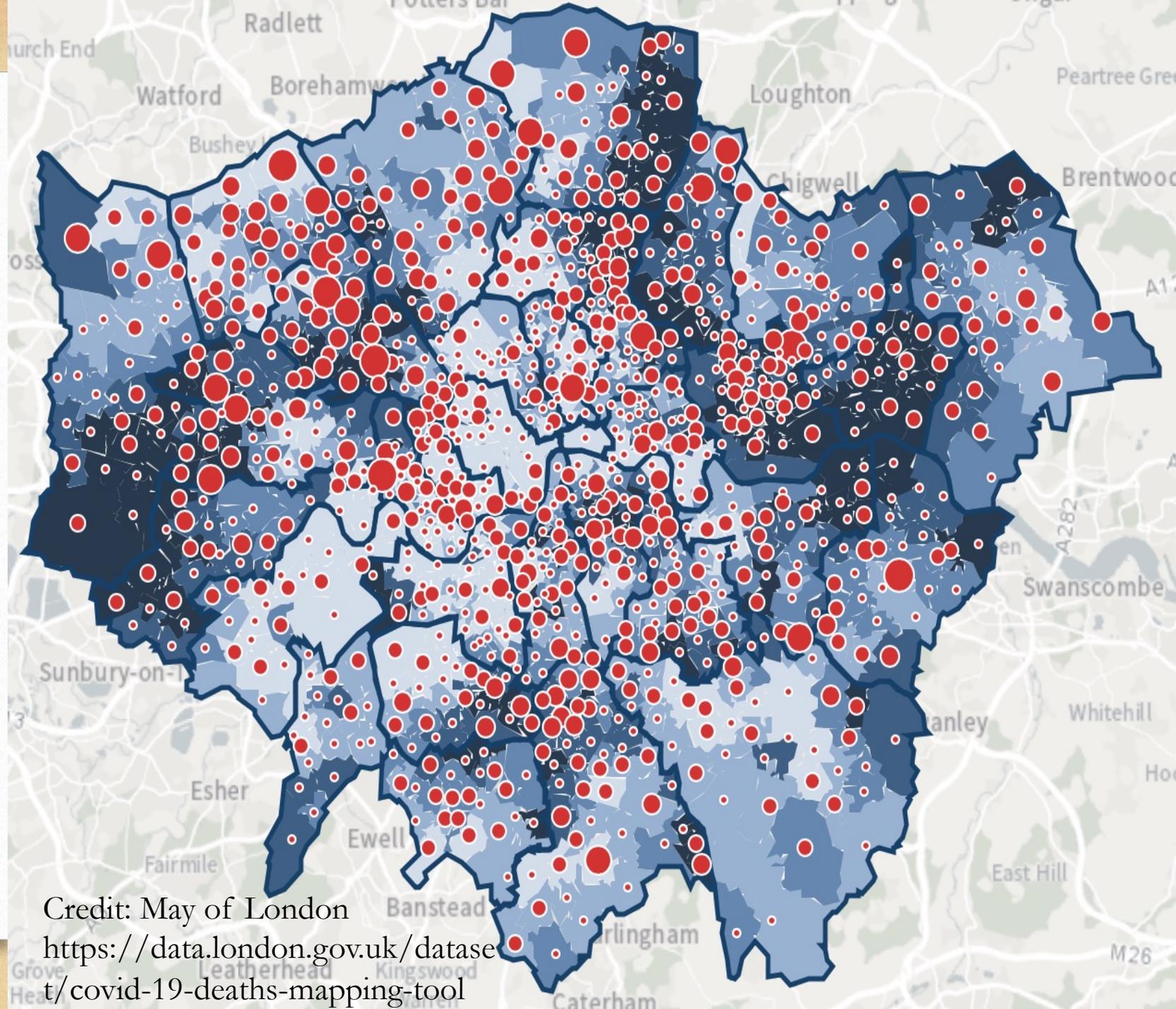
- London boroughs with higher percentage of black, Asian and minority ethnic groups have had higher death rates from COVID-19



