



Home Office

User guide to the Home Office 'EU Settlement Scheme monthly and quarterly statistics'

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1 Introduction

This user guide to the Home Office's 'EU Settlement Scheme statistics' is designed to be a useful reference guide with explanatory notes on the issues and classifications which are key to the production, development and presentation of these releases.

The EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS) enables EU, EEA and Swiss citizens and their families to obtain a UK immigration status for when the UK leaves the EU. Further information about the EU Settlement Scheme can be found [here](#).

Statistics covered

The findings presented in these releases are based on administrative data of applications to the EU Settlement Scheme. Applications (and their conclusions) are broken down in the monthly data by:

- Nationality
- UK country
- Outcome type

Applications (and their conclusions) are further broken down in the quarterly data by:

- Nationality
- Age group
- UK country, region and local authority
- Outcome type

Purpose

EU Settlement Scheme statistics provide valuable insight into applications to the EU Settlement Scheme. This helps to inform government policy and ensures that the scheme has been effectively communicated to eligible EEA and Swiss citizens and their family members.

What statistics have been published previously?

The monthly and quarterly EU Settlement Scheme statistics releases have been designed to be complementary. The monthly EUSS publications provide more timely, high level figures up to the end of the preceding month. The quarterly publications provide a more detailed breakdown of the applications received and concluded by the preceding monthly reports, including local authority level data.

The entire series of EU Settlement Scheme statistical publications (including quarterly and monthly releases) can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/eu-settlement-scheme-statistics>.

Key findings of the earlier test phases of the EU Settlement Scheme can be found at [EU Settlement Scheme private beta 1](#), [EU Settlement Scheme private beta 2](#) and [EU Settlement Scheme public beta testing phase report](#).

Statistics on EUSS Family Permits are published as part of the [Home Office 'Immigration Statistics' quarterly release](#). More information on EUSS Family Permits can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/family-permit/eu-settlement-scheme-family-permit>.

Feedback and enquiries

We welcome feedback on the 'EU Settlement Scheme statistics' publications, which can be provided by email or in writing:

Email: MigrationStatsEnquiries@homeoffice.gov.uk

(Please include the words 'EUSS PUBLICATION FEEDBACK' in the subject of your email)

Alternatively, write to:

The Editor, Immigration Statistics
Migration Statistics
Migration & Border Analysis
14th Floor, Lunar House
40 Wellesley Road
Croydon
CR9 2BY

Press enquiries should be made to:

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

2 Glossary of terms

This glossary sets out terms used in the 'EU Settlement Scheme statistics' releases. It is intended to give an overview of the terms, rather than a full technical description.

If there are terms in the release that you would like to be explained in this glossary, please contact: MigrationStatsEnquiries@homeoffice.gov.uk.

Acronyms

EEA European Economic Area

EU European Union

EUSS EU Settlement Scheme

Terms

Within an explanation of a term, words in bold are explained elsewhere in the glossary.

The **EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS)** allows EU, EEA or Swiss nationals, and their family members, to apply for UK immigration status for when the UK leaves the European Union. The scheme is a digital system which allows those who are resident in the UK to obtain settled status or pre-settled status.

The **European Union (EU)** consists of 28 countries: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Ireland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and the UK.

The **European Economic Area (EEA)** consists of the 28 countries of the **European Union**, plus Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway. Nationals of the EEA and Switzerland have rights of free movement within the UK.

EU Settlement Scheme Family Permits are documents that facilitate entry into the UK of an eligible non-EEA citizen family member without a valid biometric residence card, in order to join, or accompany, an EEA or Swiss citizen who has been granted **settled** or **pre-settled** status under the **EUSS**.

Invalid applications are those which fail to meet the criteria specified in the [Immigration Rules](#) relating to the EUSS. An application is valid where it has been made using the required application process, proof of identity and nationality has been provided, and the required biometrics have been provided.

Pre-settled and **settled** status are types of immigration status which can be granted under the EUSS. Under Appendix EU to the Immigration Rules, grants are either indefinite leave to enter (ILE) (where the application is made outside the UK) or indefinite leave to remain (ILR) (where the application is made within the UK) – also referred to for the purposes of the scheme as '**settled** status' – or 5 years' limited leave to enter (LTE) (where the application is made outside the UK) or 5 years' limited leave to remain (LTR) (where the application is made within the UK) – also referred to as '**pre-settled** status'.

