



Home Office

# EU Settlement Scheme quarterly statistics, March 2020

## Experimental Statistics

14 May 2020

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# EU Settlement Scheme quarterly statistics (28 August 2018 to 31 March 2020)

Published: 14 May 2020

## Introduction

This is the fourth quarterly release of detailed statistics on the progress of the EU Settlement Scheme.

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

The scheme is a simple digital system which allows EU, EEA and Swiss citizens who are resident in the UK to obtain, free of charge, settled status or pre-settled status in the UK. Find out more about [what settled and pre-settled status means](#).

The EU Settlement Scheme launched fully on 30 March 2019, following the success of two private beta testing phases and public beta testing of the application process. During the testing phases (between 28 August 2018 and 29 March 2019) there were over 230,000 applications. A final report on [the public beta test phase](#) was published on 2 May 2019.

## About this release

This publication takes an in-depth look at the total number of applications to the EU Settlement Scheme between 28 August 2018 and 31 March 2020, and their outcomes. This covers the period between the launch of the first private beta scheme to the end of Q1 2020.

This publication presents applications to the scheme and their outcomes by nationality, age, and geography (which includes constituent parts of the UK, region and local authority).

Detailed data tables on applications to the EU Settlement Scheme (and their outcomes), by nationality, age, UK country, region and local authority, for the period 28 August 2018 to 31 March 2020, have been released alongside this report.

### Related data

This quarterly publication complements high-level monthly statistical releases on the progress of the EU Settlement Scheme, which can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/eu-settlement-scheme-statistics>.

The next monthly release, [EU Settlement Statistics, April 2020](#), will be published on 21 May 2020 and will cover data up to the end of April 2020. The monthly publications provide more timely updates on the high-level progress of the EU Settlement Scheme, whereas the quarterly release provides users with greater detail on the applications received, their outcomes and additional supporting data.

## About the data

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](#).

The data in this report account for the number of *applications* to the system, including individuals making applications on more than one occasion. 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 separately in the statistics.

Totals published in the quarterly release may not necessarily match the totals in the monthly publications. Figures are sourced from a live operational database, to which revisions may be made. Data used to produce the quarterly report is extracted after the monthly data covering the corresponding time period, so there may be slight variation between the figures. Further, figures in both the quarterly and monthly publications are rounded, so the sum of figures in the monthly reports may not total the figures in the quarterly report.

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.

## Paper applications update

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.

Paper application forms may be submitted by applicants who:

- Are applying on the basis of a derivative right to reside;
- Do not hold a valid identity document and are unable to obtain one;
- Are unable to apply using the online application form and cannot be supported to do so.

Additional information can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families/applying-for-settled-status>.

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 and processed using a separate case-working system once they have been received. At present, paper-based applications are not included in the published statistics. This means that the total number of applications received, grants of status, and other outcomes (refusals, withdrawn or void, or invalid cases) are not fully captured in the report.

It was our intention to develop electronic integration of the two systems to provide a more complete account of all applications received for the quarterly publication in May 2020, but due to the impacts of Covid-19, this has not been possible. We are aiming to provide further detail and integration of paper-based applications in the next quarterly release.

## User Guide

The [Home Office EU Settlement Scheme statistics: user guide](#) provides further details on this topic including, definitions used, data conventions, methods, data quality, and issues arising from figures based on data sourced from a live operational database.

## Feedback

If you have any comments or suggestions for the development of this report, please provide feedback by emailing [MigrationStatsEnquiries@homeoffice.gov.uk](mailto:MigrationStatsEnquiries@homeoffice.gov.uk). Please include the words 'EUSS PUBLICATION FEEDBACK' in the subject of your email.

## 1. Key points

This report covers the period from 28 August 2018 up to 31 March 2020.

### Applications received

- As of 31 March 2020, over 3.4 million (3,468,670) applications had been received, with 91% received in England, 5% in Scotland, 2% in Northern Ireland and 2% in Wales.
- Across all nationalities, the highest numbers of applications received were from Polish, Romanian and Italian nationals. Polish and Romanian nationals were consistently among the highest application numbers within each constituent country (England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland).
- There were 493,800 applications received from children under 18, almost 2.9 million (2,894,380) applications from those aged 18 to 64 and 78,850 applications from those aged 65 and above (14%, 83% and 2% respectively). Northern Ireland had a noticeably higher proportion (18%) of applications from applicants under 18 compared to the rest of the UK.

