

Gender recognition certificate statistics October to December 2010

Ministry of Justice
Statistics bulletin

Published 31 March 2011

Introduction

This new bulletin presents summary statistics on Gender Recognition Certificates applied for and granted by the Tribunals Service's Gender Recognition Panel during the quarter **October to December of 2010**, along with quarterly data back to July 2009.

Under United Kingdom law, individuals are considered by the State to be of the gender – either male or female – that is recorded on their birth certificate. The Gender Recognition Act 2004, which came into effect on 4 April 2005, enables transsexual people to apply to the Gender Recognition Panel (GRP) to receive a Gender Recognition Certificate. Successful applicants are considered legally to be of their acquired gender. Such individuals are entitled to all the rights appropriate to a person of their acquired gender, including the right to marry someone of the opposite legal gender, form a civil partnership with someone of the same legal gender, and to retire and receive state pension at an age appropriate to their acquired gender. A person whose birth was registered in the UK is able to obtain a new birth certificate showing their recognised legal gender.

The GRP was established under the Gender Recognition Act 2004. Its function is to assess applications from transsexual people seeking to obtain a Gender Recognition Certificate. Information on the criteria for gender recognition against which the GRP assesses applications can be found in the Explanatory Notes section at the end of this report.

The GRP is comprised of judicially trained legal and medical members. The panel sit in private and consider the documentary evidence supplied by the applicant in support of their application. If a person is successful in their application to the GRP, they will be issued with a full Gender Recognition Certificate, and that person's gender will become, for all purposes, their acquired gender.

More information about the gender recognition process and the work of the GRP can be found on its website at <http://www.grp.gov.uk>.

Quarterly figures on the workload of all the tribunals run by the Tribunal Service are published in the statistical bulletin "Tribunals Service Quarterly Statistics", which is available from the Ministry of Justice website at <http://www.justice.gov.uk/publications/quart-stats-tribunals.htm>.

If you have any feedback, questions or requests for further information about this statistical bulletin, please direct them to the appropriate contact given at the end of this report.

Executive summary

In the quarter October to December of 2010, a total of 72 applications for gender recognition were received by the Gender Recognition Panel (GRP).

Some 85 applications were dealt with by the GRP during the quarter October to December 2010. A full Gender Recognition Certificate was issued in 74 cases, of which 55 were to individuals who were registered male at birth, and 19 to individuals who were registered female at birth. Five cases were granted an interim Gender Recognition Certificate, with 6 applications refused.

The certificates granted included to 20 applicants born in the years 1970-1979 and 19 applicants born in 1960-1969.

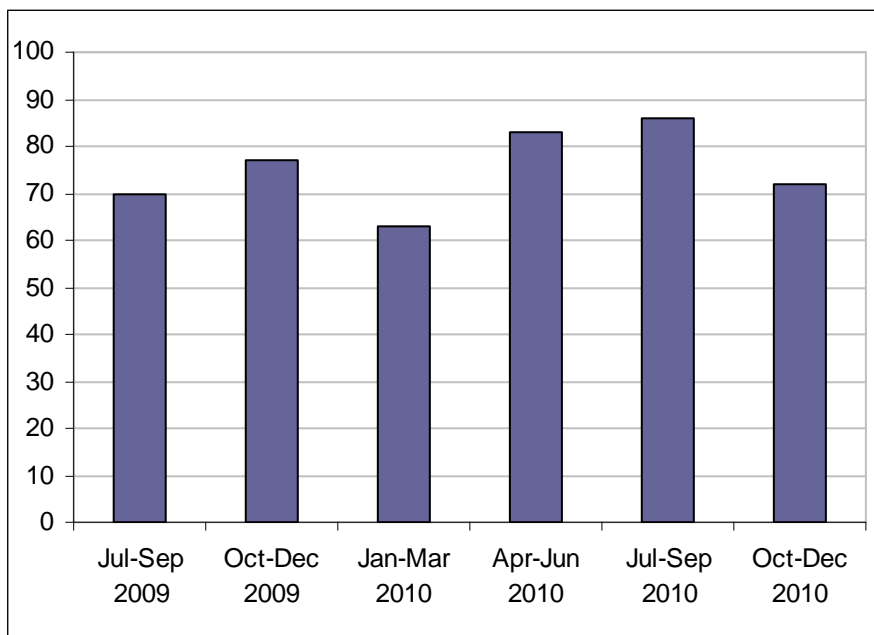
Commentary

Applications received (Table 1)

A total of 72 applications were received by the Gender Recognition Panel (GRP) in the quarter October to December of 2010. Overall the number of applications has followed a broadly flat trend over the past eighteen months (see Figure A).

