



This report provides statistics regarding National Insurance Numbers (NINo) allocated to adult overseas nationals entering the United Kingdom (UK). A NINo is generally required by any overseas national looking to work or claim benefits / tax credits in the UK, including the self employed or students working part time

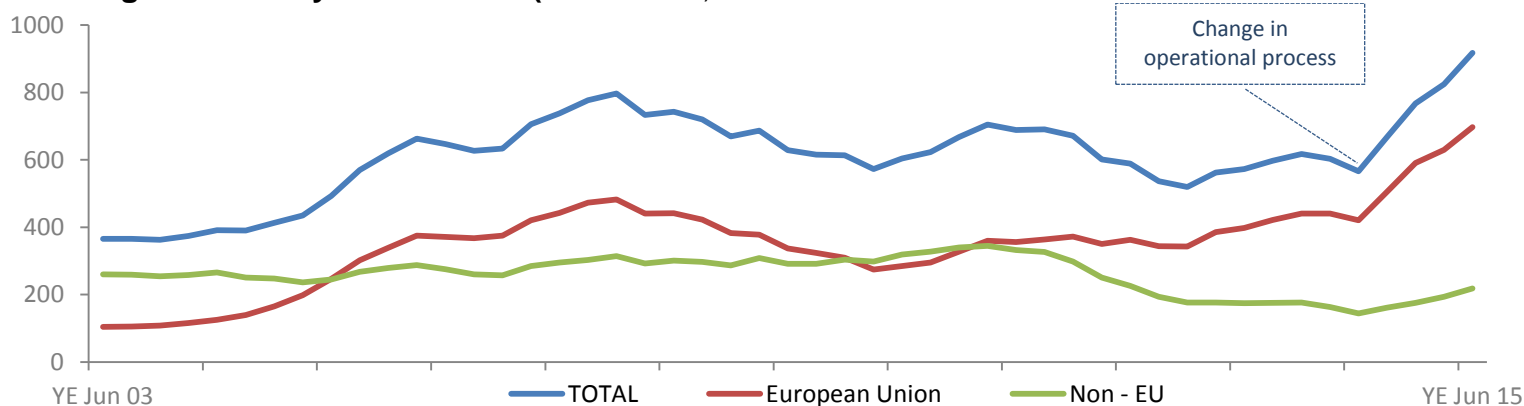
The figures are based on recorded registration date on the HMRC National Insurance Recording and Pay as you Earn System, i.e. after the NINo application process has been completed. This may be a number of weeks or months (or in some cases years) after arriving in the UK

\* Although figures do accurately reflect the number of NINos registered over time, a change to the process of recording NINos in 2014, means that the volume of NINo registrations were lower in the year to June 2014 and then higher in the latest year to June 2015 than would otherwise be the case. **Therefore, comparisons of NINo registrations over time between these periods should be viewed with caution.**

Headline Figures:

- The total number of NINo registrations to adult overseas nationals in the 12 months to June 2015 was **917 thousand**, an increase of **352 thousand (62%)** on the previous year.
- Within the European Union (EU) - The number of NINo registrations from EU nationals in the 12 months to June 2015 was **697 thousand**, an increase of **277 thousand (66%)** on the previous year.

NINo Registrations by EU / non EU (thousands)



Note Figures represent NINo registrations over a 12 month period

27<sup>th</sup> August 2015

Coverage: UK  
Theme: [Migration](#)

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**Next release of NINo registration data:**  
26<sup>th</sup> November 2015

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## Introduction

This summary contains statistics on National Insurance Numbers (NINo) allocated to adult overseas nationals entering the United Kingdom (UK), covering the period from January 2002 to June 2015. This release also includes updated annual statistics on the: Nationality at point of National Insurance number registration of DWP working age benefit claimants (February 2015).

The NINo statistics show the number of people registering for a NINo in order to work or to claim benefits / tax credits and are one of a number of supplementary measures produced by Government of in-migration to the UK.

They are a measure of flow including both short-term and long-term migrants and include foreign nationals who have already been in the country but not previously required a NINo as well as migrants who may have subsequently returned abroad.

The statistics are published as part of the scheduled timetable for the release of cross-Government migration statistics. The [Migration Statistics Quarterly Report \(MSQR\)](#) is a summary of the quarterly releases of official international migration statistics.

## Definition of World Area

For reporting purposes, countries have been grouped into ‘world areas’ based primarily on geographical location. These have been aligned to the new country groupings which ONS consulted on in 2014. Countries are grouped according to current world area status for the entire back series.

World Area	Sub Group
European Union	European Union EU15, European Union EU8, European Union EU2, European Union Other
Non-European Union (Other Europe)	Other Europe
Asia	Middle East and Central Asia, East Asia, South Asia, South East Asia
Rest of the World	Sub-Saharan Africa, North Africa, Central and South America, Oceania

## Future releases

The next release will be on the 26<sup>th</sup> November 2015 and contain data on registrations to September 2015.

[Previous publication](#)

## Additional Information

Statistics on National Insurance Number Allocations to Adult Overseas Nationals Entering the UK are full [National Statistics](#);

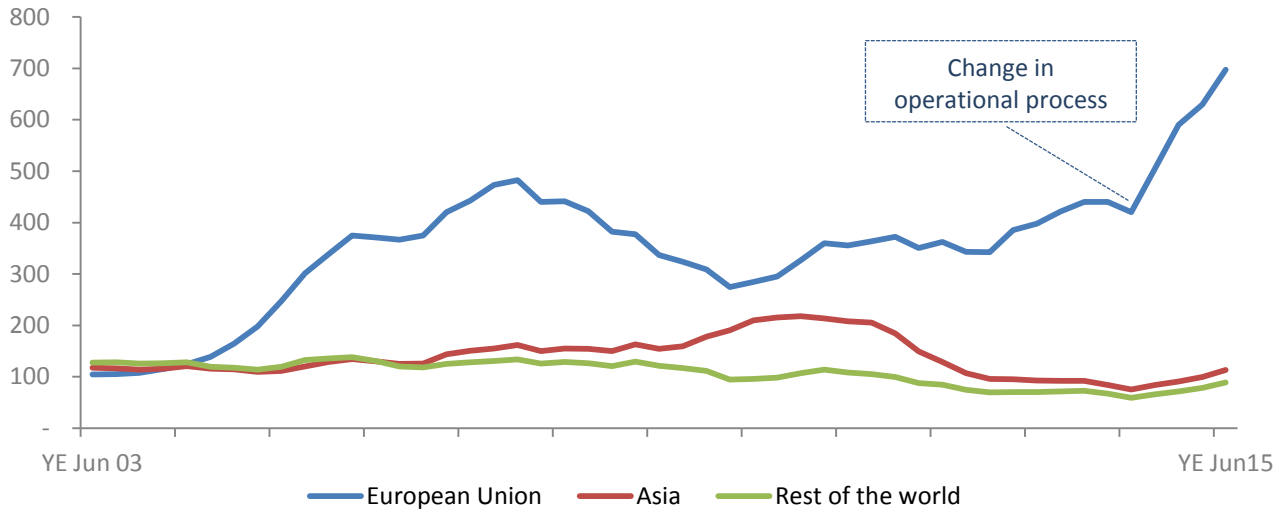
The ‘focus on’ article contained in this report is an update on nationality at point of NINo registration of DWP working age benefit recipients. [These are classed as Official Statistics](#).

All the information underlying the charts and tables can be found in the accompanying excel tables. More detailed breakdowns can be obtained using [Stat-Xplore](#)

Headline NINo registrations at Local Authority level are also available as [interactive maps](#)



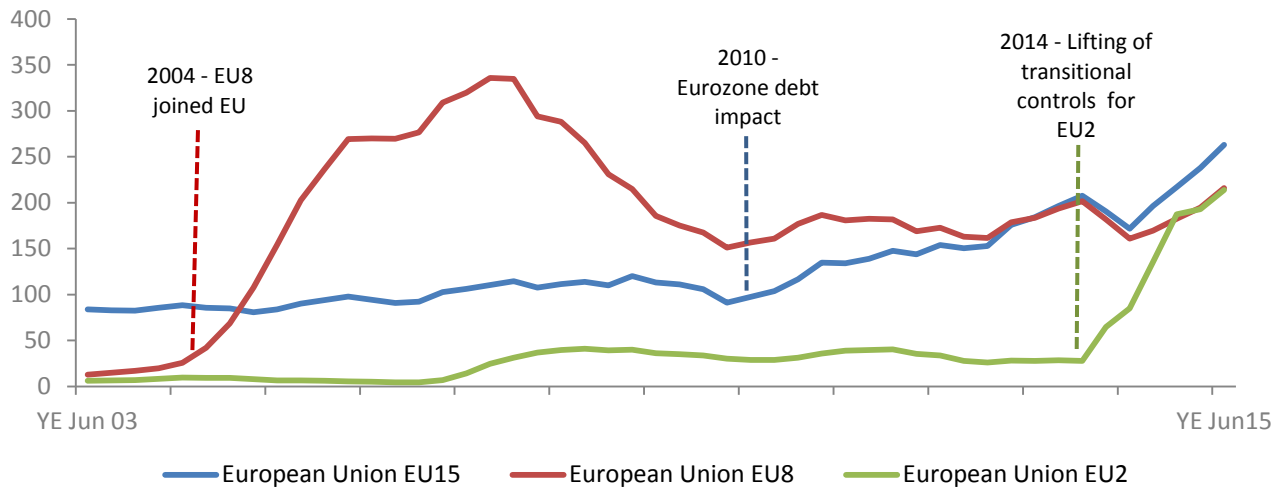
## NINo Registrations by world area (thousands)



Comparisons of NINo registrations between latest annual periods should be viewed with caution.

