



# Home Office

## CONTROL OF IMMIGRATION: QUARTERLY STATISTICAL SUMMARY, UNITED KINGDOM

### QUARTER 4 2010 (OCTOBER – DECEMBER)

#### MAIN POINTS

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#### BORDER CONTROL

- Comparing 2010 with a year earlier, the overall number of entry clearance visas issued increased by 7 per cent from 1,995,495 to 2,145,085; 1,826,030 were to main applicants and 319,060 to dependants.

#### Visitors

- The number of visitor visas issued in 2010 was 1,518,935, an increase of 11 per cent on a year earlier (1,365,690).

#### Employment

- The number of employment-related entry clearance visas issued in 2010 was 166,660, an increase of 3 per cent on a year earlier (162,450). Between year ending December 2007 (227,635) and year ending March 2010 (158,975), the number of employment-related entry clearance visas issued within a 12 month period saw a general decrease but has since remained relatively flat.

#### Study

- The number of entry clearance visas issued for the purposes of study, including Tier 4 (students) and student visitors, in 2010 was 334,815, a decrease of 2 per cent on a year earlier (341,090). Between year ending December 2007 and year ending June 2010, visas issued within a 12 month period for the purposes of study saw a general increase from 248,010 to 362,080.

#### ASYLUM

- The number of applications for asylum, excluding dependants, was 27 per cent lower in 2010 (17,790) compared with 2009 (24,485).
- Asylum applications were at their lowest in 2010, since a peak in 2002 (84,130).
- In 2010, 20,645 initial asylum decisions were made, excluding dependants, a decrease of 15 per cent compared with 2009 (24,285). The number of initial decisions has been relatively consistent in each of the last five years, ranging between 19,400 and 24,285 following a decrease from 120,950 initial decisions in 2001, which reflects the decrease in new applications in a similar period.

#### ENFORCEMENT AND COMPLIANCE

- In 2010, 57,085 persons were removed or departed voluntarily from the UK, 15 per cent lower than in 2009 (67,215). This is the lowest annual figure since 2005 – prior to which data are not directly comparable – and down 16 per cent compared to the peak

24 February 2011

of 67,980 in 2008. The change (since 2008) appears to be primarily due to the significantly lower number of non-asylum cases refused entry at port and subsequently removed.

- Within the total number of persons removed or departing voluntarily in 2010, there were 9,850 persons (including dependants) who had claimed asylum (15 per cent lower than in 2009) and 47,240 non-asylum cases (15 per cent lower than in 2009).
- 27 children entered detention<sup>1</sup>, held solely under Immigration Act powers in Q4 2010, 91 per cent lower than in Q4 2009 (295).

## MANAGED MIGRATION

### After-entry applications to vary leave to remain<sup>2</sup>

- Of the 309,810 grants of extension of leave to remain<sup>3</sup> in 2010, 248,045 (80 per cent) were made under the Points Based System.
- The number of decisions<sup>3</sup> on applications to vary conditions of leave fell by 3 per cent in 2010 (381,215) on a year earlier (393,855).
- Of the total decisions in 2010, 19 per cent (71,405) were refusals compared with 15 per cent (59,875) a year earlier and 7 per cent (26,290) in 2008.
- **Employment-related grants<sup>4</sup> of an extension of leave to remain** fell by 22 per cent from 163,465 in 2009 to 127,020 in 2010, continuing the decrease from 188,470 in 2008.
- There was an 8 per cent increase in grants of **extensions of leave to remain relating to study<sup>5</sup>** (up from 129,565 in 2009 to 140,315 in 2010), more than offsetting the fall from 132,105 in 2008.
- There was a 6 per cent decrease in grants of extensions of leave to remain relating to family (down from 23,595 in 2009 to 22,090 in 2010), continuing the fall from 28,565 in 2008.

### Settlement decisions<sup>6</sup>

- The number of decisions on applications for settlement in the UK, excluding EEA and Swiss nationals, rose by 21 per cent in 2010 to 250,365 from 207,340 in 2009.
- Comparing 2009 with 2010, the number of persons granted settlement in the UK rose by 22 per cent from 194,780 to 237,890. The 2010 figure is similar to the total grants in the 12 months ending 30 September 2010 (238,950), which was the highest 12 month figure since records began in 1960.
- Employment-related grants of settlement rose by 4 per cent from 81,185 in 2009 to 84,370 in 2010 continuing the increase in employment-related grants since 2007, partly reflecting an increase in the number of people admitted in work-related categories 5 years earlier.
- Asylum-related grants of settlement rose from 3,110 in 2009 to 5,125 in 2010. Previously, asylum-related grants have shown a broadly decreasing trend, decreasing from 14,190 in 2007.

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<sup>1</sup> This figure has been left unrounded in line with the previously published monthly children entering detention statistics. See 'Consultation and Long-Term Developments' section of Introduction regarding consideration to publish data unrounded.

<sup>2</sup> Data relate to the number of decisions and include dependants of principal applicants.

<sup>3</sup> Excluding settlement and asylum cases.

<sup>4</sup> Includes grants under Tiers 1, 2 and 5 of the Points Based System.

<sup>5</sup> Includes grants under Tier 4 of the Points Based System.

<sup>6</sup> Data relate to the number of people and include dependants of principal applicants.

- Family formation and reunion grants of settlement fell by 10 per cent from 72,240 in 2009 to 65,310 in 2010 reversing the increase from 55,350 in 2008.
- Other grants, including those on a discretionary basis<sup>7</sup>, more than doubled from 38,245 in 2009 to 83,090 in 2010. The increase in these grants since 2007 can be attributed to persons granted indefinite leave outside the immigration rules under measures aimed at clearing the backlog of outstanding unresolved cases.

### Worker Registration Scheme

- Comparing 2010 with a year earlier, there were a total of 122,625 initial applicants to the Worker Registration Scheme (WRS), up 6 per cent from 115,760. This increase reverses the trend of calendar year-on-year decreases in initial applicants for the WRS since the 2006.
- The number of approved WRS applicants in 2010 was 116,760, a 7 per cent increase compared to 108,920 in 2009. This increase reverses the trend of calendar year-on-year decreases in approved applicants for the WRS since 2006.
- Approved applicants from Poland fell to 52,325 in 2010 from 55,840 in 2009 – this is the fourth consecutive calendar year in which the number of approved applicants from Poland has fallen.
- Approved applicants from Lithuania in 2010 increased to 23,900 from 15,210 in 2009 – the second successive calendar year increase following three successive calendar year decreases – and from Latvia increased to 18,440 from 15,880 – the third successive calendar year increase.

### British citizenship

- Comparing 2009 with 2010, applications for British citizenship rose by 2 per cent, from 193,810 to 197,495, continuing the increase from 156,015 in 2008 but at a slower rate.
- The number of persons granted British citizenship in the UK fell by 4 per cent to 195,130 in 2010 compared to 2009 (203,790). However, grants of British citizenship are above the levels seen in the period 2005 to 2007, which ranged between 154,000 and 165,000.

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<sup>7</sup> Includes persons granted indefinite leave outside the immigration rules under measures aimed at clearing the backlog of outstanding unresolved cases and grants where the category is unknown.

## INTRODUCTION

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This Statistical Summary aims to give users an overview of the work of the UK Border Agency. This information is grouped by key operational area of the UK Border Agency – i.e. border control, asylum, managed migration, and enforcement and compliance.

The report contains a mixture of National Statistics, identified by the use of the symbol (NS✓) in the section overviews, and management information. Supplementary tables that accompany this bulletin include information by country of nationality. All tables are available from <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/immigration-asylum-stats.html>.

### What's new

This Statistical Summary contains commentary on the trends since 2007 on key series. It provides provisional data for 2010 for the first time.

#### Border Control

Data have been included on passenger arrivals of non-EEA nationals for the first two quarters of 2010. It is planned to release quarterly data every six months, with quarters 1 and 2 published in February of each year and 3 and 4 published in August.

#### Asylum

Data on non suspensive appeals have been revised for all quarters for number of decisions with country of nationality designated clearly unfounded. The data previously included withdrawn cases; data are now aligned with the definition of initial decision employed elsewhere, including Table 2.1.

#### Enforcement and Compliance

The quarterly data on children entering detention, held solely under Immigration Act powers, by age range and place of initial detention are published unrounded in this bulletin. This is in line with the monthly publication of unrounded management information on children entering detention, which followed an increase in public and parliamentary interest and a desire for more frequent information. All other data are rounded to the nearest 5 as before.

### Future developments

#### British Citizenship

It is proposed that data on British citizenship will be amalgamated with the *Control of Immigration: Quarterly statistical summary* from May 2011 and the annual bulletin *British Citizenship Statistics United Kingdom* will no longer be published separately.

Amalgamation of the publications will ensure that available resource can be allocated more effectively.

#### Entry Clearance Visas

Checks on the alignment of entry clearance visa endorsements within the employment and family categories and between main applicants and dependants for non-PBS visas are ongoing and planned for revision in the Q1 2011 publication.

#### Asylum

As announced in *Control of Immigration: Quarterly Statistical Summary Q3 2010*, it is planned to change the way outstanding asylum applications statistics are calculated and published from the next quarterly publication.

A monthly data series was introduced in June 2010 showing the number of asylum applications lodged since April 2006 that are pending a decision. This series is based on the UK Border Agency's administrative database and is more accurate than the quarterly

series of outstanding asylum applications currently published in this bulletin, although the latter remains a reasonable indicator of trends. The quarterly outstanding asylum application series has been calculated from the cumulative effect of applications received, decisions made, and applications withdrawn, applied to the total backlog figure produced from a manual count at the end of August 2001. This measure is based on a combination of different sources of information, which may have led to discrepancies over time. Having published the outstanding asylum applications figure as at the end of December 2010 in this publication, the figure for applications pending a decision will be used.

The following shows a comparison of the data series. There are differences in the definitions of the two series; in particular, the pending applications series only includes applications lodged since April 2006, but does include fresh claims and cases which have had an initial decision but are in the asylum system pending further review.

**Comparison, for main applicants, of applications outstanding initial decision (1) and pending cases (2)(3) as at the end of Q2, Q3 and Q4 2010 (P)**

	Applications outstanding	Main applicants				
		Pending cases received for asylum since April 2006				
		Pending an initial decision	Of whom:		Pending further review	Total pending cases
Less than 6 months old	More than 6 months old					
As at end						
Q2 2010	4,100	7,720	2,800	4,920	7,020	14,740
Q3 2010	2,800	6,485	2,595	3,890	5,840	12,325
Q4 2010	1,700	5,980	2,560	3,415	5,645	11,625

(1) Figures rounded to the nearest hundred. The series on asylum cases outstanding initial decision is based on a combination of different sources of information, including a manual count at the end of August 2001, which may have led to discrepancies over time.

(2) Figures rounded to the nearest 5 and may not sum due to independent rounding.

(3) Applications from main applicants, including fresh claims, received for asylum lodged since 1 April 2006 which are still under consideration at the end of the reference period.

(P) Provisional figures.

Further work is needed on the number of pending applications to assure the quality of the earlier records before information on earlier years can be published.

**Consultation and long term developments**

As a result of consultation with a group of key users of control of immigration data, Home Office Statistics are proposing a phased development of changes that would ultimately lead to the release of data using the web as the main vehicle of dissemination. Home Office Statistics are therefore consulting with all users of the publication. This will help to ensure resources are directed to the most important topics.

It is proposed that in a phased development between August 2011 and February 2012:

- commentary and analysis of the data should be structured in virtual topics, be shorter and focus on key points, but provide longer term trends;
- the annual and quarterly publications, together with the British Citizenship Statistics, are combined to avoid duplication;
- tables are presented in such a way that makes them more accessible to users, in particular listing within tables all annual data, followed by quarterly data (a draft example of this layout is available in Table 1.2); and a standard and full country of nationality and continent list; and
- the number of tables released is reduced through a combination of amalgamation and a reduction in the variables reported on.

Proposed changes to tables

The content of the high volume of tables produced, including information on asylum fast track, the breakdown of asylum removals by main applicant and dependants, information on court proceedings, is no longer reflective of the work that the UK Border Agency performs. In order to meet the needs of our users and streamline the statistics that are produced, it is proposed to reduce the number of tables released. This will primarily be

through amalgamation of tables, but also through the slight reduction in the variables reported on.

