

Persons Granted British Citizenship United Kingdom, 2003

07/04

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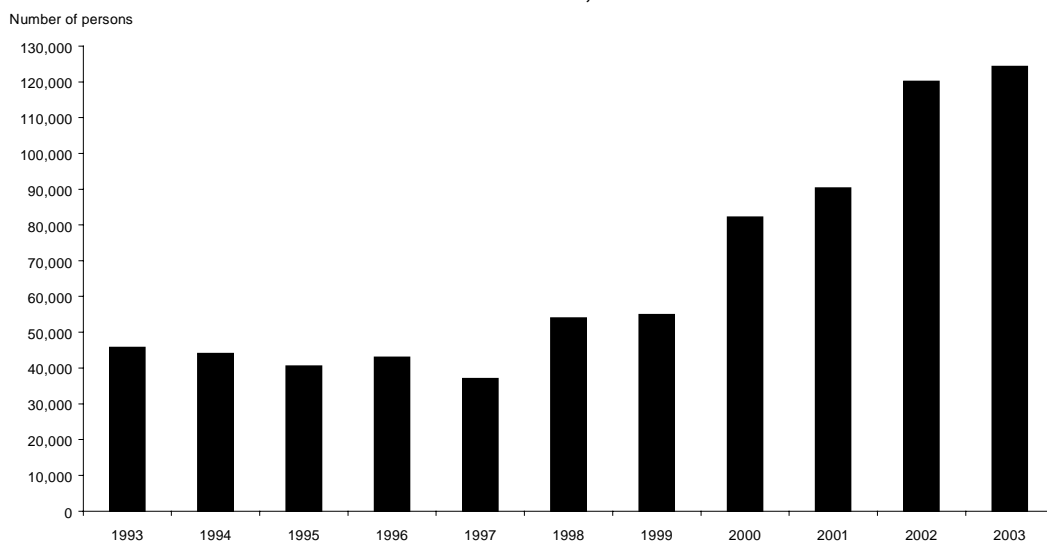
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MAIN POINTS:

- Applications for British citizenship rose by 21 per cent in 2003 to 139,315 (paragraph 1).
- The number of persons granted British citizenship in the United Kingdom rose by 3 per cent to 124,315 in 2003 (paragraph 2).
- 44 per cent were granted on the basis of residence, 30 per cent because of marriage, and nearly 24 per cent were minor children (paragraph 5).
- Citizens of countries in Asia and Africa accounted for 40 and 32 per cent respectively of the total (paragraph 6).
- The main nationalities were Pakistan, India and Somalia (10, 9, and 7 per cent respectively) (paragraph 6).
- Other sources indicate that approximately 61 per cent of foreign born people who had been in the UK for six years or more in 2002 were British citizens (paragraph 12).

Figure 1

GRANTS OF BRITISH CITIZENSHIP IN THE UNITED KINGDOM, 1993 to 2003



Introduction

This bulletin provides provisional summary statistics on applications for, and, grants/refusals of, British citizenship in 2003 and preceding years. It also contains the results of an analysis to estimate British citizenship take-up rates.

The British Nationality Act 1981 came into force on 1 January 1983 and replaced citizenship of the United Kingdom and Colonies with three separate citizenships, statistics on which are shown in the tables indicated:-

1. British citizenship, for people closely connected with the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man (Tables 1-5);
2. British overseas territories citizenship, for people connected with the British overseas territories (Table 6);
3. British Overseas citizenship, for those citizens of the United Kingdom and Colonies without connections with either the United Kingdom or the British overseas territories (Table 6).

Further information explaining the position from 1 January 1983 under the 1981 Act, and explaining some changes made by the British Overseas Territories Act 2002 is available at <http://www.ind.homeoffice.gov.uk/default.asp?pageid=145>

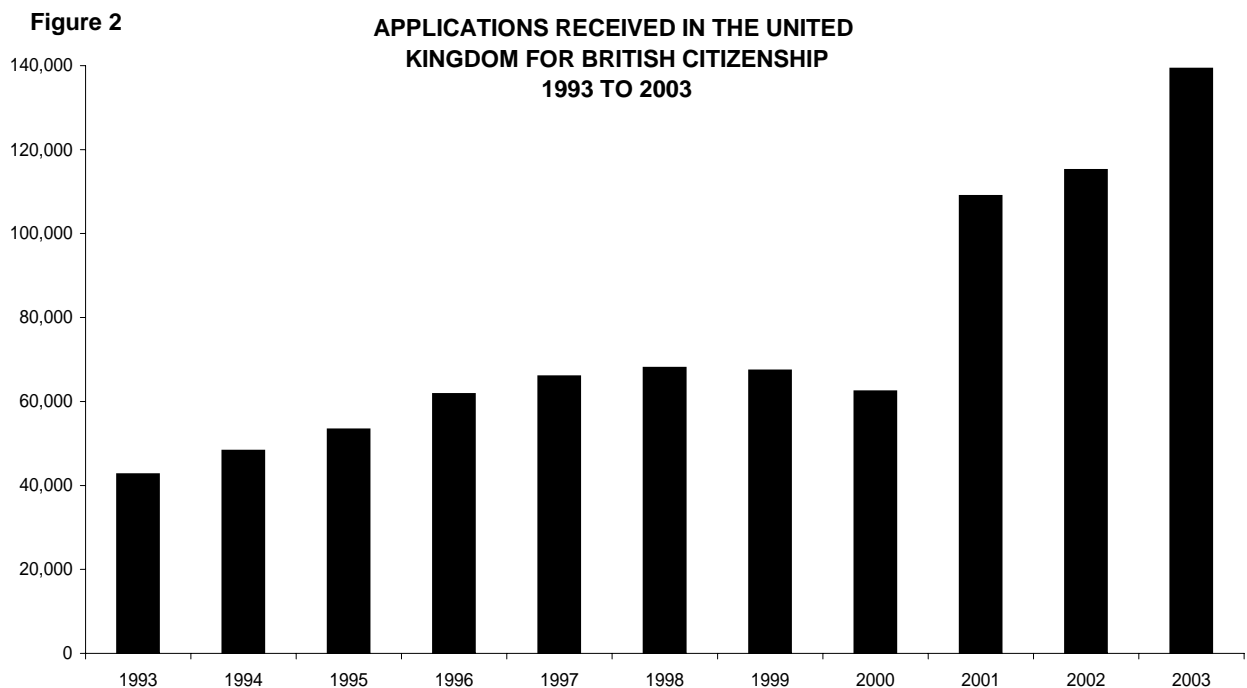
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SECTION ONE: PERSONS GRANTED BRITISH CITIZENSHIP

APPLICATIONS RECEIVED (Figure 2 and Table 1)

1. The number of applications for British citizenship increased by 21 per cent in 2003 to 139,315 compared to the previous year when 115,500 applications were received. The increase of 21 per cent this year was much higher than last year (6 per cent in 2002) and most likely reflects the increasing number of persons granted settlement¹ and an increase in applications following the passage of the Nationality, Immigration and Asylum Bill in 2002. This introduced the concept of citizenship ceremonies and testing for language and citizenship knowledge.



