



# Statistical Bulletin

25 August 2011

Coverage: UK  
Theme: Migration

## *National Insurance Number Allocations to Adult Overseas Nationals Entering the UK – registrations to March 2011.*

*This annual 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 statistics provide a measure of in-migration (inflow) for adult overseas nationals registering for a NINo, however do not reflect emigration (outflow), or the overall migrant population (stock)*

All regular series are full National Statistics:

*These data are collected from administrative sources on a quarterly basis, for more details see notes (Page 15). DWP NINo statistics form part of a quarterly cross government release of migration statistics alongside Office for National Statistics (ONS) and Home Office. See:*

<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/statbase/Product.asp?vlnk=15230>

*Further information and statistics on NINo registrations to adult overseas nationals entering the UK can be obtained using the Department's internet-based interactive tabulation tool (see web link below)..*

[http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/niall/index.php?page=nino\\_allocation](http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/niall/index.php?page=nino_allocation)

There have been no methodological changes since the previous release.

### Headline Figures:

- The total number of NINo registrations to adult overseas nationals entering the UK in 2010/11 was 705 thousand, an increase of 132 thousand (23%) on the previous year.
- Within Europe - The number of NINo registrations to adult overseas nationals entering the UK from Europe in 2010/11 was 376 thousand, an increase of 89 thousand (31%) on the previous year.
- Outside of Europe - The number of NINo registrations to adult overseas nationals entering the UK from outside Europe in 2010/11 was 328 thousand, an increase of 42 thousand (15%) on the previous year.

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**Next quarterly release  
(Tabulation tool only) :**  
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*If you have any comments or requests regarding this publication, please contact DWP via [stats-consultation@dwp.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:stats-consultation@dwp.gsi.gov.uk).*



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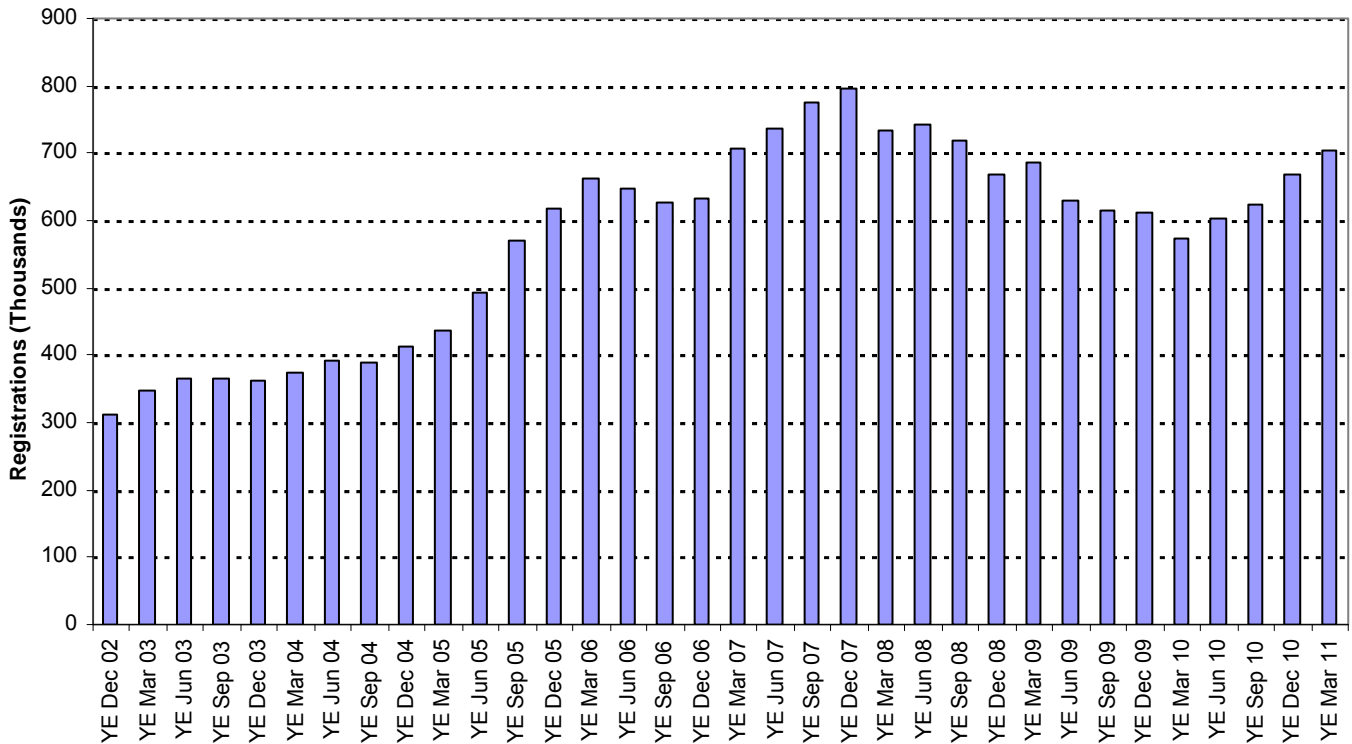
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**Time series**

**Fig 1.1 : NINo registrations to adult overseas nationals entering the UK, registration time series by quarter (12 month total to the end of the quarter), January 2002 to March 2011.**



Source: 100% extract from National Insurance Recording and Pay as you Earn System (NPS).

Notes :

1. Registration date is derived from the date at which a NINo is maintained on the NPS

Note : Caution should be taken in interpreting trends based on raw quarterly data, hence a ‘12 month to date’ rolling total is shown in fig 1.1 to better reflect trends in the quarterly series.

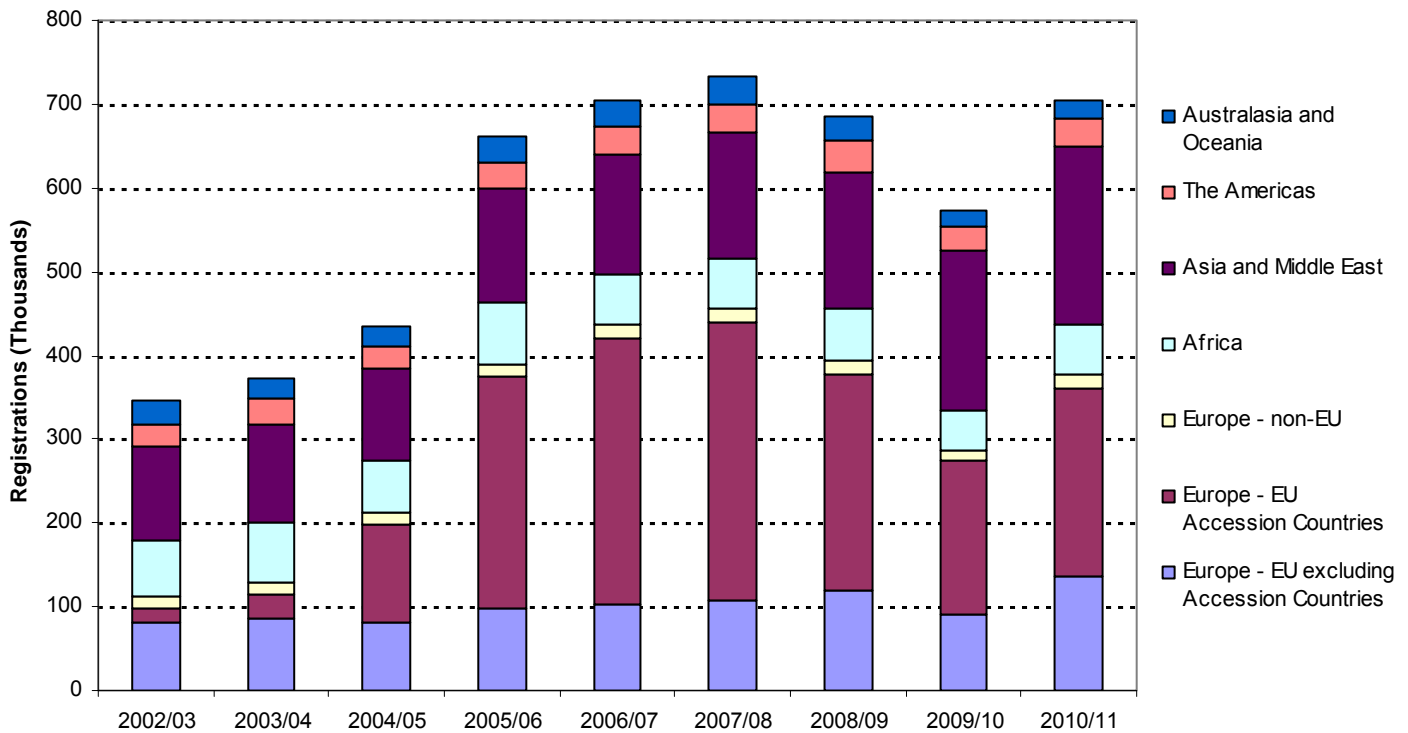
The raw quarterly time series of NINo registrations to adult overseas nationals shows a number of peaks and troughs. The series is reflecting both seasonal effects in the registration of adult overseas nationals entering the UK and operational factors in recording a NINo on the NPS computer system.

The total number of NINo registrations to all adult overseas nationals entering the UK rose from 311 thousand in 2002, with a sharper increase from 2004 following the introduction of the Accession Countries to the European Union, to 797 thousand in 2007. Subsequently the series fell steadily (to 573 thousand in the 12 months to March 2010). Since then, the numbers of NINo registrations to adult overseas national entering the UK has risen again (to 705 thousand in the year to March 2011).



## World area and nationality

**Fig 1.2 : NINo registrations to adult overseas nationals entering the UK, by year of registration and world area, 2002/03 to 2010/11.**



Source: 100% extract from National Insurance Recording and Pay as you Earn System (NPS).

Notes :

1. Registration date is derived from the date at which a NINo is maintained on the NPS

2. EU Accession countries here refers to the A8, the A2, Cyprus and Malta (See notes)

3. Time Series - Year Of Registration Date Years are shown as financial year ( 1st April - 31st March )

### Within Europe:

During 2010/11, 225 thousand NINo's were registered to EU Accession nationals – an increase of 42 thousand (23%) on 2009/10.

Registrations to other EU nationals (135 thousand in 2010/11) rose by 48% and rose by 29% for non-EU nationals.