### Applications concluded

- Over 3.1 million (3,147,140) applications had been concluded up to 31 March 2020.
- Of the concluded outcomes, 58% (1,813,390) were granted settled status, 41% (1,299,350) were granted pre-settled status and 1% had other outcomes (including 640 refused applications, 23,740 withdrawn or void applications, and 10,030 invalid applications).
- Concluded outcomes granted settled status were higher for Northern Ireland, Wales and Scotland (66%, 63%, 62% respectively), compared to England (57%).

### Local authority statistics

- As of 31 March 2020, Newham saw the highest number of applications to the scheme (84,950).
- As of 31 March 2020, Ealing had the highest number of applications from Polish nationals (16,630) of all local authorities.

## 2. Applications to the EU Settlement Scheme

The total number of applications received up to 31 March 2020 was 3,468,670.

### 2.1. Applications from England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland

Most applications were received from England (3,165,450; 91%) with an additional 172,830 from Scotland (5%), 57,640 from Northern Ireland (2%) and 56,850 from Wales (2%).

### 2.2. Applications by nationality

In total, there were 3,259,010 applications received from EU nationals, 25,540 received from other EEA and Swiss nationals and 182,470 received from non-EEA nationals. The nationalities with the highest number of applications received were:

- Polish (665,520)
- Romanian (564,320)
- Italian (351,580)
- Portuguese (273,370)
- Spanish (210,940)

The top five nationalities combined represent 3 of every 5 (60%) applications received.

Applications were received from all constituent countries of the UK: England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, with Poland and Romania featuring in the top 5 nationalities for each country (see Table 1).

**Table 1 - EU Settlement Scheme: top five nationalities by applications received and UK country, 28 August 2018 to 31 March 2020**

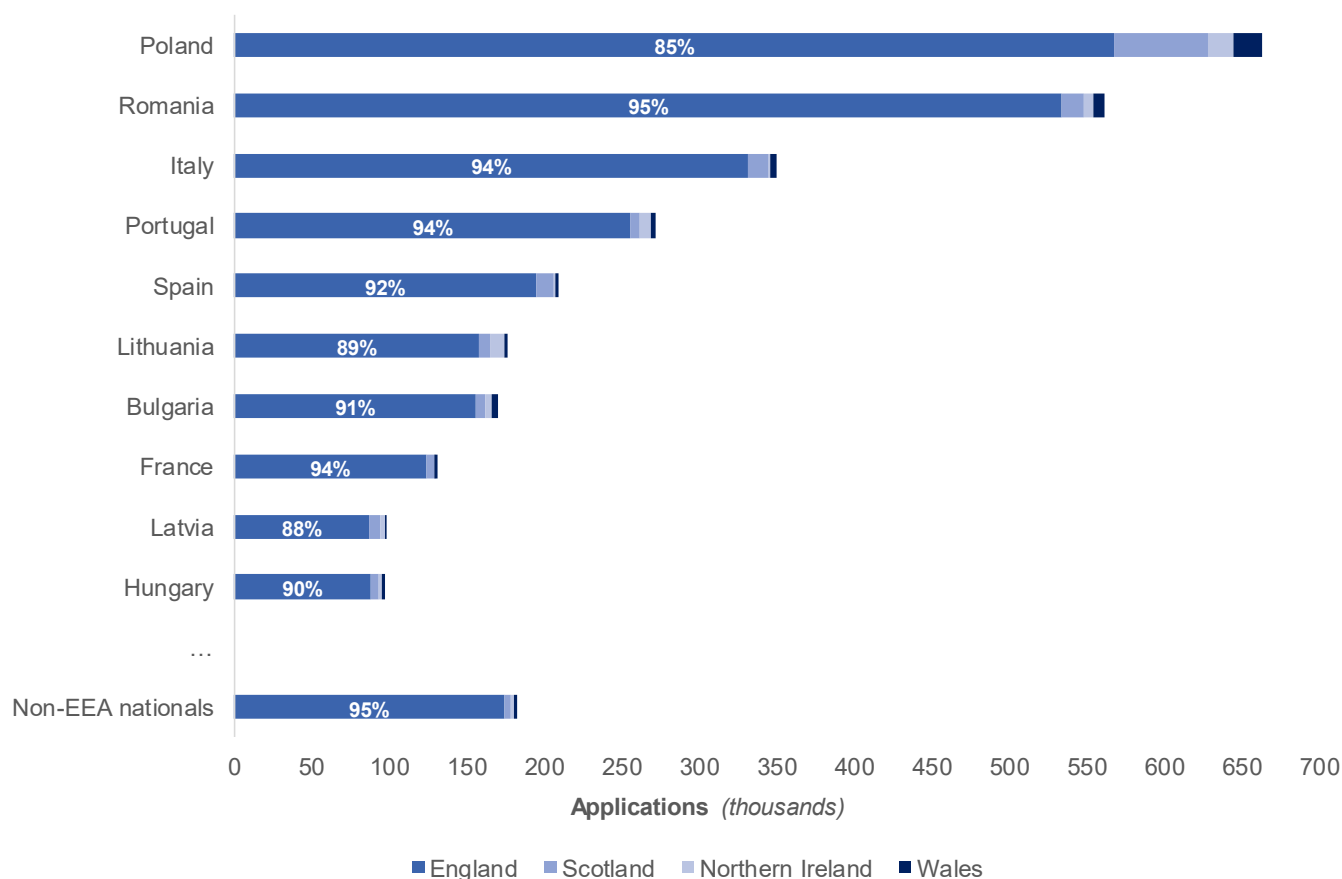
England	Scotland	Wales	Northern Ireland
Poland	Poland	Poland	Poland
Romania	Romania	Romania	Lithuania
Italy	Italy	Portugal	Romania
Portugal	Spain	Bulgaria	Portugal
Spain	Lithuania	Italy	Bulgaria

**Source:** Table EUSS\_01, [EU Settlement Scheme quarterly statistics tables](#)

As can be seen in Figure 1 on the next page, a lower proportion of Polish nationals applied from England (85%) than the average across all nationalities (91%). Scotland had nearly double the average uptake for Polish nationals (9%) compared to the average of 5% across all nationalities in Scotland.

The remaining top five nationalities, Romania, Italy, Portugal and Spain, had a greater number of applicants applying from England than average (95%, 94%, 94% and 92% respectively). Non-EEA nationals also had a higher than average proportion (95%) of applicants applying from England.

Northern Ireland had more than double the average uptake for Lithuanian nationals (5%) compared to the average of 2% across all nationalities in Northern Ireland.

**Figure 1 - EU Settlement Scheme: number and proportion of applications by nationality and UK country, 28 August 2018 to 31 March 2020 - top 10 nationalities (and non-EEA nationals) by number of applications**

Source: Table EUSS\_01, [EU Settlement Scheme quarterly statistics tables](#)

### 2.3. Applications by age group

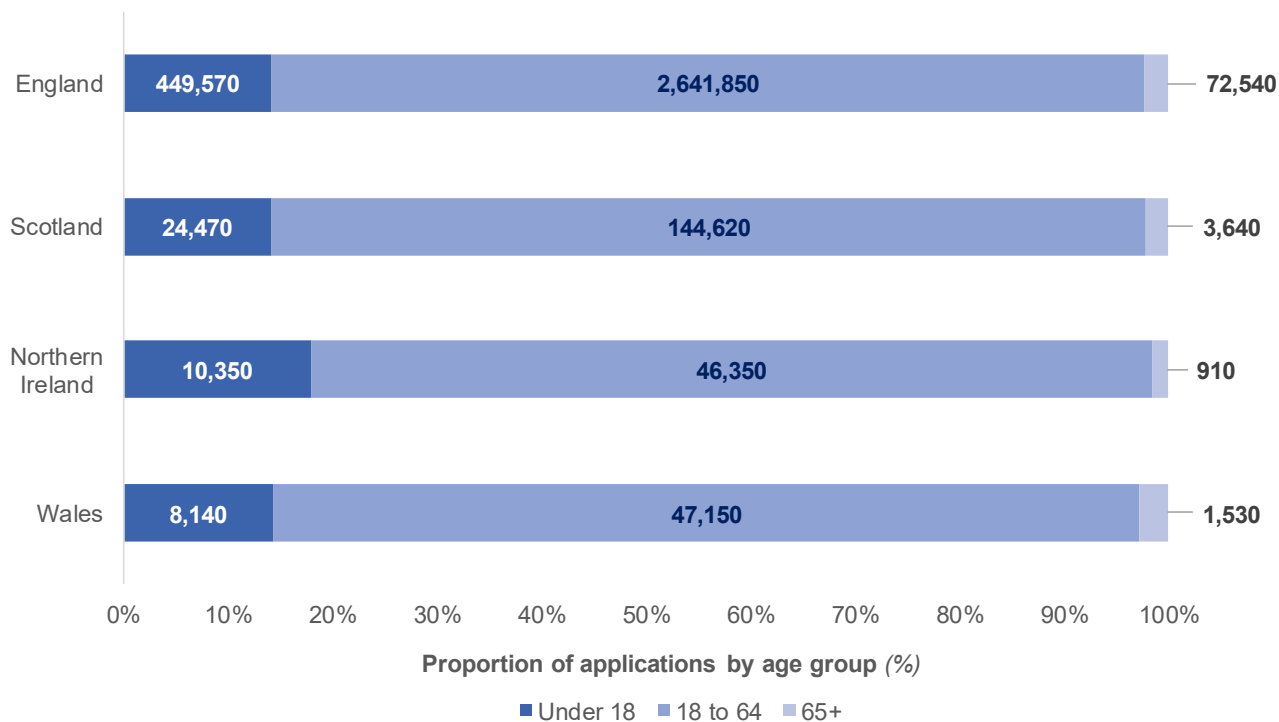
Of the 3,468,670 applications received:

- 493,800 (14%) were made from applicants under 18 years of age.
- 2,894,380 (83%) were made from applicants aged between 18 and 64.
- 78,850 (2%) were made from applicants aged 65 and over.

Compared to the rest of the UK, Northern Ireland had a noticeably higher proportion (18%) of applications from applicants under 18.

There was some variation in the proportion of applicants from different age groups for different nationalities across the UK. Norway and Ireland had the highest proportion of applications from those aged under 18 (22%). Malta had the highest proportion of applications from those aged 65 and over (10%).

**Figure 2 - EU Settlement Scheme: proportion and number of applications by UK country by age group, 28 August 2018 to 31 March 2020**



Source: Table EUSS\_02, [EU Settlement Scheme quarterly statistics tables](#)



### 3. Concluded applications to the EU Settlement Scheme

In February 2020, the Home Office began refusing EU Settlement Scheme applications on eligibility grounds. Many of these eligibility refusals relate to cases that had been under consideration for several months and, in most cases, subject to repeated unsuccessful attempts to obtain missing evidence or information from the applicant.

Additional information on application criteria can be found in [Appendix EU](#) to the Immigration Rules.

The number of concluded applications up to 31 March 2020 was 3,147,140. Of these, 58% (1,813,390) were granted settled status and 41% (1,299,350) were granted pre-settled status. There were 640 refusals, 23,740 withdrawn or void outcomes and 10,030 invalid outcomes in the same period, representing 1% of all outcomes.

Refusal outcomes occurred across all constituent parts of the United Kingdom, all age groups, and most nationalities.

#### 3.1. Concluded applications by UK country

Most concluded applications were received from England (2,874,700; 91%), with an additional 158,430 from Scotland (5%), 51,390 from Northern Ireland (2%) and 51,310 from Wales (2%).

England was the source of the greatest number of applications, while the proportion of applications receiving settled status (58%) across the whole UK is slightly higher than proportions for England alone.

Compared to England, applications received in Northern Ireland, Wales and Scotland were more likely to be granted settled status (66%, 63% and 62%, respectively).

Refused, withdrawn or void, and invalid outcomes occurred across all constituent parts of the United Kingdom. Applications from England accounted for the largest proportion of the 640 EU Settlement Scheme refusals (95%).

### 3.2. Concluded applications by nationality

There were 2,988,350 concluded applications from EU nationals, 22,910 from other EEA and Swiss nationals, and 134,320 from non-EEA nationals. Similar to the number of applications received, the nationalities with the highest number of concluded applications were:

- Polish (611,570)
- Romanian (503,340)
- Italian (327,290)
- Portuguese (251,620)
- Spanish (194,470)