- **917 thousand** NINo registrations in the year to June 2015, an increase of **352 thousand (62%)** on the previous year.
- **76%** were from within the European Union.
- Within the European Union (EU) the number of NINo registrations in the year was **697 thousand**, an increase of **277 thousand (66%)** on the previous year.
- The number of NINo registrations from EU2 nationals (Bulgaria and Romania) was **214 thousand**, an increase of **129 thousand (151%)** on the previous year.
- Outside of the EU the number of NINo registrations was **218 thousand**, an increase of **74 thousand (51%)** on the previous year

## NINo Registrations to EU nationals (thousands)



Top 5 nationalities – all world areas :

Nationality	Registrations Yr to June 2015	Change from previous year
Romania	169,751	168%
Poland	128,448	40%
Italy	64,399	67%
Spain	58,623	43%
Bulgaria	44,076	104%

Note Figures represent NINo registrations over a 12 month period

See Excel tables or [Stat-Xplore](#) for full data

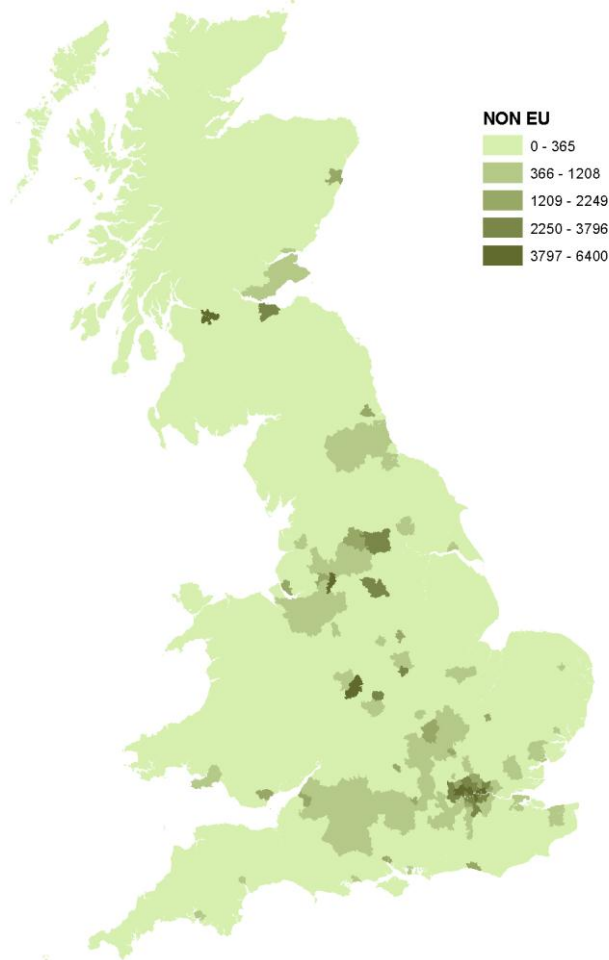
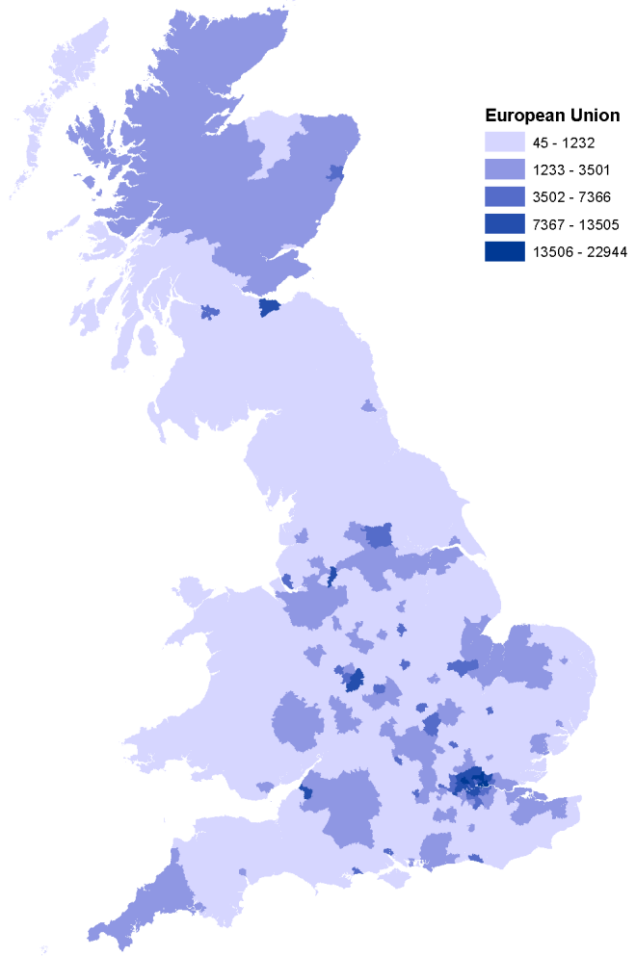


# National Insurance Number Allocations to Adult Overseas Nationals: Quarterly Report-Registrations to June 2015

## NINo registrations Year to June 2015, by Local Authority at time of registration

### European Union

### Non European Union



### NINo registrations (thousands), Year to June 2015 by region.



- 41% of all NINo registrations were in the London region.
- 1% were in the North East.

Local Authority	Registrations Yr to June 2015
Newham	29,096
Brent	26,915
Tower Hamlets	20,915
Birmingham	19,932
Waltham Forest	18,687
Haringey	18,518
Ealing	16,933
Barnet	15,521
Manchester	15,404
Westminster	14,968

See Excel tables or [Stat-Xplore](#) for full data

Click [here](#) for interactive version – NINo registrations for year to March 2015

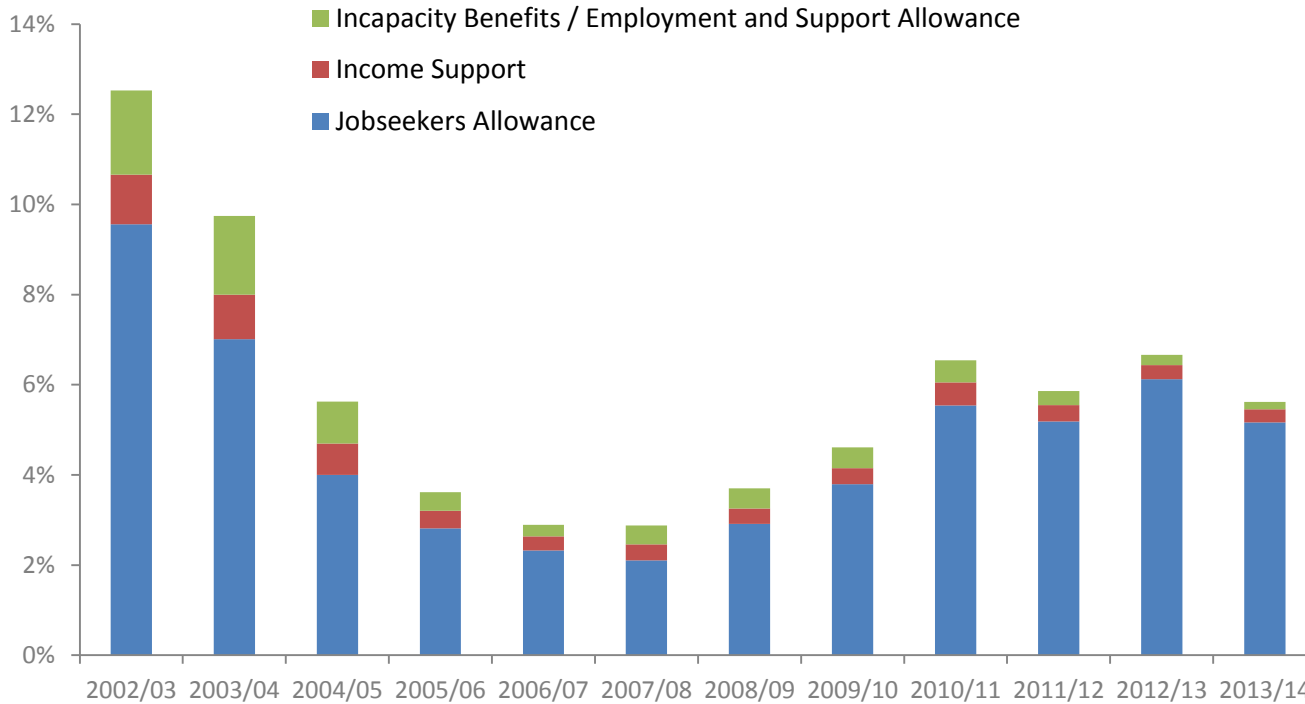


### DWP Benefits

DWP produces quarterly National Statistics of benefit claimants in the UK. In particular, key out-of-work benefits data (Jobseekers Allowance (JSA), Employment and Support Allowance (ESA), Incapacity Benefit (IB), and Income Support (IS)).

