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.

Headline Figures:
- The total number of NINo registrations to adult overseas nationals in 2015 was **828 thousand**, an increase of **60 thousand (8%)** on the previous year.
- Within the European Union (EU) - The number of NINo registrations from EU nationals in 2015 was **630 thousand**, an increase of **40 thousand (7%)** on the previous year.

**NINo Registrations by EU / non EU**

Thousands

Note Figures represent NINo registrations over a 12 month period.

Although figures do accurately reflect the number of NINOs registered over time, 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-September 2014 than would otherwise be the case. Thus comparisons of NINo registrations over time should be viewed with caution.
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 December 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 in-flow to the UK, primarily for employment, 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>World Area</th>
<th>Sub Group</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>European Union (EU)</td>
<td>European Union EU15, European Union EU8, European Union EU2, European Union Other</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-European Union (Other Europe)</td>
<td>Other Europe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asia</td>
<td>Middle East and Central Asia, East Asia, South Asia, South East Asia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rest of the World</td>
<td>Sub-Saharan Africa, North Africa, Central and South America, Oceania</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Future releases

The next release will be on the 26th May 2016 and contain data on registrations to March 2016.

Additional Information

Statistics on National Insurance Number Allocations to Adult Overseas Nationals Entering the UK are full National 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 to EU nationals

Thousands

- 828 thousand NINo registrations in 2015, an increase of 60 thousand (8%) 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 630 thousand, an increase of 40 thousand (7%) on the previous year.
- The number of NINo registrations from EU2 nationals (Bulgaria and Romania) was 209 thousand, an increase of 22 thousand (12%) on the previous year.
- Outside of the EU the number of NINo registrations was 197 thousand, an increase of 21 thousand (12%) on the previous year.

Registrations (thousands) in the year to December 2015 by world area

Top 5 nationalities – all world areas (thousands):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nationality</th>
<th>Registrations 2015</th>
<th>Change from previous year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Romania</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bulgaria</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>-6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The top 5 non-EU nationalities for registrations were: Indian (35,000) Australian (14,000) Chinese (13,000), Pakistani (13,000) and Nigerian (11,000)

See Excel tables or Stat-Xplore for full data
National Insurance Number Allocations to Adult Overseas Nationals: Quarterly Report-Registrations to December 2015
NINo registrations Year to December 2015, by Local Authority at time of registration

European Union

Non European Union

- 39% of all NINo registrations were in the London region.
- 1% were in the North East.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Local Authority</th>
<th>Registrations Yr to December 2015 (thousands)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Newham</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brent</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Birmingham</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tower Hamlets</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waltham Forest</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haringey</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ealing</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barnet</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manchester</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Westminster</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

See Excel tables or Stat-Xplore for full data
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.

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@dwp.gsi.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@dwp.gsi.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@dwp.gsi.gov.uk

Data & Analytics, Department for Work and Pensions