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1 **Socioeconomic and ethnic inequalities in exposure to air and noise pollution in London**

2

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21

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23

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33 **Abstract**

34 Background: Transport-related air and noise pollution, exposures linked to adverse health outcomes, varies
35 within cities potentially resulting in exposure inequalities. Relatively little is known regarding inequalities in
36 personal exposure to air pollution or transport-related noise.

37 Objectives: Our objectives were to quantify socioeconomic and ethnic inequalities in London in 1) air
38 pollution exposure at residence compared to personal exposure; and 2) transport-related noise at residence
39 from different sources.

40 Methods: We used individual-level data from the London Travel Demand Survey (n=45,079) between 2006-
41 2010. We modeled residential (CMAQ-urban) and personal (London Hybrid Exposure Model) particulate
42 matter <2.5 microns and nitrogen dioxide (NO₂), road-traffic noise at residence (TRANEX) and identified
43 those within 50dB noise contours of railways and Heathrow airport. We analyzed relationships between
44 household income, area-level income deprivation and ethnicity with air and noise pollution using quantile
45 and logistic regression.

46 Results: We observed inverse patterns in inequalities in air pollution when estimated at residence versus
47 personal exposure with respect to household income (categorical, 8 groups): compared to the lowest group
48 (< £10,000), the highest group (>£75,000) had lower residential NO₂ (-1.3 (95% CI -2.1, -0.6) µg/m³ in the
49 95th exposure quantile). However, for exposure quantiles 0.25 and above, the highest household income
50 group had higher personal NO₂ exposure (1.9 (95% CI 1.6; 2.3) µg/m³ in the 95th quantile), which was driven
51 largely by transport mode and duration. Inequalities in residential exposure with respect to area-level
52 deprivation level were larger at lower exposure quantiles (e.g. estimate for NO₂ 5.1 (95% CI 4.6; 5.5) at
53 quantile 0.15 versus 1.9 (95% CI 1.1; 2.6) at quantile 0.95), reflecting low-deprivation, high residential NO₂
54 areas in the city centre. Air pollution exposure at residence consistently overestimated personal exposure;
55 this overestimation varied with age, household income, and area-level income deprivation. Inequalities in
56 road traffic noise were generally small. In logistic regression models, the odds of living within a 50dB

57 contour of aircraft noise were highest in white individuals, those with the highest household income, and
58 lowest area-level income deprivation. Odds of living within a 50dB contour of rail noise were higher for black
59 compared to white individuals.

60 Conclusions: Socioeconomic inequalities in air pollution exposure were different for modeled residential
61 versus personal exposure, which has important implications for environmental justice and confounding in
62 epidemiology studies. Exposure misclassification was dependent on several factors related to health, a
63 potential source of bias in epidemiological studies. Quantile regression revealed that socioeconomic and
64 ethnic inequalities in air pollution are often not uniform across the exposure distribution.

65

66

67 **Introduction**

68 Transport-related air and noise pollution, environmental exposures linked to a range of adverse health
69 outcomes,(Health Effects Institute, 2009; WHO Europe, 2011) varies within cities. This variation may result
70 in exposure inequalities: different socioeconomic and ethnic groups being more exposed than
71 others.(European Commission, 2016) Socioeconomic and ethnic inequalities in health are well
72 established.(Shiels et al., 2017; Stringhini et al., 2017) The unequal distribution of environmental exposures
73 may contribute to these health inequalities where exposures are higher in individuals or communities with
74 lower socioeconomic position or in specific ethnic groups.

75 Studies from the US show a fairly consistent relationship between individuals or communities of lower
76 socioeconomic position and increased exposure to air pollution.(Hajat et al., 2015) Evidence from Europe is
77 mixed,(Temam et al., 2017) with some studies indicating non-linear relationships or high exposures in city
78 centres with concentrations of individuals with high socioeconomic position.(Goodman et al., 2011; Havard
79 et al., 2009) Within Europe, areas with a high proportion of non-white residents have also been observed to
80 have higher air pollution exposures.(Fecht et al., 2015) However, nearly all studies have considered exposure
81 inequalities based on residential exposures, with very few examples based on personal exposure,(Jantunen
82 et al., 2000; Rotko et al., 2001) or exposures experienced during commuting.(Rivas et al., 2017) In addition,
83 most studies have investigated environmental inequalities at the neighborhood or area-level, while few have
84 investigated exposure inequalities using individual-level socioeconomic or ethnicity data.(Hajat et al., 2015;
85 Temam et al., 2017)

86 Compared to air pollution, fewer studies have investigated inequalities in transport-related noise and most
87 have focused on road-traffic, rather than rail or aircraft noise.(European Commission, 2016) The available
88 evidence is inconsistent. Several studies have observed positive associations between road-traffic noise and
89 deprivation;(Dale et al., 2015; Havard et al., 2009; Nega et al., 2013) while others have observed the
90 reverse,(Havard et al., 2011) or no association.(Halonen et al., 2015) A small number of studies in Europe
91 have investigated the relationship between different metrics of deprivation and aircraft noise.(Huss et al.,

92 2010; Pelletier et al., 2013). A recent small-area study reported inequalities in environmental noise according
93 to area-level race, racial segregation, and socioeconomic characteristics across the US, but did not
94 differentiate between anthropogenic sources.(Casey et al., 2017)

95 We aim to fill this gap in the literature by considering air pollution exposure inequalities both at residence
96 and using modeled personal exposure as well as noise exposures from multiple sources. Our objectives were
97 to quantify socioeconomic and ethnic inequalities in 1) air pollution exposure at residence compared to
98 personal exposure; and 2) transport-related noise at residence from different sources. Rather than focus
99 only on inequalities in mean exposures, we consider inequalities across the full exposure distribution,
100 providing a more complete picture of inequalities in transport-related environmental exposures than
101 previous studies.

102 **Methods**

103 *Study population* The study population is based on individuals who responded to the London Travel Demand
104 Survey (LTDS), conducted by Transport for London to capture data on travel patterns and modal
105 share.(Transport for London, 2015) The survey samples approximately 8,000 households per year on a rolling
106 basis and is based on a random sample of households. Data are collected through a face-to-face interview in
107 participants' homes. Respondents are asked about their activities on the previous day and how typical this is
108 of their normal day. Transport for London adjusts the sample for sampling weights and non-response to
109 generate a sample representative of London overall as well as sub-regions of the city. We used LTDS data
110 from 45,079 individuals (20,542 households) who responded to the survey between years 2006-2010, after
111 excluding 4,969 individuals (11%) with missing residential postcode, demographic or trip (origin or
112 destination) data (**S Table 1**).

113 *Air pollution data* The London Hybrid Exposure Model (LHEM) was used to estimate exposure to air pollution
114 (particulate matter <2.5 microns (PM_{2.5}), nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) of individuals included in the LTDS based on
115 their residential location, trips, mode of transport, and time spent in non-residential locations between trips.

116 The model is described in detail elsewhere.(Smith et al., 2016) Briefly, trip start and end coordinates, times
117 of trips, and transport mode are taken from the LTDS. The route between origin and destination was
118 simulated using methods appropriate for each travel mode. Exposure to outdoor air pollution was estimated
119 using the Community Multiscale Air Quality Modeling System (CMAQ-urban), described below.(Beevers et
120 al., 2012) To account for penetration of outdoor air indoors, in-building exposures were estimated by
121 applying indoor/outdoor ratios for domestic buildings estimated for each London postcode to the CMAQ-
122 urban estimates.(Taylor et al., 2014) In-vehicle exposures were estimated in LHEM using mass-balance
123 equations. Microenvironmental exposures for trips on the London Underground were estimated based on
124 measured concentrations in the London or Paris metro system. Exposures while walking and cycling were
125 estimated based on the CMAQ-urban estimates for the time and location of the trip. Although the model
126 does not fully capture personal exposure from all sources in all microenvironments, for ease of
127 interpretability, we refer to LHEM as an estimate of personal exposure to ambient pollution.

128 We used CMAQ-urban to predict ambient air pollution concentrations at place of residence. CMAQ-urban
129 couples the Weather Research and Forecasting meteorological model with the Atmospheric Dispersion
130 Modeling System roads model. We generated annual average concentrations of PM_{2.5} and NO₂ for each hour
131 of the day for the year 2011 at 20m x 20m resolution.(Taylor et al., 2014) Residential air pollution estimates
132 are based on the 24hr mean concentration (**S-Figure 1**).

133 *Road traffic noise* Annual road traffic noise for years 2003-10 was modeled at the geometric centroid for all
134 ~190,000 London postcodes using the TRAffic Noise EXposure (TRANEX) model.(Gulliver et al., 2015) Briefly,
135 the model uses detailed information on traffic flows and speeds for each year, land cover, and heights of
136 individual buildings. We used L_{Aeq,24hr} (average over the hours 0:00 to23:59), because it covers the same time
137 period as the residential air pollution estimates; however, Spearman correlations with other noise metrics
138 including L_{night} and L_{Aeq,16hr} were greater than 0.99. Individuals were assigned the modeled noise levels for
139 their postcode (approximately 12 households per postcode). Less than 1% of postcodes were outside of the
140 TRANEX model domain and could not be linked.

141 *Rail and airport noise* We identified individuals whose residential postcode was within the 50dB noise
142 contours of over-ground railways and Heathrow airport. Noise contours came from strategic noise mapping
143 under the first round of the Environmental Noise Directive. Data for over-ground railways were from
144 Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, supplied by Extrium Ltd. Aircraft noise from Heathrow
145 airport was derived from annual average contours (2001) supplied by the Civil Aviation Authority.