NINo registration data have been merged with DWP benefits data to show numbers and proportions of adult overseas nationals claiming one of the above benefits within 6 months of NINo registration. Note - A claimant may have arrived in the UK months / years prior to NINo registration

### Percentage of `adult overseas nationals claiming a DWP key out-of-work benefit within 6 months of NINo registration, by year of registration.



Of the **603 thousand** NINo registrations in 2013/14, **34 thousand (5.6%)** were claiming a key out-of-work benefit (see notes) within 6 months of NINo registration date. This compares to **37 thousand (6.7%)** on the previous year (2012/13).

Of the **34 thousand** registrations in 2013/14 claiming a benefit within 6 months of registration, **92%** claimed JSA, **5%** claimed ESA / Incapacity Benefits and **3%** claimed IS.

*Notes :*

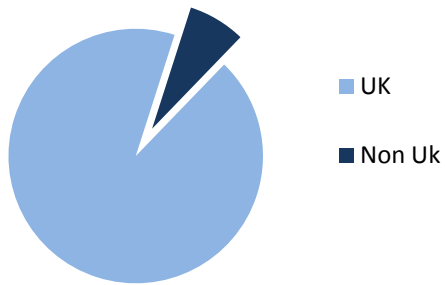
- *data used for matching is the National Benefits Database – provisional benefits data to March 2015 has been used and is subject to a small amount of retrospection.*
- *Benefits are arranged hierarchically (JSA, ESA, IB, IS ) and claimants are assigned to the top most benefit which they receive to avoid double counting.*
- *Latest registration data for 2014 /15 is not shown as for some registrations the reporting period to link to benefit claims has yet to elapse.*



*These statistics **do not** provide a measure of non-UK nationals currently claiming benefits based on **their current nationality**. The statistics **do** provide an estimate of the number of people currently claiming benefit who, **when they first registered for a NINo (that is, first entered the labour market), were non-UK nationals.***

**Headline figures :**

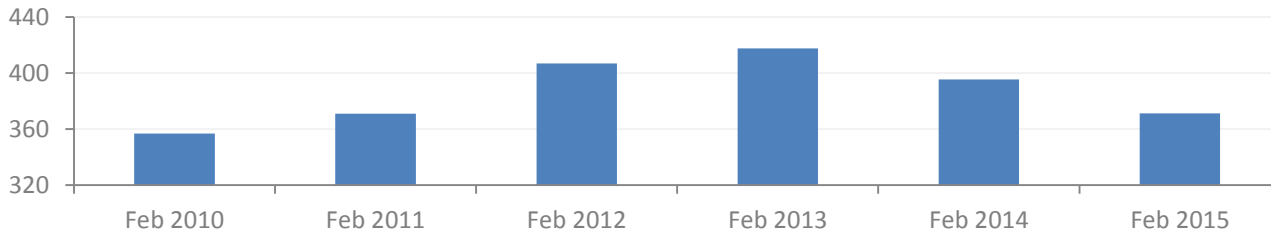
As at February 2015, 5.1 million people were claiming DWP working age benefits;



Of these **371 thousand (7.2%)** are estimated to have been non-UK nationals when they first registered for a NINo.

This compares with **395 thousand (7.4%)** in Feb 2014.

**Non-UK nationals at NINo registration: DWP working age benefit claimants (thousands) Feb 2010 to Feb 2015**



**As a proportion of the working age population** ....As at February 2015, approximately **14%** of working age UK nationals were claiming a DWP working age benefit compared to **6%** of working age non-UK nationals (at the time they first registered for a National Insurance Number) (*resident working age GB population figures based on country of birth 2013, ONS*). Claimants who were non-UK nationals when they registered for a NINo may of course subsequently have become permanent residents or British citizens.

Estimates produced in this report have been produced by matching the nationality record for non-UK nationals registering for a NINo to DWP working age benefit claimants (at Feb 2015). The client groups (and benefits) included are as follows:

- Jobseeker (Jobseeker’s Allowance).
- ESA and incapacity benefits (Employment and Support Allowance, Incapacity Benefit and Severe Disablement Allowance)
- Lone Parent (Income Support)
- Carer (Carer’s Allowance)
- Others on Income Related benefit (Income Support and Pension Credit)
- Disabled (Disability Living Allowance and Personal Independence Payments)
- Bereaved (Widow’s Benefit)

Claimants are only shown under one Client Group using the hierarchy above. A person who fits into more than one category will only appear in the top-most one for which they are eligible. For example a claimant of Disability Living Allowance and Jobseekers Allowance would appear in "Jobseeker", not in "Disabled"