GRANTS AND REFUSALS (Figure 1 and Table 1)

2. In 2003, the number of persons granted British citizenship in the United Kingdom rose by 3 per cent to 124,315. This is down from an increase of 33 per cent in 2002 and is the smallest increase since 1999.

3. The number of applications that was refused rose in 2003 by 26 per cent, a large increase compared to a drop of 11 per cent in 2002.

4. The total number of decisions made in 2003 rose by 5 per cent to just under 135,000. This rise can be attributed to procedural and organisational changes, and improved staff productivity.

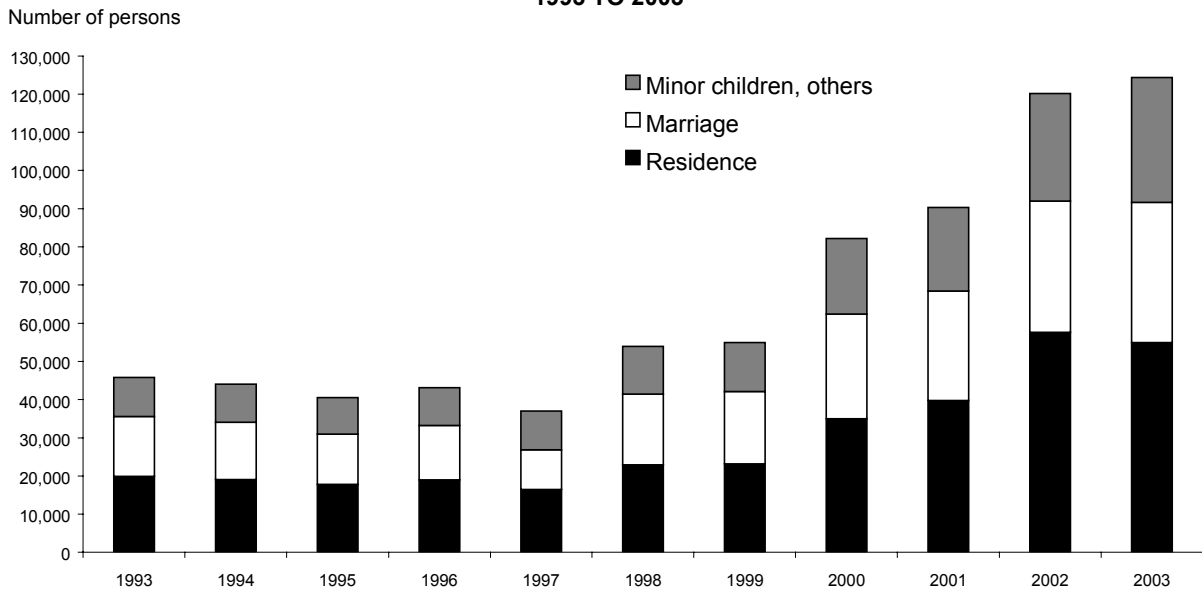
¹ People subject to immigration control who are allowed to remain in the United Kingdom indefinitely.

BASIS OF GRANT (Figure 3 and Table 2)

5. Residence in the United Kingdom continued to be the most frequent basis on which persons were granted British citizenship in 2003. The number of such grants was 54,935, 44 per cent of the total. The number of grants to persons married to a British citizen was 36,735, 30 per cent of the total. These proportions have remained largely unchanged for several years. Most (30,355) of the remaining grants in 2003 were to minor children² who accounted for 24 per cent of the total.

Figure 3

GRANTS OF BRITISH CITIZENSHIP IN THE UNITED KINGDOM, BY BASIS OF GRANT, 1993 TO 2003



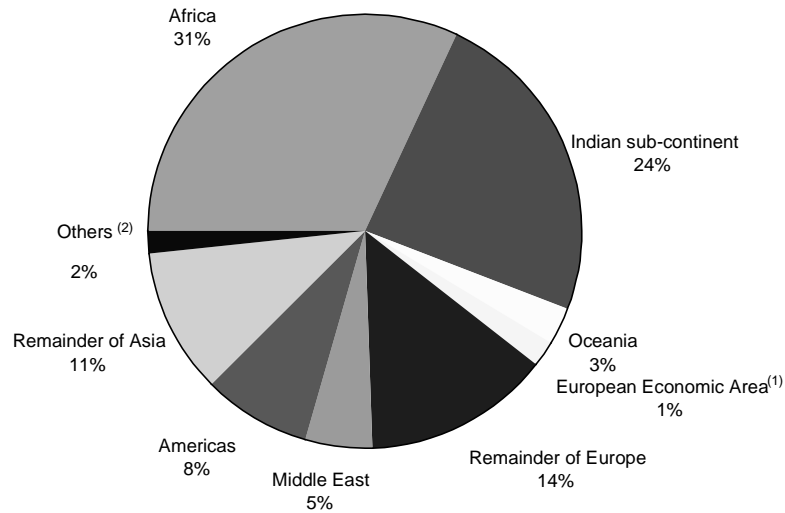
PREVIOUS NATIONALITY (Figure 4 and Tables 3, 4)

6. The proportion of persons whose previous nationality was from countries in the Remainder of Europe (i.e. outside the European Economic Area) dropped by 1 per cent to 14 per cent in 2003. The proportions from Africa and the Indian sub-continent rose to 32 and 24 per cent respectively. Countries with the largest numbers of grants in 2003 were Pakistan with 12,795 (10 per cent) and India with 10,780 (9 per cent), Somalia 8,550 (7 per cent), Nigeria with 6,300 (5 per cent), and Bangladesh with 6,145 (5 per cent).

² Children under the age of 18

Figure 4

GRANTS OF BRITISH CITIZENSHIP IN THE UNITED KINGDOM IN 2003, BY PREVIOUS NATIONALITY
(Total number of persons 124,315)



(1) Includes British overseas territories citizens from Gibraltar

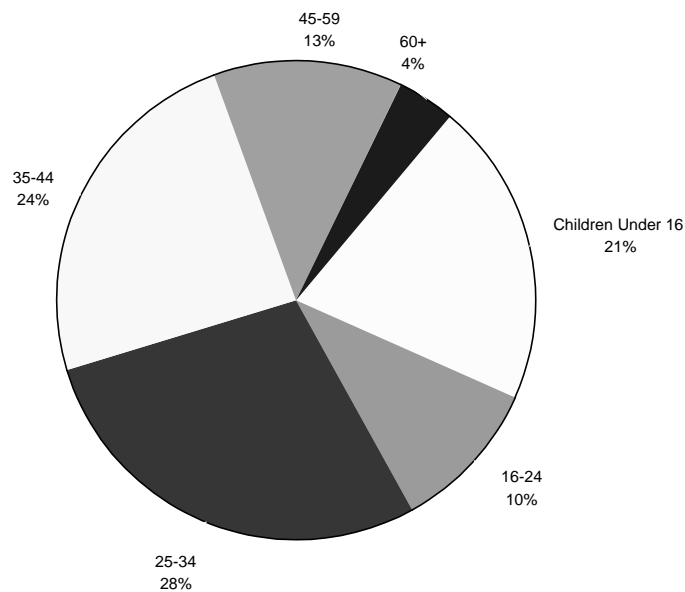
(2) Includes British overseas territories citizens (except from Gibraltar) and British Overseas citizens

GRANTS BY AGE (Figure 5 and Table 5)

7. The majority of grants of British citizenship were to people aged between 25 and 44 (53 per cent). Over 76 per cent of grants were to people aged between 16 and 60.