### Outside of Europe:

214 thousand NINo's were registered to Asian & Middle East nationals during 2010/11 – 12% higher than in 2009/10.

Registrations to those from the Americas rose by 16%.

Registrations from Africans rose by 24% and from Australasia and Oceania rose by 18%.



**Fig 1.3 : NINo registrations to adult overseas nationals entering the UK, top 20 countries for 2010/11**

Rank*	Country	Total (thousands)	% Difference to 2009/10
1 ▲	Poland	81.18	16%
2 ▼	India	74.41	-1%
3 ▲	Pakistan	41.24	80%
4 ▼	Republic of Lithuania	40.84	74%
5 ▼	Republic of Latvia	27.26	18%
6 ▲	Spain	24.37	85%
7 ▲	France	22.55	37%
8 ▲	Italy	22.10	53%
9 ▼	Romania	22.00	24%
10 ▼	Nigeria	17.84	10%
11 ▲	China Peoples Republic	17.12	42%
12 ▲	Republic of Ireland	16.13	56%
13 ▼	Australia	15.85	18%
14 ▲	Hungary	15.65	36%
15 ▲	Sri Lanka	14.18	80%
16 ▼	Bulgaria	13.94	11%
17 ▲	Portugal	13.88	41%
18 ▼	Bangladesh	13.84	-35%
19 ▼	Germany	13.24	25%
20 ▼	Slovak Republic	11.67	-12%

\*▲, ▼ : indicates **ranking** movement from previous year, for example Romanian registrations have increased by 24% on the previous year but Romania has fallen to 9<sup>th</sup> in the ranked table.

Source: 100% extract from National Insurance Recording and Pay as you Earn System (NPS).

Notes :

1. Registration date is derived from the date at which a NINo is maintained on the NPS
2. Time Series - Year Of Registration Date Years are shown as financial year ( 1st April - 31st March )

In every year between 2004/05 and 2010/11, registrations from Poland and India remain the 2 highest countries of origin in terms of NINo registrations to adult overseas national entering the UK.

The top 20 ranked countries of origin comprises countries from all world areas (with the exception of “Americas” and “Europe – Non EU”), with registrations from Accession states, other European Union and Asian and Middle East all featuring frequently.

Increasing numbers of Latvian and Lithuanian registrations may be associated with increased immigration from these countries due to their current economies. Among the European Union member States, the highest unemployment rates were recorded in Spain (20.9 %), Lithuania (16.3 % in the first quarter of 2011) and Latvia (16.2 % in the first quarter of 2011) - all are well above the EU 27 average of 9.3% (May 2011)\*. Registrations from the Republic of Ireland increased by 56% in the year to 2010/11 - the Irish economy has recently experienced one of the deepest recessions in the eurozone, with its economy shrinking by 10% in 2009.

. European unemployment figures - Source Eurostat  
([http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/statistics\\_explained/index.php/Unemployment\\_statistics](http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/statistics_explained/index.php/Unemployment_statistics))



## UK area : geographical regions

NINo registrations are allocated to Regions (previously Government Office Regions), Local Authorities and Parliamentary Constituencies using address matching software and matching to the latest postcode directory. Figures reflect the best estimate of an adult overseas national's locality at the time of registering for a NINo.

In 2010/11, of the 705 thousand NINo's registered to adult overseas nationals entering the UK, 301 thousand (43%) are within the London Region. Northern Ireland and the North East have the fewest registrations with 1% and 2% of the UK total respectively (Fig 1.4).

Of the top 20 Local Authorities (Fig 1.5) with the highest number of registrations in 2010/10, 17 are in the London Region. Birmingham, Manchester and Edinburgh represent the highest Local Authorities outside of London.

**Fig 1.4: NINo registrations to adult overseas nationals entering the UK, by Region registrations 2010/11**

Region	Thousands
London	301.10
South East	76.29
East of England	51.24
West Midlands	47.68
North West	46.37
Scotland	41.54
Yorkshire and the Humber	36.74
East Midlands	34.76
South West	30.88
Wales	15.13
North East	11.39
Northern Ireland	9.39
Overseas Residents	2.39

**Fig 1.5: NINo registrations to adult overseas nationals entering the UK, top 20 ranked Local Authorities 2010/11**

Local Authority	Thousands
Newham	28.55
Brent	18.70
Ealing	16.53
Birmingham	16.44
Tower Hamlets	15.30
Waltham Forest	13.52
Manchester	13.40
Haringey	12.81
Southwark	12.66
Westminster	12.58
Hounslow	12.35
Lambeth	12.05
Wandsworth	11.01
Barnet	10.49
Edinburgh, City of	10.38
Redbridge	9.77
Camden	9.50
Hammersmith and Fulham	9.25
Lewisham	8.71
Hackney	8.70

Source: 100% extract from National Insurance Recording and Pay as you Earn System (NPS).