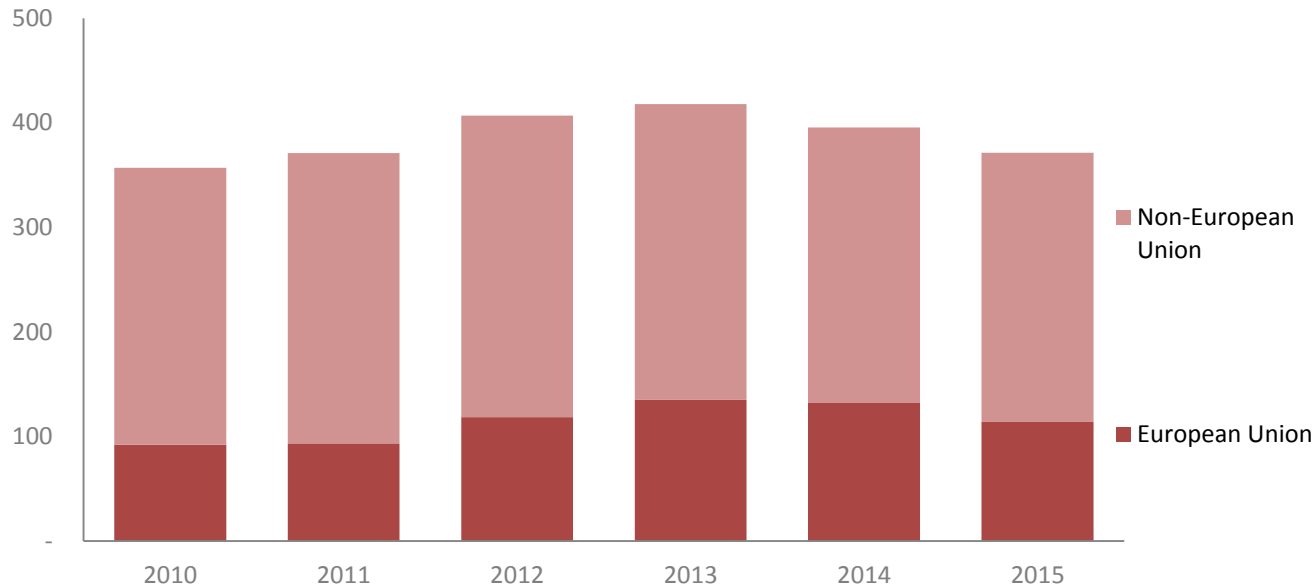
Further details on the methodology and data limitations may be found in the [original report](#)

**Analysis excludes Universal Credit, Housing Benefit and HMRC in-work benefits such as Tax Credits and Child Benefit.**



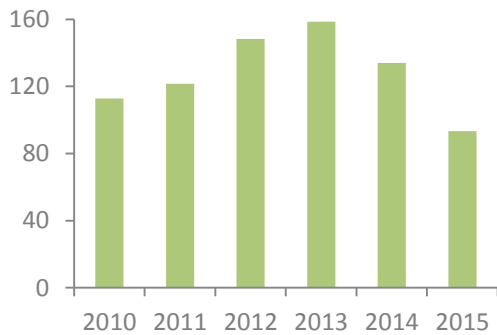
Focus on: **Nationality at point of National Insurance number registration of DWP benefit claimants**

**Non-UK nationals at NINo registration: DWP working age benefit claimants by EU / Non EU (thousands) Feb 2010 to Feb 2015**

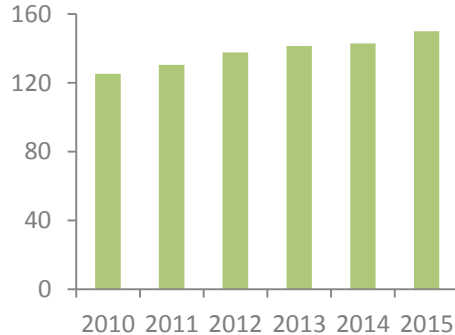


**Non-UK nationals at NINo registration (thousands) by client group - Feb 2010 to Feb 2015**

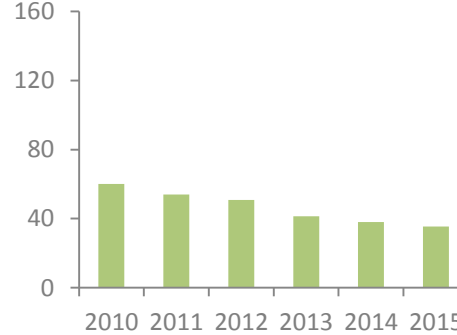
**Jobseekers**



**ESA and incapacity benefit**



**Lone parents**



As at February 2015, **5.1 million** people were claiming DWP working age benefits. Of these **371 thousand (7.2%)** are estimated to have been non-UK nationals when they first registered for a NINo.