Figure 5

GRANTS OF BRITISH CITIZENSHIP IN THE UNITED KINGDOM IN 2003, BY AGE
(Total number of grants 124,145)⁽¹⁾



(1) Excludes 169 cases for which an age analysis is not available; data is based on the cases for which information is provided.

OTHER GRANTS OF CITIZENSHIP (Table 6)

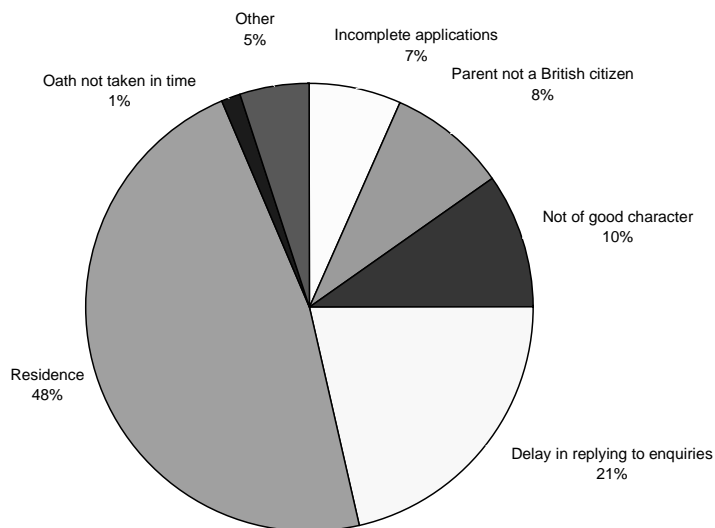
8. 175 persons of non-Chinese ethnic origin were granted British citizenship in 2003 under the British Nationality (Hong Kong) Act 1997. This brought the total number of grants since 1997 under this Act to 4,520. This was in addition to 136,500 grants in 1991-7 under the earlier 1990 Act and its associated Selection Scheme, under which key workers and their spouses and dependants were granted British citizenship.

REASONS FOR REFUSAL OF CITIZENSHIP (Figure 6 and Table 7)

9. 1,575 grants of citizenship were withdrawn or revoked in 2003, an increase of 10% over the previous year. Of the 9,100 refusal decisions made in 2003 the majority (47 per cent) were refusals on the grounds of Residence. This amounted to an increase of 43 per cent over the previous year. 1,945 (21 per cent) were refused due to the applicants delay in replying to enquiries from IND.

Figure 6

REASONS FOR REFUSAL OF BRITISH CITIZENSHIP 2003, BY TYPE OF REFUSAL
(Total number of refusals 9,100)⁽¹⁾



(1) Excludes 1,575 cases that were granted but were withdrawn or revoked

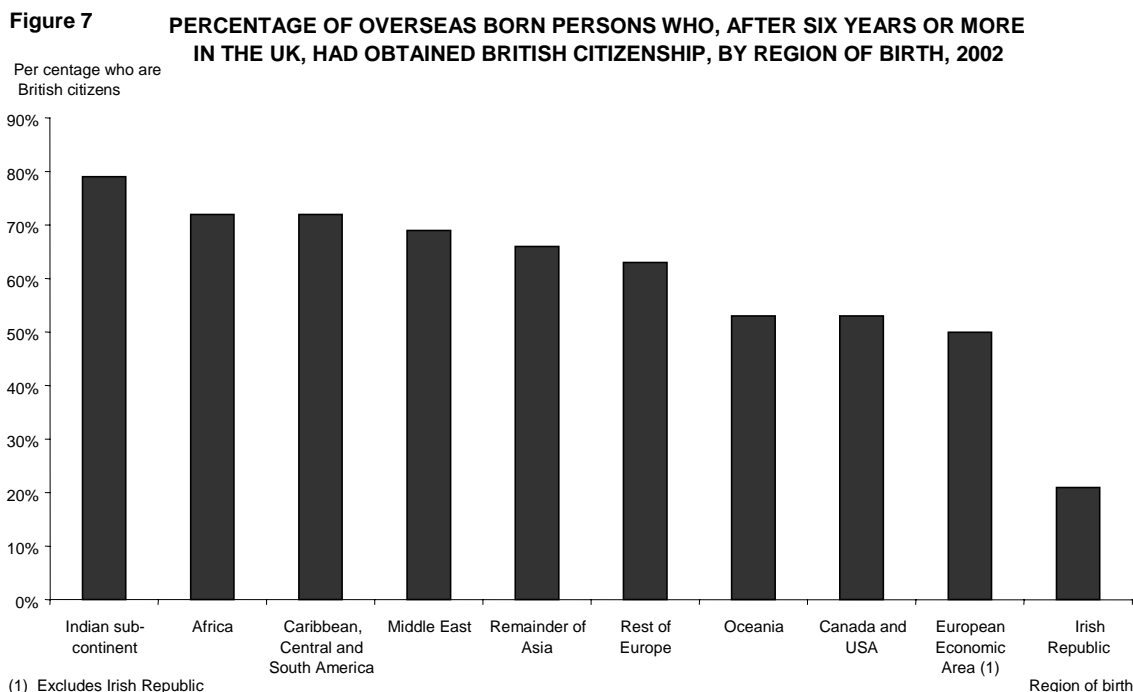
SECTION TWO: BRITISH CITIZENSHIP TAKE-UP RATES

AN ANALYSIS OF THE TENDENCY OF OVERSEAS NATIONALS TO TAKE UP BRITISH CITIZENSHIP (Figure 7 and Table 8)

10. The Research Development and Statistics Directorate has carried out this analysis into the “take-up rate” of citizenship using information from the UK Labour Force Survey (LFS) in response to interest from the ‘Life in the UK Advisory Group’³ on the tendency of overseas nationals to apply for and obtain British citizenship when they are eligible to do so.

11. The LFS was used to produce estimates of the proportion of overseas born persons living in the UK who, when questioned in 2002, were British citizens. This information, when compared with the total overseas born population, gave an indication of the proportion of migrants to the UK who had taken up British citizenship⁴. However, it must be noted that these rates are estimates and exclude a proportion of citizenship grants – most significantly those persons born in the UK who acquire British citizenship, for example via registration.

