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## Levelling up across regions and backgrounds

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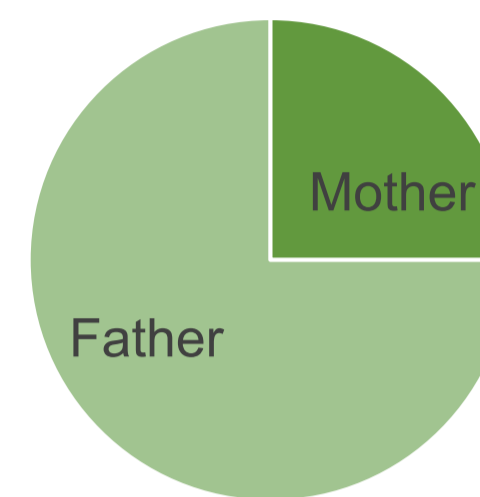
# Levelling up across regions and backgrounds

## Christine Alexander

### The Research

I use the Labour Force Survey of over a quarter of a million adults between 2014 and 2021 to investigate socio-economic opportunities. I find significant gaps in outcomes within all regions associated with family background, education, nationality, gender and ethnicity. However, the differences are not the same everywhere, with important implications for levelling up.

Main earner at age 14 for younger adults



Growing up in a home where the mother was the main earner is associated with a lower probability of attaining a top job.

### Key Findings

- Family background affects socio-economic outcomes in all regions.
- Inequalities in opportunities are wider in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, than England.
- Social immobility at the bottom is more likely in these regions.
- Getting a degree or an apprenticeship has extra value for those from the lowest status backgrounds, but their prospects are still not as good as their peers from professional families.
- Migrants find their employment chances are particularly poor in the North of England and the Midlands compared to UK-born nationals.

### Differences in prospects are wider in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland