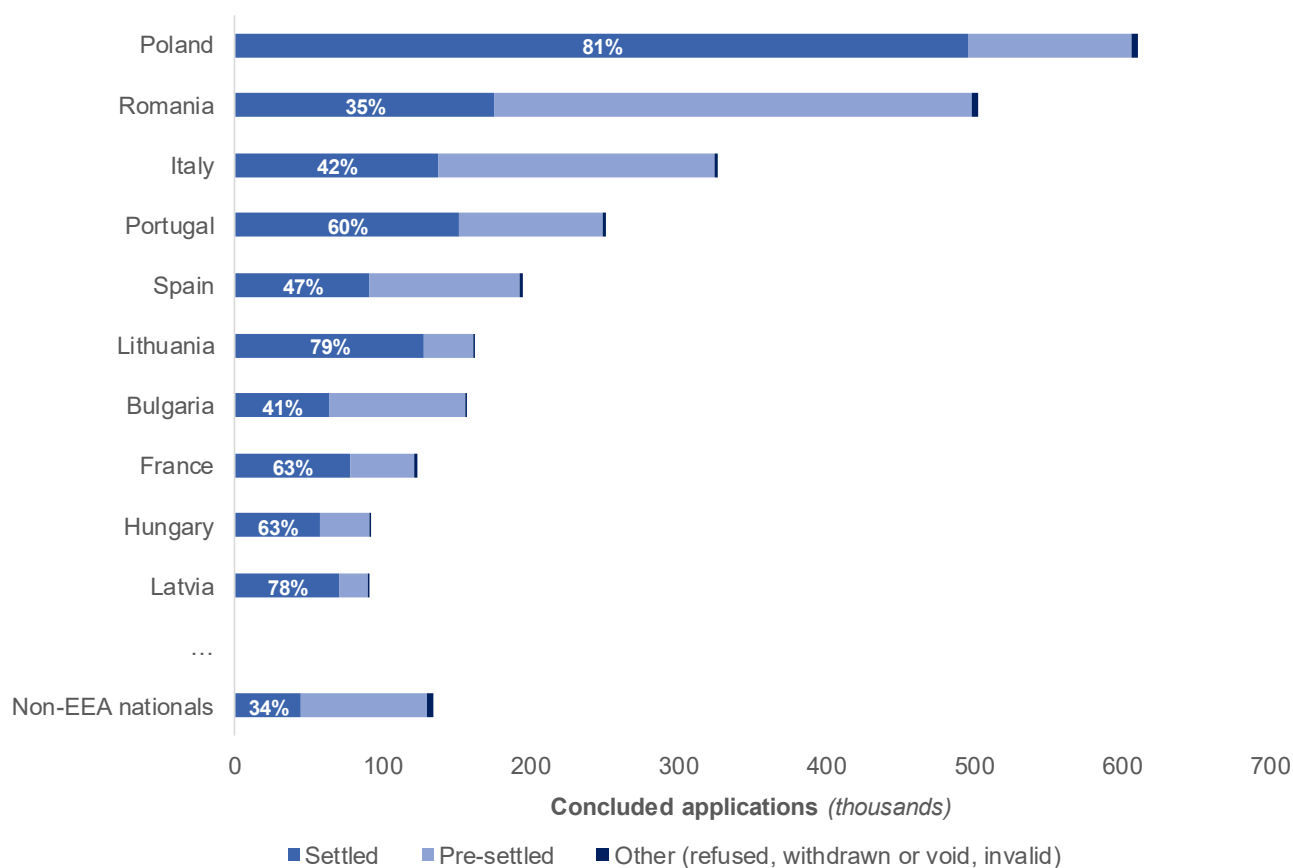
The top five nationalities combined represent 3 of every 5 (60%) applications concluded.

The proportion of settled outcomes differs among the top 10 nationalities, with Polish nationals having the highest proportion of settled outcomes (81%), compared to Romanian nationals with the lowest proportion (35%).

Eligible non-EEA nationals had a greater proportion of pre-settled outcomes (63%) than settled outcomes (34%).

Refused, withdrawn or void, and invalid outcomes occurred across most EEA and Swiss nationalities. Non-EEA nationalities accounted for the largest proportion of the 640 EU Settlement Scheme refusals (55%).