12. Figure 7 shows the proportion of overseas born persons who are British citizens once they have been in the UK for six years or more - the earliest at which the majority of migrants would be granted British citizenship⁵. In addition, Table 8 shows this analysis for those who have been in the UK for between six and ten years, between eleven and twenty years, and twenty-one years or more.



³ See Explanatory Note 4

⁴ See Explanatory Notes 5 to 7

⁵ Eligibility criteria for British citizenship vary, but the usual maximum is 5 years residency in the UK, plus on average 1 year to allow for the application to be processed.

13. In 2002, 61 per cent of overseas born people who had been in the UK for six years or more were British citizens. This rate varied with region of birth and increased with time spent in the UK prior to obtaining citizenship.

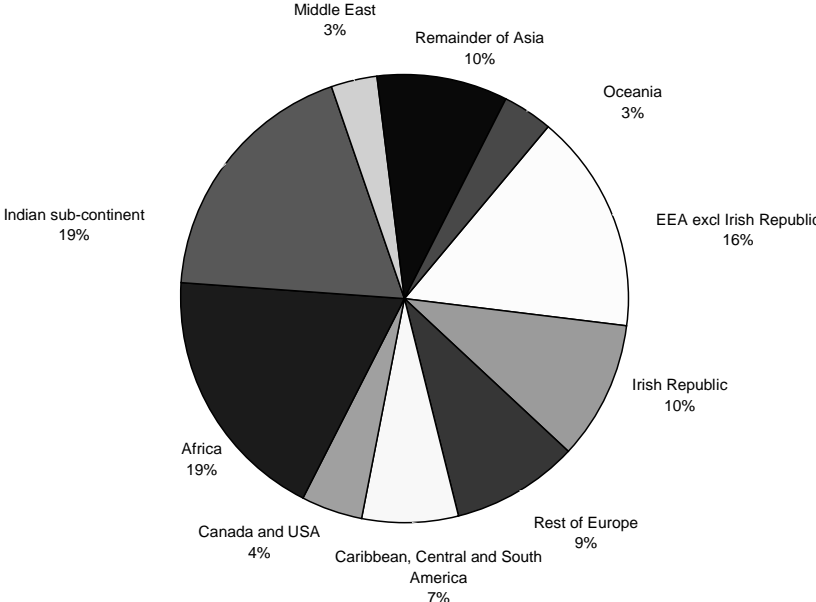
14. People born in developed countries such as Australia, New Zealand, USA, Canada and EU states were less likely to become British citizens than those born in developing countries in such regions as Africa, Asia and the Middle East.

15. The longer a person had remained in the UK the more likely they were to have gained British citizenship. 32 per cent of overseas born people who had been in the UK for between 6 and 10 years in 2002 were British, compared with 71 per cent of those who had been in the UK for over 20 years.

16. Those born in Africa were more likely than others to become British citizens after residing in the UK for over 20 years (93 per cent compared with, for example, 87 per cent of Indian sub-continent-born people). However, they were more likely to wait before applying – only 36 per cent of African-born people who had been in the UK for between 6 and 10 years were British citizens compared with 52 per cent of Indian sub-continent-born people.

17. People born in the Irish Republic were unlikely to become British citizens – only 2 per cent of those who had lived in the UK for between 6 and 10 years, and 24 per cent of those who had lived here for over 20 years.

Figure 8
COUNTRY OF BIRTH OF NON-UK BORN BRITISH CITIZENS RESIDENT IN THE UK, 2002 ⁽¹⁾



(1) Excludes persons born in "Other New Commonwealth", "Rest of the world", "Stateless", "At sea or in air" and when no response is given.
 Source: UK Labour Force Survey, March 2002 to February 2003.

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Table 4	Grants by previous nationality, type and category (relevant section of British Nationality Act 1981), 2003
Table 5	Grants by age, 2002-2003

Other grants of citizenship

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Reasons for refusal of British citizenship

Table 7	Reason for refusal of British citizenship by type of refusal and cases withdrawn or revoked, 2002 - 2003
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British citizenship take-up rates

Table 8	Take-up rates of British citizenship by region of birth, 2002
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Table 1 Applications for British citizenship received and decided in the United Kingdom, 1993-2003

Number of persons

Year	Applications received	Decisions taken	
		Grants ⁽¹⁾	Refusals ⁽²⁾
1993	42,680	45,795	8,040
1994	48,275	44,035	5,855
1995	53,390	40,515	5,030
1996	61,800	43,070	4,770
1997	66,000	37,010	4,745
1998	68,030	53,935	3,750
1999	67,400	54,900	3,995
2000	62,475	82,210	6,785
2001	109,005	90,295	9,530
2002 ^(R)	115,500	120,125	8,455
2003 ^(P)	139,315	124,315	10,680

(1) Data from November 2001 include grants in the Channel Islands and Isle of Man.

(2) Includes small numbers of applications withdrawn.

Table 2 Grants of British citizenship in the United Kingdom by basis of grant⁽¹⁾, 1993-2003

Number of persons

Year of grant	All grants	Residence	Marriage	Minor children	Other ⁽²⁾
1993	45,795	19,865	15,690	9,375	865
1994	44,035	19,095	14,975	9,220	745
1995	40,515	17,805	13,130	8,990	585
1996	43,070	18,970	14,285	9,270	540
1997	37,010	16,465	10,355	9,545	645
1998	53,935	22,935	18,495	11,975	530
1999	54,900	23,170	18,920	12,270	540
2000	82,210	34,980	27,425	19,160	645
2001	90,295	39,775	28,625	21,270	625
2002 ^(R)	120,125	57,595	34,415	26,320	1,795
2003 ^(P)	124,315	54,935	36,735	30,355	2,285

(1) Data from November 2001 include grants of British citizenship in the Channel Islands and Isle of Man

(2) Includes British overseas territories citizens (before February 2002 known as British Dependent Territories citizens) from Gibraltar registered as British citizens under s.5 of the British Nationality Act 1981.

Table 3 Grants of British citizenship in the United Kingdom by previous nationality⁽¹⁾, 1999-2003

Previous nationality	Number of persons				
	1999	2000	2001	2002 (R)	2003 (P)
European Economic Area ⁽²⁾	1,710	2,075	1,680	1,575	2,205
Remainder of Europe	5,575	9,370	9,405	17,755	17,235
Americas	5,415	6,965	7,245	8,035	10,195
Africa	12,865	21,925	29,790	37,560	39,815
Indian sub-continent	14,785	22,145	23,745	26,685	29,715
Middle East	4,715	6,620	5,330	9,440	6,195
Remainder of Asia	6,155	9,150	8,630	15,355	13,335
Oceania	1,525	1,670	1,515	1,740	3,460
Other ⁽³⁾	2,160	2,290	2,565	1,985	2,150
All grants	54,900	82,210	90,295	120,125	124,315

(1) Data from November 2001 include grants of British citizenship in the Channel Islands and Isle of Man.

(2) As constituted now; includes British overseas territories citizens (before February 2002 known as British Dependent Territories citizens) - from Gibraltar.

