



Home Office

EU Settlement Scheme Statistics, May 2020

Experimental Statistics

18 June 2020

About 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 on 30 March 2019, following the success of two private beta testing phases^{1,2} and public beta testing of the application process. During the testing phases (between 28 August 2018 to 29 March 2019), there were over 230,000 applications. A final report on [the public beta test phase](#) was published on 2 May 2019.

The Home Office published an additional one-off report on 28 May 2020, providing a [statistical overview of COVID-19 impacts on the UK's immigration system](#), including the EU Settlement Scheme, through to the end of April 2020. The information in the additional report was designed to provide an overview of the key impacts on the immigration system of COVID-19 in the UK and the introduction of lockdown measures in March and April 2020.

Future changes to reporting

Following the release of the May 2020 edition of the EU Settlement Scheme monthly publication, the Home Office will be amending the current reporting cycle.

The current monthly reporting on the EU Settlement Scheme will be replaced with a monthly summary of the latest internal figures, placed on the GOV.UK website. This will allow for timelier releases of high-level figures on applications and outcomes. Breakdowns by nationality will no longer be provided monthly but will be included in the comprehensive quarterly statistical publication, which will continue to provide the same level of detail as now, including data on nationality, UK country of residence, age group, and regional and local authority breakdowns. We will additionally be expanding this publication to include numbers of non-digital (paper) applications and further analysis of application outcomes.

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 information presented in this report refers to data collected in the month of May (01 May 2020 to 31 May 2020) and 'total' numbers since testing of the scheme began (from 28 August 2018 to 31 May 2020).

¹ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/eu-settlement-scheme-private-beta-1>

² <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/eu-settlement-scheme-private-beta-2>

A more detailed quarterly statistical report on the EU Settlement Scheme was published on 14 May 2020, covering the period between 28 August 2018 to 31 March 2020, available at <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/eu-settlement-scheme-quarterly-statistics-march-2020>. The next detailed quarterly statistical report will be published in August 2020, covering the period to the end of June 2020.

The figures quoted in this report have been derived from live management information systems and are provisional and subject to change. Figures have been rounded to the nearest 100 throughout the report. Percentages in this report may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

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 caseworking 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.

Figures reported in the statistical publications account for 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 as separate applications and outcomes in the statistics. Initial analysis of internal figures suggest that repeat applications currently represent less than two per cent of applications received. To continue to meet user needs, the Home Office is exploring options for identifying follow-on applications in the future (i.e. those moving from pre-settled to settled status). 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.³ Figures in this report include non-EEA family members, Irish nationals, and eligible EEA citizens not resident in the UK, none of whom 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.

Data tables

Further data on the EU Settlement Scheme can be found in the following tables:

- [EU Settlement Scheme Statistics \(Tables 1, 2, 3 and 4\)](#)

User guide

The [Home Office EU Settlement Scheme statistics: user guide](#) contains explanatory notes on the issues and classifications that are central to the production and presentation of the Home Office's EU Settlement Scheme statistics.

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<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/internationalmigration/bulletins/ukpopulationbycountryofbirthandnationality/latest#strengths-and-limitations>

Key points

Number of applications received

The number of applications received in May 2020 was 76,400.

Overall, the total number of applications received up to 31 May 2020 was more than 3.6 million (**3,612,400**).

Number of applications concluded

Concluded applications may relate to an application made in a prior month, and applications received in the latest month may not be concluded until a later month. Therefore, applications concluded are not directly comparable with applications received for the same period.

The number of applications concluded in May 2020 was 98,800. Of these, 53% were granted settled status and 39% were granted pre-settled status. Of the remaining applications, 3,200 received a withdrawn or void outcome, 3,900 were invalid, and 200 were refused⁴. Of the refusals, 98% were refused on eligibility grounds⁵, and 2% were refused on suitability grounds⁶.

Overall, as of 31 May 2020, the total number of applications that have been concluded was more than 3.3 million (**3,319,000**). Of these, 57% were granted settled status and 41% were granted pre-settled status. Of the remaining applications, 28,900 received a withdrawn or void outcome, 14,100 were invalid and 900 were refused. Of the total refusals, 99% were refused on eligibility grounds and 1% were refused on suitability grounds.

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.

⁴ A valid application can be refused on eligibility or suitability grounds where it does not meet the eligibility or suitability criteria for the scheme, set out in [Appendix EU](#) to the Immigration Rules. For more information, please consult the EU Settlement Scheme statistics [user guide](#).

