



# **THE IMPACT OF MIGRATION ON INTEGRATION AND SOCIAL COHESION**

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# THINKING ABOUT THE SOCIAL IMPACTS OF MIGRATION

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- Integration and cohesion aspects spans across almost all the impacts that MAC has been asked to examine
- Competition in jobs, or bottlenecks in health or housing, can be reflected in social cohesion
- Where tensions are pronounced, it is not clear whether these are independent of other impacts – creating significant measurement challenges



# INTEGRATION HISTORICALLY

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- The integration of migrants has underpinned debates about modern mass immigration to the UK from the mid twentieth century onwards
- Perceived cultural and religious gaps were traditionally seen as large and almost insurmountable:

*...of good human stock and not prevented by their religion or race from intermarrying with the host population and becoming merged in it. (Royal Commission, 1949)*



# WHAT IS AND INFLUENCES INTEGRATION?

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- Integration: when characteristics/behaviours of migrants and natives are shared – i.e. dilution, over time, of differences
- This informs whether “they” can become, or be encouraged to become, more like “us”
- Various underlying sources of social, economic and political difference in the UK; thus, integration measures have to be mapped onto explanations of existing difference



# INTEGRATION DEBATES AND LESSONS

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- Many “characteristics” influence social interaction:
  - language, education, age profile, skills, residential locale – range of opportunity structures
  - attitudes and behaviours of the existing population – prejudice and discrimination as obstacles
- Integration... .
  - ..not a flattening process of assimilation but equal opportunity accompanied by cultural diversity in an atmosphere of mutual tolerance. (Jenkins, 1966)*
- Example - East African Asians:
  - Urbanised, white collar, English-speakers



# WHAT IS AND INFLUENCES COHESION?

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- Rooted in a sense of shared identity and purpose
- Full range of things that bring people together – even when they are different
- Vibrant debates as to whether differences and dissimilarities can act as obstacles to cohesion in and of themselves
- Existing literature: People getting on well together in particular area, social contact between people in the area
- Is cohesion inactive: lack of conflict; OR proactive: collective action, reciprocity?
- Level of measurement: area, neighbourhood?



# BARRIERS TO MEASUREMENT

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- Measuring migration: data availability and reliability
- Measuring impact: survey respondents may not obviously recognise distinctions between old versus new migrant
- Measuring impact: new migrants tend to move to areas with lots of previous migrants and/or that are socially deprived
- Measuring impact: perceptions of migration may be as influential as local experiences of migration



# CASE STUDY: IMPACTS ON COHESION- COMPARING EEA WITH NON-EEA MIGRANTS

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- NINO data: advantages and disadvantages
- Survey data on cohesion and integration: Citizenship Survey 2008/2009
- Geographical level: local authority
- Comparing the impact of EEA versus non-EEA migration:  
Local authorities with high levels of EEA migration tend to have high non-EEA migration, and vice-versa. This makes separating the impact of one form of migration from the other very difficult.
- Confounding factors: deprivation and diversity