(3) British overseas territories citizens (before February 2002 known as British Dependent Territories citizens) except from Gibraltar, British overseas citizens, British subjects, British protected persons, stateless and nationality uncertain.

Table 4 Grants of British citizenship in the United Kingdom in 2003 ^(P) by previous nationality, type and category of grant

Number of persons

Previous nationality	Total	Naturalisation		Registration			
		Residence	Marriage	Other Registration	Minor Children	Minor children	Minor children
		s.6(1) Sch.8	s.6(2)	ss.4A, B, C, 4(2),(5), 5, 7, 8(1), (2), (3), 9, 10, 13, 36 Sch.8	ss.1(3), 1(4) Sch.8	s.3(1) Sch.8	ss.3(2),3(5), Sch.8
European Economic Area							
Austria	15	10	†	-	†	5	5
Belgium	40	10	10	-	5	10	5
Denmark	30	10	5	†	5	10	5
Finland	15	†	5	-	-	5	†
France	325	100	60	†	55	75	35
Germany	280	80	95	5	20	45	30
Greece	190	110	50	†	15	10	5
Iceland	5	-	5	-	-	-	-
Irish Republic	130	60	45	10	5	15	-
Italy	315	130	95	†	35	40	20
Luxembourg	5	-	-	-	-	†	†
Netherlands	125	40	25	†	25	20	10
Norway	25	10	5	†	†	5	5
Portugal	500	290	80	†	70	55	5
Spain	115	35	25	-	20	20	10
Sweden	70	25	20	5	5	15	†
Total	2,185	910	525	25	255	335	130
Remainder of Europe							
Albania	310	155	50	-	55	55	-
Andorra	†	-	-	-	-	†	-
Armenia	40	20	10	-	5	5	-
Azerbaijan	65	25	20	-	5	15	-
Belarus	55	15	25	-	†	10	-
Bosnia-Herzegovina	1,775	1,290	60	-	175	250	-
Bulgaria	300	155	85	†	15	45	-
Croatia	390	220	90	-	30	45	-
Cyprus	340	165	120	-	20	25	10
Czech Republic	120	25	80	-	5	10	-
Estonia	20	10	5	-	†	10	-
Georgia	55	35	10	-	5	10	-
Hungary	185	65	90	-	10	15	-
Kazakhstan	35	5	20	-	-	10	†
Kyrgyzstan	10	†	5	-	-	5	-

Table 4 Grants of British citizenship in the United Kingdom in 2003 (P) by previous nationality, type and category of grant (continued)

Previous nationality	Total	Naturalisation		Registration				Number of persons
		Residence	Marriage	Other Registration	Minor Children	Minor children	Minor children	
		s.6(1) Sch.8	s.6(2)	ss.4A, B, C, 4(2),(5), 5, 7, 8(1), (2), (3), 9, 10, 13, 36 Sch.8	ss,1(3), 1(4) Sch.8	s.3(1) Sch.8	ss.3(2),3(5), Sch.8	
Latvia	40	15	20	-	-	5	-	
Lithuania	95	30	35	-	10	20	-	
Macedonia	105	35	55	-	10	5	-	
Malta	215	45	70	80	10	10	-	
Moldova	25	10	10	-	-	5	-	
Poland	750	260	385	†	45	50	†	
Romania	425	155	175	†	25	70	†	
Russia	1,160	430	475	-	60	195	-	
Serbia and Montenegro	4,850	3,270	270	-	535	775	†	
Slovakia	195	45	130	-	5	15	-	
Slovenia	15	5	10	-	†	†	-	
Switzerland	125	30	50	†	†	20	20	
Tajikistan	5	†	†	-	-	†	-	
Turkey	4,910	2,610	1,005	-	600	690	†	
Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus	195	105	50	-	15	25	-	
Turkmenistan	5	-	5	-	-	5	-	
Ukraine	380	155	150	-	10	65	†	
Uzbekistan	35	10	15	-	-	10	†	
Remainder of Europe	17,235	9,400	3,575	80	1,655	2,480	40	
Americas								
Antigua and Barbuda	15	10	5	-	-	†	†	
Argentina	120	45	50	-	5	20	-	
Bahamas	25	5	†	10	-	5	5	
Barbados	155	85	60	-	5	5	†	
Belize	30	10	15	-	-	5	5	
Bolivia	35	15	10	-	-	10	-	
Brazil	435	165	225	-	10	35	5	
Canada	895	395	335	†	30	110	25	
Chile	145	75	50	-	5	5	5	
Colombia	1,000	515	215	-	140	130	†	

Table 4 Grants of British citizenship in the United Kingdom in 2003 ^(P) by previous nationality, type and category of grant (continued)

Previous nationality	Total	Naturalisation		Registration				Number of persons
		Residence	Marriage	Other Registration	Minor Children	Minor children	Minor children	
		s.6(1) Sch.8	s.6(2)	ss.4A, B, C, 4(2),(5), 5, 7, 8(1), (2), (3), 9, 10, 13, 36 Sch.8	ss,1(3), 1(4) Sch.8	s.3(1) Sch.8	ss.3(2),3(5), Sch.8	
Costa Rica	10	†	10	-	-	5	-	
Cuba	65	15	45	-	-	5	-	
Dominica	75	40	25	-	5	10	-	
Dominican Republic	50	15	30	-	†	5	†	
Ecuador	200	105	30	-	25	40	†	
El Salvador	15	5	5	-	5	†	-	
French Guyana	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	
Grenada	105	55	35	-	5	10	†	
Guatemala	10	5	5	-	-	5	-	
Guyana	270	115	105	-	15	35	-	
Haiti	5	†	†	-	-	-	-	
Honduras	15	5	10	-	-	†	-	
Jamaica	2,795	1,285	985	†	150	370	5	
Mexico	145	40	85	-	†	10	5	
Nicaragua	10	†	5	-	-	-	-	
Panama	5	-	5	-	-	†	†	
Paraguay	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	
Peru	175	70	80	-	10	15	†	
St. Kitts and Nevis	10	5	5	-	-	†	-	
St. Lucia	120	60	50	†	†	7	†	
St. Vincent and Grenadines	90	45	35	†	5	5	-	
Surinam	10	5	†	-	-	-	-	
Trinidad and Tobago	550	290	185	†	30	40	-	
United States of America	2,490	990	755	5	200	425	120	
Uruguay	15	5	5	-	†	-	-	
Venezuela	85	30	40	-	-	10	†	
Americas	10,195	4,505	3,515	20	650	1,320	180	

Table 4 Grants of British citizenship in the United Kingdom in 2003 ^(P) by previous nationality, type and category of grant (continued)