146 *Sociodemographic data* Self-reported age, household income, and ethnicity were available from the LTDS.
147 Ethnicity was collapsed into four ethnic groups: white (white – British, white – Irish, other white), Asian
148 (Asian or Asian British – Bangladeshi, Asian or Asian British – Indian, Asian or Asian British - other Asian
149 background, Asian or Asian British – Pakistani, Chinese), black (black or black British – African, black or black
150 British – Caribbean, black or black British - other black background), and other (mixed - white and black
151 Caribbean, mixed - other mixed background, mixed - white and black African, other ethnic group, mixed -
152 white and Asian). For purposes of comparing exposure inequalities with household income, we used Lower
153 Layer Super Output Area (on average 1500 people)-level deprivation data from the 2010 Index of Multiple
154 Deprivation (IMD), a composite measure of area-level deprivation (**S-Figure 2**). (Communities and Local
155 Governments, 2011) For better comparability with household income, we focused our analysis on the
156 income domain of IMD, which is based on the proportion of households receiving income support. Area-level
157 income deprivation was linked to individuals based on their residential postcode location. The distribution of
158 participants' ethnicity by household income and area-level income deprivation is presented in **S-Figure3**.

159 *Statistical Analysis* All regression analyses took account of the hierarchical data structure: participants
160 clustered within households (on average 2.2 participants per household). We explored bivariate
161 relationships of continuous exposures with household income, ethnicity and area-level income deprivation
162 with summary statistics and quantile regression. Quantile regression estimates conditional quantile
163 functions, i.e. models in which the quantiles of the conditional distribution of the outcome are expressed as
164 functions of the observed covariates. Quantile regression does not assume a distribution for the errors and is
165 robust to extreme observations. More importantly, it is useful to describe complex relationships where the

166 covariate effects are expected to be heterogeneous across the outcome distribution and thus associations
167 based on the mean do not provide a complete picture. (Koenker, 2005) We used quantile regression because
168 of the complex nature of the relationships we aimed to study and the highly skewed and heteroscedastic
169 distributions for LHEM and TRANEX exposures. For example, estimates from the quantile regression at a
170 given quantile of the distribution with household income as the single categorical covariate, represent the
171 sample quantiles conditional on household income categories. We fit separate models for each exposure at
172 0.05 quantile intervals and used bootstrapping to estimate standard errors and confidence intervals,
173 accounting for the hierarchical data structure. We tested for the presence of spatial autocorrelation in
174 variograms of the residuals from the quantile regressions.

175 We explored whether exposure misclassification using ambient air pollution at residence rather than
176 personal exposure differed according to age, socioeconomic and ethnic groups. We assumed that personal
177 exposure estimates were a closer approximation to true personal exposure and fit models to the difference
178 between residence and personal concentration. Models included the following covariates: age, age²,
179 ethnicity, household income, area-level income deprivation, and a random effect for household. We report
180 exposure misclassification for variables with statistically significant associations with difference between
181 residence and personal concentration.

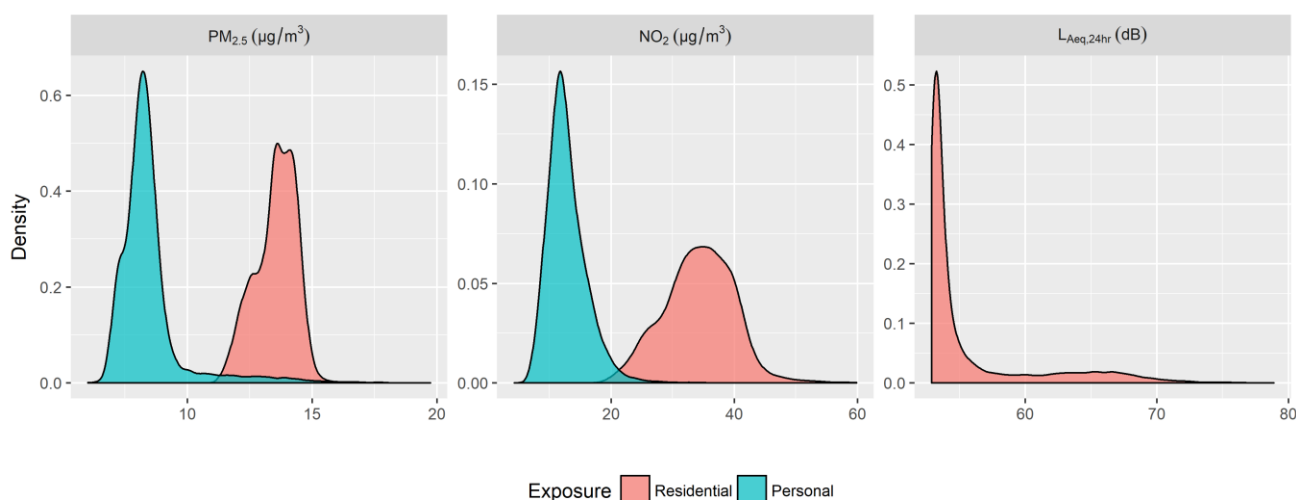
182 To explore bivariate relationships for dichotomous exposures to rail and aircraft noise, we fit logistic models
183 with separate models for household income, ethnicity, and area-level income deprivation using
184 bootstrapping to estimate standard errors and confidence intervals. Statistical analysis were performed with
185 R-3.3.2,(R Core Team, 2016) including packages: *tidyverse* (data manipulation), *ggplot2* (figures), *quantreg*
186 (quantile regression), and *lme4* (mixed models).(Koenker, 2016; Bates 2015; Wickham, 2016)

187 **Results**

188 The mean age of the study population was 37 years (sd 23). Distributions of residential and personal PM_{2.5}
189 and NO₂ as well as residential road traffic noise are presented in **Figure 1 and S-Table 2**. Personal exposure

190 was generally lower than ambient residential exposure for both air pollutants, largely reflecting low
191 penetration of outdoor air pollution indoors (Smith et al., 2016). **Table 1** presents mean air pollution, road-
192 traffic noise, and percentage exposed to rail or aircraft noise according to household income, individual-level
193 ethnicity, and area-level income deprivation (medians included in **S-Table 3**). Absolute and relative
194 differences between the highest and lowest mean exposures to air pollution and road traffic noise according
195 to household income were small and the correlations were weak (**Table 2**). Nonetheless, trends in air
196 pollution exposure by household income were in different directions for residential and personal exposure.
197 Trends in residential air pollution by household income were not monotonic; exposures generally decreased
198 with increasing household income except for the highest income category (**Table 1**). Exposure gradients by
199 area-level income deprivation were largest for NO₂, which is more spatially variable than PM_{2.5}. Participants
200 living in the most deprived areas had the highest exposures for residential PM_{2.5} and NO₂ as well as for
201 personal NO₂, but not for personal PM_{2.5} or road traffic noise. Similarly, increasing household income was
202 only weakly correlated with lower residential air pollution, whereas increasing area-level deprivation was
203 more strongly correlated with higher residential air pollution. (**Table 2**).

204



205

206 **Figure 1. Probability density of residential and personal exposure to PM_{2.5} and NO₂ and residential road**
207 **traffic noise. Values greater than 20 µg/m³ for PM_{2.5} and 60 µg/m³ for NO₂ (<0.1% of data) removed for**
208 **purposes of visualization.**

209 **Table 1. Mean air pollution, road traffic noise, and percentage exposed to rail and aircraft noise by**
 210 **household income, ethnicity and area-level income deprivation**

Means	N	Residential PM _{2.5} (µg/m ³)	Personal PM _{2.5} (µg/m ³)	Residential NO ₂ (µg/m ³)	Personal NO ₂ (µg/m ³)	Residential road traffic noise (L _{Aeq,24hr} dB)	Rail noise (%)	Heathrow noise (%)
Income (£)								
Under 10000	8,327	13.63	8.29	35.13	12.48	56.11	12.7	11.4
10000 - 14999	4,762	13.55	8.33	34.61	12.57	55.87	12.9	11.6
15000 - 19999	4,318	13.56	8.44	34.79	12.89	55.96	12.4	13.2
20000 - 24999	3,883	13.54	8.50	34.37	13.01	55.79	12.0	10.7
25000 - 34999	5,760	13.50	8.53	34.02	12.92	55.79	14.3	12.3
35000 - 49999	6,464	13.48	8.59	33.79	13.07	55.81	12.3	13.2
50000 - 74999	5,573	13.46	8.64	33.67	13.18	55.80	11.3	13.3
Over 75000	5,992	13.51	8.62	34.18	13.22	55.57	11.4	16.7
Ethnicity								
White	29,479	13.49	8.47	33.90	12.81	55.75	12.0	13.8
Asian	7,592	13.61	8.60	34.87	13.05	56.15	12.7	10.5
Black	5,214	13.61	8.42	35.35	13.10	55.88	13.9	11.9
Other	2,516	13.70	8.50	35.69	13.16	56.08	13.4	10.5
Income deprivation quintiles								
1 (least deprived)	9,782	13.30	8.40	32.33	12.41	55.62	11.1	18.0
2	8,737	13.45	8.52	33.64	12.84	55.96	12.6	14.8
3	8,146	13.57	8.54	34.51	12.98	55.91	12.1	13.9
4	9,118	13.62	8.49	35.11	13.07	55.89	11.7	10.1
5 (most deprived)	8,128	13.73	8.49	36.12	13.19	55.83	14.5	7.0

211
 212 **Table 2. Spearman correlation coefficients between air pollution and road traffic noise exposures and**
 213 **household income and area-level income deprivation**