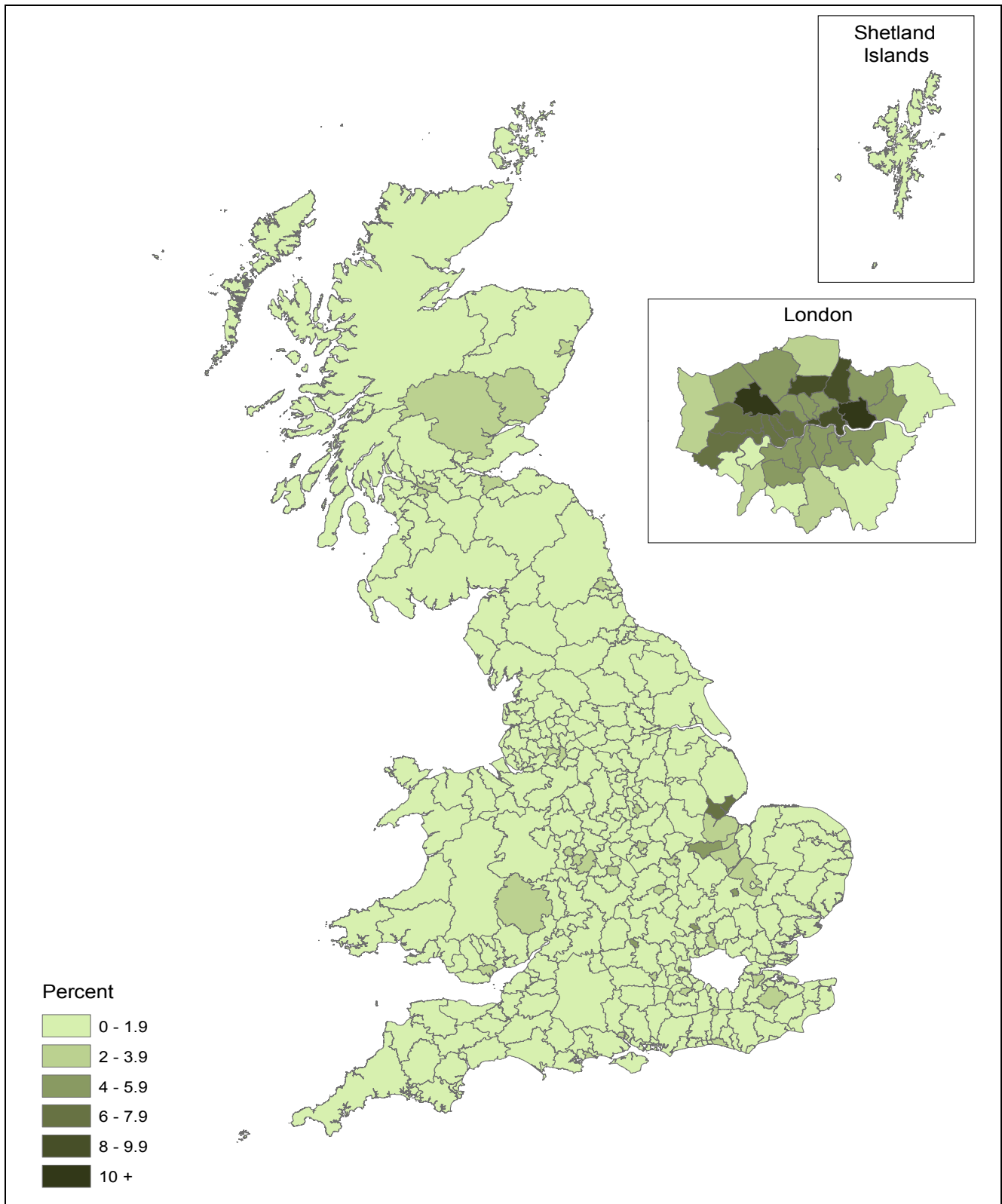
Notes

Time Series - Year Of Registration Date Years are shown as financial year (1st April - 31st March)

Fig 1.6 shows the proportion of NINo registrations to adult overseas nationals entering the UK in 2010/11 by Local Authority as a percentage of the working age population (ONS mid year population estimates 2010). The London Region contains a number of Local Authorities with high proportions (Newham 18%, Brent 11%). Outside of the major cities, areas with large agricultural and food processing employment sectors (such as: Boston, Cambridge, Perth & Kinross, Herefordshire) can be seen alongside areas with high concentration of manufacturing / factory work or large trading estates (such as Slough).



**Fig 1.6: NINo registrations to adult overseas nationals entering the UK in 2010/11 by Local Authority as a percentage of working age population (ONS mid year population estimate 2010).**



Source: 100% extract from National Insurance Recording and Pay as you Earn System (NPS). ONS mid year population estimates 2010.