Previous nationality	Total	Naturalisation		Registration				Number of persons
		Residence	Marriage	Other Registration	Minor Children	Minor children	Minor children	
		s.6(1) Sch.8	s.6(2)	ss.4A, B, C, 4(2),(5), 5, 7, 8(1), (2), (3), 9, 10, 13, 36 Sch.8	ss,1(3), 1(4) Sch.8	s.3(1) Sch.8	ss.3(2),3(5), Sch.8	
Africa								
Algeria	1,145	605	315	-	125	95	-	
Angola	475	210	15	-	170	80	-	
Benin	10	5	5	-	†	†	-	
Botswana	20	5	5	5	†	5	3	
Burkina Faso	5	†	5	-	-	-	-	
Burundi	80	50	5	-	10	15	-	
Cameroon	200	95	35	-	35	35	-	
Cape Verde	5	5	†	-	†	-	-	
Central African Republic	5	†	-	-	†	-	-	
Chad	10	5	-	-	5	-	-	
Congo	1,010	435	25	-	365	180	†	
Congo (Dem Rep)	855	385	25	-	265	180	-	
Comoros	†	-	†	-	-	-	-	
Djibouti	15	10	†	-	-	†	-	
Egypt	535	210	170	-	75	80	-	
Equatorial Guinea	†	†	-	-	-	-	-	
Eritrea	855	540	30	-	140	145	-	
Ethiopia	780	560	55	†	100	65	-	
Gabon	5	5	†	-	-	†	-	
Gambia	280	105	95	-	45	35	-	
Ghana	3,525	1,660	570	-	960	335	-	
Guinea	15	5	5	-	†	5	-	
Guinea Bissau	5	†	†	-	†	-	-	
Ivory Coast	300	125	40	-	95	45	-	
Kenya	1,390	535	445	105	85	215	5	
Lesotho	5	†	†	-	-	†	-	
Liberia	170	100	25	-	20	25	-	
Libya	400	150	45	-	140	65	-	
Madagascar	5	†	5	-	-	†	-	

Table 4 Grants of British citizenship in the United Kingdom in 2003 ^(P) by previous nationality, type and category of grant (continued)

Previous nationality	Total	Naturalisation		Registration				Number of persons
		Residence	Marriage	Other Registration	Minor Children	Minor children	Minor children	
		s.6(1) Sch.8	s.6(2)	ss.4A, B, C, 4(2),(5), 5, 7, 8(1), (2), (3), 9, 10, 13, 36 Sch.8	ss.1(3), 1(4) Sch.8	s.3(1) Sch.8	ss.3(2),3(5), Sch.8	
Malawi	70	30	20	5	5	15	-	
Mali	10	5	5	-	†	-	-	
Mauritania	10	5	5	-	†	-	-	
Mauritius	760	415	265	-	50	30	†	
Morocco	745	330	355	†	30	30	-	
Mozambique	25	10	10	-	†	5	-	
Namibia	15	5	10	-	-	†	†	
Niger	10	5	†	-	5	-	-	
Nigeria	6,300	2,505	1,400	10	1,745	640	-	
Rwanda	120	65	5	-	20	35	-	
Senegal	30	15	15	-	5	†	-	
Seychelles	90	55	20	-	5	10	-	
Sierra Leone	1,165	605	145	10	250	160	-	
Somalia	8,550	4,380	215	-	1,995	1,955	†	
South Africa	4,290	1,770	1,620	10	160	625	105	
Sudan	1,135	645	100	-	180	210	-	
Swaziland	15	5	5	-	-	5	-	
Tanzania	415	165	160	10	40	40	†	
Togo	60	30	5	-	15	10	-	
Tunisia	150	55	70	-	5	15	5	
Uganda	1,955	1,080	90	10	430	345	-	
Zambia	405	170	85	5	65	75	5	
Zimbabwe	1,390	475	320	240	100	220	35	
Africa	39,815	18,620	6,850	410	7,735	6,035	170	

Table 4 Grants of British citizenship in the United Kingdom in 2003 ^(P) by previous nationality, type and category of grant (continued)

Number of persons

Previous nationality	Total	Naturalisation		Registration			
		Residence	Marriage	Other Registration	Minor Children	Minor children	Minor children
		s.6(1) Sch.8	s.6(2)	ss.4A, B, C, 4(2),(5), 5, 7, 8(1), (2), (3), 9, 10, 13, 36 Sch.8	ss,1(3), 1(4) Sch.8	s.3(1) Sch.8	ss.3(2),3(5), Sch.8
Indian sub-continent							
Bangladesh	6,145	2,095	3,270	†	90	660	35
India	10,780	4,125	5,470	30	420	730	5
Pakistan	12,795	3,075	8,110	†	620	970	15
Indian sub-continent	29,715	9,295	16,850	35	1,130	2,360	50
Middle East							
Bahrain	30	15	10	-	†	5	†
Iran	1,820	1,145	305	-	135	235	†
Iraq	2,245	1,265	220	-	260	495	†
Israel	390	130	175	-	30	50	10
Jordan	215	105	60	-	20	30	†
Kuwait	120	65	10	-	20	25	†
Lebanon	515	255	130	-	85	45	†
Oman	10	†	5	-	-	†	†
Palestine	140	60	25	-	30	25	-
Qatar	5	†	5	-	-	†	-
Republic of Yemen	10	5	5	-	-	-	-
Saudi Arabia	45	15	10	-	5	15	†
Syria	195	80	60	-	30	25	-
United Arab Emirates	20	5	†	-	5	5	5
Yemen	440	135	115	5	45	140	†
Yemen Arab Republic	†	†	-	-	-	-	-
Middle East	6,195	3,280	1,130	5	660	1,095	25
Remainder of Asia							
Afghanistan	1,610	870	45	-	295	400	-
Brunei	5	†	†	-	-	-	-
Burma	10			-	5	5	-
Cambodia	25	5	5	-	-	10	-
China	1,870	810	480	5	110	465	5

Table 4 Grants of British citizenship in the United Kingdom in 2003 ^(P) by previous nationality, type and category of grant (continued)

Previous nationality	Total	Naturalisation		Registration				Number of persons
		Residence	Marriage	Other Registration	Minor Children	Minor children	Minor children	
		s.6(1) Sch.8	s.6(2)	ss.4A, B, C, 4(2),(5), 5, 7, 8(1), (2), (3), 9, 10, 13, 36 Sch.8	ss.1(3), 1(4) Sch.8	s.3(1) Sch.8	ss.3(2),3(5), Sch.8	
Hong Kong SAR of China (holder of certificate)	20	5	5	†	-	5	5	
Hong Kong SAR of China (holder of special voucher)	130	30	30	25	10	25	15	
Indonesia	130	35	75	†	10	10	-	
Japan	150	65	50	-	15	10	5	
Laos	5	-	5	-	-	†	-	
Macau	†	-	†	-	-	-	-	
Malaysia	475	220	180	†	40	25	5	
Maldives	5	†	†	-	-	-	-	
Mongolia	10	†	5	-	-	†	-	
Myanmar (Burma)	105	70	35	-	-	-	-	
Nepal	160	85	35	-	10	25	-	
North Korea	15	10	-	-	†	5	-	
Philippines	1,610	545	845	-	50	165	†	
Singapore	85	40	25	-	†	10	5	
South Korea	205	105	35	-	30	30	-	
Sri Lanka	5,110	3,440	410	†	810	450	-	
Taiwan	170	85	50	-	5	30	-	
Thailand	1,035	270	590	-	20	160	†	
Vietnam	400	185	130	-	5	80	-	
Remainder of Asia	13,335	6,890	3,040	35	1,415	1,915	40	
Oceania								
American Samoa	10	5	†	-	5	†	-	
Australia	2,105	1,070	710	5	85	175	55	
Fiji	50	20	30	-	-	-	-	
Kiribati	†	-	†	-	-	-	-	
New Zealand	1,280	755	375	-	40	90	20	

