

Statistical News Release: Control of Immigration

26 August 2010

Control of Immigration: Quarterly statistical summary, Q2 2010

Control of Immigration: Statistics United Kingdom, 2009, Issue 15/10

The latest annual and quarterly National Statistics publications on Control of Immigration in the United Kingdom are released today (26 August 2010). The quarterly publication provides the latest provisional figures up to the end of June 2010, generally by quarter, while the annual bulletin revises previously published annual data to 2009 as a point of reference.

The publications, produced by Migration Statistics within Home Office Statistics, contain data on border control, asylum, removals and voluntary departures and managed migration. The bulletins contain both National Statistics and management information.

The key points from the latest quarterly release (Q2 2010: April – June 2010) include:

BORDER CONTROL

- Comparing the year to 30 June 2010 with the year to 30 June 2009, the overall number of visas issued, including those under the Points Based System¹ and dependants, increased by 8 per cent from 1,917,460 to 2,076,925. The number of study-related² visas issued increased, while the number of employment-related³ visas issued decreased.

ASYLUM

- The number of applications for asylum, excluding dependants, was 29 per cent lower in Q2 2010 (4,365) compared with Q2 2009 (6,110). Two-thirds of this decrease was accounted for by the number of applicants from Zimbabwe, which reduced from 1,560 in Q2 2009 to 405 in Q2 2010.
- In Q2 2010, 5,220 initial asylum decisions were made, excluding dependants, a decrease of 8 per cent compared with Q2 2009 (5,690). 76 per cent of initial decisions were refusals, 15 per cent were grants of asylum and 9 per cent were grants of Humanitarian Protection or Discretionary Leave.

ENFORCEMENT AND COMPLIANCE

- In Q2 2010, 14,130 persons were removed or departed voluntarily from the UK, 14 per cent lower than in Q2 2009 (16,345).

MANAGED MIGRATION: After-entry applications to vary leave to remain

- Comparing the year to 30 June 2009 with the year to 30 June 2010, the number of decisions⁴ on applications to vary conditions of leave to remain, including those under the Points Based System¹ and dependants, fell by 1 per cent from 399,725 to 395,935.
- Of the total decisions, 81 per cent (322,170) were grants of an extension, and 19 per cent (73,765) were refusals.

¹ See Notes to editors 2 regarding the Points Based System.

² Includes grants under Tier 4 of the Points Based System.

³ Includes grants under Tiers 1, 2 and 5 of the Points Based System.

⁴ Excluding settlement and asylum cases.

- There were increases in grants of extensions of leave to remain relating to study² and decreases in grants relating to employment³ and family.

MANAGED MIGRATION: Settlement decisions⁵

- The number of decisions on applications for settlement in the UK, excluding EEA and Swiss nationals, rose by 38 per cent in the year to 30 June 2010 (238,885) compared with the year to 30 June 2009 (172,535).
- The number of persons granted settlement in the UK rose by 37 per cent from 163,660 in the year to 30 June 2009 to 224,390 in the year to 30 June 2010. There were increases in employment-related, family formation and reunion, and other grants⁶. There was a decrease in asylum-related grants.

MANAGED MIGRATION: Worker Registration Scheme (based on date of application)

- There were 28,645 initial applicants to the Worker Registration Scheme (WRS) in Q2 2010, compared to 28,225 in Q2 2009 and 46,075 in Q2 2008. The number of approved WRS applicants in Q2 2010 was 19,830, compared to 26,510 in Q2 2009 and 43,845 in Q2 2008.

MANAGED MIGRATION: British citizenship

- The number of persons granted British citizenship in the UK increased by 13 per cent to 197,955 in the year to 30 June 2010 compared to the year to 30 June 2009 (175,685). There were increases for grants based on residence, marriage and to children.

Further key points and analyses can be found in the 'Control of Immigration: Quarterly Statistical Summary, Q2 2010'.

The key points from the latest annual release include:

BORDER CONTROL

- The estimated number of international arrivals⁷ from outside the Common Travel Area decreased by 6 per cent to 101.6 million in 2009.
- The number of international arrivals estimated to be non-EEA nationals⁸ was 12.3 million, a 2 per cent decrease on 2008. There were increases for admissions for study purposes, while those admitted in a work category decreased.

