



Home Office



## Statistical News Release: Immigration Statistics

23 August 2018

*Immigration Statistics, year ending June 2018*

The Home Office [Immigration Statistics, year ending June 2018](#) release provides the latest figures on persons who are subject to United Kingdom immigration controls. All data below relate to the year ending June 2018 (01 July 2017 to 30 June 2018) and all comparisons are with the year ending June 2017 (01 July 2016 to 30 June 2017), unless stated otherwise.

The Immigration Statistics release provides information on the Home Office's operation of immigration control and related processes, including the work of UK Border Force, UK Visas and Immigration, and Immigration Enforcement.

Figures on performance against service standards and processing times are published as part of the Home Office [Migration transparency data](#).

The Home Office publish a range of other research on migration, available at the [Migration research and analysis](#) page. Details on the developments and future plans for Home Office migration statistics can be found in [Developments in migration statistics since 2010](#).

## Summary of latest statistics

### How many people come to the UK each year?

There were 139.2 million passenger arrivals in the year ending June 2018, including returning UK residents, an increase of 4.7 million compared to the previous year and a record number.

### Work

There were 167,271 work-related visas granted in the year ending June 2018, 2% higher than the previous year. This included:

- 5,502 Tier 1 (High-value) visas, up 17%
- 96,376 Tier 2 (Skilled) visas, up 4%
- 40,360 Tier 5 (Youth mobility and temporary worker), down 3%

### Study

In the year ending June 2018, there were 224,097 Tier 4 (sponsored study) visas granted, a 5% increase on the previous year.

There were notable increases in the number of Tier 4 (sponsored study) visas granted to Chinese nationals (up 9% to 89,304) and Indian nationals (up 32% to 15,392) nationals. Chinese nationals account for 40% of all Tier 4 visas granted.

Over the same period, the number of sponsored study visa applications for Higher Education Institutions rose 7% to 182,199.

### Family

There were 141,416 visas granted for family reasons in the year ending June 2018, 9% more than in the previous year.

## Visit

In the calendar year 2017 (latest available data by purpose of journey), the number of non-EEA visitor arrivals increased by 3.1 million (30%) to 13.2 million compared to the previous year. This was the highest number of arrivals on record. There have been year-on-year increases in the number of Visitor arrivals since 2012.

There were 2.8 million entry clearance visas granted in the year ending June 2018 and, of these, 2.1 million (77%) were to visit, up 5% on the previous year.

## Extensions

In the year ending June 2018, there were 235,152 grants of extension of temporary stay, up 22% on the previous year. Of these, 78% allowed the individual to stay within their previous reason for stay, and 22% switched categories.

## Settlement

In the year ending June 2018, 81,359 people were granted settlement in the UK, 40% more than in the previous year. The increase in the latest year followed 4 consecutive year-on-year falls.

## Documents certifying permanent residence

There were 116,323 documents certifying permanent residence and permanent residence cards issued in the year ending June 2018. The majority of these were issued to EU nationals. Following the EU referendum, the number issued to EU nationals increased sharply. However, the latest figure is down from a peak in the year ending December 2017.

## British citizenship

Total applications for British citizenship from EU nationals rose by 47% to 42,037. EU nationals now account for 29% of applications, compared with 11% in the year ending June 2016 (before the EU referendum). Applications from non-EU nationals fell by 6% in the most recent year (to 101,649).

## Asylum and resettlement

The number of asylum applications in the UK from main applicants was 27,044 in the year ending June 2018 (down 1%). This represents a return to levels seen before the European migration crisis in 2015. Over the same period, there have been wider falls in asylum applications to other EU countries (down 32%).

In the year ending June 2018, the UK issued 14,308 grants of asylum, alternative forms of protection and resettlement, down 12% compared with 16,215 in the previous year. Of those granted protection in the most recent year, 42% were children. Additionally, 5,963 Family reunion visas were issued to partners and children of those granted asylum or humanitarian protection in the UK, a 9% increase since last year.

A total of 5,702 people were resettled in the UK in the year ending June 2018 under various schemes. This included 4,316 people who were provided protection under the Vulnerable Person Resettlement Scheme (VPRS), bringing the total number of people provided protection to 12,851 since the scheme began in 2014.

## Detention

In the year ending June 2018, 26,215 individuals entered the detention estate (down 6% compared with the previous year) and 27,481 left the detention estate (down 1%).

At the end of June 2018, there were 1,905 persons held in the detention estate (excluding HM Prisons), a fall of 36% compared with the same date 12 months earlier. Additionally, 321 individuals were held in immigration detention in HM Prisons.

## Returns

The total number of enforced returns from the UK, decreased by 13% to 10,892 in the year ending June 2018 compared with 12,509 in the previous year.

A total of 5,724 Foreign National Offenders (FNOs) were returned in the year ending June 2018.

# Notes to editors

1. [Immigration Statistics, year ending June 2018](#) is available on GOV.UK.
2. This release is published as part of a coordinated release of migration products. These related products are also published today:

## Home Office

[Third report on statistics being collected under the exit checks programme](#)

## Office for National Statistics (ONS)

[Migration statistics, quarterly report: August 2018](#)

[Births by parents' country of birth, England and Wales: 2017](#)

[UK migration indicators by local area: 2017](#)

[Migrant labour force within the construction industry: August 2018](#)

## Department for Work and Pensions (DWP)

[National Insurance number allocations to adult overseas nationals to June 2018](#)

## HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC)

[Income Tax, NICs, Tax Credits and Child Benefit Statistics for EEA Nationals: 2015 to 2016](#)

3. For **all press enquiries regarding the Home Office *Immigration Statistics* release**, please contact the Home Office Press Office who will liaise with the Home Office Migration Statistics team.

Newsdesk: **020 7035 3535**

Please note that the press office deals with enquiries from the media only. Members of the public should phone Public Enquiries 020 7035 4848, or email to [MigrationStatsEnquiries@homeoffice.gov.uk](mailto:MigrationStatsEnquiries@homeoffice.gov.uk)

**Press enquiries regarding ONS** publications should be directed to the ONS Press Office.

4. The Home Office Responsible Statistician is Bex Newell.

### We welcome your feedback

The content and format of the quarterly release and associated data tables is currently being reviewed. This means the release may be subject to change in the future. If you have any comments, or suggestions for the development of this report, please provide feedback by emailing [MigrationStatsEnquiries@homeoffice.gov.uk](mailto:MigrationStatsEnquiries@homeoffice.gov.uk). Please include the words 'PUBLICATION FEEDBACK' in the subject of your email.

The Home Office is also running a more general [Survey on Home Office Statistical publications](#), which covers all Home Office statistical publications.

See section 6 of the [About this release](#) section for more details.