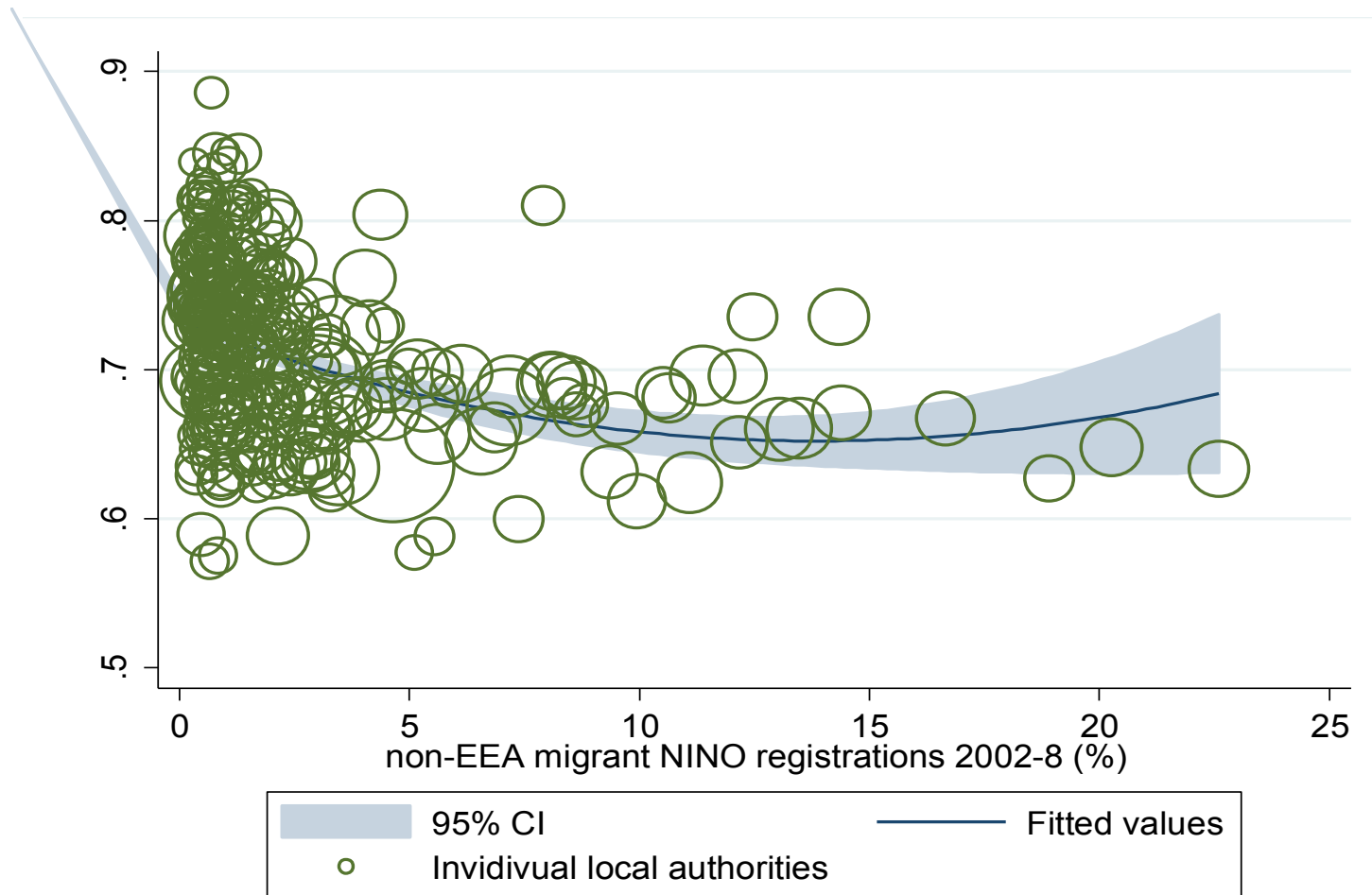
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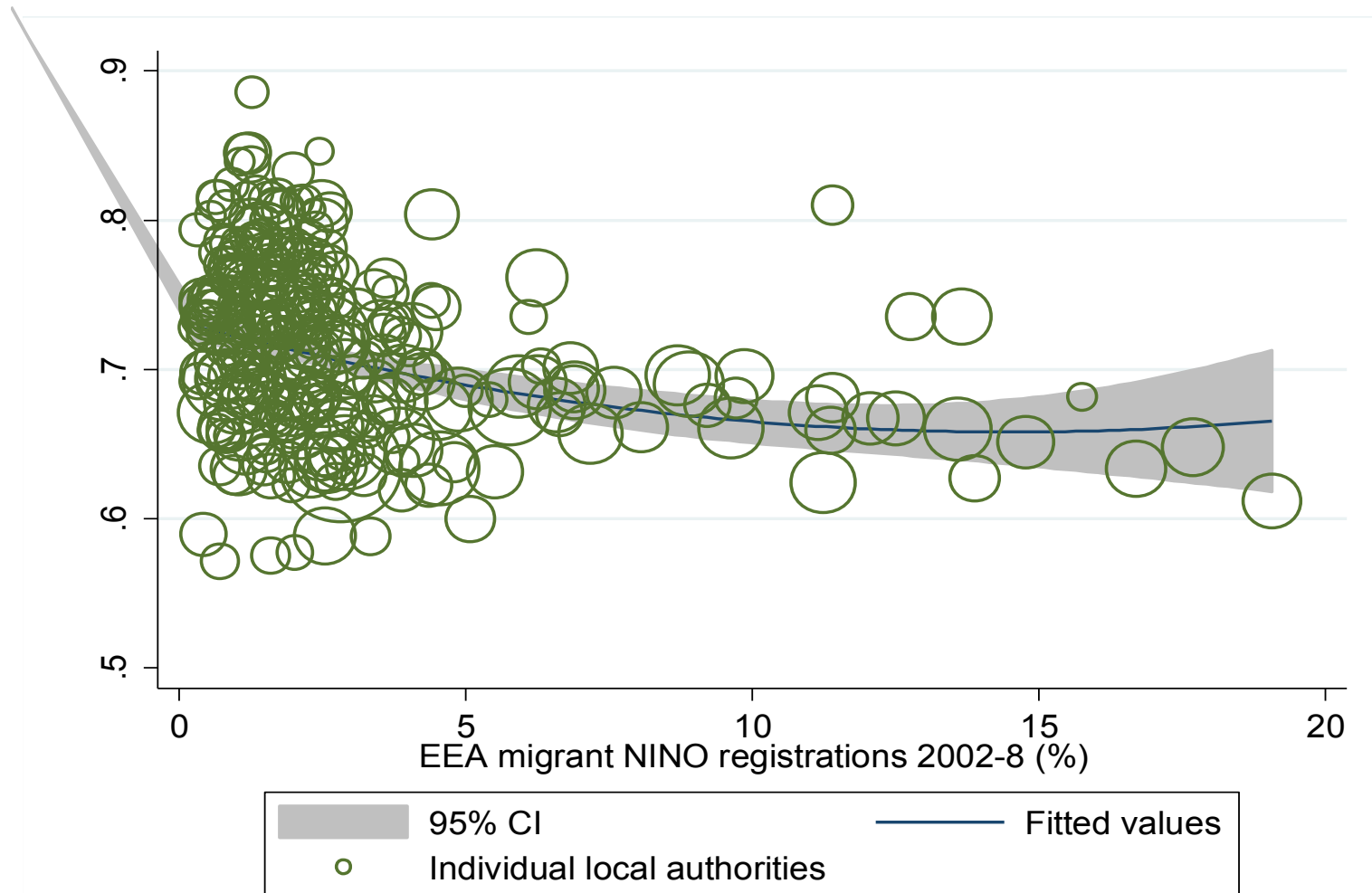
- Measure of cohesion: whether respondents think local people would “pull together” to improve the neighbourhood; whether they feel people in the neighbourhood can be trusted; how satisfied they are with the neighbourhood as a place to live; and whether they regard the location as an area where people get on well together
- Measure of integration (not shown)- more problematic.
  - Average institutional trust
  - Average difference between levels of trust between ethnic groups (no data on social trust of migrants)