Credit: May of London  
<https://data.london.gov.uk/dataset/covid-19-deaths-mapping-tool>

## COVID Map

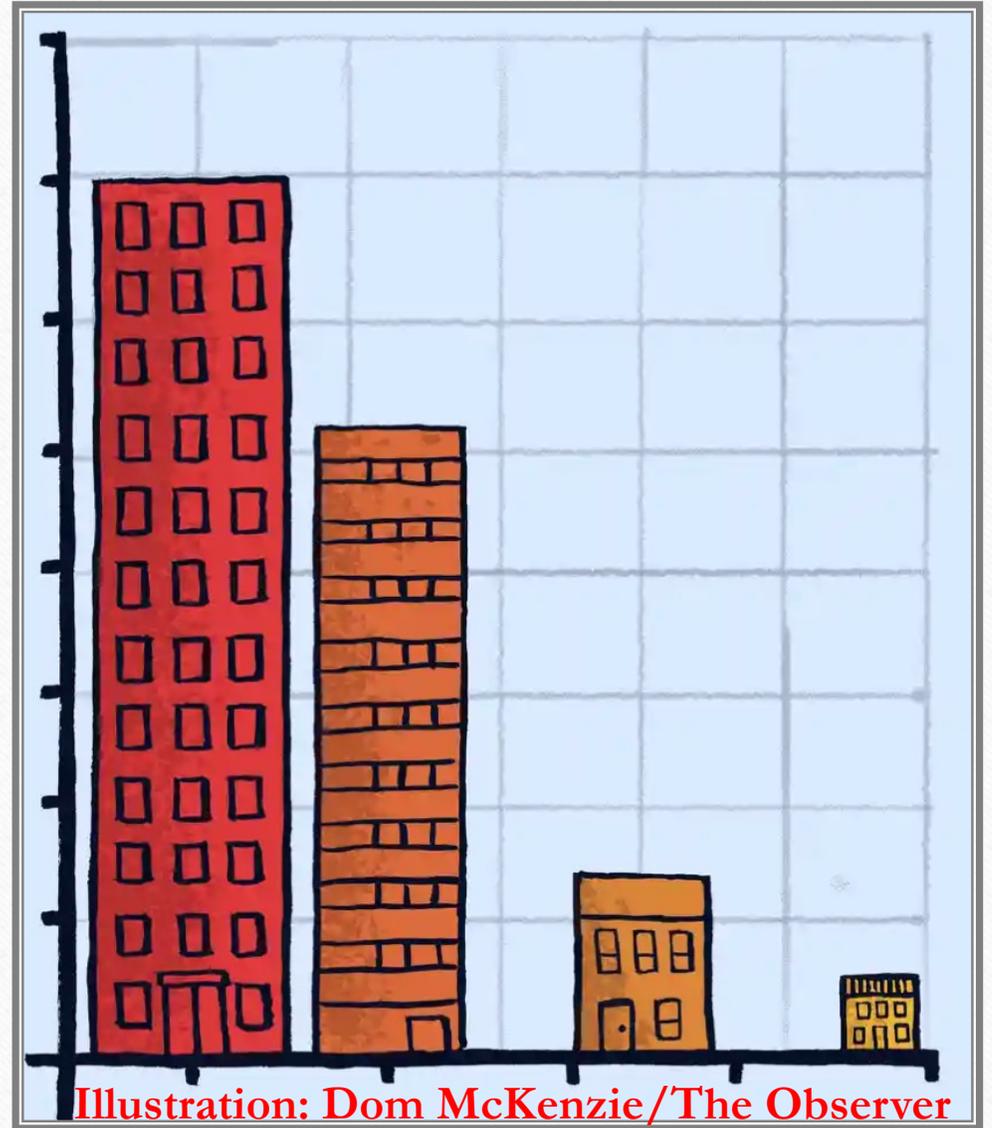
- London boroughs with higher percentage of workers in insecure employments – higher deaths from COVID-19



## COVID Maps

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“It’s social, not medical, science that tells us most about the disparate spread of this pandemic”



# Not the great leveller

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- We are not in this together
- Some groups face much greater risks due to their socio-economic status and ethnicity

## Box 1: Causes of ethnic disparities in covid-19 outcomes

### Racism

ANALYSIS



Check for updates

## Mitigating ethnic disparities in covid-19 and beyond

Although socioeconomic status partly explains ethnic disparities seen with covid-19, cultural and structural racism also adversely affect health, argue **Mohammad Razai and colleagues**

Mohammad S Razai,<sup>1</sup> Hadyn K N Kankam,<sup>2</sup> Azeem Majeed,<sup>3</sup> Aneez Esmail,<sup>4</sup> David R Williams<sup>5</sup>

The disproportionate effect of covid-19 on ethnic minorities in some high income countries throws into sharp relief the effects of racism on health. On almost all health measures, ethnic minority groups, (asthma, heart disease and diabetes)

US, the case and admission rates are at least 2.5 and 4.5 times higher, respectively, among black, Hispanic, and Native American populations compared with white populations.<sup>16</sup> The American Public Media

- Cultural barriers

<sup>1</sup> Population Health Research Institute, St George's University of London, UK

<sup>2</sup> Department of Surgery, Colchester Hospital, Essex, UK

<sup>3</sup> Department of Primary Care and Public Health, School of Public Health, Imperial College London, UK

<sup>4</sup> National Institute for Health Research School of Primary Care Research, University of Manchester, UK