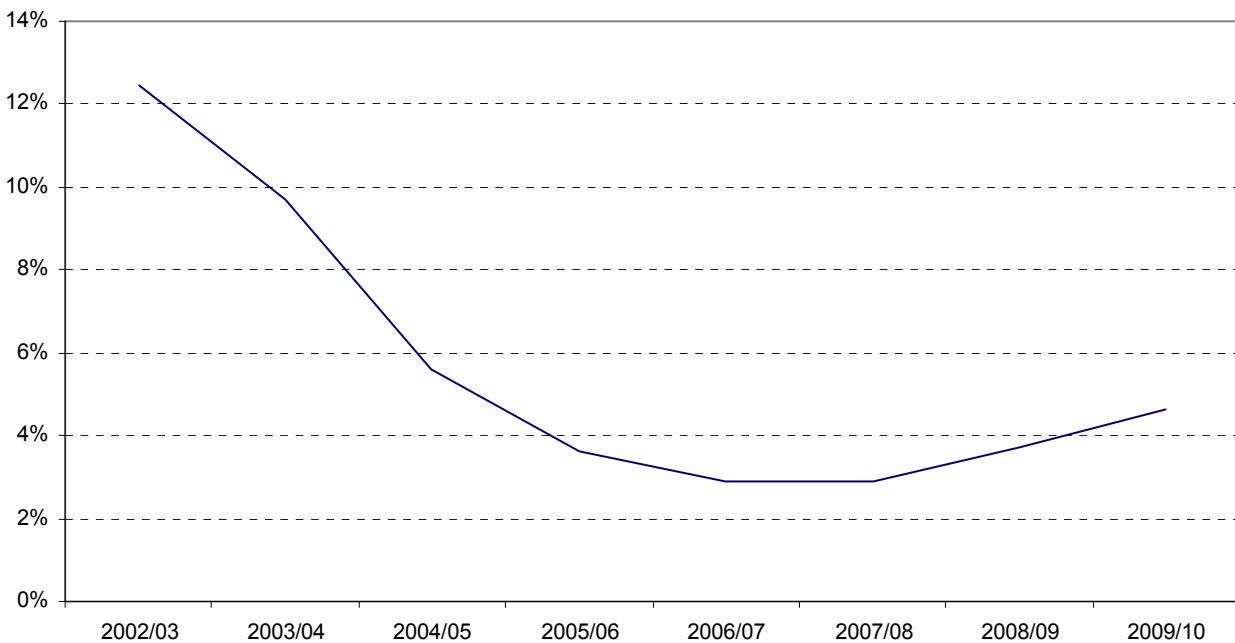


## DWP Benefits

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 benefit within 6 months of registering for a NINo.

**Fig 1.7: Percentage of `adult overseas nationals entering the UK claiming a DWP key out-of-work benefit within 6 months of registration, by year of registration.**



Source: 100% extract from National Insurance Recording and Pay as you Earn System (NPS)

Note - The above chart shows the latest figures where benefits data relating to the 6 month reporting periods are available. Data is not shown for the year 2010/11 as for some claimants the 6 month reporting period to link to benefit claims has yet to elapse.

Of the 573 thousand registrations in 2009/10, 26 thousand (4.6%) were claiming a key out-of-work benefit – JSA, ESA, IB or IS – within 6 months of NINo registration. This is down from 12.5% in 2002/03 but an increase from 3.7% in 2008/09.

Of the 26 thousand registrations in 2009/10 claiming a benefit within 6 months of registration, 81% claimed JSA, 9% claimed ESA and 10% claimed IS.





**2 Focus on : Understanding what is driving NINo registrations**

**Understanding what is driving NINo registrations**

NINo registrations from adult overseas nationals are rising for all world areas in 2010/11 - but falling for some individual nationalities.

**Fig 2.1 : NINo registrations to adult overseas nationals entering the UK in 2010/11 by world area and % change from 2009/10**

	2010/11 (Thousands)	% Increase
<b>All NINo registrations</b>	<b>705</b>	<b>23.1</b>
EU excluding Accession	135	47.7
EU Accession	225	23.0
Other Europe – non EU	17	29.0
Africa	60	24.1
Asia and Middle East	214	12.1
The Americas	33	16.5
Australasia and Oceania	22	17.7

Within Europe some of these increases will be because of the economic conditions and rates of unemployment in some of these countries which are significantly higher than that of the UK. Unemployment rates in the Baltic States (along with Spain) are the highest in Europe. Latvia and Lithuania are just over 17% and in Estonia just over 16%, all of which are well above the EU 27 average of 9.5%.

Outside of Europe, increases are generally consistent with trends in the number of work related visas granted by UK Borders Agency. The following analyses shows how trends in work related visas translate into NINo registrations when average duration between an adult overseas national arriving in the UK and registering for a NINo are accounted for.

**Time taken between registration and arrival.**

The registration date is the date that the NINo is maintained on the National Insurance Recording & Pay As You Earn System. This does not represent the date an individual arrived in the UK. It often takes months, sometimes years between arrival and registering for a NINo. Date of arrival in the UK is recorded during the registration process (this is the date provided by the individual) and held on the NPS system. DWP has previously published data on the NINo arrival series, however as the series is subject to retrospection it was removed in August 2008.

The time taken between arrival and registrations for a NINo varies across world areas and between nationalities. Of the 225 thousand registrations from EU accession states in 2010/11, 79% had registered for a Nino within 6 months of arrival. This is compared to 49% of registrations from Africa over the same period (see fig 2.2).