Below is a list of information that it is proposed, from August, will no longer be available through this move:

### **Asylum**

Applications by age and sex for dependants; however applications by age and sex for main applicants will continue to be published and data including dependants will continue to be available via EUROSTAT.

Post decision reviews on asylum applications; data supplied to and available from EUROSTAT on final outcomes of asylum cases are more comprehensive as they include outcomes beyond the post-decision review.

Support information, including the breakdown of applications by support type and family size, and cases with support ceased. Data on supported asylum seekers by local authority will continue to be published.

Fast track applications, of which decisions made, appeals lodged and removals and voluntary departures made.

### **Removals and voluntary departures**

The breakdown of asylum removals by main applicant and dependants will no longer be available; however asylum removals including dependants will continue to be produced.

### **Court proceedings**

Information on court proceedings will no longer be published in the *Control of Immigration* publications. This series was provided by Ministry of Justice and is a subset of data that will continue to be published by Ministry of Justice.

### **Appeals**

Outcomes of appeals determinations by broad category and Asylum principal appellant appeals lodged and determinations will no longer be published in the *Control of Immigration* publication. These data are sourced from Tribunals Service Immigration and Asylum and will continue to be published in *Quarterly Statistics for the Tribunals Service*. The asylum appeals data series will be replaced by one on principal asylum applicants sourced from the UK Border Agency administrative database to be consistent with other published data on asylum.

### **Rounding of data**

Consideration is being given to publishing the statistics in this bulletin that are based on administrative data in an unrounded format; they are currently rounded to the nearest 5. This would be with the aim of increasing the utility to users by allowing them to perform accurate calculations on these data for themselves. However, full consideration needs to be made of situations when the numbers are small and potentially disclosive. This proposal does not include the data on passenger arrivals, which are estimated due to sampling of landing cards.

A more detailed explanation of the changes, together with the consultation questions, is available from <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/immigration-asylum-stats.html>.

We welcome responses to the proposals for the above long term developments, including rounding and the amalgamation of the three publications, by Wednesday 4 May. This ten week consultation period will allow an update to be included within the *Control of Immigration: Quarterly statistical summary Q1 2011*. Responses to the consultation questions can be e-mailed to: [MigrationStatsEnquiries@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:MigrationStatsEnquiries@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk).

## Conventions used in figures and tables

All data, except percentages or unless otherwise stated, in this publication have been rounded to the nearest 5. Percentages are generally given to the nearest percentage point. Data in some of the tables in this bulletin may not sum to the totals shown or, in the case of percentages, to 100 per cent, because they have been rounded independently.

All figures relating to January 2009 onwards remain provisional and subject to revision, unless otherwise stated.

### The following symbols have been used in the tables:

—	Nil.
*	1 or 2 (used in tables where other figures have been rounded to the nearest 5).
..	Not available.
:	Not applicable.
(–)	Nil per cent.
(0)	Less than 0.5 per cent, but greater than 0 per cent.
(e)	Estimated figures.
(M)	Figures based on management information that are not subject to the detailed checks that apply for National Statistics. They are provisional and subject to change.
(NS)	National Statistics.
(P)	Provisional figures.
(R)	Revised figures (see Background Notes).

## PROVISIONAL RELEASE DATES

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The following are provisional release dates for future quarterly bulletin publications:

<u>Release dates</u>	<u>Quarter</u>
26 May 2011	Quarter 1 2011
25 August 2011	Quarter 2 2011
24 November 2011	Quarter 3 2011
23 February 2012	Quarter 4 2011

The following are provisional release dates for future monthly asylum tables, based on management information, which are subject to change:

<u>Release dates</u>	<u>Month</u>
31 March 2011	January 2011
28 April 2011	February 2011
26 May 2011	March 2011
30 June 2011	April 2011
28 July 2011	May 2011
25 August 2011	June 2011
29 September 2011	July 2011
27 October 2011	August 2011
24 November 2011	September 2011

The following are provisional release dates for future monthly children entering detention held solely under Immigration Act powers tables, based on management information, which are subject to change:

<u>Release dates</u>	<u>Month</u>
31 March 2011	February 2011

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## FURTHER INFORMATION AND FEEDBACK

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We would be interested in readers' views on how this publication might be developed further to increase its value to users. Please write to:

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Green Park House  
29 Wellesley Road  
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CR0 2AJ

Enquiries from the public can also be directed to this email address.

Email: [MigrationStatsEnquiries@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:MigrationStatsEnquiries@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk)

Tel: Public Enquiries 020 7035 4848.

**Press enquiries** should be made to:

Home Office Press Office  
Peel Building  
2 Marsham Street  
London  
SW1P 4DF  
Tel: 020 7035 3535

## 0 POINTS BASED SYSTEM

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The Points Based System (PBS) consists of five “Tiers”. Three of these (Tiers 1, 2 and 5) relate to permission to work. Tier 1 provides a route for Highly Skilled Workers; its phased implementation took place between February 2008 and June 2008. Tier 2 and Tier 5 were implemented in November 2008. Tier 2 provides a route for skilled workers with a job offer while Tier 5 is for temporary workers and youth mobility, providing a route for those coming to the UK for primarily non-economic reasons. An additional tier (Tier 3) relates to unskilled workers and is currently suspended. Tier 4 was implemented in March 2009 and provides a route for students to study with an approved education provider.

Figures relating to the PBS can be found in various tables regarding entry clearance visas issued (Tables 0.1 and 1.1), passengers given leave to enter the United Kingdom (Table 1.2), decisions on applications for an extension of leave to remain (Tables 0.1, 4.1 and 4.2) and grants of settlement (Table 4.3).

Table 0.1 shows out of country visas to the United Kingdom issued and in country extensions of leave for employment and study categories for year ending 31 December 2010.

The number of entry clearance visas issued (“out of country”) 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, data are available on a more timely basis than admissions of passengers given leave to enter. Entry to the UK may be any time during the period the visa is valid. The number of grants of an extension (“in country”) under PBS is an indicator of changes in the length of stay in the UK for these migrants.

Entry clearance visas issued and grants of an extension of leave to remain should not be summed as they are indicators of different aspects of migration. Also, individuals could be counted in both if the issue and grant occurs within the same year.

### 0.1 Work and study (Table 0.1)

As PBS has been phased in, the number of work and study visas issued that are pre-PBS equivalent visas is decreasing.

#### Key findings for 2010 (main applicants and dependants):

- Issues of employment-related entry clearance visas<sup>8</sup> increased by 3 per cent from 162,450 in 2009 to 166,660 in 2010. Of these 166,660, 145,745 were PBS and pre-PBS equivalent visas.
- Employment-related grants of an extension of leave to remain fell by 22 per cent from 163,450 in 2009 to 127,020 in 2010.
- Issues of entry clearance visas<sup>8</sup> for the purposes of study, including Tier 4 (students), decreased by 2 per cent from 341,090 in 2009 to 334,815 in 2010. Of these 334,815, 285,620 were PBS and pre-PBS equivalent visas (a fall of 6 per cent on 2009) and 49,195 were visas issued under student visitor rules.
- There was an 8 per cent increase in grants of extensions of leave to remain relating to study from 129,580 in 2009 to 140,315 in 2010.

Further key findings for year ending 31 December 2010 are available in Sections 1 and 4.

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<sup>8</sup> These figures are based on management information and are not subject to the detailed checks that apply for National Statistics. They are provisional and may be subject to change

## 0.2 Comparing student data (Tables 1.1 and 1.2)

UK Border Agency data on visas issued and passenger arrivals include those coming to the UK to study. However, these data can not be directly compared as they use different counts of the same group of people. In addition the data released relate to different time periods.

The obsolete category 'short-term students' is included within 'student visitors' for entry clearance visa data and 'students' for passenger arrivals data; the rules that applied for short-term students provide a reasonable equivalence to student visitors for entry clearance visas, but not for passengers arriving.

There are a range of other reasons for the differences between these figures, which include:

- visas can be issued in one period and the individual arrives in a later period;
- the individual may not arrive;
- the individual may make more than one journey into the UK in the period the visa is valid;
- not all individuals arriving require a visa for entry; and
- arrivals are based on estimates of landing cards, while visas issued is sourced from the database used to process the visas.

Data from the Office for National Statistics on long-term international migration of students provide a better indication of long-term trends than visas issued and passenger arrivals data, due to changes in immigration rules, in particular the introduction of the 'student visitor' category on 1 September 2007.

The 'student visitor' category, which provides for those persons who wish to come to the UK as a visitor and undertake a short period of study (maximum 6 months) and those studying on courses of six months duration or less who do not intend to take part-time employment or undertake a paid or unpaid work placement as part of their course, may previously have been classified as 'visitors' or 'short-term students' respectively.

### Key findings for year to June 2010:

- There were 320,220 issues of entry clearance visas<sup>9</sup> in the year to June 2010 for the purposes of study to main applicants and dependants, under Tier 4 (students) and equivalent visas. Visas issued to those wishing to enter under student visitor rules accounted for an additional 41,860 visas.
- The number of non-EEA and Swiss national students and their dependants entering the UK was 317,000 in the year to June 2010. Persons admitted under student visitor rules accounted for 227,000 additional arrivals.

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<sup>9</sup> These figures are based on management information and are not subject to the detailed checks that apply for National Statistics. They are provisional and may be subject to change.

# 1 BORDER CONTROL

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## 1.1 UK entry clearance visas issued (Table 1.1)

European Economic Area (EEA) and Swiss nationals do not require a visa to come to the UK. However, over 100 nationalities require a visa to come to the UK for any purpose, covering three-quarters of the world population. For other nationalities a visa is required for those wanting to come to the UK for over 6 months, or to work.

Entry clearance visa statistics cover a range of permitted lengths of stay, including those for less than a year. Visas issued under Tiers 4 and 5 and the pre-PBS equivalents, together with other visa types such as EEA family permits, allow temporary entry clearance and require the individual to renew the visa before it expires should they wish to stay longer (see Section 4.1). Visas issued under Tiers 1 and 2 and the pre-PBS equivalents and some family visas allow an applicant to make an application for 'indefinite leave to remain' after a specified period. A number of other entry clearance visas, including some family visas, permit a person to stay in the UK indefinitely.

The figures of entry clearance visas issued show intentions to visit rather than actual arrivals and individuals can arrive at any time during the period that the visa is valid.

Dependants are allocated an entry clearance category according to the circumstances of their application. A child or partner will be recorded as a dependant under the tier of the main applicant, unless he / she has applied and been issued with a Points Based System (PBS) visa in their own right, when they will be included as a main applicant.

Data on entry clearance visas are management information.

### Key findings for 2010:

- Comparing 2010 with a year earlier, the overall number of entry clearance visas issued increased by 7 per cent from 1,995,495 to 2,145,085; 1,826,030 were to main applicants and 319,060 to dependants.

Of the overall number of visas issued to main applicants and dependants in 2010:

- The number of visitor visas issued in 2010 was 1,518,935, an increase of 11 per cent on a year earlier (1,365,690).
- The number of employment-related entry clearance visas issued in 2010 was 166,660, an increase of 3 per cent on a year earlier (162,450).
- Between year ending December 2007 (227,635) and year ending March 2010 (158,975), the number of employment-related entry clearance visas issued within a 12 month period saw a general decrease but has since remained relatively flat.
- The number of entry clearance visas issued for the purposes of study, including Tier 4 (students) and student visitors, in 2010 was 334,815, a decrease of 2 per cent on a year earlier (341,090).
- Between year ending December 2007 and year ending June 2010, visas issued within a 12 month period for the purposes of study saw a general increase from 248,010 to 362,080.

**Table 1a: Entry clearance visas (1) to the United Kingdom issued to all applicants, by main category, Q1 2007 to Q4 2010**

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Employment</i>	<i>Study</i> (2)	<i>Families</i> (3)	<i>Other temporary</i> (4)	<i>Other settlement</i> (5)
2007 Q1	448,750	64,015	35,050	23,240	324,845	1,600
2007 Q2	634,195	64,415	54,605	20,395	493,695	1,090
2007 Q3	610,200	55,750	123,045	22,820	407,640	950
2007 Q4	379,255	43,460	35,310	18,525	281,310	650
2008 Q1	395,020	50,680	39,930	19,530	284,025	855
2008 Q2	605,215	56,645	52,680	19,795	475,250	850
2008 Q3	590,455	53,220	139,220	20,185	377,080	745
2008 Q4	363,970	44,745	42,385	14,925	261,330	585
2009 Q1	386,600	43,585	43,535	15,690	283,060	730
2009 Q2	576,260	45,895	42,735	13,980	472,665	985
2009 Q3	609,530	38,490	178,260	13,840	377,165	1,775
2009 Q4	423,105	34,475	76,560	16,395	294,515	1,160
2010 Q1	407,295	40,110	54,540	14,385	296,990	1,270
2010 Q2	636,955	47,685	52,725	14,910	520,705	930
2010 Q3	669,970	44,810	171,590	15,940	436,370	1,265
2010 Q4	430,865	34,055	55,960	16,680	323,370	800

(1) Figures rounded to the nearest 5 and may not sum to the totals shown because of independent rounding.