# The COVID Decade

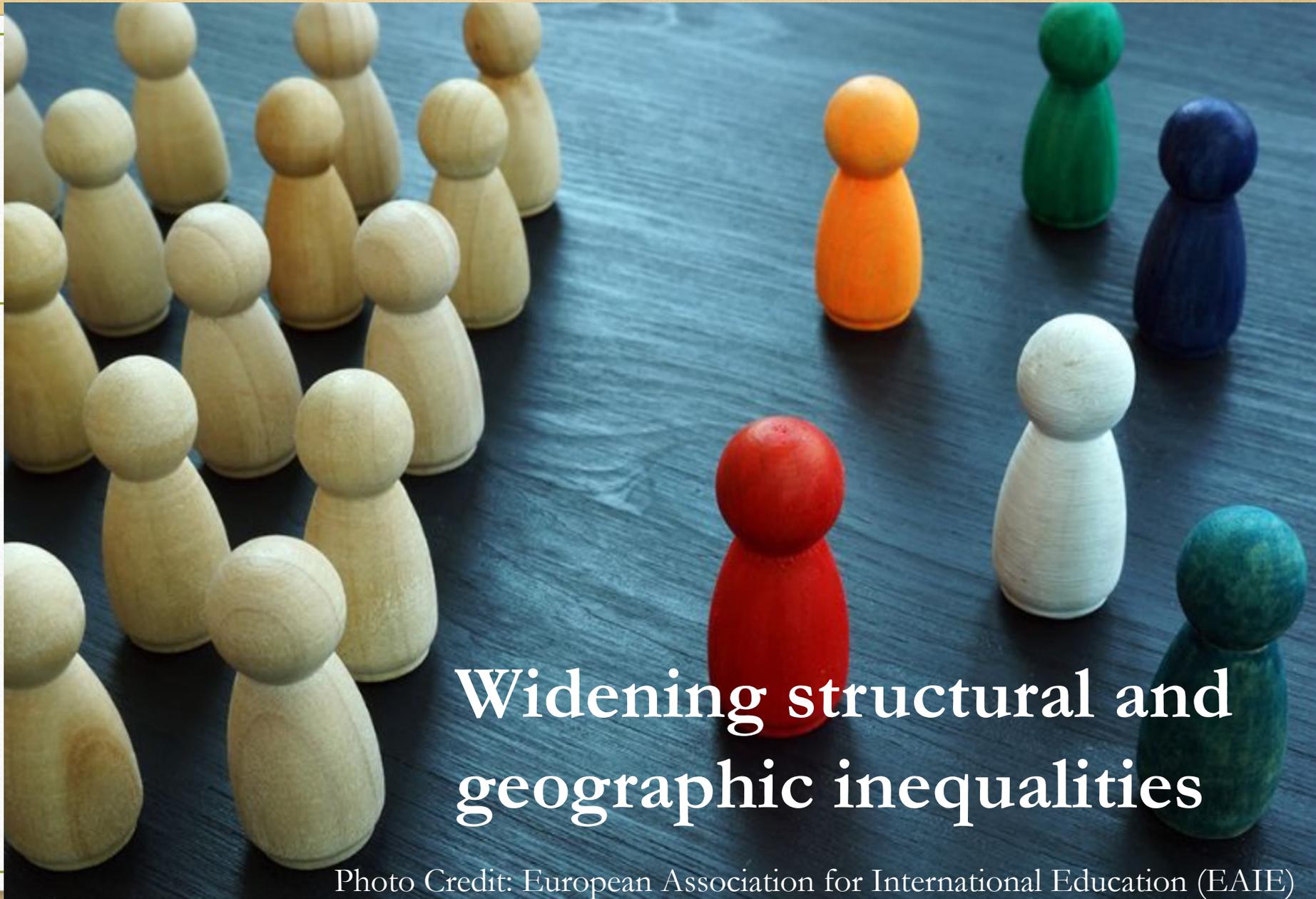
20120

A conceptual image of a road at sunset. The road is paved and has a dashed white line down the center. In the foreground, the year '20120' is painted on the road in large, white, sans-serif font. The '1' is replaced by a white arrow pointing upwards towards the horizon. The sun is a bright yellow orb on the horizon, partially obscured by dark, dramatic clouds. The sky is a mix of orange, red, and dark blue. The road leads towards the horizon, flanked by green fields and distant trees. The entire image is framed by a white border with a thin green line inside. On the left and right sides, there are white vertical bars with black horizontal tabs, suggesting a presentation slide.

# Social Determinants of Health

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“Conditions in the places where people live, learn, work, and age that affect a wide range of health risks and outcomes”