ASYLUM

- Excluding dependants, the number of asylum applications received in 2009 was 24,485, 6 per cent less than in 2008 (25,930). Including dependants, the number of asylum applications was 30,675 in 2009, 2 per cent less than in 2008 (31,315).
- Including dependants, the estimated number of asylum applications to the EU27 increased by 3 per cent in 2009 (248,600) compared to 2008 (241,300). The UK ranks 13th amongst EU27 countries in terms of asylum seekers per head of population.
- 24,285 initial decisions were made on asylum applications, excluding dependants, in 2009, 25 per cent more than in 2008.

⁵ Data relate to the number of people and include dependants of principal applicants.

⁶ Includes grants on a discretionary basis (including persons granted indefinite leave outside the immigration rules under measures aimed at clearing the backlog of outstanding unresolved cases) and where the category of grant is unknown.

⁷ International arrivals includes those visiting the UK for a short period (e.g. holiday makers) as well as those staying for a longer period.

⁸ Also excludes nationals of Switzerland.

ENFORCEMENT AND COMPLIANCE

- The number of persons who were removed or departed voluntarily from the UK in 2009 was 67,215, the second highest since 2005, down 1 per cent compared to the peak of 67,980 in 2008⁹.

MANAGED MIGRATION: Worker Registration Scheme (based on date of decision)

- The number of approved applicants for the Worker Registration Scheme in 2009 was 118,675, down 22 per cent compared to 151,870 in 2008 and down 45 per cent compared to the peak of 214,055 in 2006.

APPEALS

- Immigration Judges determined a total of 198,505 appeals in 2009, 18 per cent more than in 2008 (167,835). 37 per cent of appeals dealt with in 2009 were allowed, 55 per cent were dismissed and 8 per cent were withdrawn.

Further key points and analyses can be found in the 'Control of Immigration: Statistics United Kingdom 2009'.

⁹ Prior to 2005 data are not directly comparable.

Notes to editors

1. 'Control of Immigration: Statistics United Kingdom 2009' and 'Control of Immigration: Quarterly statistical summary, Q2 2010' are available online on the UK National Statistics publication hub website and the Home Office Research, Development and Statistics website <http://rds.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/immigration-asylum-stats.html>
2. The number of entry clearance visas issued under PBS is an indicator of the level of immigration for employment or study of non-EEA nationals, although it shows intention to travel, rather than entry to the UK. The number of grants of an extension under PBS is an indicator of changes in the length of stay in the UK for these migrants.
 - Of the 2,076,925 entry clearance visas issued in the year to 30 June 2010, including dependants, there were 429,825 visas issued under the Points Based System.
 - Of the 322,170 grants of an extension of leave to remain in the year to 30 June 2010, including dependants, there were 248,665 grants under the Points Based System.
3. These bulletins are published as part of a coordinated release of migration and population products. Today the Office for National Statistics, Department for Work and Pensions and General Register Office for Scotland publish the following publications:

Office for National Statistics (ONS)

- *Migration Statistics Quarterly Report (Jointly with Home Office, DWP and GROS)*
- *Provisional International Passenger Survey (IPS) estimates of long-term international migration*
- *Provisional long-term international migration*
- *Population by country of birth and nationality from the Annual Population Survey*
- *Parents' country of birth: England and Wales*
- *Local area migration indicators*
- *Internal migration by country/region for the UK*
- *Improving Migration and Population Statistics: Quarterly Update*

Department for Work and Pensions (DWP)

- *National Insurance Number (NINo) Allocations to Adult Overseas Nationals*

General Register Office for Scotland (GROS)

- *Population by country of birth and nationality from the Annual Population Survey (for Scottish council areas)*

The Migrations Statistics Quarterly Report summarises the regular quarterly migration and related data published by the Home Office, DWP, ONS and GROS and is available at <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/statbase/Product.asp?vlnk=15230>

4. For **all press enquiries regarding the Home Office Control of Immigration annual and quarterly**, please contact the Home Office Press Office who will liaise with Home Office Statistics:
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.

Press enquiries regarding ONS, DWP or GROS publications should be directed to the appropriate department's Press Office.