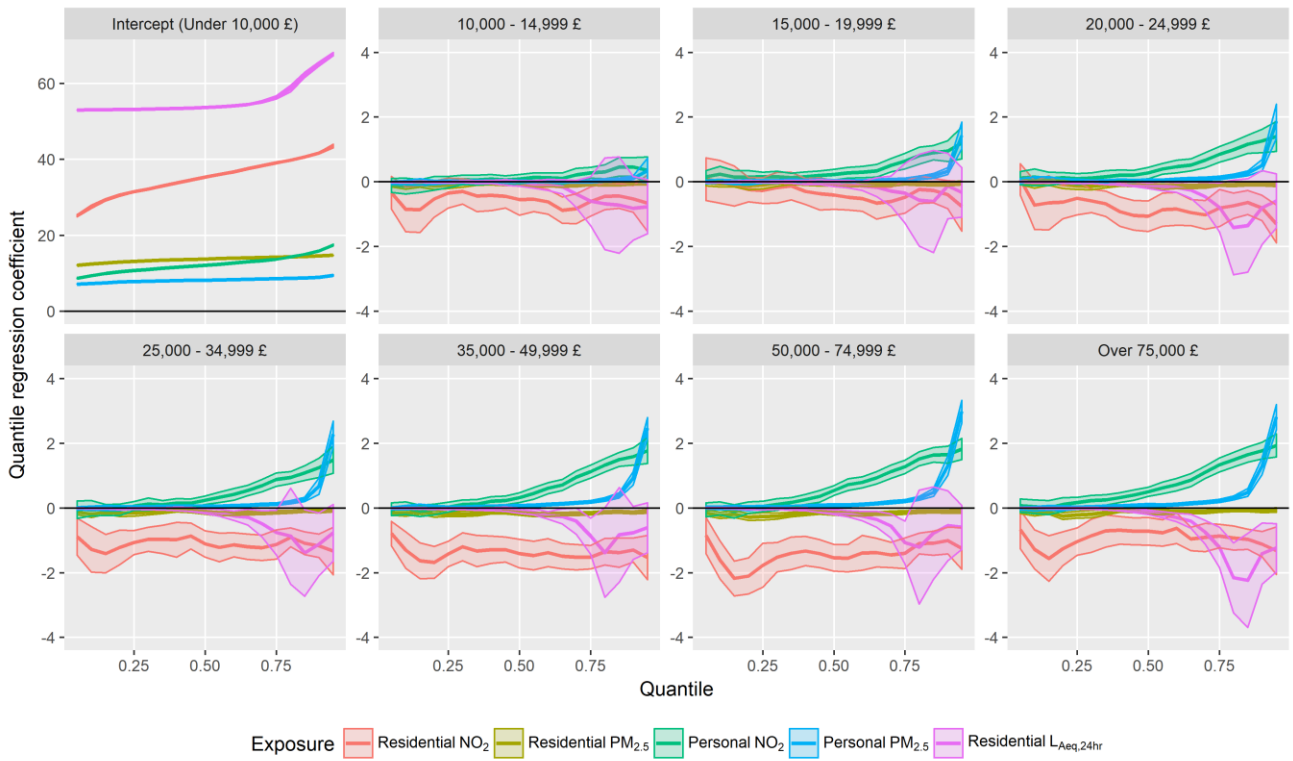
Spearman correlation	Residential PM _{2.5} (µg/m ³)	Personal PM _{2.5} (µg/m ³)	Residential NO ₂ (µg/m ³)	Personal NO ₂ (µg/m ³)	Residential L _{Aeq,24hr} (dB)
Household income	-0.06	0.06	-0.07	0.07	-0.03
Income deprivation	0.19	0.08	0.25	0.11	0.07

214
 215
 216 **Figure 2(a)** presents the results of quantile regression exploring the relationship between air pollution and
 217 road traffic noise exposures with household income (models fit separately for each exposure). The intercept
 218 represents the level of exposure at each quantile (e.g. 0.05 to 0.95) of exposure among participants with

219 household income below £10,000. For example in this household income strata, exposure quantiles for
220 residential NO₂ varied from 25.2 to 43.5 µg/m³, while quantiles for personal PM_{2.5} varied from 7.1 to 9.5
221 µg/m³. For each quantile of exposure, residential NO₂ was approximately 1 µg/m³ lower in the highest
222 household income group relative to the lowest household income group (reference group, indicated as
223 intercept), a difference that was statistically significant across all quantiles. Differences in residential PM_{2.5}
224 across income groups were small, consistent with the limited spatial variation in ambient PM_{2.5} within the
225 city. In contrast to residential NO₂, personal NO₂ was greater in higher income groups compared to the
226 reference group at exposure quantiles 0.25 and above. Personal NO₂ was 1.9 (95% CI 1.6; 2.3) µg/m³ higher
227 in the 0.95 quantile. In other words, the difference in exposure between the highest and lowest household
228 income group did not depend on the level of exposure for residential NO₂, but for personal NO₂ the
229 difference ranged between 0 and 1.9 µg/m³ depending on the level of exposure. Personal PM_{2.5} in the
230 highest income group was indistinguishable from that in the lowest household income group until the 0.75
231 quantile, above which personal PM_{2.5} was significantly higher in the highest household income group (2.8
232 (95%CI 2.4, 3.2) µg/m³ difference in the 0.95 quantile). Quantile regression results for each exposure
233 adjusting for household income along with age and travel duration by mode are presented in **S-Figure 4**.
234 Differences in personal exposure according to household income were largely explained by travel duration
235 and mode.

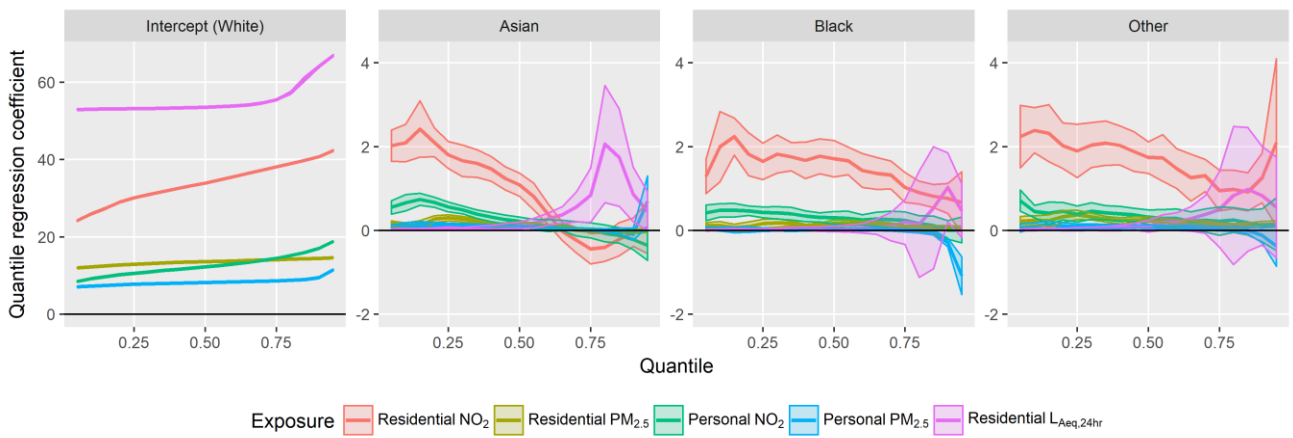
236 In the lowest household income strata, residential road traffic noise was approximately 53 dB until the 0.75
237 quantile, where it increased to nearly 70 dB in the 0.95 quantile. Differences in road traffic noise between
238 the highest and lowest household income strata were negligible until the 0.75 exposure quantile. Above the
239 0.75 quantile, confidence intervals around the effect of household income on noise were wide, but the data
240 suggest high household income was associated with lower noise exposure (e.g. -2.2 (95% CI -3.7,-0.8) dB at
241 the 0.85 quantile).

242



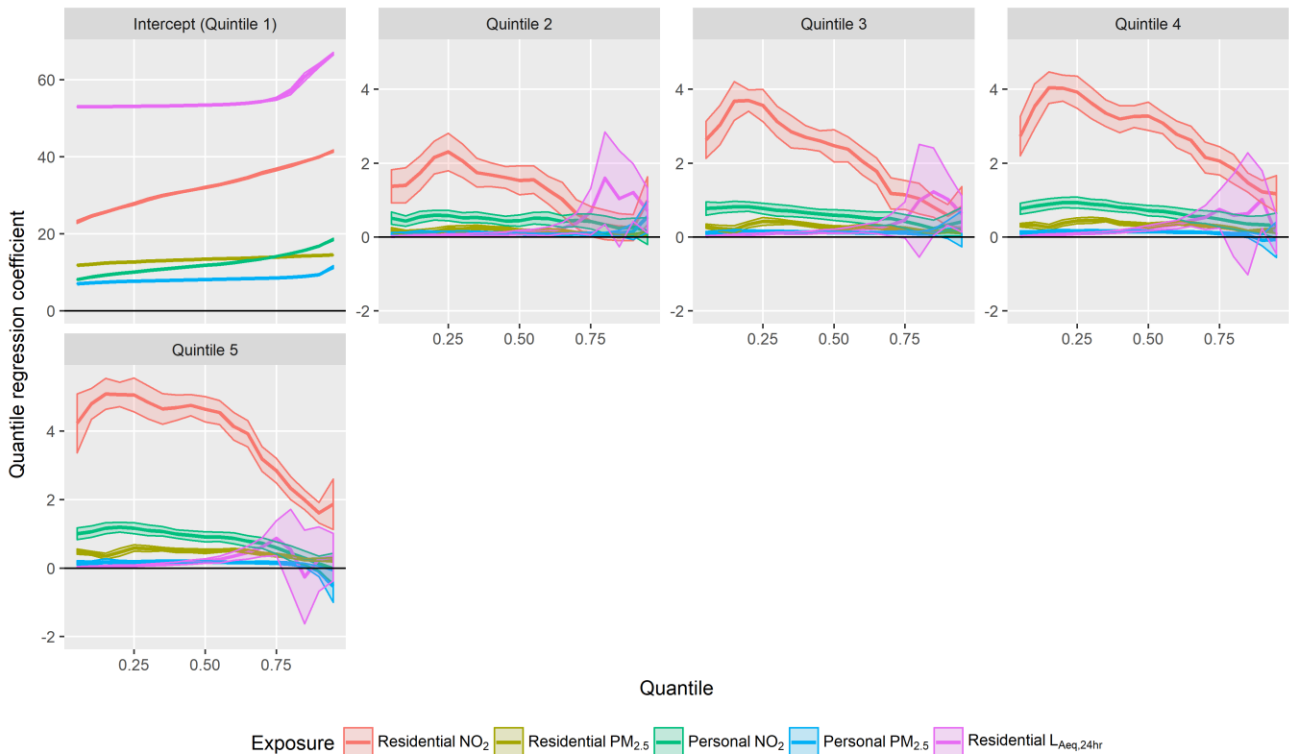
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244 (a)