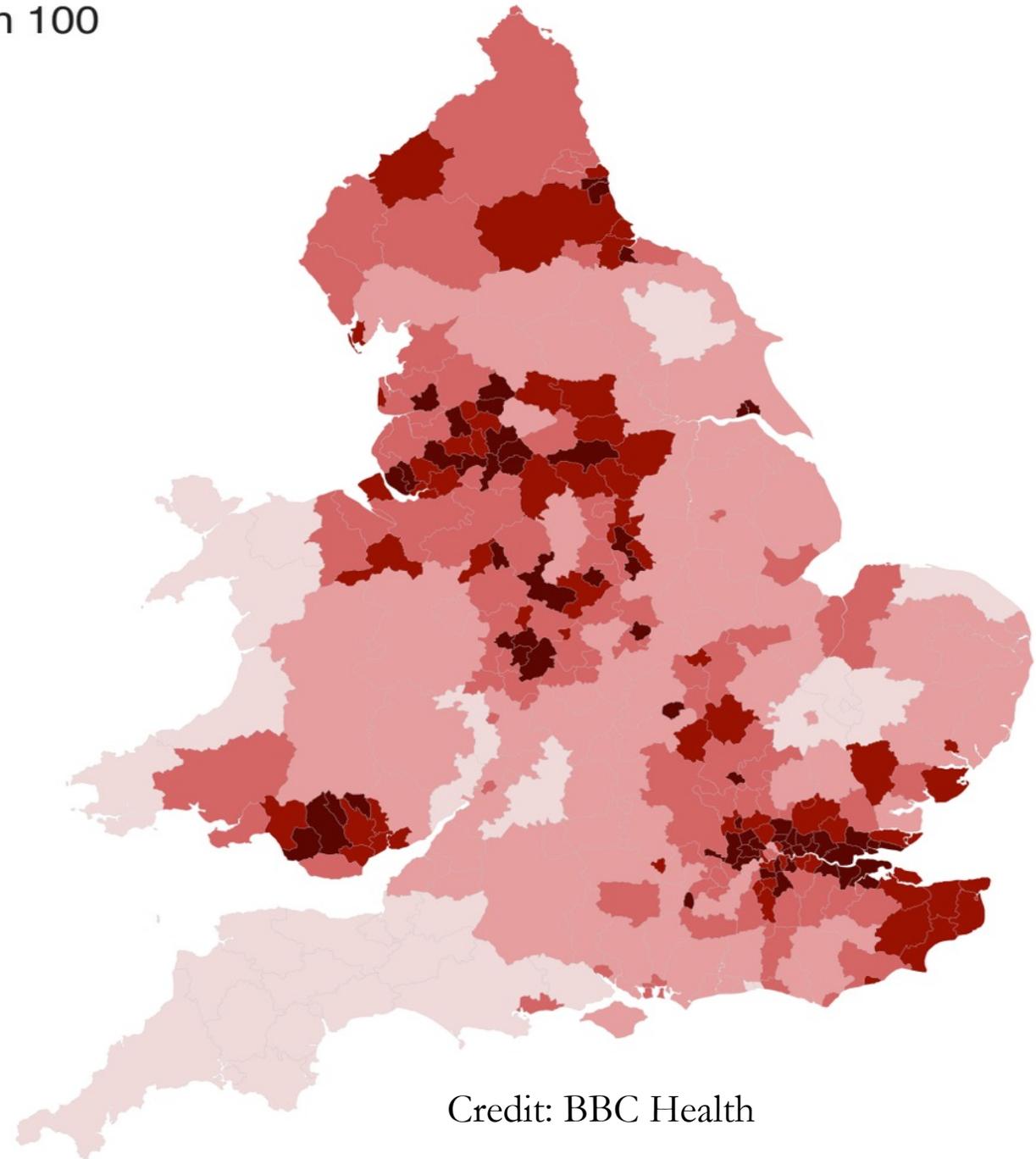


# Widening structural and geographic inequalities

Photo Credit: European Association for International Education (EAIE)