An application can be **refused** on eligibility or suitability grounds where it is valid but does not meet the eligibility or suitability criteria for the scheme.

An application can be declared **void** when it is submitted by someone ineligible to be granted leave under [Appendix EU](#), and there is therefore no legal basis for the Home Office to process

it. Examples include applications from British citizens (including dual nationals), applications from those with a right of abode, and applications from those exempt from immigration control (such as diplomats or those working for prescribed international organisations).

Applications are **withdrawn** from consideration for various reasons. Examples include where an application is submitted but the applicant subsequently decides to leave the UK, they apply for a different status (for example British citizenship), or have made multiple applications at the same time.

3 Conventions

Experimental Statistics

These statistics are released as Experimental Statistics, meaning they are going through development and evaluation. The Home Office is continuing to work to improve these statistics to ensure they meet the needs of users. Further details can be found in the [UK Statistics Authority's Guidance on Experimental Statistics](#).

Rounding

As these are Experimental Statistics, data have been rounded to the nearest 10 as the figures are subject to the inaccuracies inherent in any large recording system. There are a range of different types of errors possible, such as those resulting from recording errors or misclassifications.

In most instances, percentages are rounded to the nearest per cent using the round-half-away-from-zero method. The round-half-away-from-zero method has been used so that in the borderline case where the fraction of the percentage is exactly 0.5, the rounded figure is equal to $y + 0.5$ if y is positive, and $y - 0.5$ if y is negative. For example, 23.5% is rounded to 24%, and -23.5% is rounded to -24%.

Where percentages are rounded, they may not total 100% because they have been rounded independently.

Disclosure control

Rounding and cell suppression are forms of 'statistical disclosure control' and have been considered in line with the [Code of Practice for Official Statistics](#).

In the high-level monthly statistics, figures are rounded to the nearest 100, with cell counts between 1 and 49 replaced by an asterisk (*).

In the more detailed quarterly statistics, figures are rounded to the nearest 10, with cell counts between 1 and 9 replaced by an asterisk (*). Refusal figures are currently suppressed (':') in the data tables as the figures are low and would risk individuals being identified.

"The Code of Practice for Official Statistics states 'Ensure that arrangements for confidentiality are sufficient to protect the privacy of individual information, but not so restrictive as to limit unduly the practical utility of official statistics.' This emphasises the dual purposes of statistical disclosure control. Detail relating to individual statistical units is to be protected but the released data must still be of high practical utility for users."¹

Use of symbols

The following symbols have been used in the tables:

- * Figures (between 1 and 9) not disclosed
- :
- 0 Nil

¹ <https://gss.civilservice.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Guidance-for-tables-produced-from-administrative-sources-4.pdf>

Revisions to data

The data contained in the release may be subject to revision. It is not possible to evaluate whether any future revisions will be upward or downward, however the reasons for revisions are likely to include:

- late reporting of cases – a small proportion of cases are not included when the statistics are produced
- the results of data-cleansing exercises, such as data identified that cannot be included when the statistics are calculated because of missing or invalid values, or the identification of duplicates in the data

Data Quality

Listed below are key data quality measures relating to the 'EU Settlement Scheme statistics'.

- Detailed information based on administrative data.
- Data are classified as 'Experimental Statistics' (see definition above).
- Timely release of high-level monthly data.
- More detailed quarterly breakdowns of the high-level monthly data.
- Provision of detailed local level data on a quarterly basis. Figures are sourced from a live operational database, to which revisions may be made.
- There are a small number of cases where location (0.2%), nationality (<0.1%), or age (<0.1%) information is not available or in an analysable format.
- Non-disclosure of small figures and rounding are used for data quality purposes (see above) and confidentiality reasons.
- 'Withdrawn' and 'void' applications are not reported separately as they are grouped together in the EUSS case working systems.