245

246 (b)



247

248 (c)

249 **Figure 2. Quantile regression coefficients (line) and 95% confidence intervals (shading) for residential and**
 250 **personal air pollution and residential road traffic noise according to (a) household income (b) ethnicity**
 251 **and (c) area-level income deprivation. Each exposure modelled separately.**

252

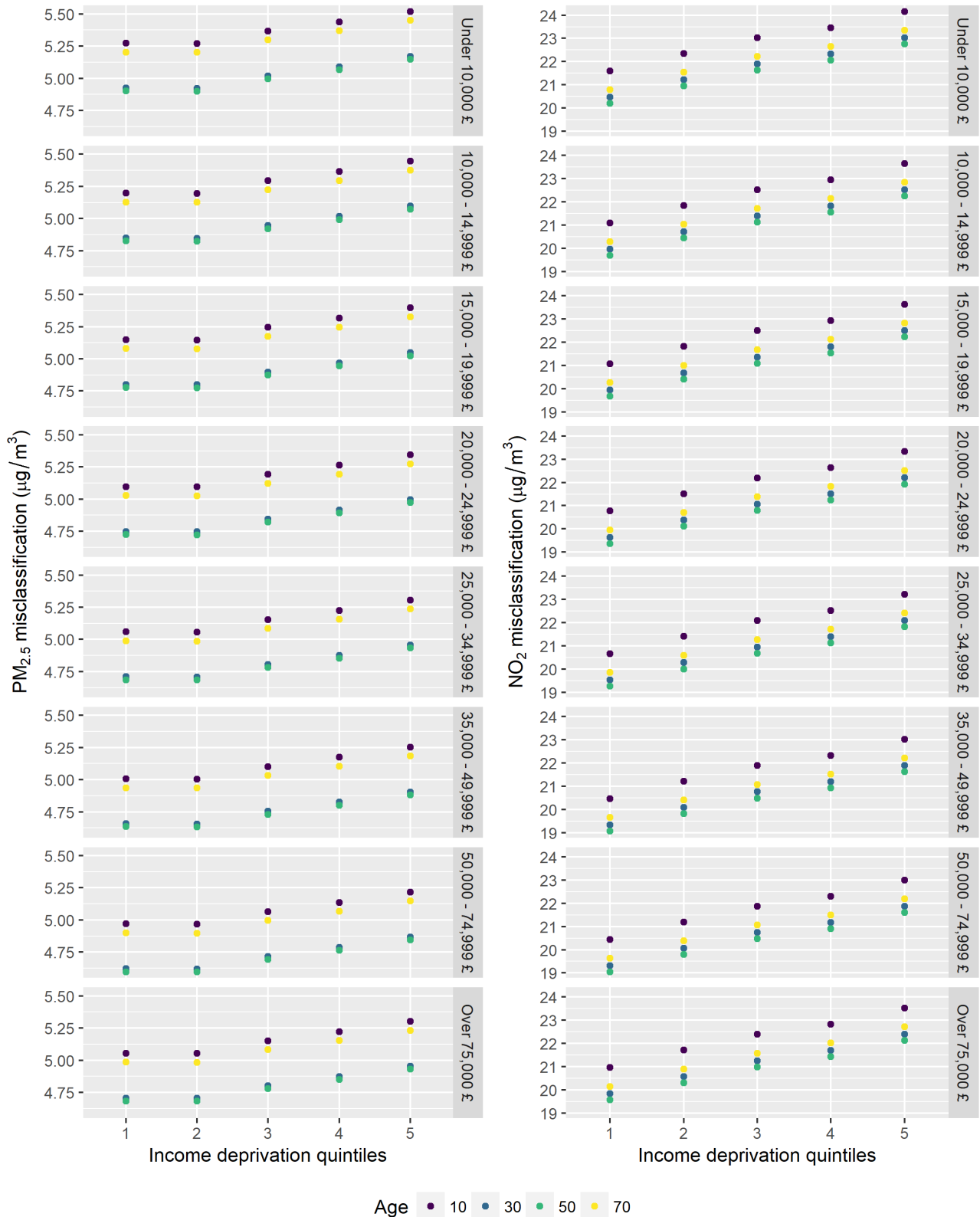
253 The relationships between air pollution and road traffic noise exposures with ethnicity were complex (**Figure**
 254 **2(b)**). Asians had higher residential NO₂ compare to whites below, but not above, the 0.6 quantile of
 255 exposure. Residential and personal exposures to PM_{2.5} were similar for Asians and whites. Black and other
 256 ethnic groups had consistently higher residential NO₂ compared to whites. Maps of ambient NO₂
 257 concentrations used to estimate residential exposure overlaid with participants' ethnicity at borough level
 258 show similar patterns (**S-Figure 5**): while both Asian and whites are present in mid and high-range NO₂,
 259 participants other than whites were far less likely to live in locations with low NO₂. Asian ethnicity was
 260 associated with higher road traffic noise compared to whites above the 0.75 quantile of exposure.

261 The largest exposure differences according to quintiles of area-level income deprivation were for residential
 262 NO₂ (**Figure 2(c)**). However, differences were variable across the exposure range, with the largest differences

263 at low residential NO₂ levels. In other words, low residential NO₂ consistently occurred in low income
264 deprivation areas; however, high residential NO₂ occurred in both high and low income deprivation areas,
265 for example in parts of Central London (**S-Figures 1 and 2**).

266 Assuming estimated personal exposure to ambient pollution is a closer proxy for true personal exposure, we
267 observed differences in the degree to which residential exposure overestimated personal exposure
268 according to age, household income, and area-level income deprivation (**Figure 3**). Differences according to
269 ethnicity (adjusted for covariates) were small. The largest differences were seen for participants typically
270 outside of the working age range (shown in figure for 10 and 70 year olds), whereas the lowest
271 misclassification occurred for working age adults. The extent of overestimation by residential exposure
272 generally increased with decreasing household income and increasing area-level income deprivation.

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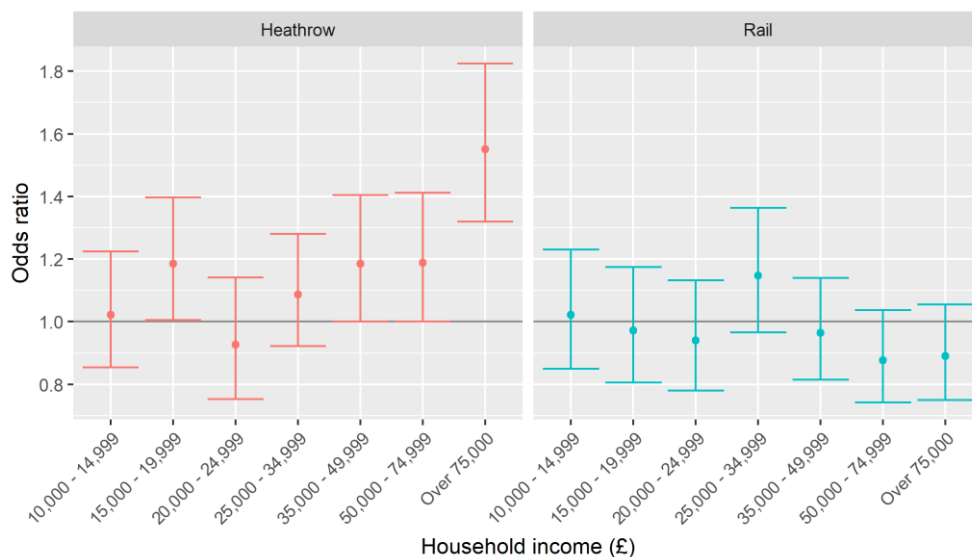


274

275 **Figure 3. Exposure misclassification ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) using residential compared to personal air pollution according to age (shown for select ages), household income, and area-level income deprivation. Estimates mutually**
 276 **adjusted and adjusted for ethnicity and household.**
 277