Table 4 Grants of British citizenship in the United Kingdom in 2003 ^(P) by previous nationality, type and category of grant (continued)

Previous nationality	Total	Number of persons					
		Naturalisation		Registration			
		Residence	Marriage	Other Registration	Minor Children	Minor children	Minor children
		s.6(1) Sch.8	s.6(2)		ss.4A, B, C, 4(2),(5), 5, 7, 8(1), (2), (3), 9, 10, 13, 36 Sch.8	ss.1(3), 1(4) Sch.8	s.3(1) Sch.8
Papua New Guinea	5	5	†	-	†	†	-
Solomon Islands	†	-	†	-	-	-	-
Tonga	5	5	†	-	-	†	-
Vanuatu	†	-	-	†	-	†	-
Western Samoa	5	5	-	-	-	-	-
Oceania	3,460	1,860	1,125	5	130	270	70
Other							
British overseas territories citizens [1]	595	25	60	470	15	25	†
British Overseas citizens	1,080	65	35	945	15	20	-
British subjects	140	10	5	120	5	†	-
British protected persons	125	15	5	100	-	5	-
Nationality uncertain	105	30	15	10	30	15	5
Stateless	5	†	-	†	-	-	-
Stateless - Defined 1954 Convention	70	15	†	5	20	15	10
Stateless refugee- Defined 1951 Convention	†	-	-	†	-	-	-
Stateless refugee - Other	35	5	†	5	10	10	5
Total	2,150	170	115	1,660	90	95	20
All nationalities	124,295 [2]	54,935	36,730	2,275	13,725	15,905	725

[1] Including British Nationals (Overseas), but excluding Gibraltar BOTCs.

[2] In addition, 18 Gibraltar BOTCs were registered under section 5 of the British Nationality Act 1981.

Table 5 Grants of citizenship in the United Kingdom, 2002 - 2003, by age ⁽¹⁾

Age	Number of Persons	
	2002	2003
Children Under 16	21,855	25,575
16-24	11,810	12,665
25-34	34,375	35,245
35-44	30,920	29,965
45-59	16,265	16,010
60+	4,630	4,690
Total	119,855	124,145

(1) Excludes 265 cases in 2002 and 170 cases in 2003 for which information on age is not available; data is based on the cases for which information is provided.

Hence the totals differ from those shown in tables 1,2 and 3. The data are based on the cases for which information is available.

Table 6 Other grants of citizenship by type of citizenship, 1999-2003

Type of citizenship	Number of persons				
	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
British citizenship granted in Hong Kong ⁽¹⁾	725	*	*	*	*
British citizenship granted in the UK to residents of Hong Kong ⁽²⁾	*	350	365	175	175
British overseas territories citizenship granted in the British overseas territories	680	560	630	515	620 ⁽⁴⁾
British Overseas citizenship ⁽³⁾	-	†	-	-	-

(1) From 2000 there were no grants of British citizenship in Hong Kong because the responsibility for grants was transferred to the Home Office in the UK.

(2) Includes persons of non-Chinese ethnic origin.

(3) The British overseas territories for 2003 granted in the United Kingdom.

(4) Other Dependant Territories for 2003 does not include data from the Cayman Islands, Turks and Caicos.

Table 7 Reasons for refusal of British citizenship by type of refusal and cases withdrawn or revoked, 2002 - 2003
 Number of refusals

Reason for refusal	2002	2003
Incomplete applications ⁽¹⁾	575	615
Parent not a British citizen	545	775
Not of good character ⁽²⁾	740	885
Delay in replying to enquiries from IND	1,280	1,945
Residence ⁽³⁾	3,005	4,290
Oath not taken in time	70	125
Other ⁽⁴⁾	805	470
Total refusals	7,020	9,100
Granted but withdrawn or revoked ⁽⁵⁾	1,435	1,575

(1) Includes cases where the applicant has not paid the fee, submitted unacceptable documentation, late and improper applications

(2) Includes applicants who are considered a threat to national security

(3) Includes applicants who have not lived lawfully in the UK for the last 5 years, have been in breach of the immigration laws during those 5 years, have been absent from the UK for more than 450 days in those 5 years or more than 90 days in the last 12 months of those 5 years

(4) Includes cases where the applicant has an insufficient knowledge of English, is not of full capacity, is under/over the age limit, is not married to a British citizen, has no qualifying connections, is a threat to national security, ineligibility (right of abode) and transitory period

(5) Includes cases where the applicant was issued a certificate but was already British or died, was British already and application withdrawn

Table 8 Take-up rates of British citizenship by region of birth, 2002 ^(P)

Region or country of birth	Total number of persons born outside the UK	British citizens born outside the UK	Proportion of persons who are British citizens after being in the UK for:			
			6 years or more	Between 6 and 10 years	Between 11 and 20 years	21 years or more
Europe	1,687,000	490,000	42%	19%	34%	50%
<i>EEA excl Irish Republic</i>	757,000	218,000	50%	19%	40%	63%
<i>Irish Republic</i>	488,000	91,000	21%	2%	6%	24%
<i>Rest of Europe</i>	442,000	181,000	63%	24%	54%	79%
Americas	542,000	266,000	65%	33%	39%	76%
<i>Caribbean, Central and South America</i>	331,000	196,000	72%	31%	53%	79%
<i>Canada and USA</i>	211,000	69,000	53%	36%	23%	66%
Africa	903,000	474,000	72%	36%	62%	93%
Indian sub-continent	895,000	584,000	79%	52%	71%	87%
Middle East	158,000	77,000	69%	38%	70%	86%
Remainder of Asia	466,000	208,000	66%	35%	51%	85%
Oceania	168,000	52,000	53%	27%	36%	71%
Other ¹
TOTAL excluding "Other"	4,818,000	2,150,000	61%	32%	53%	71%

SOURCE: UK Labour Force Survey, March 2002-February 2003

¹ "Other" includes Other New Commonwealth, "rest of the world", stateless, at sea/in air, no response

.. Not available due to small sample sizes.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

PERSONS GRANTED BRITISH CITIZENSHIP

1. The British Nationality Act 1981, which came into force on 1 January 1983, reduced greatly the number of persons eligible to claim British citizenship by reason of entitlement. Certain entitlements to British citizenship were extended for a transitional period, which ended on 31 December 1987, after which time applications had to be made on discretionary grounds.