(2) Includes students, student visitors and PBS Tier 4.

(3) Includes fiancé(e) / proposed civil partner, and spouse / civil partner for probationary period and for indefinite leave.

(4) Includes EEA family permits, visitors, transit and other temporary. Excludes student visitors.

(5) Indefinite leave to remain; includes Certificate of Entitlement to right of abode.

## 1.2 Passenger arrivals (Table 1.2) (NS✓)

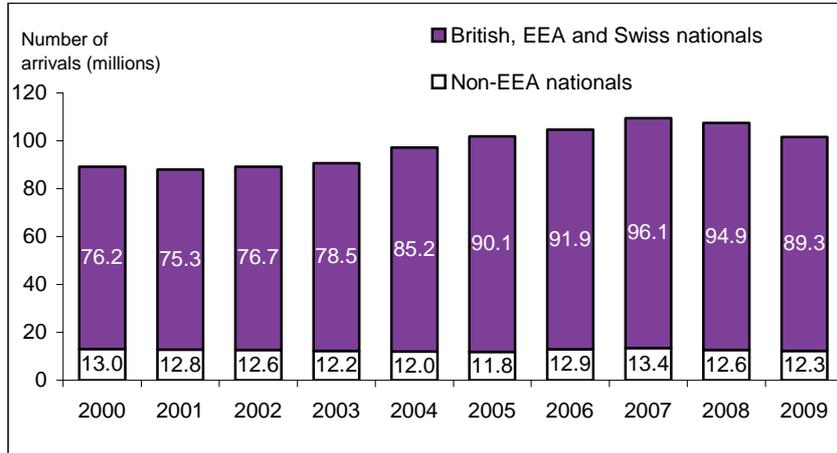
The statistics of total passengers entering the UK are derived from a range of sources and include all persons entering the UK. The number of journeys across the border by non-EEA nationals is derived from landing cards presented to Immigration Officers at the border crossing point. This excludes: EEA nationals; passengers who enter as members of HM or NATO forces; officers or members of the crew of ships, aircraft or Channel Tunnel trains; those who land briefly in the UK in transit without passing through immigration control; and any passengers who enter the UK from other parts of the Common Travel Area<sup>10</sup>. The data are of the number of journeys made; a person who makes more than one journey is counted on each occasion, either in a specific category, if given fresh leave to enter, or in 'passengers returning'.

### Key findings for 2009:

- The estimated number of international arrivals from outside the Common Travel Area decreased by 6 per cent to 101.6 million in 2009, this continued the downward trend from 109.5 million in 2007. 12.3 million were estimated to be non-EEA nationals, a 2 per cent decrease on 2008, which again continued the downward trend from 13.4 million in 2007.

<sup>10</sup> The Common Travel Area consists of the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man and the Republic of Ireland.

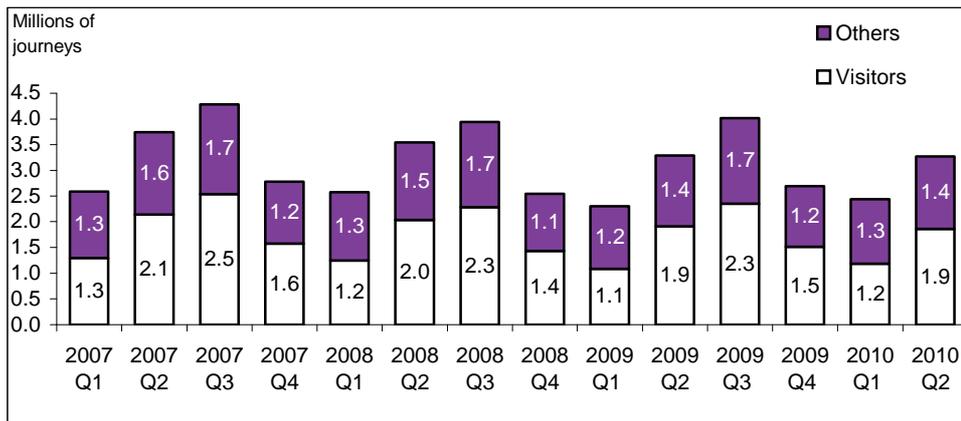
**Figure 1a: Total passenger arrivals, 2000 to 2009**



**Key findings for year ending 30 June 2010:**

- Comparing the 12 months (ending 30 June 2010) with the previous 12 months (ending 30 June 2009), the overall number of non-EEA nationals estimated as entering the United Kingdom increased by 3 per cent from 12.1 million to 12.4 million; however this figure is 6 per cent less than the total for the 12 months ending 30 June 2008 (13.2 million).

**Figure 1b: Total Non-EEA (1) admissions (2) Q1 2007 to Q2 2010**



(1) Also excludes nationals of Switzerland.

(2) Where administrative records on non-EEA nationals were unavailable for statistical analysis, estimates have been used.

Of the overall number of non-EEA nationals recorded as entering the UK in the year to 30 June 2010:

- An estimated 6.9 million passengers were admitted as visitors in the year to June 2010, an increase of 3 per cent on a year earlier (6.7 million) but 7 per cent less than the 12 months ending 30 June 2008 (7.4 million). Ordinary visitors increased by 4 per cent to 5.4 million whilst business visitors stayed the relatively the same at 1.5 million.
- The number of persons and their dependants recorded as admitted in a work-related category was 158,000 in the year to June 2010, a decrease of 9 per cent on the previous year (175,000) and 15 per cent compared to the 12 months ending 30 June 2008 (186,000).
- The number of students and their dependants entering the UK was 317,000 in the year to June 2010, an increase of 33 per cent on the previous year (239,000). Persons admitted under student visitor rules accounted for 227,000 additional arrivals. When

added together these data show a 37 per cent rise in the total number of non-EEA nationals entering the UK whose purpose is to study.

- A total of 46,700 persons (including dependants) in the year ending 30 June 2009 and 120,000 persons (including dependants) in the year ending 30 June 2010 were recorded as entering the UK under the work tiers of the Points Based System, as the respective Tiers were rolled out.

**Table 1b: Passengers (1) given leave to enter the United Kingdom by broad purpose of journey, excluding EEA (2) and Swiss nationals, Q1 2007 to Q2 2010**

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Employment</i> (3)	<i>Study</i> (4)	<i>Family</i>	<i>Other</i>
2007 Q1	2,590,000	49,440	69,025	12,685	2,460,000
2007 Q2	3,740,000	60,235	97,610	12,885	3,570,000
2007 Q3	4,280,000	56,125	166,355	14,940	4,040,000
2007 Q4	2,790,000	38,420	45,480	12,150	2,690,000
2008 Q1	2,580,000	41,595	71,255	11,310	2,460,000
2008 Q2	3,540,000	49,940	75,120	11,570	3,410,000
2008 Q3	3,940,000	51,830	186,900	12,050	3,690,000
2008 Q4	2,550,000	39,630	57,510	10,515	2,440,000
2009 Q1	2,300,000	38,435	81,125	9,585	2,170,000
2009 Q2	3,290,000	44,710	71,585	8,840	3,170,000
2009 Q3	4,020,000	44,350	231,260	8,400	3,730,000
2009 Q4	2,700,000	33,270	104,500	9,715	2,550,000
2010 Q1	2,440,000	35,740	114,035	8,730	2,280,000
2010 Q2	3,270,000	44,715	93,935	8,445	3,130,000

(1) Figures rounded to 3 significant figures, except for figures less than 1,000, which are rounded to the nearest 5. Figures may not sum to the totals shown because of independent rounding.

(2) Nationals of EU accession countries are included or excluded according to their accession dates.

(3) Includes dependants and both Points Based System and non-PBS categories.

(4) Includes student visitors and dependants.

### 1.3 Non-asylum passengers initially refused entry<sup>11</sup> (NS✓)

Individuals seeking to enter the UK present themselves, on arrival at a "port of entry" (either by air, sea or land ports), to an Immigration Officer (IO). IOs have the power to conduct further examination on passengers who arrive in the UK. The powers are in accordance with paragraph 2(1) of Schedule 2 to the Immigration Act 1971. An IO may examine a person who has arrived in the UK in order to determine the following: whether or not they are a British Citizen; whether or not they may enter without leave; whether

- they have been given leave to enter which is still in force,
- they should be given leave to enter and for what period and on what conditions (if any), or
- they should be refused leave to enter.

A person who is initially refused entry may subsequently be detained or granted temporary admission in the UK. This may be due to: an outstanding asylum claim; an appeal against a refusal of entry; or to allow travel arrangements to be made or removal directions to be set.

#### Key findings for 2010:

- In 2010, 18,940 non-asylum passengers were initially refused leave to enter at border control points, 16 per cent lower than in 2009 (22,520). In each successive year since 2004 – the earliest for which figures are available – the number of those refused leave

<sup>11</sup> Includes EEA nationals and cases dealt with at juxtaposed controls.

to enter has fallen. Of those refused in 2010, 4,175 (22 per cent) were initially refused at juxtaposed controls.

**Key findings for Q4 2010:**

- In Q4 2010, 4,375 non-asylum passengers were initially refused leave to enter at border control points, 19 per cent lower than in Q4 2009 (5,385). Of these passengers, 1,015 (23 per cent) were initially refused at juxtaposed controls.

**Table 1c: Non-asylum passengers initially refused entry, Q1 2007 to Q4 2010**

	<i>Total</i>	<i>of these: refused at juxtaposed controls</i>
2007 Q1	7,155	1,390
2007 Q2	6,960	1,435
2007 Q3	6,930	1,510
2007 Q4	7,100	1,295
2008 Q1	6,970	1,275
2008 Q2	6,385	1,200
2008 Q3	6,685	1,260
2008 Q4	6,555	1,190
2009 Q1	5,705	990
2009 Q2	5,670	1,210
2009 Q3	5,765	1,355
2009 Q4	5,385	1,135
2010 Q1	5,085	970
2010 Q2	4,650	1,095
2010 Q3	4,835	1,100
2010 Q4	4,375	1,015

## 2 ASYLUM

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### 2.1 Asylum applications (Tables 2.1 and 2.3) (NS✓)

Asylum is protection given by a country to someone who is fleeing persecution in their own country. It is given under the 1951 United Nations Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees. The Convention defines a refugee as a person who "owing to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, is outside the country of his nationality and unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself of the protection of that country; or who, not having a nationality and being outside the country of his former habitual residence as a result of such events is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to return to it".

#### Key findings for 2010:

- The number of applications for asylum, excluding dependants, was 27 per cent lower in 2010 (17,790) compared with 2009 (24,485).
- Asylum applications were at their lowest in 2010, since a peak in 2002 (84,130).
- Including dependants, the number of applications to the UK decreased by 28 per cent in 2010 (22,090) compared with 2009 (30,675).
- Including dependants, the estimated number of applications to the EU27 decreased by 4 per cent in 2010 (238,100)<sup>12</sup> compared with 2009 (248,600)<sup>12</sup>. Based on 2010 data, the UK ranks 14<sup>th</sup> amongst EU27 countries in terms of asylum seekers per head of population.

#### Key findings for Q4 2010:

- The number of applications for asylum, excluding dependants, was 4 per cent lower in Q4 2010 (4,630) compared with Q4 2009 (4,840).
- This represents the sixth successive quarter for which the number of applications was lower than a year earlier, reversing a general trend of year-on-year increases for each quarter in the period from Q1 2008 to Q2 2009. In Q1 and Q2 2009 the increases on a year earlier can be largely accounted for by an increase in applications from Zimbabwe.
- Including dependants, the number of applications to the UK decreased by 5 per cent in Q4 2010 (5,755) compared with Q4 2009 (6,050).
- Including dependants, the estimated number of applications to the EU27 increased by 5 per cent in Q4 2010 (67,400)<sup>12</sup> compared with Q4 2009 (64,300)<sup>12</sup>. Based on Q4 2010 data, the UK ranks 14<sup>th</sup> amongst EU27 countries in terms of asylum seekers per head of population.