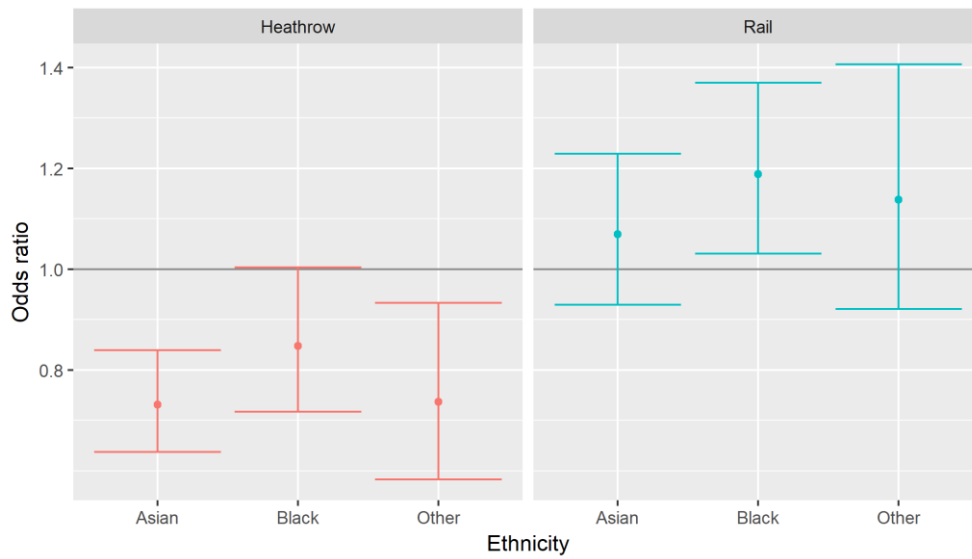
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279 Individuals in the highest household income group has higher odds of living within a 50dB contour of aircraft
 280 noise from Heathrow airport (OR 1.55 (95% CI 1.32, 1.82)) compared to the lowest income group (Figure 4a).
 281 Individuals with Asian (OR 0.73 (95% CI 0.64, 0.84) and other ethnicity (OR 0.74 (95%CI 0.58, 0.93) had
 282 significantly lower odds of exposure to aircraft noise compared to whites (**Figure 4 b**). For rail noise, no trend
 283 with household income was evident; however, the odds of living within a 50dB contour of rail noise was
 284 higher in black participants compared to whites: OR 1.19 (95%CI 1.03, 1.37) (**Figure 4b**). The odds of
 285 exposure to aircraft noise steadily decreased with decreasing area-level income deprivation (**Figure 4c**). In
 286 contrast, the odds of exposure to rail noise were higher in the most deprived compared to least deprived
 287 quintile: OR 1.36 (95%CI 1.18, 1.58).



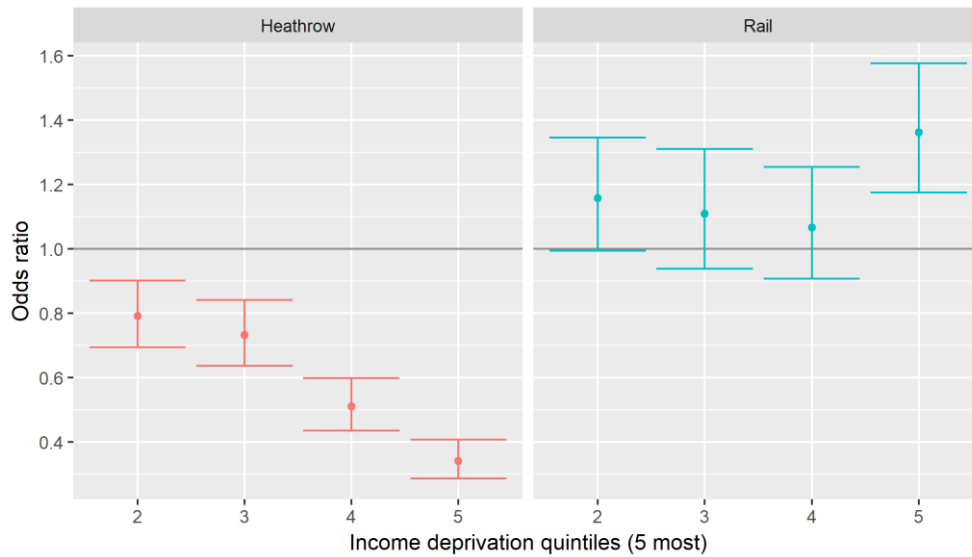
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289 (a)



290

291 (b)



292

293 (c)

294 **Figure 4. Exposure odds ratios (95% CI) to Heathrow airport and rail noise at residence according to (a)**
 295 **household income (reference: Under 10,000 £) (b) ethnicity (reference: White) and (c) area-level income**
 296 **deprivation (reference: Quintile 1).**

297

298

299 **Discussion**

300 Using a large dataset including individual-level data on household income and ethnicity, we observed a
 301 complex pattern of socioeconomic and ethnic inequalities in exposure to transport-related air and noise
 302 pollution in a large European city. In relation to our first objective, we observed inverse patterns in

303 inequalities in air pollution when estimated at residence versus personal exposure. Compared to the lowest
304 household income group, the highest household income group had consistently lower residential NO₂;
305 however, most (from 0.25 quantile) participants in the highest household income group had higher personal
306 NO₂ exposure. Air pollution exposure at residence consistently overestimated personal exposure with clear
307 differences according to age, household income, and area-level income deprivation. These variables are
308 often predictive of health status, which may lead to bias from differential exposure misclassification in
309 epidemiological studies. In relation to our second objective, we observed socioeconomic and ethnic
310 differences in the likelihood of exposure to aircraft and rail noise. Participants in the highest household
311 income, white ethnicity, and lowest income deprivation groups were most likely to be exposed to aircraft
312 noise from Heathrow airport, while participants in the most deprived income group were most likely to be
313 exposed to rail noise. Socioeconomic and ethnic inequalities in road traffic noise were less pronounced.

314 We observed the highest personal air pollution exposure among participants with high household income,
315 which was largely driven by differences in trip mode and duration by income level. Within the LTDS,
316 increasing household income is associated with increasing number of trips per day and travel mode
317 dominated by car, rail, and underground compared to bus and walking.(Transport for London, 2015) Car
318 trips travelled the longest distances of all modes, and along with bus travel, had the longest travel
319 times.(Transport for London, 2015) Similarly, the number of trips is highest for working age adults (25-59
320 years) and lowest for adults ≥65 years.(Transport for London, 2015) This is supported by our adjusted results
321 (**S-Figure 4**), in which differences in personal exposure according to household income were minimal after
322 adjusting for trip mode and duration.

323 Differences in PM_{2.5} exposure on the scale of the socioeconomic inequalities observed here (up to 3 µg/m³)
324 have been associated with a range of adverse health outcomes in the London population, suggesting that
325 the observed exposure inequalities could contribute to health inequalities. For example, a 1.1 µg/m³
326 difference in PM_{2.5} estimated using a similar model as the model used to generate the residential exposures
327 in our study was associated with a decline in some measures of cognitive function in older adults.(Tonne et

328 al., 2014) Similarly, a 2.2 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ difference in $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ (from a similar exposure model) was associated with
329 increased odds of low birth weight.(Smith et al., 2017) Long-term exposure to NO_2 has been linked to
330 respiratory morbidity and mortality;(Health Canada, 2016; Faustini et al., 2014) although the expected
331 health impacts from exposure differences on the scale observed in our study (up to 2 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) are likely to be
332 fairly small. A previous small-area study reported significant associations between aircraft noise from
333 Heathrow and cardiovascular hospital admissions for exposures above 60dB compared to those below 50dB
334 (Hansell et al., 2013); however, direct comparisons with our observed differences based on a binary
335 exposure indicator are difficult.

336 Few previous studies of socioeconomic inequalities in air pollution exposure have focused on personal
337 (modeled or measured) exposure. A recent study in London comparing measured air pollution in twelve
338 typical commutes with origins with different area-level income deprivation and a single central London
339 destination did not observe systematic differences in measured air pollution by deprivation.(Rivas et al.,
340 2017) The highest particle exposures were observed for the commute originating in an area with high
341 income deprivation; however, similar to our results (Table 1), the relationship between particle exposure
342 and area-level income deprivation was not monotonic. Transport mode had a large impact on measured air
343 pollution, with the highest levels of black carbon (BC) and PM of various size fractions (< 0.1 μm , 1 μm , 2.5
344 μm , 10 μm) measured during trips taken by underground and bus. Our results are broadly consistent with a
345 modeling study based on a population in Flanders, Belgium that modeled personal exposure to BC according
346 to household income.(Dons et al., 2014) The personal BC model took into account time-activity patterns,
347 high spatial and temporal resolution ambient concentrations, in-traffic exposures during trips, and time
348 spent indoors. BC exposure was higher at residence for individuals with lower household income, but higher
349 household income individuals had more trips that were predominantly by car in traffic peak hours, and
350 therefore had higher exposures while travelling.(Dons et al., 2014)

351 The direction of inequalities in noise exposures in our study was highly dependent on the sociodemographic
352 indicator and noise source. There was an indication that road traffic noise was lowest among participants

353 with highest household income and lowest area income deprivation, but confidence intervals were often
354 wide. However, there was a clearer indication that Asian participants had higher road traffic noise exposures
355 compared to whites, likely because they live closer to high traffic roads. On the other hand, white
356 individuals, those with high household income, and living in low income deprivation areas were more likely
357 to be exposed to aircraft noise from Heathrow, while individuals in high income deprivation areas were
358 more likely exposure to rail noise.

359 Other studies have similarly found sensitivity in the direction and magnitude of inequalities to noise
360 according to indicator of socioeconomic position and noise source. A survey of German adults (n=7100)
361 found higher frequency of self-reported road traffic and neighborhood noise annoyance among individuals
362 with lower disposable income, although, associations were sensitive to specific indicators of social
363 status.(Laußmann et al., 2013) Only a weak association was observed between income and aircraft noise. A
364 non-linear association between census block level deprivation index and road traffic noise was associated
365 with the highest exposures in an intermediate deprivation group in Marseille, France.(Bocquier et al., 2013)
366 In Montreal, Canada, environmental noise (largely from transportation and industry) was correlated
367 (Pearson) with area-level deprivation for a range of deprivation metrics.(Dale et al., 2015) In contrast, a
368 study of road traffic noise in the city of Paris observed people living in socially advantaged neighborhoods in
369 terms of education, dwelling value, and country of citizenship were exposed to higher noise compared to
370 more deprived counterparts.(Havard et al., 2011) Results showed sensitivity to the definition of non-French
371 citizenship: more refined analyses taking into account the level of development of the country of citizenship
372 showed higher noise levels among people living in neighborhoods with a higher proportion of citizens from
373 advantaged countries.(Havard et al., 2011)

374 Socioeconomic inequalities in air pollution have been found to be sensitive to analytical methods and the
375 use of individual versus area-level socioeconomic data.(Hajat et al., 2015) Our analysis also highlights other
376 factors to which results are sensitive. We observed different results when considering inequalities based on
377 residential versus personal air pollution exposure. We also observed that socioeconomic and ethnic

378 inequalities are often not uniform across the exposure distribution. Our analysis shows the value of quantile
379 regression, frequently used in economic analyses of inequality but, to our knowledge, not previously applied
380 to inequalities in environmental exposures.(Martins and Pereira, 2004) Analyses based on traditional
381 regression methods modeling only the mean would not have captured the full extent of exposure
382 inequalities in our data. Our data indicate inequalities in personal air pollution according to household
383 income at high, but not low exposures. Similarly, differences in residential NO₂ according to area-level
384 income deprivation are greatest at the lowest exposures, but disappear at the highest exposures. This
385 pattern is consistent with our previous research in London, indicating different correlations between air
386 pollution and area-level income deprivation across the air pollution exposure range: correlations between
387 exhaust-related primary PM_{2.5} and deprivation were 0.16, 0.24, 0.12 and -0.17 according to increasing
388 exposure category. (Halonen et al., 2016)

389 While using personal rather than outdoor residential air pollution is attractive due to reduced exposure
390 misclassification, there may be a trade-off with more potential for residual confounding in epidemiological
391 studies.(Weisskopf and Webster, 2017) Our data are consistent with the causal model proposed by
392 Weisskopf and Webster (**S-Figure 6**), which identifies the potential for confounding by factors associated
393 with both residential and personal air pollution. Residential air pollution was associated with area-level
394 deprivation; however, the extent of confounding by area-level deprivation will also depend on the strength
395 of association between deprivation and health, conditional on other covariates. Personal exposure was
396 influenced by personal behaviors in our data, namely travel mode and duration, as well as age. Participants
397 with active travel modes had lower personal exposure,(Smith et al., 2016) and active travel has been
398 associated with a number of health benefits,(Celis-Morales et al., 2017) indicating that travel mode could be
399 an important confounder of associations based on personal exposure. Our data do not suggest that
400 household income would be a strong confounder of associations between personal PM_{2.5} and health
401 outcomes, although confounding is somewhat more likely with personal NO₂. Although the quantile
402 regression results indicate stronger associations between household income and personal exposure at high
403 exposures, epidemiological estimates are typically based on mean exposure and would be less affected. For

404 example, mean personal PM_{2.5} corresponds roughly with the 70th percentile of the exposure distribution (60th
405 percentile for personal NO₂) where differences according to household income are small (**Figure 2**),
406 particularly after adjusting for other covariates (**S-Figure 4**).

407 The main strengths of our analysis are the large dataset including information on household income,
408 individual-level ethnicity, and travel behavior from a representative sample of the London population. These
409 data are combined with estimates of personal exposure, which take into account travel behavior and
410 penetration of outdoor air pollution indoors at locations between trips. In addition, we used data on
411 residential noise exposure to multiple transport sources, contributing to the currently small literature on
412 noise inequalities. Our analysis uses quantile regression, which is well suited for, but not widely used in
413 research of environmental inequalities.

414 A limitation of our analysis is that the residential, personal air pollution and road traffic noise data were
415 based on models rather than direct measurements. While models allowed us to estimate exposures for a
416 large sample, comparisons between residential and personal air pollution may be affected by differences in
417 the models' performance. Sensitivity of the model of personal exposure has been evaluated by Smith and
418 colleagues: model estimates were most sensitive to the parameterization of penetration of outdoor air
419 indoors.(Smith et al., 2016) Notably, the model did not account for occupational exposures or indoor
420 sources, which may be higher for individuals with lower socioeconomic position.(Jantunen et al., 2000)
421 Evaluation of the model for road traffic noise against measurements is reported by Gulliver and
422 colleagues.(Gulliver et al., 2015) The relatively small inequalities in road traffic noise we observed are within
423 the range of model error and should be interpreted with caution. We did not account for spatial
424 autocorrelation in residential air pollution (no autocorrelation was present for other exposures), which may
425 have led to artificially small standard errors in the regression estimates. We explored methods that take into
426 account the spatial structure of the data in the context of quantile regression (e.g. adjusting for spatial units
427 with fixed or random effects, or spatial smooth effects). While these methods addressed the spatial
428 autocorrelation, they explained much of the variability of the response variable and shrunk the inequality

429 effects, which are also clustered in space. We therefore report non-spatially adjusted results given that our
430 focus was not on hypothesis testing. Also, we combined data from a number of sources, resulting in some
431 temporal mismatch in the data (**S-Table 1**). This is most relevant for the aircraft noise from Heathrow
432 airport, which was from year 2001. The inequalities observed with respect to Heathrow airport, a single
433 source, are likely specific to the particular geography of London. However, we observed complex patterns in
434 inequalities that varied by air pollution exposure estimation method and noise transport source; the
435 presence of complexity and need for analytical methods to more fully characterize this complexity is likely to
436 be widely generalizable across cities.

437 In conclusion, all transport sources were associated with some form of exposure inequalities, although the
438 patterns were complex and the direction of inequalities was not consistent across exposure metrics. Analysis
439 based on individual-level socioeconomic data and personal exposure provide a more accurate picture of
440 which groups of individuals are most exposed, which can be notably different than the picture based on
441 more aggregated data. Finally, quantile regression, a common tool in economic analysis of inequalities, is a
442 useful approach for more fully characterizing environmental exposure inequalities across the full range of
443 exposures. Socioeconomic and ethnic inequalities in integrated measures of multiple environmental
444 stressors warrant further investigation.

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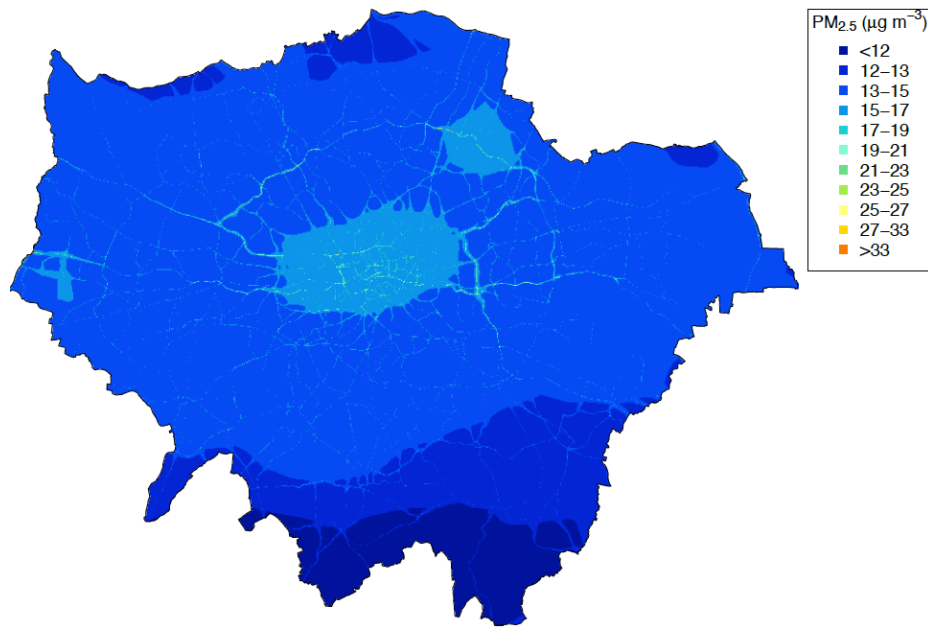
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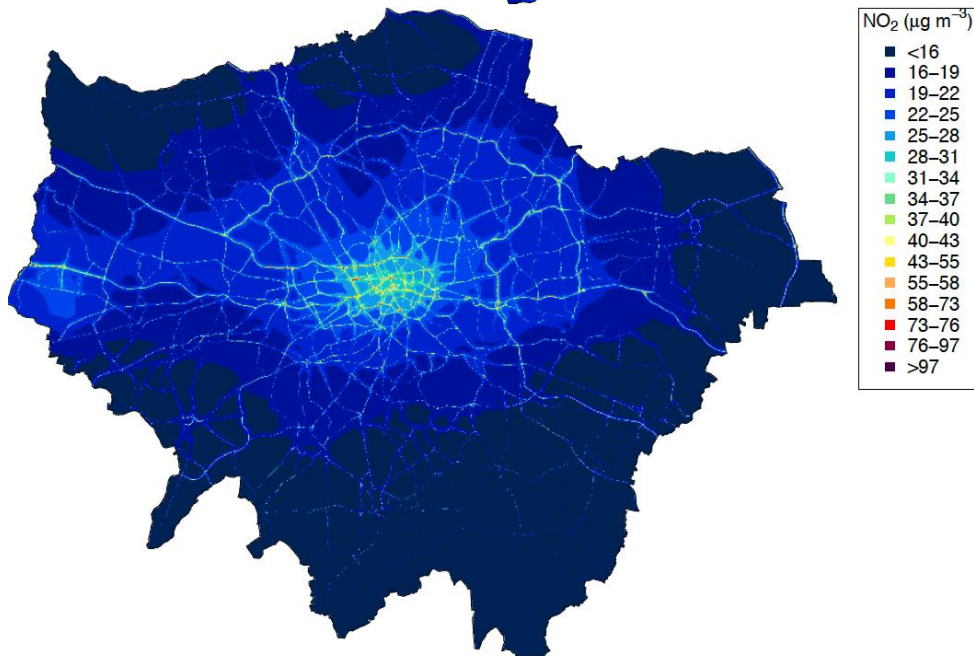
555 **Supplementary information**556 **S-Table 1. Summary of spatial resolution and time period covered by data sources**