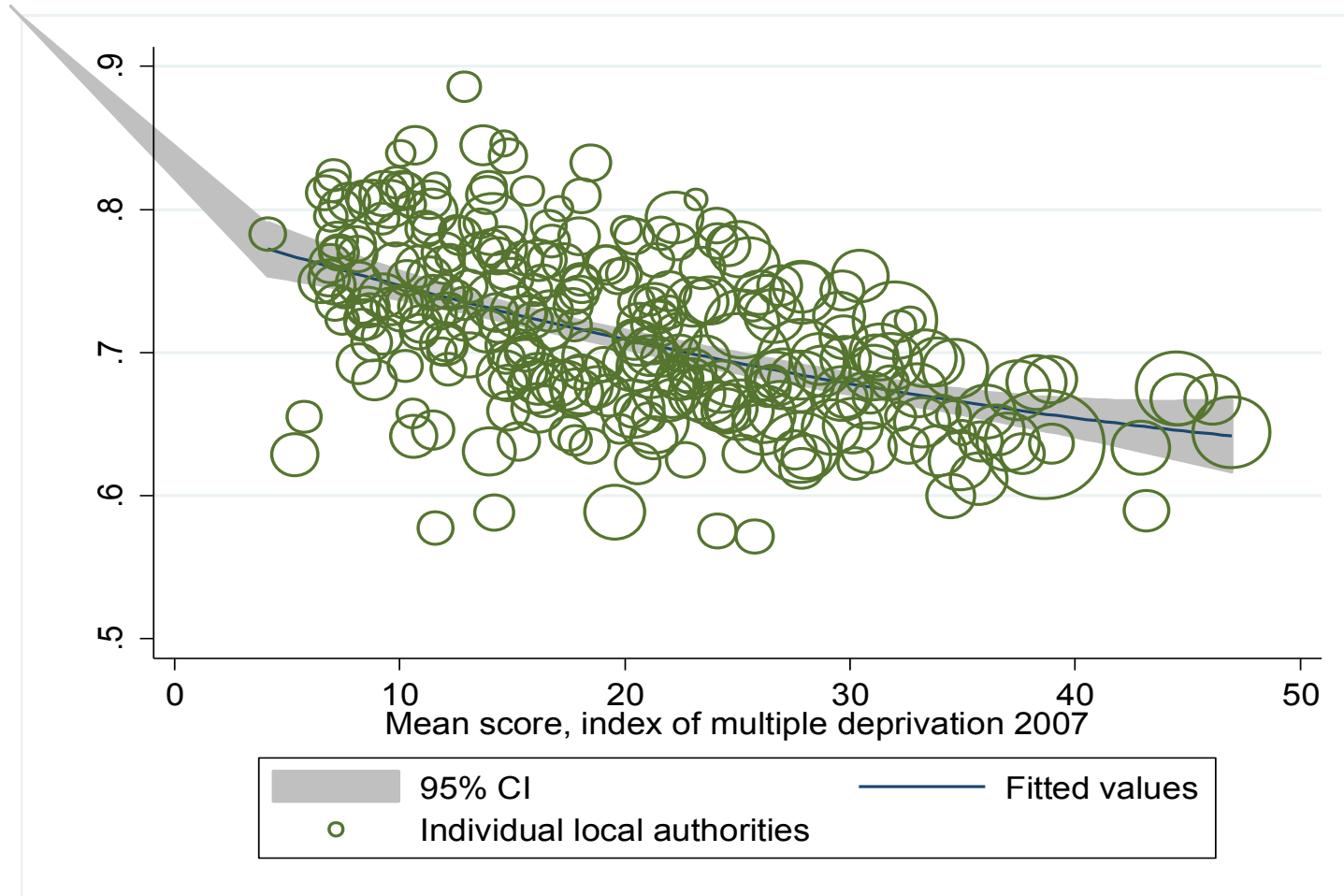
# SOCIAL COHESION SCORES AND NON-EEA NINO REGISTRATIONS



# SOCIAL COHESION SCORES AND EEA NINO REGISTRATIONS



# SOCIAL COHESION SCORES AND INDEX OF MULTIPLE DEPRIVATION SCORES



# PREDICTING SOCIAL COHESION, MULTIPLE VARIABLE REGRESSION MODELS

	Model 1: non-EEA mig only	Model 2: non-EEA mig and IMD	Model 3: non-EEA mig and diversity	Model 4: IMD and diversity	Model 4: non-EEA mig, IMD and diversity
Intercept	<b>0.73***</b>	<b>0.78***</b>	<b>0.73***</b>	<b>0.78***</b>	<b>0.78***</b>
Non-EEA NINO registrations 2002-8	<b>-0.0058***</b>	<b>-0.0030**</b>	-0.0012	*	-0.0021
Index of Multiple Deprivation 2007	*	<b>-0.0030***</b>	*	<b>-0.0030***</b>	<b>-0.0030***</b>
% non-white (2001 Census)	*	*	<b>-0.0017**</b>	<b>-0.0010***</b>	-0.0003
<i>R squared</i>	<i>0.11</i>	<i>0.31</i>	<i>0.13</i>	<i>0.30</i>	<i>0.30</i>
<i>F-statistic</i>	<i>38.6</i>	<i>64.0</i>	<i>22.8</i>	<i>63.1</i>	<i>42.6</i>
<i>N</i>	<i>302</i>	<i>293</i>	<i>299</i>	<i>293</i>	<i>293</i>



# EMERGING CONCLUSIONS

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- Cohesion is much more influenced by pre-existing ethnic diversity and deprivation of the area than new migration
- No significant difference between the impact of EEA and non-EEA migration once diversity and deprivation are taken into account
- Overall integration levels not influenced by migration once pre-existing diversity controlled for
- Some evidence that integration of pre-existing ethnic minorities might be negatively affected by new immigration (analysis not shown)



# LIMITATIONS AND FUTURE EXTENSIONS

- Local authority is a poor proxy for neighbourhood
  - Too large and variable in size
  - Gather contextual information at lower level of aggregation – ward or LSOA
- We don't control for individual-level differences
  - Multilevel modelling strategy
- Limited, and biased, measure of migration inflow
  - NINO registrations include some long settled migrants (e.g. Accepted asylum cases) and exclude many recent migrants (those who don't work)
  - Construct better measure from multiple data sources?
- Limited measures of cohesion and integration
  - Employ longer run of CS data; look at other data sources