**Fig 2.2 : Time taken between recorded arrival date in the UK to NINo registration for adult overseas nationals entering the UK in 2010/11 by world area of origin.**

World area of origin	Total (thousands)	0-3 months	3-6 months	6-12 months	1-2 Years	Over 2 years
Europe - EU excluding Accession Countries	134.96	57%	22%	11%	6%	5%
Europe - EU Accession Countries	224.76	53%	26%	12%	5%	4%
Europe - non-EU	16.64	32%	16%	15%	11%	26%
Africa	59.72	39%	10%	7%	5%	39%
Asia and Middle East	213.53	57%	14%	9%	6%	14%
The Americas	32.78	44%	17%	13%	9%	18%
Australasia and Oceania	21.59	68%	18%	7%	3%	3%

Source: 100% extract from National Insurance Recording and Pay as you Earn System (NPS)

**Fig 2.3 : Time taken between recorded arrival date in the UK to NINo registration for adult overseas nationals entering the UK in 2010/11 by country of origin (top 10 registrations).**

Country	Total (thousands)	0-3 months	3-6 months	6-12 months	1-2 Years	Over 2 years
Poland	81.18	55%	26%	11%	4%	4%
India	74.41	70%	15%	7%	4%	5%
Pakistan	41.24	67%	12%	6%	4%	10%
Republic_of Lithuania	40.84	57%	27%	11%	3%	2%
Republic of Latvia	27.26	57%	27%	11%	3%	1%
Spain	24.37	63%	22%	9%	3%	2%
France	22.55	53%	24%	13%	6%	5%
Italy	22.10	55%	25%	10%	5%	4%
Romania	22.00	27%	30%	22%	12%	9%
Nigeria	17.84	55%	11%	7%	4%	23%

Source: 100% extract from National Insurance Recording and Pay as you Earn System (NPS)

**Comparisons between NINo Arrivals series and visas issued (excluding transit, visitor and student visitor visas) 2007 to 2010**

The Home Office publishes quarterly statistics on the numbers of visa applications and grants. Although the NINo and visa series are not directly comparable due to definitional differences, they are linked - many visa applicants would then go on to register for a NINo.

The visa series has been restricted to exclude transit, visitor and student visitor visas. These groups can not work and are therefore less likely to register for a NINo.

The NINo series has been amended to exclude EU nationals - visas are not required for EU nationals to come to the UK (however some still apply and are granted).

Note : The visa series includes dependents who may or may not register for a NINo. The NINo arrivals series is subject to change as future registrations report an arrival date within the timescale represented.

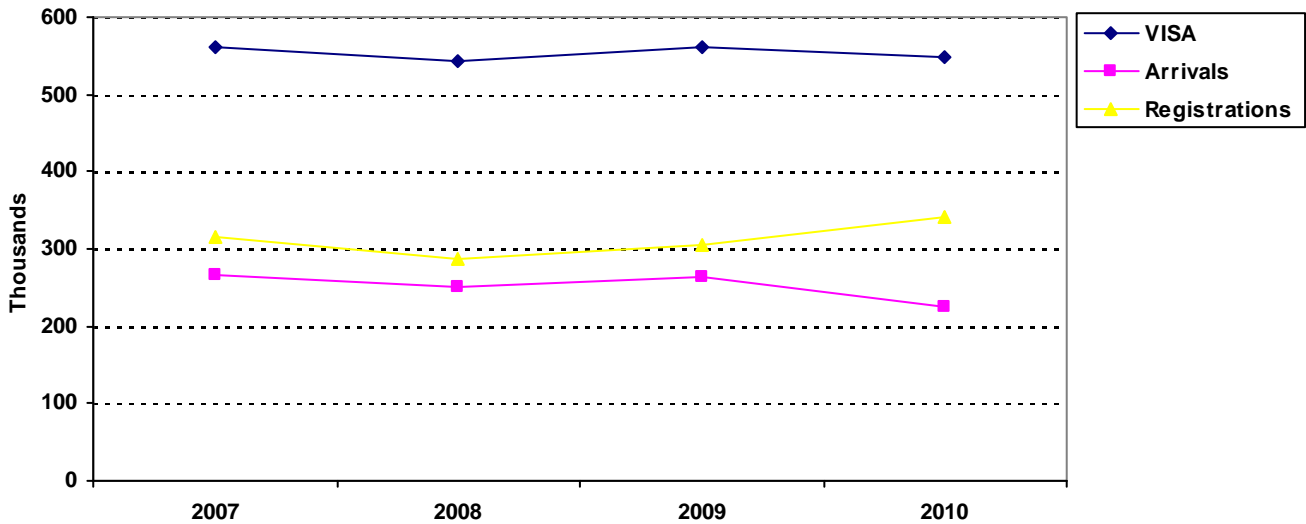
Although the date the visa was issued does not specifically represent the date an individual arrived in the UK (entry to the UK may be anytime during the period is valid), the visa series



more closely reflects the NINo arrivals series and in some instances may indicate future trends in NINo registrations.

Note – Fig 2.4 to 2.6 are based on calendar year data (not latest published data), this is for consistency between the reporting periods in the comparison series. See notes page 12.

**Fig 2.4 NINo registrations and arrivals (excluding EU) and visas issued (excludes transit, visitor and student visitor visas)**



The arrivals and visa series follow similar trend lines between 2007 to 2009 (arrivals around 47% of visas), in 2010 it decreases to 41% - this is because the 2010 arrivals total is still subject to significant retrospection and likely to increase as future registrations record a backdated arrival date.