Data	Source/Model	Resolution	Date
Age, sex, trips, travel model, trip duration, household income, ethnicity	London Travel Demand Survey from Transport for London; https://tfl.gov.uk/corporate/publications-and-reports/london-travel-demand-survey	Residential postcode centroid (in England on average 12 households per postcode)	2006-2010
Personal PM _{2.5} , NO ₂ exposure	London Hybrid Exposure Model (Smith et al., 2016)	Residential postcode centroid	Annual average 2011
Outdoor PM _{2.5} , NO ₂ exposure	CMAQ-Urban (Beevers et al., 2012)	20m x 20m surface linked to residential postcode centroid	2011
Road traffic noise	TRAffic Noise EXposure model (TRANEX) (Gulliver et al., 2015)	Residential postcode centroid	Annual average 2003-2010
Rail noise (binary indicator of location within 50dB L _{DAY} noise contour)	UK Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs; Environmental Noise Directive – Noise Mapping	Residential postcode centroid	Annual average 2006
Aircraft noise from Heathrow airport (binary indicator of location within 50dB L _{DAY} noise contour)	Civil Aviation Authority; UK civil aircraft noise contour model (ANCON)	Residential postcode centroid	Annual average 2001
Neighbourhood-level income deprivation	2010 Index of Multiple Deprivation – Income Domain(ref)	Lower Layer Super Output Areas (LSOAs): on average 1500 residents	2008

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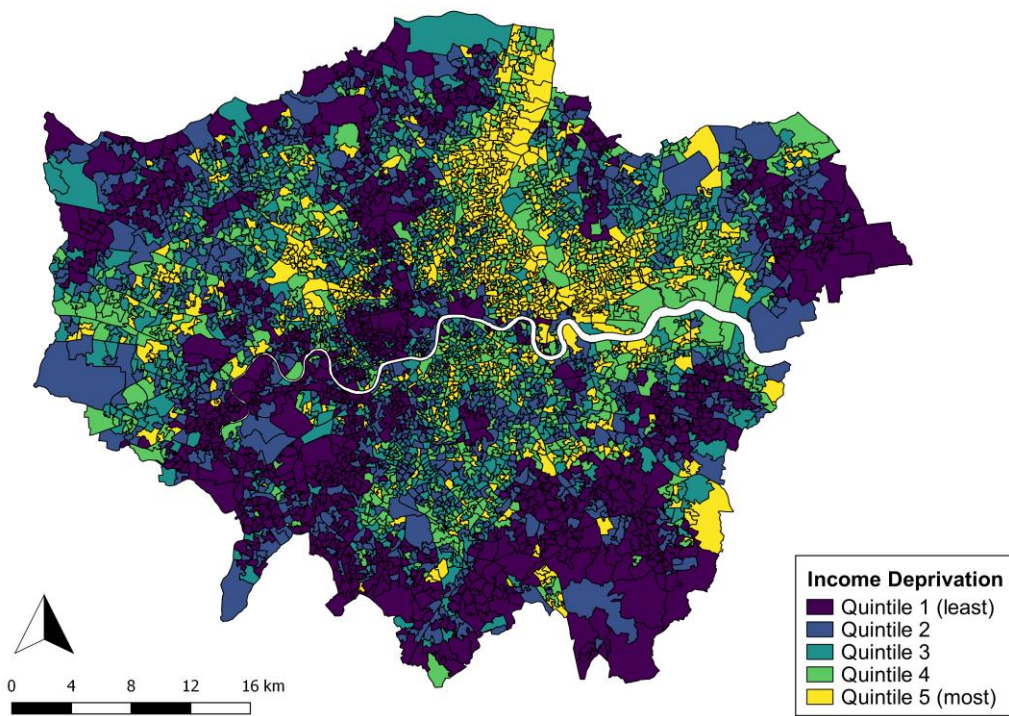
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562 **S-Figure 1. PM_{2.5} and NO₂ concentrations (interpolated from 20x20m grid) used to estimated residential**
 563 **exposures**

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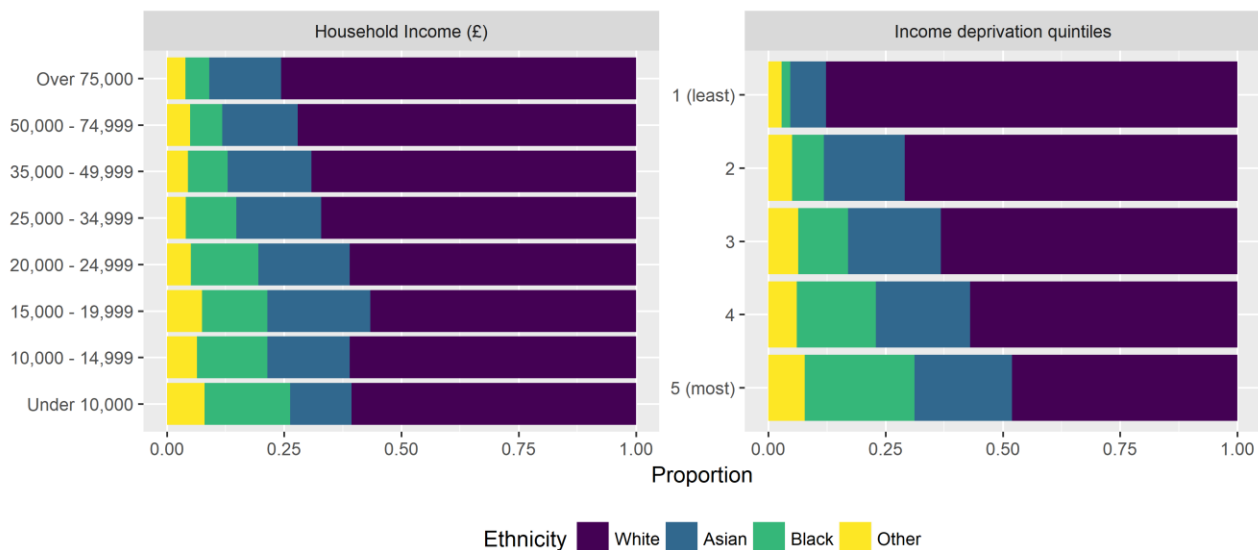
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567 **S-Figure 2. Quintiles (based on sample) of Lower Layer Super Output Area level income deprivation (2010)**

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572 **S-Figure 3. Proportion of ethnicity of participants according to household income and area-level income**
 573 **deprivation**

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575 **S-Table 2. Summary statistics for air pollution exposures and road traffic noise**

Model	n	mean	sd	min	Q1	median	Q3	max
Residential PM _{2.5}	45,079	13.5	0.8	11.2	13.0	13.6	14.2	20.0
Personal PM _{2.5}	45,079	8.5	1.4	6.0	7.8	8.2	8.7	32.2
Residential NO ₂	45,079	34.3	5.8	17.8	30.7	34.5	38.3	88.1
Personal NO ₂	45,079	12.9	3.3	4.3	10.8	12.3	14.5	55.3
Noise LAeq,24hr	44,974	55.9	4.7	52.9	53.2	53.6	55.6	78.9

