



Home Office



Statistical News Release: Immigration Statistics

30 August 2012

Immigration Statistics, April - June 2012

Home Office's *Immigration Statistics April – June 2012* release, published today, provides the latest provisional figures on those subject to immigration control, for the period up to the end of June. The release contains both National Statistics and official statistics.

Key points from the latest release

All nationalities

The total number of admissions rose 2% to 106.4 million in the year ending June 2012 compared with the previous 12 months (104.5 million), continuing the increase since the year ending September 2010 (101.4 million), and thought to reflect, to a large extent, trends in international tourism.

People subject to immigration control

Excluding visitor and transit visas, the number of visas issued fell 16% to 519,730 in the year ending June 2012 compared with the previous 12 months. This is the lowest 12-monthly total for comparable data that goes back to 2005.

In the year ending June 2012, work-related visas issued fell 7% compared with the previous 12 months to 147,385, the lowest level recorded using comparable data. Over the same period study visas issued (excluding student visitors) fell 30% to 213,836, and family visas issued fell 10% to 45,290. The recent falls for work and study are likely in part to be due to policy changes, which came into effect in December 2010 and April 2011 for these reasons for entry to the UK.

There was a 25% increase in student visit visas issued to a record 68,997 in the year ending June 2012 compared with the previous 12 months. Student visit visas are for short-term study and cannot be extended.

The total number of grants to extend stay has fallen 11% (-33,122) to 271,186 in the year ending June 2012, continuing the falls over the last three years (from 361,211 in the year ending June 2009). The 11% fall in total grants in the latest 12 months was largely due to nearly a third fewer study-related grants (31% or -42,570).

In the year ending June 2012 there were 19,959 asylum applications, a rise of 1,136 (6%) from the previous 12 months. This had followed a slight increase in the previous year. The peak number of asylum applications received was in the year ending December 2002 (84,132).

In the year ending June 2012, 28,242 people entered detention, an increase of 7% compared with the previous 12 months (26,301). Over the same period there was an increase of 5% in those leaving detention (from 26,411 to 27,852). Of those leaving detention 62% were removed from the UK.

As of the end of June 2012, 2,993 people were in detention. This was slightly below the 3,034 as at the end of March 2012, which was the highest number recorded since publication of comparable data began in 2001.

The number of children entering detention in each quarter began to fall from a peak in the third quarter of 2009 of 322, to a low point of 19 in the first quarter of 2011. In the second quarter of 2012 it has increased to 60.

In the year ending June 2012, the number of enforced removals from the UK has increased by 1% to 15,014 from 14,931 in the previous 12 months. The number of passengers refused entry at port and who subsequently departed has fallen 15% in the latest 12 months to 14,116 (from 16,639 for the year ending June 2011). This continues the fall over the last seven years (from 31,950 in the year ending June 2005).

In the year ending June 2012 there was an increase of 2% in total voluntary departures to 25,585 compared with the previous year. For 2009 onwards, this category has represented the largest proportion of those departing from the UK. The retrospective nature of the checks made for many of these departures mean that figures for the latest periods are particularly subject to subsequent upward revision.

Further and more detailed analysis can be found in the *Immigration Statistics, April - June 2012*.

Notes to editors

1. *Immigration Statistics, April – June 2012* is available via the UK National Statistics publication hub website and the Home Office science, research and statistics webpages <http://homeoffice.gov.uk/science-research/research-statistics/migration/migration-statistics1/> .

2. This release is published as part of a coordinated release of migration and population products. Today sees the release of the following publications:

Office for National Statistics (ONS)

- *Migration Statistics Quarterly Report (Jointly with Home Office, DWP and National Records of Scotland)*
- *Provisional Long-term International Migration (latest quarterly)*
- *Local area migration indicators*
- *Population by country of birth and nationality from the Annual Population Survey*

Department for Work and Pensions (DWP)

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

National Records of Scotland (NRS)

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

The *Migration Statistics Quarterly Report* summarises the regular quarterly migration and related data published by the Home Office, DWP, ONS and NRS and is available at

<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/taxonomy/index.html?nscl=International+Migration>

3. Also today, UK Border Agency are publishing management information on the key input and impact indicators within the Home Office business plan. These are available from <http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/aboutus/our-performance/>
4. In autumn 2011, the UK Statistics Authority assessed Immigration Statistics against the Code of Practice for Official Statistics, as part of its routine programme of assessments. The assessment report <http://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/assessment/assessment/assessment-reports/index.html> was published on 2 February 2012. The assessment report included some requirements for Home Office Statistics to improve and clarify information about data sources, data quality and revisions to data, improve the interpretability of data and to clarify the status of data that were previously labelled as management information. Home Office Statistics have made a number of additional changes to the publication in this release to address further suggestions from UKSA following improvements made in the May 2012 edition. Subject to final agreement that Home Office Science has met all requirements, this release will be re-designated by the Authority as National Statistics. More information on National Statistics and the Code of Practice for Official Statistics can be found on the UK Statistics Authority website <http://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/>.
5. 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 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.gsi.gov.uk

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

6. The Home Office Responsible Statistician is David Blunt, Chief Statistician and Head of Profession for Statistics.