## COVID Deaths

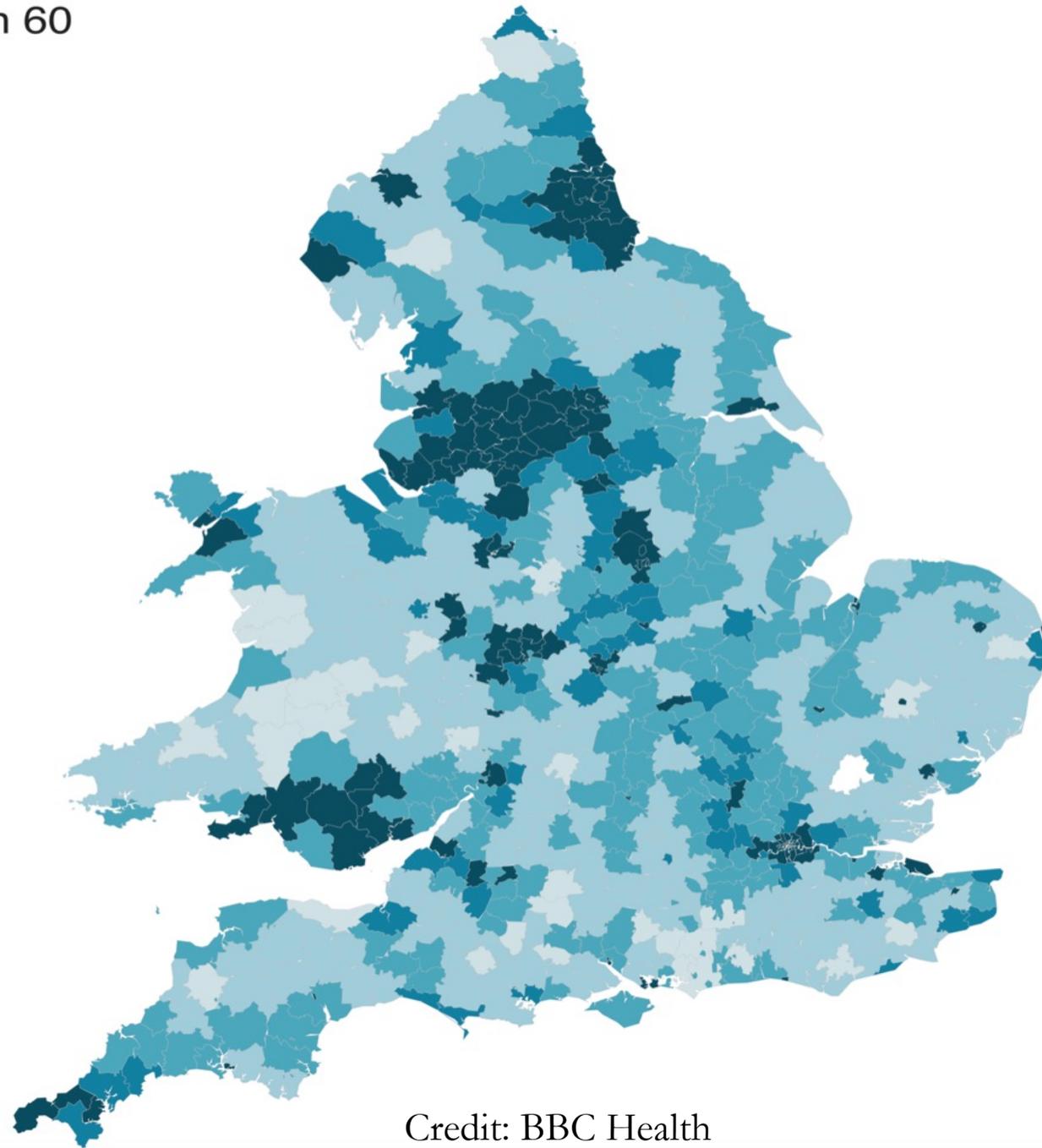
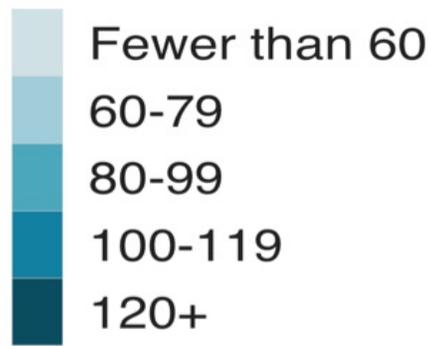
- Age standardized deaths 2020-2021 per 100,000 people by local authority



Credit: BBC Health

# Child Mortality

- Number of children dying between ages 1 and 5 per 1,000 children in that age group in 1851



Credit: BBC Health

# Rising unemployment & changing labour market



Credit: Joe Raedle/Getty Images

# Economic Crisis & Reduced Revenue Streams



Image courtesy of APS

# Child poverty



GETTY IMAGES

# Refugees & asylum seekers



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# Worsened health outcomes & growing health inequalities



Credit: PA

**"Pay the wi-fi or feed the children":  
Coronavirus has intensified the UK's digital divide**

<https://www.cam.ac.uk/stories/digitaldivide>

# Conclusions

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- COVID-19 will worsen the social determinants of health and widen racial and ethnic health inequalities
- The digital divide will likely have an adverse effect on ethnic health outcomes

# Acknowledgements

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- UK Office for National Statistics
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