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<sup>12</sup> Figures rounded to the nearest hundred.

**Table 2a: Asylum applications, excluding dependants, Q1 2007 to Q4 2010**

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Port</i>	<i>In-country</i>
2007 Q1	5,720	820	4,895
2007 Q2	4,960	810	4,150
2007 Q3	5,885	1,040	4,845
2007 Q4	6,870	965	5,900
2008 Q1	6,645	705	5,940
2008 Q2	5,830	655	5,175
2008 Q3	6,685	685	6,000
2008 Q4	6,775	680	6,095
2009 Q1	8,430	545	7,880
2009 Q2	6,110	470	5,640
2009 Q3	5,110	505	4,605
2009 Q4	4,840	490	4,350
2010 Q1	4,355	395	3,955
2010 Q2	4,365	415	3,950
2010 Q3	4,440	430	4,010
2010 Q4	4,630	490	4,140

## Fresh claims

When a human rights or asylum claim has been refused or withdrawn or treated as withdrawn under paragraph 333C of Immigration Rule 353 and any appeal relating to that claim is no longer pending, the decision maker will consider any further submissions and, if rejected, will then determine whether they amount to a fresh claim. The submissions will amount to a fresh claim if they are significantly different from the material previously considered. The submissions will only be significantly different if the content had not already been considered; and taken together with the previously considered material, created a realistic prospect of success, not withstanding its rejection.

### Key findings:

- In 2010, the number of fresh claims for asylum, excluding dependants, was 1,555.
- In Q4 2010, the number of fresh claims for asylum, excluding dependants, was 250.

## 2.2 Initial asylum decisions (Tables 2.1) (NS✓)

### Key findings for 2010:

- 20,645 initial decisions, excluding dependants, were made in 2010, a decrease of 15 per cent compared with 2009 (24,285).
- The number of initial decisions has been relatively consistent in each of the last five years, ranging between 19,400 and 24,285 following a decrease from 120,950 initial decisions in 2001, which reflects the decrease in new applications in a similar period.
- The number of cases (excluding dependants) recorded as awaiting an initial decision was 1,700<sup>13</sup> at the end of December 2010 (7,400<sup>13</sup> at the end of December 2009).
- 17 per cent of initial decisions in 2010 were to grant asylum, similar to 2009. 8 per cent of initial decisions were to grant Humanitarian Protection (HP) or Discretionary Leave (DL) compared with 11 per cent in 2009. 75 per cent of initial decisions in 2010 were refusals compared with 72 per cent in 2009. The percentage of main applicants

<sup>13</sup> Figures rounded to the nearest hundred. The series on asylum cases awaiting an initial decision is based on a combination of different sources of information, including a manual count at the end of August 2001, which may have led to discrepancies over time. See the 'Introduction' section for planned developments on this series.

granted asylum, ELR, HP or DL at initial decision has remained in the range of 25 and 30 per cent since 2007, after increasing from 12 per cent in 2004.

#### Key findings for Q4 2010:

- 4,925 initial decisions, excluding dependants, were made in Q4 2010, a decrease of 23 per cent compared with Q4 2009 (6,360).
- 21 per cent of initial decisions in Q4 2010 were to grant asylum compared with 13 per cent in Q4 2009. 7 per cent of initial decisions were to grant Humanitarian Protection (HP) or Discretionary Leave (DL) compared with 10 per cent in Q4 2009. 72 per cent of initial decisions in Q4 2010 were refusals compared with 77 per cent in Q4 2009.
- The percentage of main applicants granted asylum, HP or DL at initial decision has remained in the range of 22 and 28 per cent since Q3 2009. In Q1 2009 there was a peak of 41 per cent, of which almost two-fifths were grants to Zimbabweans. Between Q1 2007 and Q4 2008 grants ranged between 24 and 32 per cent.

**Table 2b: Initial asylum decisions, excluding dependants, Q1 2007 to Q4 2010**

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Grants of asylum</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>Granted HP or DL</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>Refused asylum, HP or DL</i>	<i>%</i>
2007 Q1	6,050	900	(15)	595	(10)	4,555	(75)
2007 Q2	5,930	835	(14)	560	(9)	4,530	(76)
2007 Q3	5,225	910	(17)	620	(12)	3,695	(71)
2007 Q4	4,570	900	(20)	420	(9)	3,250	(71)
2008 Q1	4,455	915	(21)	480	(11)	3,060	(69)
2008 Q2	5,010	995	(20)	560	(11)	3,455	(69)
2008 Q3	5,230	870	(17)	565	(11)	3,795	(73)
2008 Q4	4,700	945	(20)	560	(12)	3,195	(68)
2009 Q1	5,080	1,480	(29)	620	(12)	2,980	(59)
2009 Q2	5,690	1,025	(18)	625	(11)	4,045	(71)
2009 Q3	7,155	865	(12)	675	(9)	5,615	(78)
2009 Q4	6,360	815	(13)	635	(10)	4,910	(77)
2010 Q1	5,445	795	(15)	520	(10)	4,130	(76)
2010 Q2	5,220	775	(15)	460	(9)	3,985	(76)
2010 Q3	5,060	895	(18)	385	(8)	3,780	(75)
2010 Q4	4,925	1,015	(21)	350	(7)	3,560	(72)

### 2.3 Asylum appeals<sup>14</sup> (Table 2.4) (NS✓)

The Tribunals Service Immigration and Asylum (TSIA), consisting of the First-tier Tribunal Immigration and Asylum Chamber and Upper Tribunal Immigration and Asylum Chamber (FTTIAC and UTIAC), formerly the Asylum and Immigration Tribunal (AIT), hears and decides appeals against decisions made by the UK Border Agency. The First-tier Tribunal Judge will decide whether the appeal against the decision is successful or not (this is known as the decision being 'allowed' or 'dismissed').

#### Key findings for 2010:

- In 2010, there were 16,170 appeals received by the AIT / FTTIAC, 5 per cent higher than 2009 (15,420).
- In 2010, there were 17,930 appeals determined, 23 per cent higher than 2009 (14,610).
- In 2010, the proportion of appeals dismissed was 67 per cent, whilst 27 per cent of appeals were allowed. The remainder of appeal determinations were withdrawals.

<sup>14</sup> Source: The Tribunals Service Immigration and Asylum (TSIA), consisting of the First-tier Tribunal Immigration and Asylum Chamber and Upper Tribunal Immigration and Asylum Chamber (FTTIAC and UTIAC), replaced the Asylum and Immigration Tribunal (AIT) on 15 February 2010.

### Key findings for Q4 2010:

- 3,880 appeals were received by the FTTIAC in Q4 2010, 19 per cent lower than Q4 2009 (4,760).
- The number of appeals determined decreased by 18 per cent in Q4 2010 (3,830) from Q4 2009 (4,680).
- The proportion of appeals dismissed was 67 per cent in Q4 2010, whilst 27 per cent of appeals were allowed. The remainder of appeal determinations were withdrawals.
- The asylum work in progress total at the TSIA as at 31 December 2010 was 5,000<sup>15</sup>.

**Table 2c: Asylum appeals determined by AIT / FTTIAC, Q1 2007 to Q4 2010**

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Allowed</i>	<i>% Dismissed</i>	<i>% Withdrawn</i>	<i>%</i>
2007 Q1	3,675	745	(20)	2,695	(73)
2007 Q2	4,015	920	(23)	2,865	(71)
2007 Q3	4,105	930	(23)	2,970	(72)
2007 Q4	3,150	790	(25)	2,205	(70)
2008 Q1	2,430	515	(21)	1,750	(72)
2008 Q2	2,330	460	(20)	1,735	(74)
2008 Q3	2,985	745	(25)	2,105	(70)
2008 Q4	2,970	755	(25)	1,995	(67)
2009 Q1	2,720	695	(26)	1,865	(69)
2009 Q2	2,800	720	(26)	1,945	(69)
2009 Q3	4,410	1,345	(30)	2,835	(64)
2009 Q4	4,680	1,390	(30)	3,035	(65)
2010 Q1	4,850	1,305	(27)	3,305	(68)
2010 Q2	4,705	1,285	(27)	3,160	(67)
2010 Q3	4,540	1,210	(27)	3,065	(68)
2010 Q4 (M)	3,830	1,030	(27)	2,560	(67)

(M) Management information.

## 2.4 Asylum support applications (NS✓)

Asylum support was set up to provide for asylum seekers while they await a decision on their asylum application. Asylum seekers who applied for asylum support could receive: accommodation only (where they were allocated accommodation in a dispersal area and must otherwise support themselves); subsistence only (where they received cash to support themselves but must find their own accommodation); or accommodation and subsistence (where they were allocated accommodation in a dispersal area and cash to support themselves).

### Key findings for Q4 2010:

- The number of applications for asylum support in Q4 2010 was 3,100, 21 per cent lower than Q4 2009 (3,940).
- In Q4 2010, 2,420 (78 per cent of the total) applications were from single adults and 680 (22 per cent of the total) from family groups.

<sup>15</sup> Figure based on a snapshot of work in progress, at the end of December 2010, from the AIT / TSIA database ARIA. Figure rounded to the nearest thousand.

## 2.5 Supported asylum seekers, including dependants (Tables 2.5 and 2.6) (NS✓)

### Key findings as at the end of Q4 2010:

- The total number of asylum seekers<sup>16</sup> in receipt of asylum support at the end of Q4 2010 (22,690) was 22 per cent lower than at the end of Q4 2009 (29,150).
- 3,315 asylum seekers were receiving subsistence only support<sup>17</sup>.
- 18,725 asylum seekers were supported in dispersal accommodation<sup>18 19</sup>.
- 650 asylum seekers were supported in initial accommodation.

**Table 2d: Asylum seekers supported, Q1 2007 to Q4 2010**

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Subsistence only support</i>	<i>In dispersed accommodation</i>	<i>In initial accommodation</i>
2007 Q1	48,800	10,935	36,785	1,075
2007 Q2	48,995	10,865	37,280	850
2007 Q3	48,470	10,160	37,060	1,250
2007 Q4	44,495	8,900	34,150	1,440
2008 Q1	33,865	6,820	25,940	1,105
2008 Q2	31,580	6,495	24,060	1,025
2008 Q3	32,170	6,600	24,290	1,280
2008 Q4	32,580	6,195	25,145	1,240
2009 Q1	33,165	6,020	25,895	1,250
2009 Q2	31,500	5,120	25,535	845
2009 Q3	29,895	4,900	24,170	820
2009 Q4	29,150	4,670	23,845	635
2010 Q1	27,455	4,015	22,735	705
2010 Q2	25,555	3,730	21,280	545
2010 Q3	23,640	3,540	19,445	655
2010 Q4	22,690	3,315	18,725	650

## 2.6 Applicants supported under Section 4 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 (NS✓)

Support under Section 4 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 is provided in the form of accommodation and vouchers to cover the cost of food and other basic essential items. Individuals are generally eligible for Section 4 support if their asylum application has been finally determined as refused but they are destitute and there are reasons that temporarily prevent them from leaving the UK.

### Key findings for Q4 2010:

- 1,440 decisions to grant Section 4 support were recorded in Q4 2010, no change from Q4 2009.
- As at the end of Q4 2010, 3,560 applicants, excluding dependants, were in receipt of Section 4 support, 69 per cent lower than in Q4 2009 (11,655).