4 Methodology

Data source

The Home Office developed a new standalone caseworking system, specifically for processing EU Settlement Scheme applications. The system went 'live' on 1 November 2018 and has been used to process all applications from this date.

Before the introduction of the new caseworking system, Private Beta 1 (PB1) applications were processed in an existing caseworking system, 'CID'. CID was introduced in 2000 as the Asylum Case Information Database (ACID). It was then expanded in 2002 to cover non-asylum extensions of stay, settlement and British citizenship casework.

5 Development

Statistics are vital to support public debate and evaluation of government policies and programmes. The Home Office is continuing to work to improve these statistics to ensure they meet the needs of users.

User feedback

In line with the Code of Practice for Statistics, the Home Office openly invites feedback from users to continue developing the quality, usefulness and presentation of statistics on the EU Settlement Scheme.

Feedback is continuously sought across our suite of Home Office immigration statistics, alongside regular internal consultation, and external engagement through multiple stakeholder channels.

If you have any comments or suggestions for the development of these statistics, please provide feedback by emailing MigrationStatsEnquiries@homeoffice.gov.uk. Please include the words 'EUSS PUBLICATION FEEDBACK' in the subject of your email.

Data source considerations

Figures reported in the statistical publications account for applications to the system, including individuals making applications on more than one occasion. For example, an individual who has been granted pre-settled status can make a new application at a later stage to apply for settled status. As these are separate applications with separate outcomes, they are counted as separate applications and outcomes in the statistics. This is consistent with how applications are reported across wider Home Office statistics.

To continue to meet user needs, the Home Office is exploring options for reporting applications to move from pre-settled to settled status.

Applications to the EU Settlement Scheme are made through an online system, although there are certain exceptions where applications may be submitted using a paper application form. Applications made online are recorded directly on a digital case working system from which the data underpinning the statistical reports are extracted. Applications made using a paper form are captured on a separate system, CID. At present, paper-based applications are not included in the published statistics but the Home Office is exploring options for including these in future. Initial analysis of internal figures suggests that paper applications represent around 0.2% of all applications received.

6 Other sources of information on immigration and migration

Published information relating to Home Office migration statistics can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/migration-statistics>.

[An inspection of the EU Settlement Scheme](#) was published by the Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration in May 2019, which covered the period between November 2018 and December 2018.

Published guidance for EUSS caseworkers can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/eu-settlement-scheme-caseworker-guidance>.

Comparisons to ONS population estimates

Figures in this publication refer specifically to applications made to the EU Settlement Scheme and cannot be directly compared with estimates of the resident population of EU/EEA nationals in the UK. Figures in this report include non-EEA family members, and eligible EEA citizens not resident in the UK. None of these are usually included in estimates of the resident EU population. Furthermore, the population estimates do not take account of people's migration intentions and will include people who have come to the UK for a range of purposes, including some who have no intention to settle in the UK.

7 List of tables

This section provides a list of the tables published in the 'EU Settlement Scheme monthly statistics and the [EU Settlement Scheme quarterly statistics](#)'.

EU Settlement Scheme – monthly report contents

Table number	Title
Table 1	EU Settlement Scheme – applications received
Table 2	EU Settlement Scheme – applications concluded
Table 3	EU Settlement Scheme – applications received in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland
Table 4	EU Settlement Scheme – applications received by nationality

EU Settlement Scheme – quarterly report contents

Table number	Title
EUSS_01	Applications by UK country and nationality
EUSS_02	Applications by UK country and age group
EUSS_03_UK	Concluded applications by outcome type and nationality – UK total
EUSS_03_ENG	Concluded applications by outcome type and nationality – England
EUSS_03_NIR	Concluded applications by outcome type and nationality – Northern Ireland
EUSS_03_SCO	Concluded applications by outcome type and nationality – Scotland
EUSS_03_WAL	Concluded applications by outcome type and nationality – Wales
EUSS_04	Concluded applications by outcome type, age group and UK country
EUSS_05	Concluded applications by outcome type and UK country
EUSS_LA_01	Applications by nationality, region and local authority
EUSS_LA_02	Applications by age group, region and local authority
EUSS_LA_03	Concluded applications by outcome type, region and local authority