2. The nationality shown in the first column of Tables 3 and 4 is the one, or in cases of dual nationality the main one, which the person possessed immediately before acquiring British citizenship.

3. The categories shown in Tables 2 and 4 relate to the section of the British Nationality Act 1981 under which citizenship was acquired. The following is a brief summary of the provisions of the relevant sections of the Act:

s.1(3) - entitlement to registration of a minor born in the United Kingdom when one of his/her parents becomes a British citizen or becomes settled in the United Kingdom.

s.1(4) - entitlement to registration of a person in the United Kingdom who spent the first ten years of his/her life in the United Kingdom.

s.3(1) - discretionary registration of a minor.

s.3(2) - entitlement to registration of a minor less than one year old who was born outside the United Kingdom to parents one of whom was a British citizen by descent.

s.3(5) - entitlement to registration of an overseas-born minor resident in the United Kingdom, one of whose parents was a British citizen by descent.

s.4A - discretionary registration for adults and minors who are British overseas territories citizens.

s.4B - entitlement to registration for British overseas citizens, British subjects and British protected persons who have no other citizenship or nationality.

s.4C - entitlement to registration for people born after 7 February 1961 and before 1 January 1983 to mothers who were citizens of the United Kingdom and Colonies at the time of their birth.

s.4(2) - entitlement to registration of a British overseas territories citizen, a British Overseas citizen, a British subject or a British protected person resident in the United Kingdom.

s.4(5) - discretionary registration on the grounds of Crown service of a British overseas territories citizen, a British Overseas citizen, a British subject or a British protected person.

s.5 - entitlement to registration of a British overseas territories citizen from Gibraltar.

s.6(1) - naturalisation of an adult by virtue of residence in the United Kingdom.

s.6(2) - naturalisation of an adult, resident in the United Kingdom, by virtue of marriage to a British citizen.

s.7 -transitional entitlement to registration (which, with minor exceptions, ended on 31 December 1987) of a Commonwealth citizen who is resident in the United Kingdom.

s.8(1) - transitional entitlement to registration (which ended on 31 December 1987) of a woman still married since before 1983 to a man who became a British citizen on commencement of the 1981 Act.

s.8(2) and 8(3) - transitional discretionary registration (which ended on 31 December 1987) of a woman married before 1983 to a man who would have become a British citizen but for his death or renunciation of citizenship.

s.9 - transitional entitlement to registration (which ended on 31 December 1988) of a minor born abroad between 1 January 1983 and 31 December 1987 who, if they had been born before 1 January 1983 and had been consularly registered, would have become a British citizen on 1 January 1983.

s.10(1) - entitlement to acquire British citizenship by a person who had renounced citizenship of the United Kingdom and Colonies before 1983.

s.10(2) - discretionary registration of a person connected with the United Kingdom who renounced citizenship of the United Kingdom and Colonies before 1983.

s.13(1) - entitlement to resume British citizenship by a person who renounced it to acquire some other citizenship.

s.13(3) - discretionary registration of a person who has previously renounced British citizenship.

s.27(1) - discretionary provision for stateless minors one of whose parents is a British overseas citizen and whose family's stay in the country where they live is at risk to the point of deportation.

Schedule 2 - entitlement to registration of a stateless person.

Schedule 8 - any applications made before the commencement of the 1981 Act continue to be decided in accordance with the provisions of the previous nationality Acts.

BRITISH CITIZENSHIP TAKE-UP RATES

4. The 'Life in the UK Advisory Group', headed by Sir Bernard Crick, was established in September 2002 with the remit: "*To advise the Home Secretary on the method, conduct and implementation of a 'Life in the United Kingdom' naturalisation test.*" More information can be found at <http://www.ind.homeoffice.gov.uk/default.asp?pageid=3696>

5. Information from the UK Labour Force Survey (LFS), run by the Office for National Statistics, was used to produce the results in Table 7. The LFS is a quarterly sample survey of households living at private addresses in Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Its purpose is to provide information on the UK labour market, but also contains questions that enquire after the respondent's country of birth, nationality, and year in which they arrived in the UK (if born outside the UK). As these figures are based on a sample - and in some cases the sample sizes are relatively small - it must be noted that they are only estimates and subject to sampling error. Data for the four consecutive quarters March to May 2002, June to August 2002, September to November 2002 and December 2002 to February 2003 were averaged to produce an annual estimate for 2002. Cross-tabulations of each of the LFS variables NATOX (main nationality) and CRYOX (country of birth) were produced with variable CAMEYR (year in which respondent arrived in the UK, which is asked of all persons not born in the UK). From these analyses, estimates were made of the number of overseas born British citizens, and dividing these by the total number of overseas born persons in each nationality and year breakdown provided broad estimates of British citizenship take-up rate.

6. The figures presented in this paper are estimates and not definitive take-up rates of British citizenship. They should also be treated as provisional subject to further refinement of the analysis. They show the proportions of overseas born persons who are British citizens and do not take into account the application rate of citizenship applicants. The figures also include overseas citizens born in the UK, but this group is very small (2 per cent) in relation to the overseas born population. These figures include persons of all ages – i.e. they include children born abroad. An appreciable number will have acquired citizenship by registration as children. If it is assumed that the citizenship take-up rate for such children is higher than for adults, then this might result in a lower take-up rate for adults. This group will include some who were British at birth (e.g. children born to parents living in British military bases abroad) but it is not possible to separately identify them.

7. The following assumptions have been made to produce these estimates:
- the original nationality of overseas born persons is the same as their country of birth;
 - dual-nationals of which one nationality is British quote their British nationality as their main one, and those with two non-British nationalities quote the same nationality as their country of birth;
 - the year given as the year in which respondent arrived in the UK is the year in which the respondent commenced their long-term stay in the UK. It may be the case that a person has become a UK citizen, then returned to their country of birth – or another country – for a period of time, before returning to continue their life in the UK.

GENERAL

8. The following symbols are used in the tables:

* not applicable

- nil

† 2 or less

(P) provisional figures

(R) figures have been revised since the previous issue of this bulletin, for example to include late returns

9. Statistics for the years 1962 - 1983 were published annually in "Statistics of persons acquiring Citizenship of the United Kingdom and Colonies" (for 1962-77), "Tables of persons acquiring Citizenship of the United Kingdom and Colonies" (for 1978-82) and "Tables of persons acquiring British Citizenship" (for 1983), all of which are available from The Stationery Office. Statistics for 1984 and subsequent years were published in the relevant annual Statistical Bulletin. Copies of previous bulletins, and further copies of this bulletin, are available from:

Home Office
Research Development and Statistics Directorate
Room 264
50 Queen Anne's Gate
London
SW1H 9AT

Telephone: 020-7273 2084

Fax: 020-7222 0211

Email: publications.rds@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk

Enquiries about the figures should be made to:

Home Office
Research Development and Statistics Directorate
Immigration Research and Statistics Service
Room 1402
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