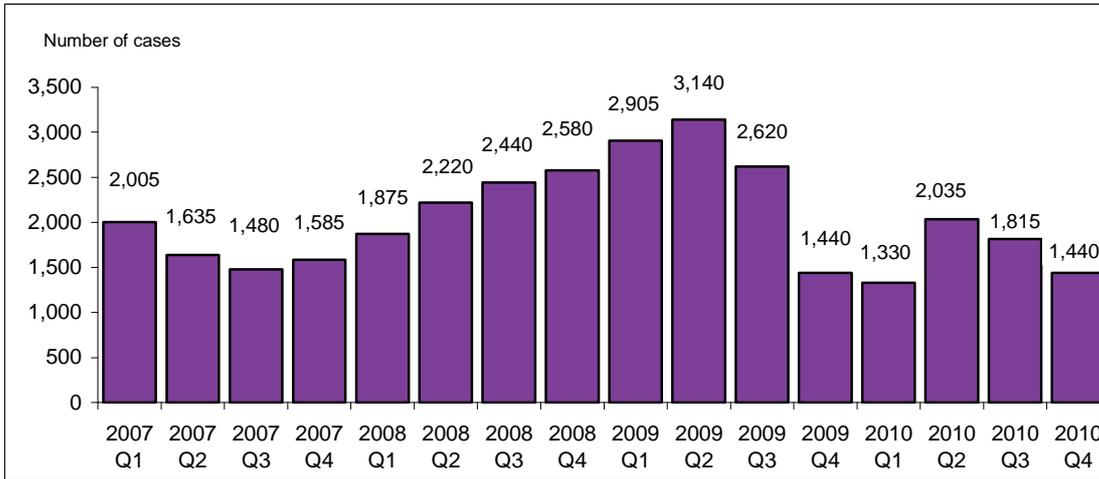
<sup>16</sup> Including dependants. Excludes unaccompanied asylum seeking children supported by local authorities.

<sup>17</sup> From Q2 2009 any cases with an invalid application status are excluded.

<sup>18</sup> From Q2 2010 disbenefited cases are excluded.

<sup>19</sup> Includes 'accommodation only' and 'accommodation and subsistence' supported cases.

**Figure 2a: Decisions to grant Section 4 support, Q1 2007 to Q4 2010**



## 2.7 Resettlement scheme

The main resettlement scheme available for refugees, the Gateway Protection Programme, was set up under the Nationality, Immigration and Asylum Act 2002. The Gateway Protection Programme is part of an immigration strategy to tackle abuse of the asylum system by people not in need of protection whilst opening managed migration routes and offering protection for those fleeing persecution without forcing them into the hands of people traffickers. The first refugees arrived in the UK under the programme in March 2004. The programme offers a legal route for refugees and aims to ensure that the UK is offering protection to those who need it.

In addition there is also the Mandate resettlement scheme, a UK programme specifically for those refugees with a resettlement need who already have close ties to the UK, usually through a close relative.

### Key findings for 2010:

- In 2010, there were 670 refugees who arrived in the UK under the Gateway Protection Programme, compared to 855 in 2009. In addition, 45 refugees were resettled in the UK under the Mandate scheme in 2010.

**Table 2e: Refugees resettled in the UK, including dependants, 2004 to 2010 (M)**

Year	Gateway Protection Programme	Mandate Scheme
2004	150	:
2005	70	:
2006	355	:
2007	465	:
2008	640	75
2009	855	90
2010	670	45

(M) Management information.  
: Not applicable.

### 3 ENFORCEMENT AND COMPLIANCE

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The UK Border Agency seeks to remove persons who do not have any legal right to stay in the UK. This includes persons who:

- enter, or attempt to enter, the UK illegally (including persons entering clandestinely and by means of deception on-entry);
- overstay their period of legal right to remain in the UK;
- breach their conditions of leave;
- are subject to deportation action; and
- persons who have been refused asylum.

Some may depart under Assisted Voluntary Return Programmes run by the International Organization for Migration. They could also return voluntarily, to either their country of origin or a country that will accept them, after notifying the UK Border Agency of their intention to leave prior to their departure. From 2005 onwards, “other voluntary departures” show persons who it has been established left the UK without informing the immigration authorities.

#### 3.1 Total removals and voluntary departures<sup>20</sup> (Tables 3.1 to 3.3) (NS✓)

##### Key findings for 2010:

- In 2010, 57,085 persons were removed or departed voluntarily from the UK, 15 per cent lower than in 2009 (67,215). This is the lowest annual figure since 2005 – prior to which data are not directly comparable – and down 16 per cent compared to the peak of 67,980 in 2008. The change (since 2008) appears to be primarily due to the significantly lower number of non-asylum cases refused entry at port and subsequently removed.
- Within the total number of persons removed or departing voluntarily in 2010, there were 9,850 persons (including dependants) who had claimed asylum (15 per cent lower than in 2009) and 47,240 non-asylum cases (15 per cent lower than in 2009).
- Of those leaving in 2010, 18,060 persons were initially refused entry at port (38 per cent lower than in 2009), 20,020 were enforced removals and notified voluntary departures (2 per cent higher than in 2009), 4,540 persons left under Assisted Voluntary Return Programmes (8 per cent lower than in 2009), and 14,470 were other voluntary departures (7 per cent higher than in 2009).
- 5,235 foreign national prisoners<sup>21</sup> were removed in 2010, 5 per cent lower than in 2009 (5,530).

##### Key findings for Q4 2010:

- In Q4 2010, 13,225 persons were removed or departed voluntarily from the UK, 21 per cent lower than in Q4 2009 (16,785) and the lowest since Q1 2005 - prior to which data are not directly comparable. Within the total number of persons removed or departing

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<sup>20</sup> Includes enforced removals, persons refused entry at port and subsequently removed (including cases dealt with at juxtaposed controls), notified voluntary departures, persons leaving under Assisted Voluntary Return Programmes and persons who it has been established left the UK without informing the immigration authorities. Figures will under record due to data cleansing and data matching exercises that take place after the extracts are taken.

<sup>21</sup> These figures are based on provisional management information and, as per all removals and voluntary departures figures, are subject to change. They have not been quality assured under National Statistics protocols, and are not identified separately in the published statistics on removals and voluntary departures. The figures include notified, assisted and other forms of voluntary departures. All cases are considered for an exclusion order by the UK Border Agency where there is a legal framework to do so.

voluntarily in Q4 2010, there were 2,150 persons (including dependants) who had claimed asylum (22 per cent lower than in Q4 2009) and 11,080 non-asylum cases (21 per cent lower than in Q4 2009).

- Of those removed or departing voluntarily in Q4 2010, 4,080 persons were initially refused entry at port (35 per cent lower than in Q4 2009), 4,970 were enforced removals and notified voluntary departures (4 per cent lower than in Q4 2009), 810 persons left under Assisted Voluntary Return Programmes (32 per cent lower than in Q4 2009), and 3,365 were other voluntary departures (19 per cent lower than in Q4 2009).
- Based on management information, 1,225 foreign national prisoners<sup>22</sup> were removed in Q4 2010 compared with 1,400 in Q4 2009.

**Table 3a: Total removals and voluntary departures, Q1 2007 to Q4 2010**

	<i>Asylum cases, principal</i>	<i>Asylum cases, dependants</i>	<i>Non-asylum cases</i>	<i>Total</i>
2007 Q1	3,230	290	11,460	14,975
2007 Q2	3,355	300	11,740	15,390
2007 Q3	3,240	220	12,680	16,145
2007 Q4	2,885	185	13,785	16,855
2008 Q1	3,075	215	13,860	17,150
2008 Q2	3,080	185	12,665	15,930
2008 Q3	3,260	240	14,575	18,080
2008 Q4	2,620	195	14,005	16,820
2009 Q1	2,825	205	13,350	16,380
2009 Q2	2,650	145	13,550	16,345
2009 Q3	2,890	155	14,665	17,705
2009 Q4	2,575	195	14,015	16,785
2010 Q1	2,700	170	12,170	15,040
2010 Q2	2,265	115	11,750	14,130
2010 Q3	2,350	100	12,240	14,690
2010 Q4	2,060	90	11,080	13,225

**Table 3b: Removals of foreign national prisoners, Q1 2009 to Q4 2010 (M)**

<i>Quarter/Year</i>	<i>number of departures</i>
2009 Q1	1,400
2009 Q2	1,315
2009 Q3	1,410
2009 Q4	1,400
2010 Q1 (R)	1,340
2010 Q2 (R)	1,260
2010 Q3 (R)	1,410
2010 Q4	1,225

(M) Management information.

(R) Figures have been revised due to data cleansing and data matching exercises that took place after the extracts were taken.

### 3.2 Removals and voluntary departures of asylum seekers (Table 3.1) (NS✓)

Persons who have claimed asylum and whose claims have been refused, and any rights of appeal which would suspend removal exhausted, can be:

- refused entry at port and subsequently removed;

<sup>22</sup> These figures are based on provisional management information and, as per all removals and voluntary departures figures, are subject to change. They have not been quality assured under National Statistics protocols, and are not identified separately in the published statistics on removals and voluntary departures. The figures include notified, assisted and other forms of voluntary departures. All cases are considered for an exclusion order by the UK Border Agency where there is a legal framework to do so.

- removed as a result of enforcement action (by deportation, administrative or illegal entry powers); or
- removed under Third Country provisions without substantive consideration of their asylum claim.

Persons who have claimed asylum may also depart at any stage of the asylum process under Assisted Voluntary Return Programmes run by the International Organization for Migration. They could also leave voluntarily, to either their country of origin or a country that will accept them, after notifying the UK Border Agency of their intention to leave prior to their departure. From 2005 onwards, “other voluntary departures” show persons who it has been established left the UK without informing the immigration authorities.

#### Key findings for 2010:

- In 2010, 9,375 principal applicants were removed or departed voluntarily from the UK, 14 per cent lower than in 2009 (10,935).
- Including dependants, 9,850 asylum seekers were removed or departed voluntarily from the UK in 2010, 15 per cent lower than in 2009 (11,635).
- 6,345 asylum seekers left via enforced removals and notified voluntary departures from the UK in 2010, 8 per cent lower than in 2009 (6,895).
- 2,690 asylum seekers left under Assisted Voluntary Return schemes in 2010 (2,480 principal applicants and 210 dependants), 10 per cent lower than in 2009 (2,985).
- 810 asylum seekers left via other types of voluntary departures<sup>23</sup> in 2010, 54 per cent lower than in 2009 (1,755).

#### Key findings for Q4 2010:

- In Q4 2010, 2,060 principal applicants were removed or departed voluntarily from the UK, 20 per cent lower than in Q4 2009 (2,575).
- Including dependants, 2,150 asylum seekers were removed or departed voluntarily from the UK in Q4 2010, 22 per cent lower than in Q4 2009 (2,770).
- 1,465 asylum seekers left via enforced removals and notified voluntary departures from the UK in Q4 2010, 14 per cent lower than in Q4 2009 (1,695).
- 530 asylum seekers left under Assisted Voluntary Return schemes in Q4 2010 (480 principal applicants and 50 dependants), 23 per cent lower than Q4 2009 (690).
- 155 asylum seekers left via other types of voluntary departures<sup>23</sup> in Q4 2010, 60 per cent lower than in Q4 2009 (385).

### 3.3 Persons entering detention<sup>24</sup> (Tables 3.4 (i) and 3.4 (ii))

Immigration legislation provides powers of detention. People are detained under Immigration Act powers in UK Border Agency Removal Centres, UK Border Agency Short Term Holding Facilities, police cells and Prison Service establishments. Detention may be used whilst identity and basis of claim are established, where there is a risk of absconding, as part of fast-track asylum procedures (in the case of straightforward asylum claims that can be decided quickly) and in support of the removal of failed asylum seekers and others who have no legal right to be in the UK.

<sup>23</sup> Persons who it has been established left the UK without informing the immigration authorities.

<sup>24</sup> These figures are based on management information and are not subject to the detailed checks that apply for National Statistics. They are provisional and may be subject to change. Excludes persons detained in Harwich Short Term Holding Facility, police cells and Prison Service establishments.

Statistics are produced on those entering detention over a period of time.

#### Key findings for 2010:

- A total of 25,935 people entered detention, held solely under Immigration Act powers in 2010. Of these, 12,575 (48 per cent of the total) were asylum detainees.
- Of the 25,935 people entering detention in 2010, 16,500 (64 per cent of the total) entered UK Border Agency Removal Centres and 9,440 (36 per cent of the total) entered UK Border Agency Short Term Holding Facilities.
- 405 children entered detention in 2010. Of these, 300 (74 per cent of the total) were asylum detainees.

#### Key findings for Q4 2010:

- A total of 6,160 people entered detention, held solely under Immigration Act powers in Q4 2010, 11 per cent lower than in Q4 2009 (6,915). Of these, 2,845 (46 per cent of the total) were asylum detainees, 24 per cent lower than in Q4 2009 (3,730).
- Of the 6,160 people entering detention in Q4 2010, 4,000 (65 per cent of the total) entered UK Border Agency Removal Centres and 2,160 (35 per cent of the total) entered UK Border Agency Short Term Holding Facilities.
- 27 children entered detention<sup>25</sup>, held solely under Immigration Act powers in Q4 2010, 91 per cent lower than in Q4 2009 (295). Of these 27, 25 were asylum detainees, 88 per cent lower than in Q4 2009 (190).