- This compares with **395 thousand (7.4%)** in Feb 2014.
- **114 thousand (31%)** are from within the European Union

Number of Jobseekers who were overseas nationals at NINo registration has decreased over recent years to **93 thousand** in Feb 2015.

The proportion of Jobseekers who were overseas nationals at NINo registration has increased from **7%** in 2010 to **12%** in 2015.

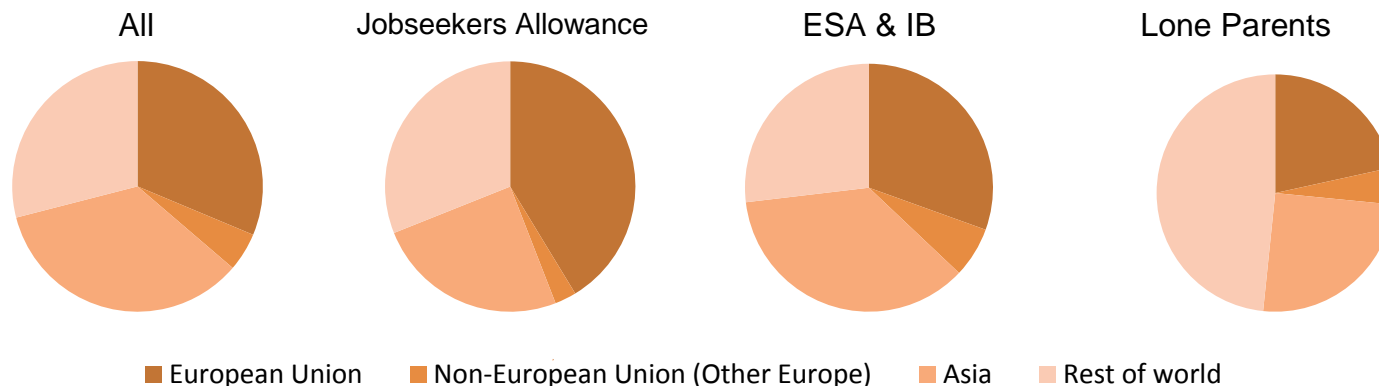
Number of ESA and incapacity benefit claimants who were overseas nationals at NINo registration has increased over recent years to **150 thousand** in Feb 2015. This represents **6%** of the ESA & IB client group

Number of lone parents who were overseas nationals at NINo registration has decreased over recent years to **35 thousand** in Feb 2015. This represents **8%** of lone parent client group

See Excel tables for full data.



**Non-UK nationals at NINo registration: DWP working age benefits by Client Group and top 10 nationalities, February 2015, Great Britain**



**Non-UK nationals at NINo registration: DWP working age benefits by Client Group and top 10 nationalities, February 2015, Great Britain (thousands)**

Proportions of non-UK nationals at NINo registration within each client group (Feb 2015) :

- All working age client group : 35% from Asia, 31% from the European Union
- Jobseekers Allowance : 41% from the European Union, 31% from the 'Rest of the world'
- Incapacity benefits and Employment and Support allowance : 36% from Asia, 31% from the European Union
- Lone parents : 48% from "Rest of the world", 25% from Asia

The current working age claimants who were non-UK nationals at the time they first registered for a NINo come from a wide range of different countries, reflecting those coming to the UK to work, joining family members already resident in UK or as refugees granted asylum status. It should be recognised that for some of the claimants their country of birth will not be the same as their nationality

All working age		Jobseekers		ESA and IB		Lone Parents	
Total Non UK	371.22	Total Non UK	93.28	Total Non UK	149.87	Total Non UK	35.50
Pakistan	36.20	Poland	8.78	Pakistan	13.10	Somalia	3.59
Poland	26.20	Pakistan	5.38	Poland	9.64	Pakistan	3.40
Somalia	18.45	Somalia	4.24	Ireland	8.47	Poland	2.11
India	18.42	Iran	3.86	Iran	8.13	Eritrea	1.47
Bangladesh	15.73	Eritrea	3.50	India	7.97	Nigeria	1.46
Iran	14.34	Portugal	3.42	Somalia	7.07	Jamaica	1.45
Ireland	14.07	Slovakia	2.87	Bangladesh	6.08	Bangladesh	1.06
Iraq	11.35	Bangladesh	2.58	Turkey	6.04	Ghana	0.93
Portugal	10.75	Nigeria	2.41	Iraq	5.97	Portugal	0.90
Turkey	10.13	Sudan	2.29	Other / unknown	4.89	Iraq	0.87





### **Source**

DWP receive a quarterly cumulative scan from HMRC's National Insurance Recording and Pay as you Earn System (NPS) which contains details of all adult overseas nationals allocated a NINo. This is used to produce these National Statistics.