**Figure 3 - EU Settlement Scheme: number and proportion of concluded applications by nationality and outcome, 28 August 2018 to 31 March 2020 - top 10 nationalities (and non-EEA nationals) by number of concluded applications**



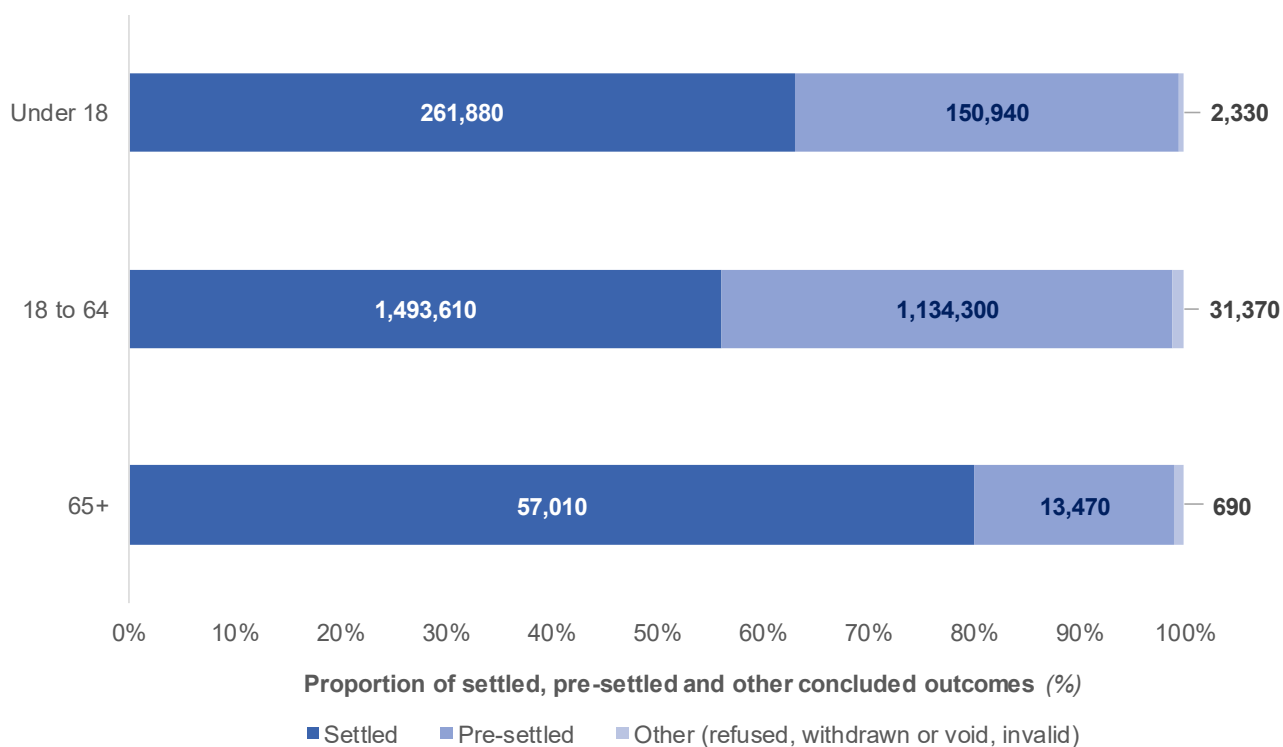
Source: Table EUSS\_03\_UK, [EU Settlement Scheme quarterly statistics tables](#)

### 3.3. Concluded applications by age group

There were 2,659,280 concluded applications from persons between 18 to 64 years of age, 415,140 from children under 18, and 71,170 from individuals aged 65 and over. Of the concluded applications made by those aged 65 and over, the majority (80%) resulted in a settled outcome, higher than concluded applications for under 18s and 18 to 64s (63% and 56% respectively).

Refused, withdrawn or void, and invalid outcomes occurred across all age groups. Individuals aged between 18 and 64 accounted for the vast majority of the 640 EU Settlement Scheme refusals (97%).

**Figure 4 - EU Settlement Scheme: proportion and number of concluded applications by age group and outcome, 28 August 2018 to 31 March 2020**



Source: Table EUSS\_04, [EU Settlement Scheme quarterly statistics tables](#)

## 4. Applications to the EU Settlement Scheme by local authority

Applications to the EU Settlement Scheme were made from all 382 UK local authorities.<sup>1</sup> Newham saw the highest number of applications to the scheme (84,950). The UK region of London accounted for seven of the top 10 local authorities by number of applications made.

**Table 2 - EU Settlement Scheme: top 10 London local authorities by applications received, 28 August 2018 to 31 March 2020**

Local Authority	UK Region	Applications
Newham	London	84,950
Brent	London	79,660
Ealing	London	66,270
Haringey	London	57,140
Barnet	London	54,270
Hounslow	London	51,580
Tower Hamlets	London	50,220
Waltham Forest	London	49,470
Lambeth	London	48,100
Enfield	London	45,830

**Source:** Table EUSS\_LA\_01, [EU Settlement Scheme local authority tables](#)

Birmingham saw the highest number of applications to the scheme (71,790) of all the local authorities outside of London. The top 10 local authorities (excluding London) are spread across multiple regions of the UK with the Midlands and Scotland accounting for six of the top 10.