**Fig 2.5 NINo registrations / arrivals and visas issued (excludes transit, visitor and student visitor visas) : India**



The arrivals and visa series for Indian nationals follow similar trend lines between 2007 to 2010. The latest registrations data (not shown on chart) shows the registrations series falling in line with previous decreases in the arrivals and visa series.



**Fig 2.6 NINo registrations and arrivals and visas issued (excludes transit, visitor and student visitor visas) : Pakistan**

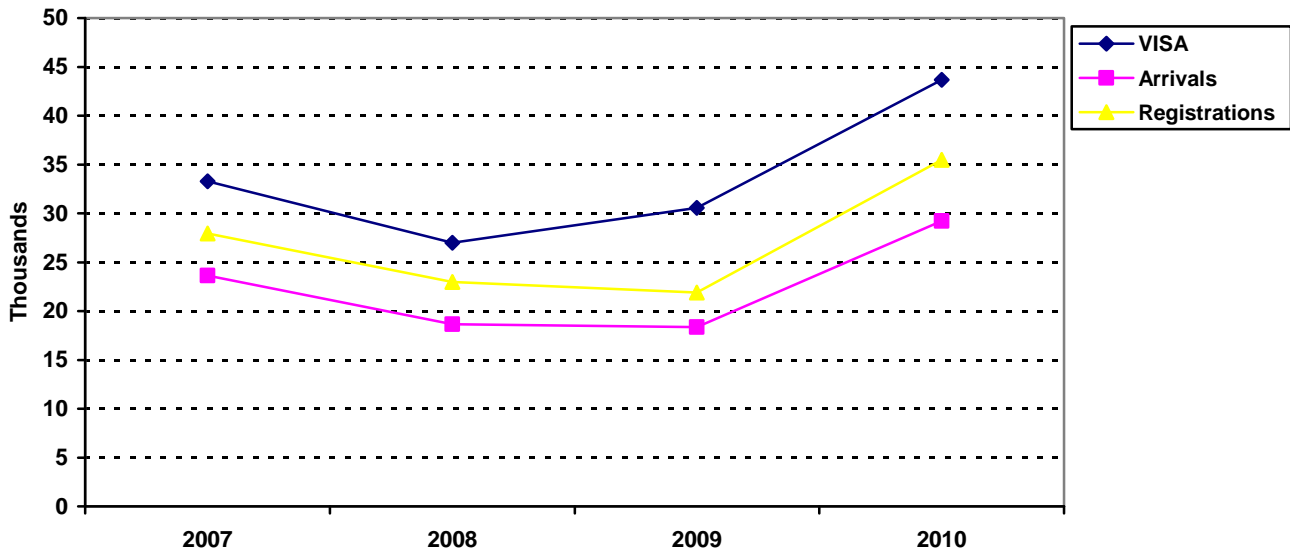


Fig 2.6 shows the visa series increasing in 2009 but the arrivals series falling slightly. Fig 2.3 shows that 10% of NINo registrations in 2010/11 from Pakistan took over 2 years from arrival to registration. In terms of retrospection, this would likely increase the 2009 and 2010 points in the arrivals series (in fig 2.6) by 4 to 5 thousand therefore bringing the trend in the arrivals series in line with the visa series.