### 3.4 Occurrences of persons entering detention<sup>26</sup> (Tables 3.5 (i) to 3.6 (ii))

#### Key findings for 2010:

- Of the 25,935 people who entered detention in 2010, 24,305 entered once, 770 entered twice and 30 entered three times.
- Of the 25,935 people who entered detention in 2010: 23,065 entered for the first time; 1,835 entered for the second time; 185 entered for the third time and 15 entered for the fourth time or more since January 2009, the earliest recording point in this dataset.

#### Key findings for Q4 2010:

- Of the 6,160 people who entered detention in Q4 2010, 6,095 entered once, 30 entered twice and fewer than 3 entered three times.
- Of the 6,160 people who entered detention in Q4 2010: 5,550 entered for the first time; 525 entered for the second time; 50 entered for the third time and 5 entered for the fourth time or more since January 2009, the earliest recording point in this dataset.

### 3.5 Persons detained solely under Immigration Act powers<sup>27</sup> (Tables 3.7 to 3.10) (NS✓)

Statistics on persons detained solely under Immigration Act powers are published as a snapshot as at the last day of each quarter. They exclude people detained under both

<sup>25</sup> This figure has been left unrounded in line with the previously published monthly children entering detention statistics. See 'Future developments' section of Introduction regarding consideration to publish data unrounded.

<sup>26</sup> These figures are based on management information and are not subject to the detailed checks that apply for National Statistics. They are provisional and may be subject to change. Excludes persons detained in Harwich Short Term Holding Facility, police cells and Prison Service establishments.

<sup>27</sup> Excludes persons detained in police cells and Prison Service establishments.

criminal and immigration powers and currently exclude people detained in Prison Service establishments on the date the snapshot was taken.

#### Key findings as at 31 December 2010:

- A total of 2,525 persons were detained solely under Immigration Act powers as at end December 2010, 3 per cent lower compared to that as at 31 December 2009 (2,595).
- 2,480 were held at UK Border Agency Removal Centres and 45 at UK Border Agency Short Term Holding Facilities as at end December 2010.
- 1,610 persons who had sought asylum at some stage were being detained solely under Immigration Act powers (64 per cent of all detainees) as at end December 2010, 9 per cent lower than as at 31 December 2009 (1,770). 90 per cent of asylum detainees were male.
- There were no people detained solely under Immigration Act powers recorded as being less than 18 years of age as at end December 2010.
- Management information shows that of the 2,525 people detained as at end December 2010, 770 had been in detention for less than 29 days, 555 for between 29 days and two months, 460 for between two and four months, 220 for between four and six months, 265 for between six months and a year, and 255 for over a year.
- Management information shows that there were no families with children in detention solely under Immigration Act powers as at 31 December 2010.

#### 3.6 (i) Persons leaving detention<sup>28</sup> (Tables 3.11 (i) and 3.11 (ii))

Statistics are produced on those leaving detention over a period of time. Currently, published National Statistics are only available on persons who are removed from the UK upon leaving detention. Figures on all persons leaving detention are based on management information and are not directly comparable with previous figures due to a revised methodology being used.

#### Key findings for Q4 2010:

- A total of 6,490 people, held solely under Immigration Act powers, left detention in Q4 2010. Of these, 4,100 persons were removed from the UK, 1,870 were granted temporary admission/release, 410 were bailed, 35 were granted leave to enter/remain and 75 were released for other reasons.
- 30 children left detention in Q4 2010. Of these, 5 persons were removed from the UK and 25 were granted temporary admission/release.

#### 3.6 (ii) Persons removed from the UK upon leaving detention<sup>29</sup> (Table 3.11 (i) and 3.11 (ii)) (NS✓)

#### Key findings for 2010:

- A total of 16,565 people, held solely under Immigration Act powers, were removed from the UK upon leaving detention in 2010, 3 per cent higher than in 2009 (16,095). Of these, 6,815 (41 per cent of the total) were asylum detainees, 1 per cent higher than in 2008 (6,735).

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<sup>28</sup> These figures are based on management information and are not subject to the detailed checks that apply for National Statistics. They are provisional and may be subject to change. Excludes persons detained in police cells and Prison Service establishments.

<sup>29</sup> Excludes persons detained in police cells and Prison Service establishments.

- 180 children were removed from the UK upon leaving detention in 2010, 66 per cent lower than in 2009 (525).
- Of the 16,565 people removed from the UK upon leaving detention in 2010, 10,900 (66 per cent of the total) left from UK Border Agency Removal Centres and 5,665 (34 per cent of the total) left from UK Border Agency Short Term Holding Facilities.

#### Key findings for Q4 2010:

- A total of 4,100 people, held solely under Immigration Act powers, were removed from the UK upon leaving detention in Q4 2010, 1 per cent lower than in Q4 2009 (4,145). Of these, 1,540 (38 per cent of the total) were asylum detainees, 9 per cent lower than in Q4 2009 (1,685).
- 5 children were removed from the UK upon leaving detention in Q4 2010, 96 per cent lower than in Q4 2009 (165).
- Of the 4,100 people removed from the UK upon leaving detention in Q4 2010, 2,725 (66 per cent of the total) left from UK Border Agency Removal Centres and 1,380 (34 per cent of the total) left from UK Border Agency Short Term Holding Facilities.

## 4 MANAGED MIGRATION

### 4.1 After-entry applications to vary leave to remain (Tables 4.1 and 4.2) (NS✓)

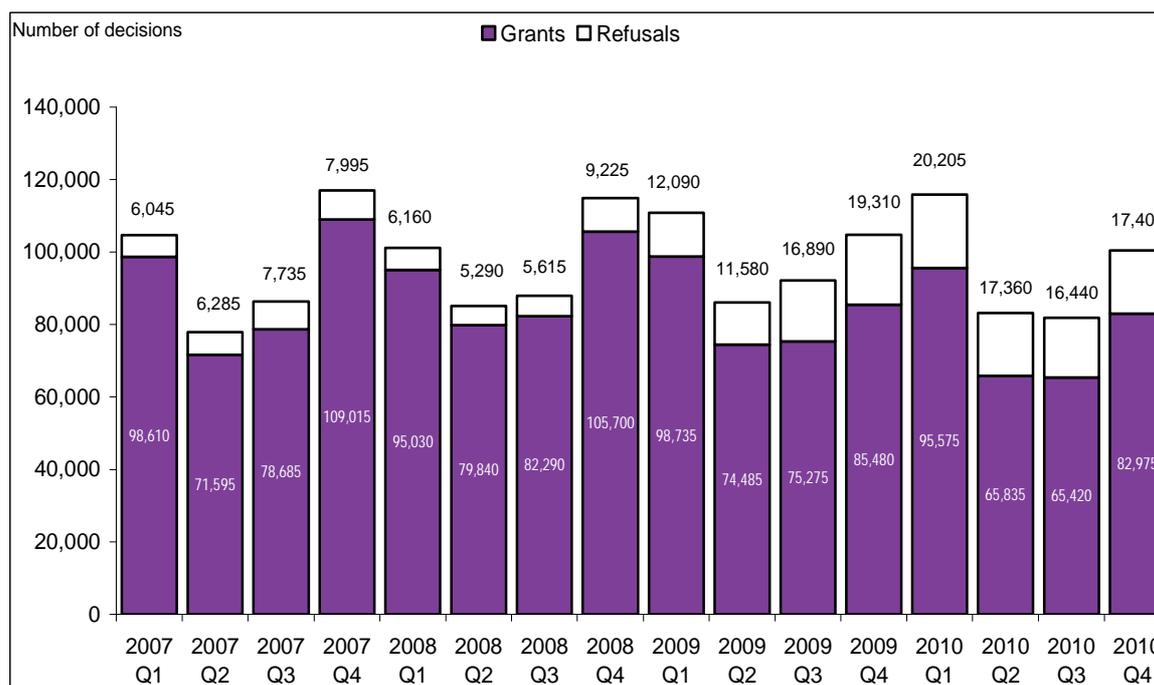
Statistics on after-entry applications to vary leave to remain relate to persons wishing to extend or change the status of their stay in the UK. An individual is required to make an application for an extension or change in status before their existing permission to enter or stay has expired. Within the immigration rules, an individual may make more than one application in any given year.

Changing resource priorities within the UK Border Agency as well as policy changes and other factors need to be considered when comparing the number of decisions on applications to vary leave to remain.

#### Key findings for 2010 (main applicants and dependants):

- The number of decisions<sup>30</sup> on applications to vary conditions of leave fell by 3 per cent in 2010 (381,215) on a year earlier (393,855).
- Of the total decisions in 2010, 19 per cent (71,405) were refusals compared with 15 per cent (59,875) a year earlier and 7 per cent (26,290) in 2008.

**Figure 4a: Decisions on applications for leave to remain in the United Kingdom, main applicants and dependants, Q1 2007 to Q4 2010**



- Employment-related grants<sup>31</sup> of an extension of leave to remain fell by 22 per cent from 163,465 in 2009 to 127,020 in 2010, continuing the decrease from 188,470 in 2008.
- There was an 8 per cent increase in grants of extensions of leave to remain relating to study<sup>32</sup> (up from 129,565 in 2009 to 140,315 in 2010), more than offsetting the fall from 132,105 in 2008.

<sup>30</sup> Excluding settlement and asylum cases.

<sup>31</sup> Includes grants under Tiers 1, 2 and 5 of the Points Based System.

<sup>32</sup> Includes grants under Tier 4 of the Points Based System.

- There was a 6 per cent decrease in grants of extensions of leave to remain relating to family (down from 23,595 in 2009 to 22,090 in 2010), continuing the fall from 28,565 in 2008.

**Table 4a: Grants of an extension of leave to remain by broad category of grant, main applicants and dependants, Q1 2007 to Q4 2010**

	<i>Total grants</i>	<i>Employment-related (1)</i>	<i>Study (2)</i>	<i>Family (3)</i>	<i>Other (4)</i>
2007 Q1	98,610	41,990	46,295	6,255	4,065
2007 Q2	71,595	30,860	29,945	6,790	4,005
2007 Q3	78,685	36,850	28,600	9,390	3,845
2007 Q4	109,015	40,325	57,090	8,210	3,390
2008 Q1	95,030	40,715	42,140	8,680	3,500
2008 Q2	79,840	39,705	28,240	8,210	3,685
2008 Q3	82,290	52,030	20,355	6,490	3,410
2008 Q4	105,700	56,020	41,375	5,180	3,125
2009 Q1	98,735	48,525	40,390	6,335	3,490
2009 Q2	74,485	42,895	21,540	6,155	3,895
2009 Q3	75,275	35,035	30,210	5,825	4,205
2009 Q4	85,480	37,010	37,425	5,280	5,765
2010 Q1	95,575	43,425	41,185	5,985	4,980
2010 Q2	65,835	29,620	25,875	5,850	4,495
2010 Q3	65,420	29,320	25,485	5,185	5,430
2010 Q4	82,975	24,655	47,770	5,070	5,485

(1) Includes Tiers 1, 2 and 5.

(2) Includes Tier 4.

(3) Probationary period applications.

(4) Includes grants where the category is not known.

#### 4.2 Settlement decisions<sup>33</sup> (Table 4.3) (NS✓)

The statistics of grants of settlement – i.e. persons subject to immigration control who are allowed to remain in the UK indefinitely – are the main available measure of long term immigration of persons subject to immigration control. The settlement figures comprise persons granted settlement on arrival at ports, and persons initially admitted to the country subject to a time limit that was subsequently removed on application to the Home Office.

When comparing some aspects of settlement data, changes in the immigration rules, enlargement of the EU, and various UK Border Agency programmes need to be considered<sup>34</sup>.