**Table 3 - EU Settlement Scheme: top 10 local authorities outside London by applications received, 28 August 2018 to 31 March 2020**

Local Authority	UK Region	Applications
Birmingham	West Midlands	71,790
Leicester	East Midlands	55,930
Manchester	North West	51,800
Edinburgh	Scotland	41,510
Leeds	Yorkshire and The Humber	36,170
Bristol	South West	32,530
Peterborough	East of England	32,440
Northampton	East Midlands	32,200
Coventry	West Midlands	29,760
Glasgow	Scotland	29,130

**Source:** Table EUSS\_LA\_01, [EU Settlement Scheme local authority tables](#)

Scotland had the highest proportion of applications from Polish nationals (35%). The East of England and West Midlands saw the joint highest proportion of Romanian applicants (20%).

At a Local Authority level, of all Local Authorities with at least 10,000 applications:

- Wakefield had the highest proportion of applications from Polish nationals (51%);
- Harrow had the highest proportion of applications from Romanian nationals (57%).

The North West had the highest proportion of applications for under 18s (20%), London had the highest proportion of applications for 18 to 64s (86%), and the South East, East of England, South West and Wales had the highest proportion of applications from individuals aged 65 and over (3%).

At a Local Authority level, of all Local Authorities with at least 10,000 applications:

- Oldham and Bolton had the joint highest proportion of applications from under 18s (30%);
- Islington had the highest proportion of applications from 18 to 64s (93%);
- Kensington and Chelsea and Bedford had the joint highest proportion of applications from over 65s (5%).

<sup>1</sup> <http://geoportal.statistics.gov.uk/datasets/local-authority-districts-december-2019-names-and-codes-in-the-united-kingdom>

## About these statistics

This is the fourth quarterly statistical publication on the progress of the EU Settlement Scheme. The Home Office plans to publish quarterly statistical updates, which are designed to complement higher-level monthly data published on the EU Settlement Scheme. If, as a user, you have any comments on this report please email [MigrationStatsEnquiries@homeoffice.gov.uk](mailto:MigrationStatsEnquiries@homeoffice.gov.uk).

The findings presented here are based on data collected from Home Office administrative systems. These systems hold records of individual applications that have been received to the EU Settlement Scheme and their outcomes (settled or pre-settled status, and other outcomes). As these are sourced from live operational systems, numbers may change and may not precisely reflect other published statistics produced at a different point in time. The majority of applicants to the scheme are EEA nationals, however non-EEA nationals are [eligible to apply in some cases](#). Non-EEA nationals who have submitted an application to the scheme, are included in these statistics.

The [Home Office EU Settlement Scheme statistics: user guide](#) provides further details on this topic including, definitions used, data conventions, methods, data quality, and further considerations arising from figures based on data sourced from a live operational database.

## Other related data

The Home Office publishes high-level progress information on the EU Settlement Scheme through monthly Experimental Statistics, available from the [EU Settlement Scheme Statistics](#) collection on GOV.UK.

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

The EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS) Family Permit facilitates entry into the UK of an eligible non-EEA citizen family member, in order to join or accompany, an EEA or Swiss citizen who has been granted settled or pre-settled status under the EU Settlement Scheme. Data on EUSS Family Permits are published as part of the quarterly Home Office ["Immigration Statistics"](#), and are covered in the chapter ["Why do people come to the UK? For family reasons"](#). The next quarterly Immigration Statistics report will be published on 21 May 2020.

## Data tables

Further data on the EU Settlement Scheme for the period 28 August 2018 to 31 March 2020, are available in:

- EUSS\_01 to EUSS\_05, [EU Settlement Scheme quarterly statistics tables](#)
- EUSS\_LA\_01 to EUSS\_LA\_03, [EU Settlement Scheme quarterly local authority tables](#)

## Upcoming publications

The next quarterly EU Settlement Scheme release is due for publication in August 2020.

The "April 2020" edition of the monthly EU Settlement Scheme statistics, covering the period to end of April 2020, will be published on 21 May 2020.

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