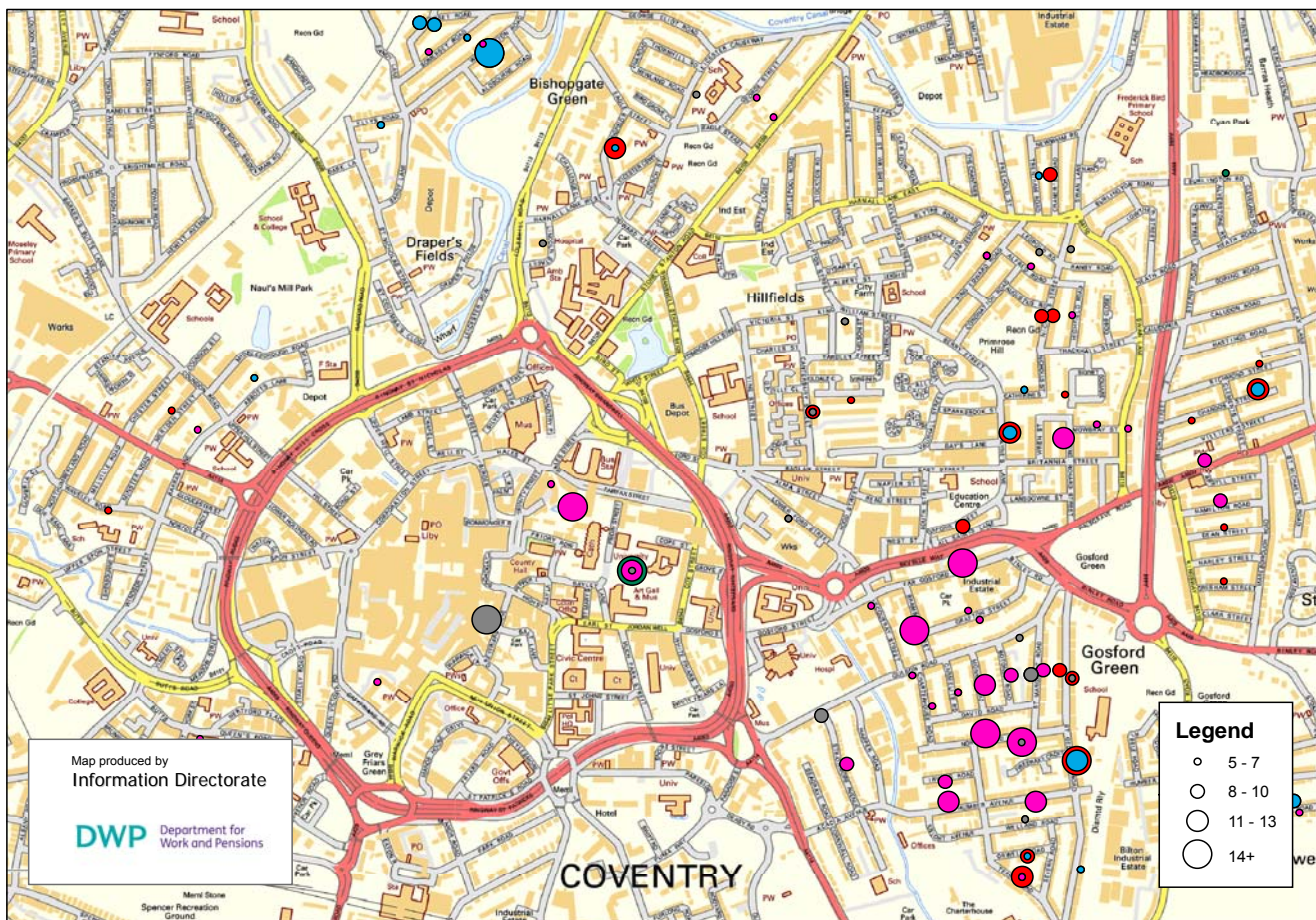
**Notes :**

1. Registration date is derived from the date at which a NINo is maintained on the NPS
2. Time Series - are shown as calendar years ( 1st Jan - 31st December )
3. Source: 100% extract from National Insurance Recording and Pay as you Earn System (NPS).
4. Figures relate to visas issued rather than actual arrivals – i.e. they indicate intentions to come to the UK, which may not have been fulfilled.
5. Visa statistics are based on management information from the UK Border Agency and are not subject to the detailed checks that apply to National Statistics. Statistics are based on a snapshot of data at a particular point in time and are subject to revision as applications continue to be processed (revisions mainly arise from late-entered data and data cleansing exercises). Data extracted in April 2011 and are comparable with data included in Control of Immigration: Quarterly Statistical Summary, UK (Quarter 1, 2011).

**Data visualisation : Potential uses from mapping NINo data**

The map below is an example of how new data visualisation tools can be used to disseminate volumes of NINo registrations data in a concise format. Fig 2.7 shows NINo registrations to adult overseas nationals in 2010 against a mapped background allowing considerable information to be communicated visually. In this example, the size and colour of each 'bubble' represent the number of NINo registrations and world area of origin in each postcode. Registrations can be overlaid against roads networks and services (Jobcentre Plus Offices, Medical Centres, Schools) to give context to the figures and support policy initiatives.

**Fig 2.7 : NINo registrations to adult overseas nationals entering the UK in 2010 – Coventry street view.**



Source: 100% extract from National Insurance Recording and Pay as you Earn System (NPS)

Note : For disclosure purposes, counts of less than 5 have been suppressed and 'bubbles' have been plotted at the centre of the recorded postcode -not the exact address.



### 3 Notes / Sources

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.

Data released on 25th August 2011 relates to the period to 31st March 2011. The lag between publication date and the period to which the data relates, reflects the processes involved in transferring the underlying data from HMRCs' National Insurance and Pay as You Earn System (NPS) to DWP; uploading the data onto DWP servers; cleaning the data and geocoding it, processing the data and allowing sufficient time for quality assurance. Aside from these technical issues, the statistics are published as part of the scheduled timetable for quarterly release of cross-Government migration statistics.

The figures encompass adult overseas nationals allocated a NINo for whatever reason, i.e. the figures cover benefit/tax credit recipients as well as workers (including self employed). All adult overseas nationals allocated a NINo are included, regardless of their length of stay in the UK.

The figures are based on recorded registration date on 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.

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. In addition, the data is a 100% sample held at case-level data sources. In particular, the data can be merged with benefits data to show how many entrants claim key benefits following their NINo registration in the UK.

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 definition of migrants in this publication – adult overseas nationals allocated a NINo – differs from other published statistics in the area, such as International Migration statistics derived from the International Passenger Survey (IPS), and statistics on foreign workers derived from the Labour Force Survey (LFS). The various definitions of migrants mean the data sources may have different numbers of migrants for the same time period.

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.

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).



For reporting purposes, throughout this document Accession nationals refers to overseas nationals from the 12 Accession countries. These are Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia, which joined on the European Union (EU) on 1<sup>st</sup> of May 2004, and Romania and Bulgaria, who joined on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2007.

### **Other statistics on migration**

The Migration Statistics Quarterly Report provides a comprehensive picture of the various sources of migration statistics available and analysis of trends and includes headline NINo statistics.

<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/statbase/Product.asp?vlnk=15230>