##### Key findings for 2010:

- The number of decisions on applications for settlement in the UK, excluding EEA and Swiss nationals, rose by 21 per cent in 2010 (250,365) compared to a year earlier (207,340).
- Of the total decisions in 2010, 95 per cent (237,890) were grants and 5 per cent (12,475) were refusals.
- Of all settlement grants in 2009 and 2010, the proportion that were for family formation and reunion fell from 37 per cent to 27 per cent, the proportion of employment-related grants fell from 42 per cent to 35 per cent and the proportion of asylum-related grants

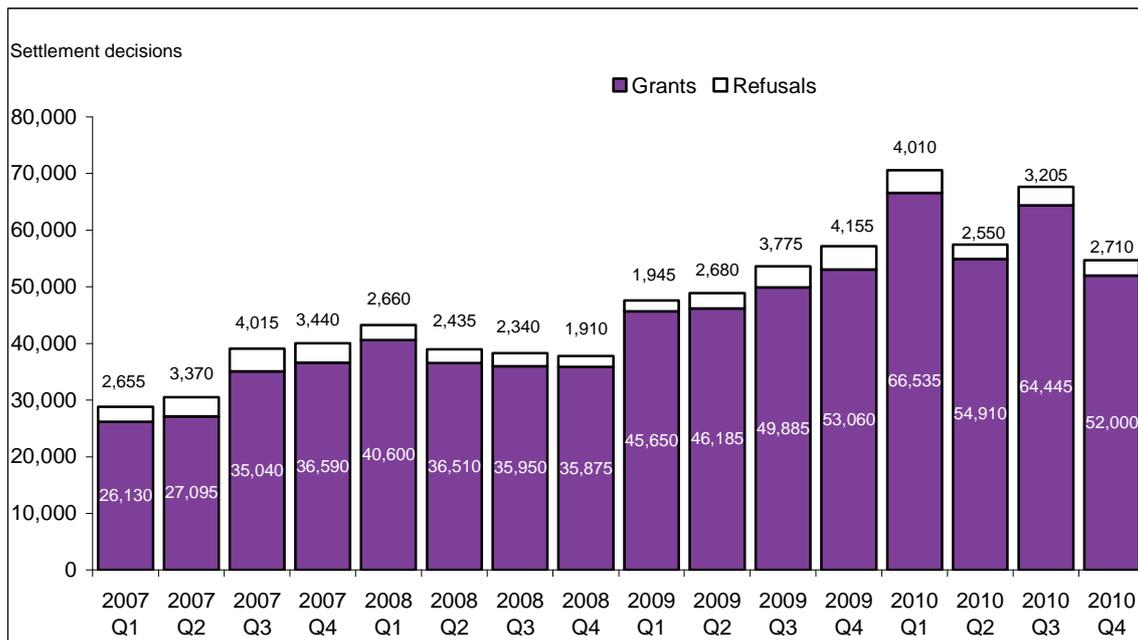
<sup>33</sup> The variations in the number of decisions on applications to vary leave to remain may reflect changing resource priorities within the UK Border Agency as well as policy changes and other factors.

<sup>34</sup> See footnotes to the tables.

remained unchanged at 2 per cent. The proportion of other grants including those on a discretionary basis<sup>35</sup> increased from 20 per cent to 35 per cent of all settlement.

- The number of persons granted settlement in the UK rose by 22 per cent from 194,780 in 2009 to 237,890 in 2010. This is similar to the total grants in the 12 months ending 30 September 2009 (238,950), which was the highest level since records began in 1960.
- Employment-related grants of settlement rose by 4 per cent from 81,185 in 2009 to 84,370 in 2010 continuing the increase in employment-related grants since 2007, partly reflecting an increase in the number of people admitted in work-related categories 5 years earlier.
- Asylum-related grants of settlement rose from 3,110 in 2009 to 5,125 in 2010. Previously, asylum-related grants have shown a broadly decreasing trend, decreasing from 14,190 in 2007.
- Family formation and reunion grants of settlement fell by 10 per cent from 72,240 in 2009 to 65,310 in 2010 reversing the increase from 55,350 in 2008.
- Other grants, including those on a discretionary basis<sup>35</sup>, more than doubled from 38,245 in 2009 to 83,090 in 2010. The increase in these grants since 2007 can be attributed to persons granted indefinite leave outside the immigration rules under measures aimed at clearing the backlog of outstanding unresolved cases.

**Figure 4b: Grants and refusals of settlement, Q1 2007 to Q4 2010**



<sup>35</sup> Includes persons granted indefinite leave outside the immigration rules under measures aimed at clearing the backlog of outstanding unresolved cases and grants where the category is unknown.

**Table 4b: Grants of settlement by broad category of grant, Q1 2007 to Q4 2010**

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Employment (1)</i>	<i>Asylum (2)</i>	<i>Family formation and reunion</i>	<i>Other (3)(4)</i>
2007 Q1	26,130	2,750	5,920	14,810	2,650
2007 Q2	27,095	7,195	6,020	11,905	1,975
2007 Q3	35,040	14,020	1,300	13,000	6,720
2007 Q4	36,590	13,250	945	11,110	11,285
2008 Q1	40,600	15,775	710	13,540	10,570
2008 Q2	36,510	14,755	390	15,495	5,870
2008 Q3	35,950	14,730	680	14,295	6,245
2008 Q4	35,875	15,505	1,045	12,015	7,310
2009 Q1	45,650	17,535	885	20,570	6,660
2009 Q2	46,185	19,830	645	17,015	8,700
2009 Q3	49,885	23,115	670	15,260	10,845
2009 Q4	53,060	20,710	910	19,395	12,045
2010 Q1	66,535	26,930	620	23,310	15,675
2010 Q2	54,910	21,440	620	13,915	18,940
2010 Q3	64,445	19,530	1,375	15,560	27,975
2010 Q4	52,000	16,470	2,510	12,525	20,495

(1) In April 2006, the qualifying period for settlement in all employment-related categories changed from 4 to 5 years, delaying grants of settlement that would otherwise have occurred earlier. This led to a fall in the number of grants between Q2 2006 and Q2 2007 inclusive after which grants returned to previous levels.

(2) Asylum-related grants of settlement were at high levels in Q1 2007 and Q2 2007 due to the Family Indefinite Leave to Remain (ILR) exercise and due to grants to persons given exceptional leave four years previously.

(3) Data from Q3 2007 include persons granted indefinite leave outside the immigration rules under measures aimed at clearing the backlog of outstanding unresolved cases.

(4) Includes grants where the category is not known.

### 4.3 Worker Registration Scheme and benefit applications (Tables 4.4 and 4.5)

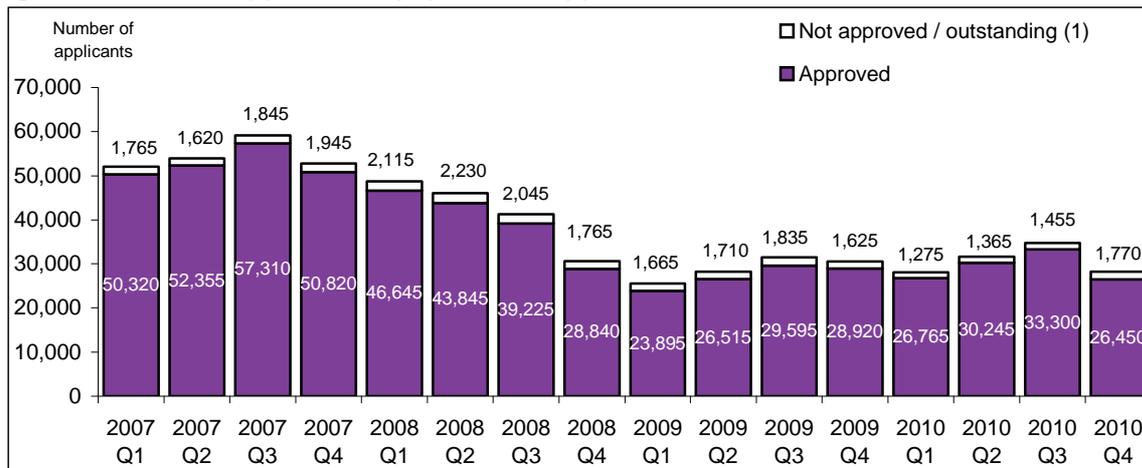
On 1 May 2004, ten countries – Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia – joined the European Union (EU). From that date, nationals of Malta and Cyprus have had full free movement rights and rights to work, throughout the EU. Prior to enlargement, existing EU member states had the right to regulate access to their labour markets by nationals of the other eight countries – the ‘Accession 8’, ‘or ‘A8’. The UK Government put in place transitional measures to regulate A8 nationals’ access to the labour market (via the Worker Registration Scheme) and to restrict access to benefits.

#### Key findings for 2010:

- Comparing 2010 with a year earlier, there were a total of 122,625 initial applicants to the Worker Registration Scheme (WRS), up 6 per cent from 115,760. This increase reverses the trend of calendar year-on-year decreases in initial applicants for the WRS since the 2006.
- The number of approved WRS applicants in 2010 was 116,760, a 7 per cent increase compared to 108,920 in 2009. This increase reverses the trend of calendar year-on-year decreases in approved applicants for the WRS since 2006.
- Approved applicants from Poland fell to 52,325 in 2010 from 55,840 in 2009 – this is the fourth consecutive calendar year in which the number of approved applicants from Poland has fallen.
- However, approved applicants from Lithuania in 2010 increased to 23,900 from 15,210 in 2009 – the second successive calendar year increase following three successive calendar year decreases – and from Latvia increased to 18,440 from 15,880 – the third successive calendar year increase.

- There were 24,789 applications for tax-funded income-related benefits in 2010, compared to 25,860 received in 2009. The majority of applications, 17,097 (69 per cent), were disallowed on failing the Right to Reside and Habitual Residence Test.

**Figure 4c: WRS applicants, by quarter of application, Q1 2007 to Q4 2010**



(1) Due to the timeliness of the data, it is expected that the proportion of applications not approved or outstanding will be greater in the latest quarter than in previous quarters due to the impact of outstanding applications.

#### 4.4 Bulgarian and Romanian Accession (Table 4.6)

On 1 January 2007 Bulgaria and Romania joined the EU. The Accession (Immigration and Worker Authorisation) Regulations 2006 make Bulgarian and Romanian nationals taking employment in the UK after 31 December 2006 subject to a requirement to hold a work authorisation document. Other Bulgarian and Romanian nationals not taking employment but exercising a Treaty right in the UK may seek a registration certificate. This includes: those exempt from the worker authorisation restrictions; highly skilled migrants; those with restricted access to the labour market; and Bulgarian and Romanian family members of main applicants.

##### Key findings for 2010:

- A total of 3,260 applications for accession worker cards were received in 2010, compared to 2,715 received in 2009; 2,250 of these applications were approved in 2010, compared to 2,095 approved in 2009.
- There were a total of 34,830 applications for registration certificates in 2010 compared to 27,690 applications in 2009; 19,295 of these applications were approved in 2010, compared to 21,480 approved applications in 2009.
- The operators of the Seasonal Agricultural Workers Scheme (SAWS) issued 17,150 SAWS work cards to Bulgarian and Romanian nationals in 2010, compared to 20,180 issued in 2009.

#### 4.5 British citizenship (Table 4.7) (NS✓)

The British Nationality Act 1981 came into force on 1 January 1983 and replaced citizenship of the UK and Colonies with three separate citizenships: (a) British citizenship, for people closely connected with the UK, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man; (b) British overseas territories citizenship, for people connected with the British overseas territories; and (c) British Overseas citizenship, for those citizens of the UK and Colonies without connections with either the UK or the British overseas territories.

The Nationality, Immigration and Asylum Act 2002 amended the British Nationality Act 1981 and requires all successful applicants for British citizenship who are aged 18 or

above to take an oath and pledge at a citizenship ceremony, unless exempted by the Home Secretary.