⁵ The eligibility criteria are met where the applicant is able to satisfactorily prove that they are eligible for leave under the scheme, for example that they have a continuous qualifying period of UK residence that began before the end of the transition period, or that they have (or had) a family relationship with a relevant EEA citizen (see [Appendix EU](#) to the Immigration Rules for more information).

⁶ The suitability criteria are met where the applicant is not subject to a deportation or exclusion order, has not breached the relevant thresholds for serious or persistent criminality, and has not submitted false or misleading information or documentation in their application (see [Appendix EU](#) to the Immigration Rules for more information).

Number of applications received in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland

Applications have been received from across all constituent parts of the United Kingdom (see Table 3).

In total, as of 31 May 2020, the majority of applications were received from England (3,293,900), with an additional 180,700 from Scotland, 59,700 from Northern Ireland and 59,400 from Wales.

Number of applications received by nationality

Applications have been received from citizens of all EEA countries and Switzerland (see Table 4).

In total, as of 31 May 2020, Polish (697,900), Romanian (590,100) and Italian (363,600) nationals have submitted the highest number of applications. There have also been 189,800 applications received from non-EEA, non-Swiss nationals⁷.

⁷ The EU Settlement Scheme allows resident EU, other EEA and Swiss citizens, and their family members, to apply for UK immigration status [see <https://www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families/not-EU-EEA-Swiss-citizen> for further information].

Data tables

Data referred to in this report can be found in the tables below. Data table notes:

1. Figures in these tables have been derived from live management information systems and are provisional and subject to change.
2. Figures are rounded to the nearest 100, therefore table breakdowns may not match overall totals.
3. 'Total' includes data since testing of the scheme began on 28 August 2018 through to 31 May 2020.
4. Applications that have received an outcome of refused (on eligibility or suitability grounds), withdrawn or void (e.g. applications from British Citizens who can not be granted leave, or applications withdrawn at the applicant's request), or invalid (where the required proof of identity and nationality or other mandatory information was not included) were previously grouped together under the 'other outcomes' category (see the [user guide](#) for more detail).
5. Total applications received by constituent parts of the United Kingdom include small numbers of records (0.5%) where locational data is not currently in an analysable form from live systems.
6. Applications received by nationality exclude small numbers of records (less than 0.1%), in which nationality is not currently in an analysable form from live systems.
7. EEA EFTA (Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway) plus Swiss nationals were able to apply from 30 March 2019, when the scheme fully launched.
8. The EU Settlement Scheme allows resident EU, other EEA and Swiss citizens, and their family members, to apply for UK immigration status.

Table 1: EU Settlement Scheme – applications received^{1,2}

	Total ³	of which: May 2020
Applications received	3,612,400	76,400

Table 2: EU Settlement Scheme – applications concluded^{1,2}

	Total ³	of which: May 2020
Applications concluded	3,319,000	98,800
Settled	1,907,500	52,700
Pre-settled	1,367,500	38,900
Refused ⁴	900	200
Withdrawn or void ⁴	28,900	3,200
Invalid ⁴	14,100	3,900

Table 3: EU Settlement Scheme – applications received in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland^{1,2,5}

Country	Total ³	of which: May 2020
England	3,293,900	68,600
Scotland	180,700	4,100
Northern Ireland	59,700	1,100
Wales	59,400	1,400

Table 4: EU Settlement Scheme – applications received by nationality^{1,2,6}

Nationality	Total³	of which: May 2020
EU 27	3,393,900	71,100
Poland	697,900	16,500
Romania	590,100	14,300
Italy	363,600	6,200
Portugal	280,800	3,900
Spain	219,000	4,200
Lithuania	184,200	3,400
Bulgaria	179,200	4,300
France	137,300	2,900
Hungary	101,700	2,300
Latvia	101,100	1,400
Germany	98,700	2,100
Netherlands	88,600	1,800
Greece	79,100	1,800
Slovakia	76,100	1,600
Czech Republic	43,400	900
Sweden	37,500	900
Belgium	24,400	500
Denmark	17,600	400
Austria	15,700	300
Cyprus	13,100	300
Finland	12,500	300
Estonia	9,700	200
Croatia	7,300	200
Ireland	6,300	200
Malta	5,000	100
Slovenia	3,200	100
Luxembourg	1,000	<50
EEA EFTA & Swiss nationalities⁷	27,000	800
Norway	15,500	400
Switzerland	10,000	300
Iceland	1,500	<50
Liechtenstein	<50	<50
Non-EEA nationalities⁸	189,800	4,500



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