The registration date referred to in this report represents the date the information on the individual was processed on HM Revenue and Customs' National Insurance Recording and Pay as you Earn System (NPS) i.e. after the NINo application and allocation process has been completed. This may be a number of weeks or months after arriving in the UK. The registration series is not subject to any future change.

### **Data Quality**

A change to the process of recording NINOs during the quarter April-June 2014, means that the volume of NINo registrations recorded were lower in that quarter and then higher in the subsequent quarter July to September 2014 than would otherwise be the case. Therefore, comparisons of NINo registrations over time for the latest quarterly periods should be viewed with caution, the impact on annual figures is negligible.

### **Coverage**

The DWP NINo data covers people allocated a NINo for all types of work – including the self-employed and students working part-time – and whatever the length of stay in the UK. It also covers adult overseas nationals allocated a NINo to claim benefits or tax credits. The data is a 100% sample held at the individual level.

The DWP NINo data does not show when overseas nationals subsequently depart the UK, nor does it show length of stay in the UK. The DWP figures are therefore a measure of inflow of overseas nationals registering for a NINo. It does not measure outflow or overall stock of overseas nationals in the UK.

The NINo statistics are not directly comparable to the LFS employment estimates which indicate the stock of people working in the UK, nor do they necessarily align well with ONS long-term estimates of immigration since the NINo statistics will include both short-term as well as long-term (1 year+) flows as well as migrants who may have subsequently returned abroad.

The figures reflect adult overseas nationals allocated a NINo through the adult registration process. In addition there will be a small number of overseas nationals (aged 16-19 yrs) allocated a NINo automatically through the Juvenile Registration scheme. This occurs when the individual has previously been allocated a child registration number. These juvenile cases are not captured by the statistics.



### ***Nationality at point of National Insurance number registration of DWP benefit claimants***

Data on nationality is not routinely published as the source systems used to capture and process benefit claims, typically do not include a nationality marker. For *contributory benefits*, nationality is not a qualifying factor, as eligibility is determined by the National Insurance contributions that the claimant has made. For *other income-related benefits* where residency conditions apply and the claimant must be lawfully resident in the UK, nationality is a factor. Once residency has been determined, nationality is not required for further processing and is therefore not routinely held on DWP computer systems.

***These statistics do not provide a measure of non-UK nationals currently claiming benefits based on their current nationality. The statistics do provide an estimate of the number of people currently claiming benefit who, when they first registered for a NINo (that is, first entered the labour market), were non-UK nationals.***

Further details on the methodology and data limitations may be found in the technical annex of the original report (link below), including results from a sample exercise to match non-EEA claimants (recorded as foreign nationals at NINo registration) with UK Border Agency (UKBA) systems. This suggested that more than half (54%) will have obtained British citizenship subsequently, and the majority of the remainder will have some form of immigration status providing legitimate access to public funds.

[www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/196677/nat\\_nino\\_regs.pdf](http://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/196677/nat_nino_regs.pdf)

### **Other statistics on migration**

The [Migration Statistics Quarterly Report \(MSQR\)](#) provides a comprehensive picture of the various sources of migration statistics available and analysis of trends and includes headline NINo statistics.



## Users of the statistics

Our users can be categorised as being from the following groups:

### **Government policy making and policy monitoring:**

- a. Ministers
- b. Department for Work & Pensions (DWP) officials, e.g. policy makers and performance managers
- c. Parliament
- d. Jobcentre Plus staff

### **Local Authorities and other public sector bodies**

### **Academic Research**

#### **Others:**

- a. Media and commentators
- b. The general public

## User feedback and contact points

DWP have recently updated the content and structure of this publication, the aim of this was to make the publication as user-friendly as possible.

If you have any comments or suggestions regarding this publication, please contact DWP via [stats-consultation@dwpgsi.gov.uk](mailto:stats-consultation@dwpgsi.gov.uk).

We would be interested in hearing about what you use these statistics for and how well they meet your requirements.

If you would like to receive occasional e-mails from DWP to directly inform you of documents seeking the views of users, please email [general.statistics@dwpgsi.gov.uk](mailto:general.statistics@dwpgsi.gov.uk) giving details of the DWP publications you use.

**Press enquiries** should be directed to the Department for Work and Pensions Press Office: 0203 267 5129 (Out of hours: 0203 267 5144)

**Other enquiries** about these statistics should be directed to: [steven.watkins@dwpgsi.gov.uk](mailto:steven.watkins@dwpgsi.gov.uk)

Data & Analytics, Department for Work and Pensions

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