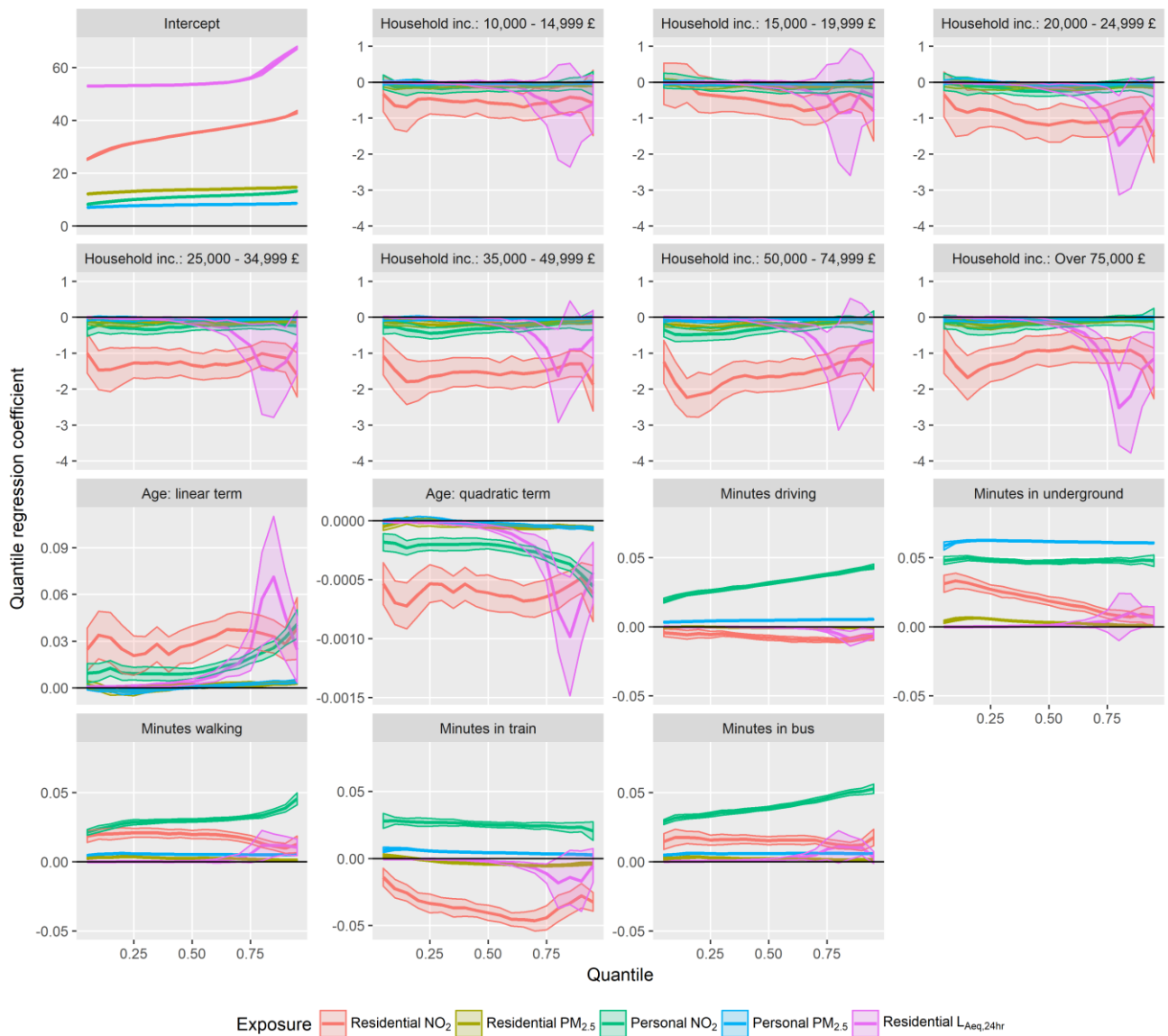
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578 **S-Table 3. Median air and noise pollution by household income, ethnicity and area-level income**
 579 **deprivation**

Medians	N	Residential PM _{2.5} (µg/m ³)	Personal PM _{2.5} (µg/m ³)	Residential NO ₂ (µg/m ³)	Personal NO ₂ (µg/m ³)	Residential road traffic noise (LAeq,24hr dB)
Income (£)						
Under 10000	8,327	13.73	8.18	35.30	12.10	53.63
10000 - 14999	4,762	13.66	8.20	34.77	12.18	53.58
15000 - 19999	4,318	13.67	8.21	34.91	12.32	53.58
20000 - 24999	3,883	13.59	8.22	34.24	12.37	53.51
25000 - 34999	5,760	13.59	8.23	34.19	12.34	53.53
35000 - 49999	6,464	13.56	8.25	33.89	12.42	53.55
50000 - 74999	5,573	13.56	8.26	33.76	12.64	53.51
Over 75000	5,992	13.61	8.27	34.58	12.60	53.50
Ethnicity						
White	29,479	13.56	8.20	33.91	12.24	53.52
Asian	7,592	13.72	8.29	35.00	12.46	53.64
Black	5,214	13.73	8.22	35.62	12.54	53.56
Other	2,516	13.82	8.29	35.66	12.56	53.62
Income deprivation quintiles						
1 (least deprived)	9,782	13.40	8.12	32.00	11.78	53.41
2	8,737	13.56	8.20	33.53	12.22	53.53
3	8,146	13.64	8.24	34.47	12.37	53.56
4	9,118	13.71	8.27	35.27	12.49	53.65
5 (most deprived)	8,128	13.89	8.30	36.63	12.69	53.61

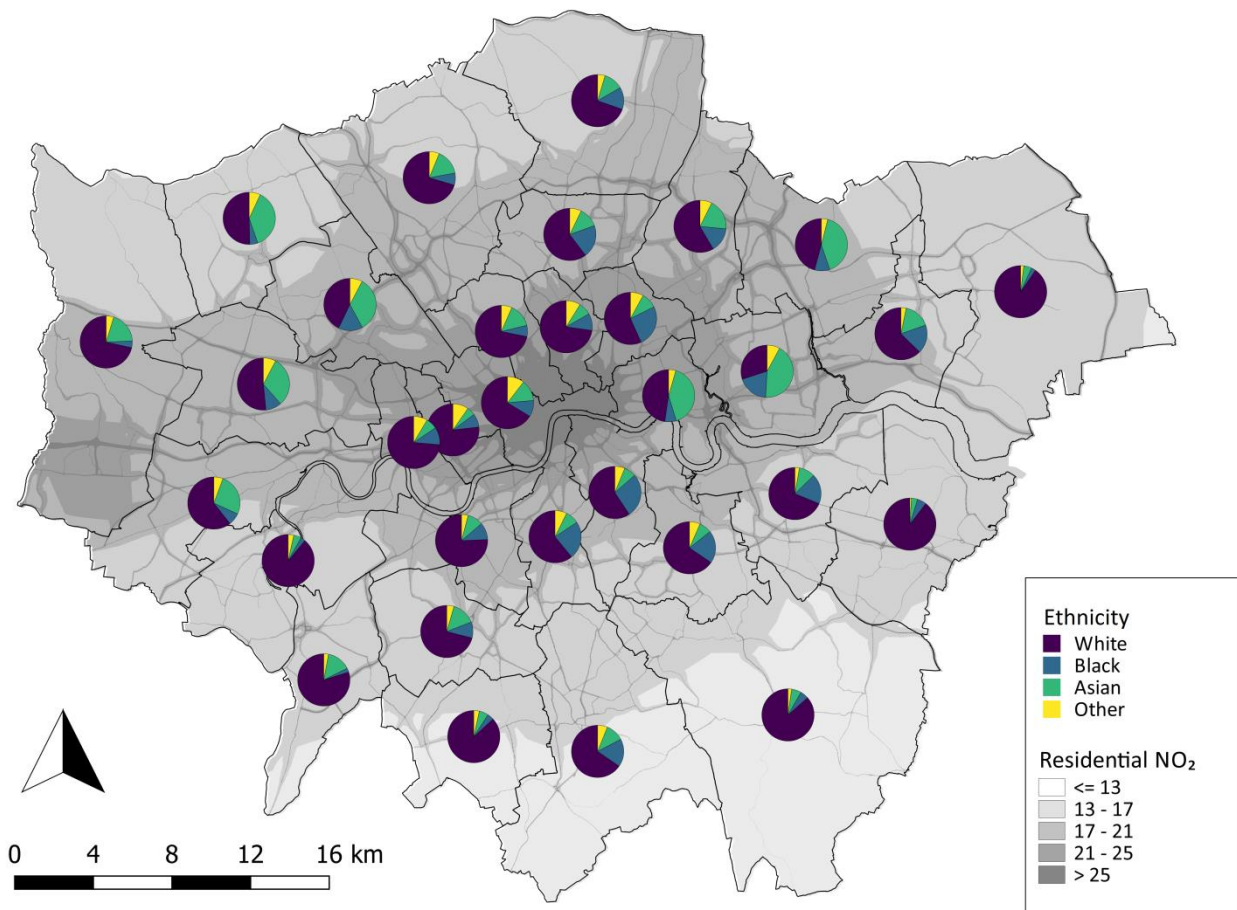
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582 **S-Figure 4. Quantile regression coefficients and 95% confidence intervals for residential and personal air**
 583 **pollution and residential road traffic noise according to household income. Each exposure fit separately to**
 584 **a model including household income, travel duration by mode, and age simultaneously.**

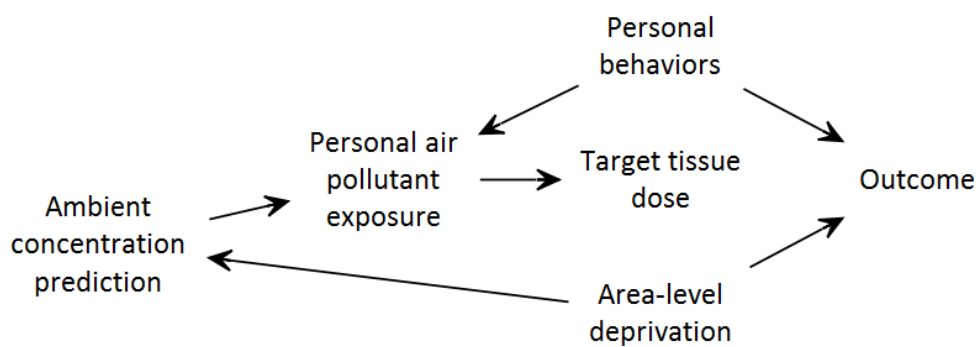
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587 **S-Figure 5. Residential NO₂ concentrations overlaid with ethnicity of participants within each borough**

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590 **S-Figure 6. Causal diagram illustrating confounding of ambient and personal exposure to air pollution in**
 591 **relation to a health outcome (adapted from(Weisskopf and Webster, 2017)).**