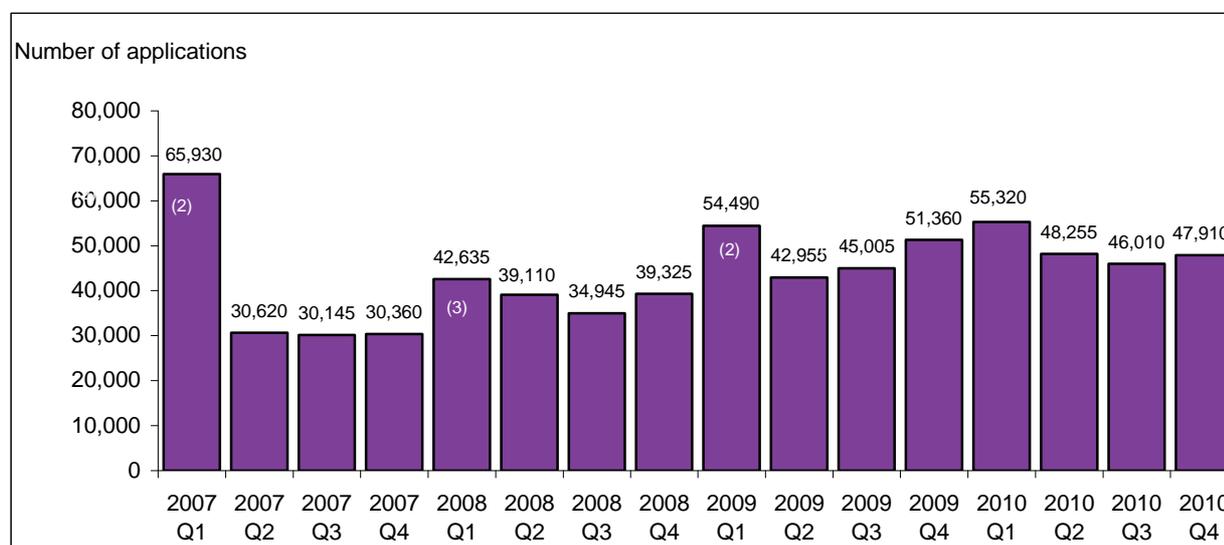
The variations in totals of applications recorded, and decisions made, reflect changing resource priorities within UKBA, as well as policy changes and other factors.

## Citizenship applications received

### Key findings for 2010:

- Comparing 2009 with 2010, applications for British citizenship rose by 2 per cent, from 193,810 to 197,495, continuing the increase from 156,015 in 2008 but at a slower rate.
- These increases may partly reflect increased grants of settlement to non-EEA nationals<sup>36</sup>. New provisions for registration as a British citizen, introduced in the Nationality, Immigration and Asylum Act 2002, may also have contributed to the increase<sup>37</sup>.

**Figure 4d: British citizenship applications (1), Q1 2007 to Q4 2010**



(1) Data of British citizenship applications have been revised to exclude Right of Abode cases and therefore differ from those published before May 2009.

(2) The unusually high number of applications received in Q1 2007 and Q1 2009 may be connected with the increases in processing fees introduced on 1 April 2007 and 6 April 2009.

(3) The increase in the number of applications in Q1 2008 may be connected to publication of the green paper "The Path to Citizenship: Next Steps in Reforming the Immigration System" in February 2008.

## Citizenship decisions – grants and refusals

### Key findings for 2010:

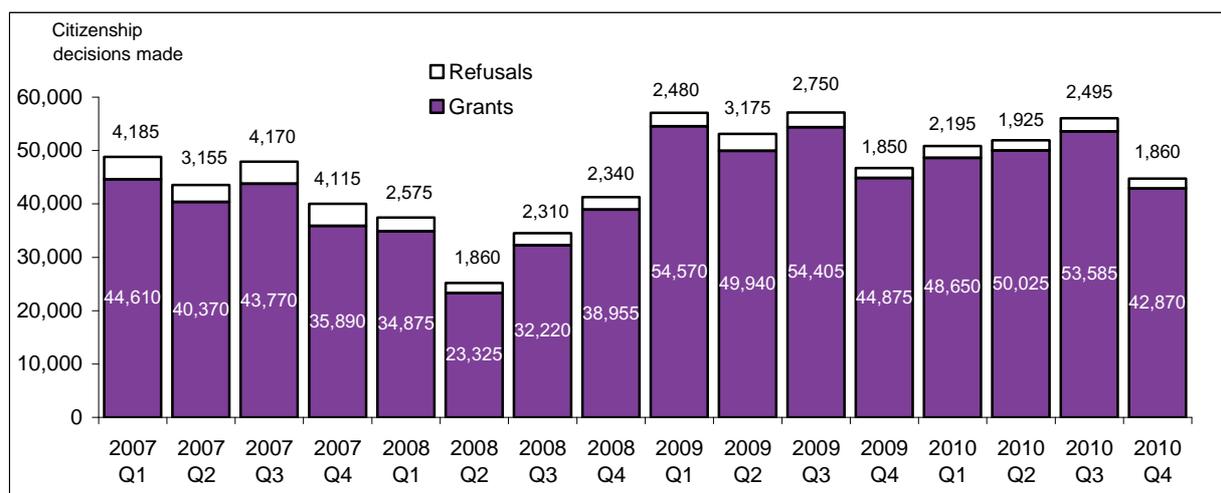
- Comparing 2010 with 2009, the total number of decisions fell by 5 per cent from 214,040 to 203,605.
- 8,480 applications for British citizenship (4 per cent of all decisions) were refused, withdrawn or found to be British already in 2010, a decrease of 17 per cent compared to 2009 (10,250). The proportion of refusals and withdrawals has fallen from 7 per cent 2008 and 9 per cent in 2007, reflecting the introduction of application checking services leading to fewer incomplete or inappropriate requests<sup>37</sup>.

<sup>36</sup> After a period of residence those granted settlement become eligible to apply for citizenship.

<sup>37</sup> See Home Office bulletin HOSB 09/10 'British Citizenship Statistics United Kingdom, 2009' for further information on long term trends.

- The number of persons granted British citizenship in 2010, fell by 4 per cent to 195,130 (from 203,790), following a 58 per cent increase from 129,375 for 2008.

**Figure 4e: British citizenship decisions made, Q1 2007 to Q4 2010**



- Comparing the provisional figures for 2010 with 2009, the number of decisions to grant based on residence fell by 6 per cent from 99,475 to 93,725. Grants based on marriage fell by 11 per cent from 52,625 to 47,050 while grants to children rose by 2 per cent from 47,815 to 48,620 and grants on other grounds rose by 48 per cent from 3,875 to 5,735.

**Table 4c: Grants of British citizenship in the United Kingdom by basis of grant and refusal, Q1 2007 to Q4 2010**

	Grants by basis of grant					Total refusals
	Total grants	Residence	Marriage	Children	Other	
2007 Q1	44,610	24,230	6,620	11,970	1,790	4,185
2007 Q2	40,370	21,250	7,250	10,265	1,610	3,155
2007 Q3	43,770	23,590	8,955	9,730	1,485	4,170
2007 Q4	35,890	18,715	7,600	8,565	1,010	4,115
2008 Q1	34,875	18,220	7,685	8,115	855	2,575
2008 Q2	23,325	10,575	4,460	7,230	1,060	1,860
2008 Q3	32,220	16,185	8,005	7,040	995	2,310
2008 Q4	38,955	20,735	8,925	8,450	845	2,340
2009 Q1	54,570	27,690	13,455	12,540	885	2,480
2009 Q2	49,940	23,680	13,255	12,045	965	3,175
2009 Q3	54,405	26,405	14,290	12,515	1,200	2,750
2009 Q4	44,875	21,700	11,630	10,715	825	1,850
2010 Q1	48,650	23,535	11,860	11,975	1,280	2,195
2010 Q2	50,025	23,560	12,135	12,500	1,825	1,925
2010 Q3	53,585	25,895	13,185	12,910	1,600	2,495
2010 Q4	42,870	20,735	9,870	11,235	1,030	1,860

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## BACKGROUND NOTES

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### Structure of quarterly statistics bulletin

1. The contents of the quarterly asylum bulletin were reviewed following the user consultation as part of the review of published statistics on control of immigration carried out during December 2007 to February 2008. Having looked at the scope, detail and frequency of the UK Border Agency's migration statistics the intention to proceed was announced on 20 May 2008 – see link below:

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs08/asylum-stats-proposal-0508.pdf>.

This is the initial outcome of the Border and Immigration Agency (now UKBA) review of statistics on “control of immigration”. The final report is available at:

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs07/bia-immig-stat-review-07.pdf>.

2. This revised publication, introduced in August 2008 for the Q2 2008 publication, is the result of that consultation and aims to give users an overview of the work of the UK Border Agency. The information is grouped by key operational area of the UK Border Agency – i.e. border control, asylum, managed migration, and enforcement and compliance.

### Tables

3. Tables of data are available online in Excel format from <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/immigration-asylum-stats.html> and <http://www.data.gov.uk>.
4. Supplementary tables, giving further breakdowns of the statistics published in the main tables, are available online from <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/immigration-asylum-stats.html> and <http://www.data.gov.uk>.

### Explanatory notes

5. More detailed explanatory notes and a glossary of terms relating to the control of immigration are published in the annual Home Office Statistical Bulletin “Control of Immigration: Statistics United Kingdom 2009” available online from <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/immigration-asylum-stats.html>.

### Revisions to data

6. All the UK statistics for 2009 and 2010 produced on a quarterly basis are provisional. It is anticipated that the data for 2010 will be revised in due course; data for 2009 may be revised. It is not possible to evaluate whether future revisions will be upward or downward; but the reasons for revisions are likely to include:
  - late reporting of cases – a small proportion of cases are not included when the statistics are calculated for the quarterly publication;
  - the results of data cleansing exercises (data identified that cannot be included when the statistics are calculated for the quarterly publication because of missing or invalid values, the identification of duplicates in the data); and
  - reconciliations with alternative sources of data which will identify cases not yet included in the statistics.

Where data have been revised from previous publications, this is denoted by (R) in the appropriate section of the table.

Data on entry clearance visas and Worker Registration Scheme are based on management information that is revised for all quarters at each release. Provisional citizenship data are expected to be revised in May of each year; all other provisional data within this bulletin is expected to be revised in August each year.

7. Every effort is made to produce data which are correct at publication. Where we discover errors after the production of the quarterly statistical summary, we will take the following action:
- correction in the next quarterly statistical summary, if the error is minor or textual; or
  - the publication of revised tables on the Home Office Research, Development and Statistics website together with an explanatory note, if the error is significant.

Further details on the Revisions Policy for the Home Office can be found on the Home Office Research, Development and Statistics website within the Statement of Compliance with the Code of Practice (see below).

### **National Statistics**

8. 'National Statistics' are a subset of official statistics which have been granted accreditation by the UK Statistics Authority. National Statistics are produced to high professional standards set out in the Code of Practice for Official Statistics and undergo regular quality assurance reviews to ensure that they meet customer needs. All statistics in this bulletin are produced free from political interference. A statement regarding the Home Office compliance with the Code of Practice can be found at: <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/statsprog1.html>.

## OTHER SOURCES OF INFORMATION ON IMMIGRATION

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### Home Office statistical publications

1. Statistical information which set the figures in this bulletin in a wider context is available in the annual Home Office Control of Immigration Statistical Bulletin. The latest bulletin, "Control of Immigration Statistics, United Kingdom 2009", is available online at: <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/immigration-asylum-stats.html>.
2. Issues of "Control of Immigration: Statistics United Kingdom" prior to 2007 were published in the form of a Command Paper, concentrating on border control, managed migration and enforcement and compliance, and are available online from The Stationery Office website at: <http://www.official-documents.gov.uk>.
3. Prior to 2008, statistics on asylum applications and decisions were published annually in the "Asylum Statistics United Kingdom" bulletin available online from: <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/immigration-asylum-stats.html>.
4. Statistical information on grants of British citizenship were published annually in the Home Office British Citizenship Statistical Bulletin. The last bulletin, Issue 09/10 "British Citizenship Statistics United Kingdom, 2009", is available online from: <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/immigration-asylum-stats.html>.
5. Until May 2009, the Home Office UK Border Agency published management information on:
  - 'Accession Monitoring Report', a quarterly report on the Accession State Worker Registration Scheme.
  - 'Bulgarian and Romanian Accession Statistics', a quarterly report on the schemes for Bulgarian and Romanian nationals.

Past copies can be found at:

<http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20100503160445/http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/aboutus/reports/>. These reports are no longer published. Key findings and summary data for the A8 and A2 continue to be included within this publication.

Enquiries about accession monitoring policy should be made to the UK Border Agency, Managed Migration Policy, Vulcan House – Steel, 6 Millsands, Sheffield, S3 8NU, and for data should be made to Migration Statistics (see Further Information and Feedback, page 9).

### Home Office research publications

7. Research reports on immigration control are published by the Research, Development and Statistics Directorate (RDS) as online reports and occasional papers available online from: <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/horrpubs.html>.

### Publications by other government departments

8. "Control of Immigration Statistics, United Kingdom 2009", available online from: <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/immigration-asylum-stats.html>, provides a list of further sources of information on control of immigration. The National Statistics publication hub <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/hub/population> also lists a wide range of statistical publications on immigration and migration.