Of the 72 applications in the quarter, 67 were “standard track” applications, meaning that they were due to follow the standard gender recognition application process. A further 5 were “overseas track” applications, meaning that they were from people who were applying on the basis that they had been recognised in their acquired gender overseas.

Figure A: Applications received by the Gender Recognition Panel, by quarter, July 2009 to December 2010



Initial outcome of applications (Table 2)

A total of 85 applications were dealt with by the GRP during the period October to December 2010, meaning that either a decision had been taken by the GRP to grant or to refuse a Gender Recognition Certificate, or the applicant withdrew their application.

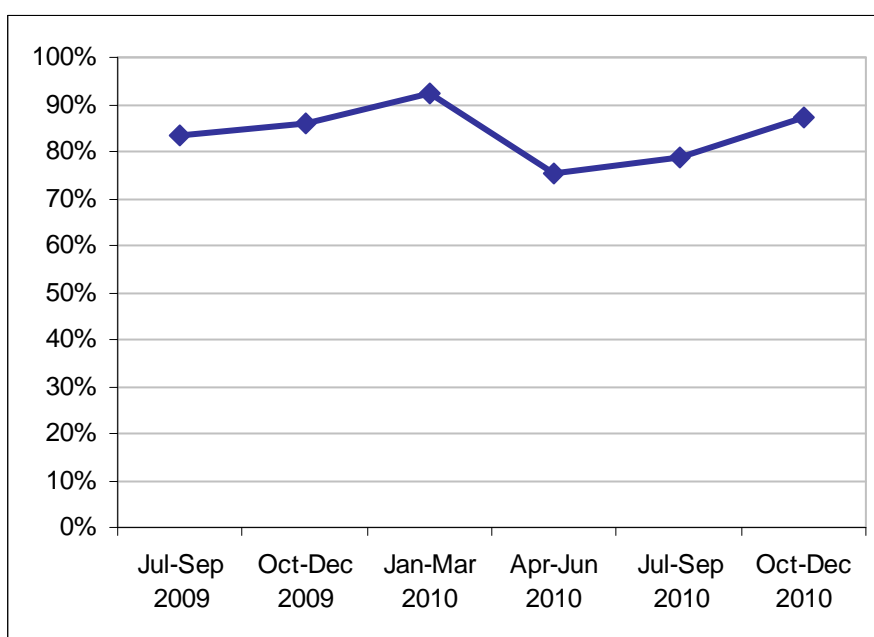
A full Gender Recognition Certificate was granted in 74 cases (87 per cent of the total), meaning that the person was judged by the GRP to have satisfied the criteria for legal recognition in their acquired gender.

There were 5 cases where an interim Gender Recognition Certificate was granted, which meant that the application was successful but the applicant

was married or in a civil partnership at the time. In such instances, a full Gender Recognition Certificate will be issued when the marriage or civil partnership has ended (although the full certificates which are issued subsequent to an earlier interim certificate are not included within the statistics for full Gender Recognition Certificates, which relate to those issued by the GRP in the first instance).

A further 6 applications were refused during October to December 2010, while no applications were withdrawn.

Figure B: Proportion of applications dealt with where a full Gender Recognition Certificate was granted, by quarter, July 2009 to December 2010



At the end of the quarter, a total of 108 applications were in progress awaiting final resolution.

Gender Recognition Certificates granted – demographic statistics (Table 3)

As noted above, some 74 full Gender Recognition Certificates were granted during the period October to December 2010.

Of these, 55 certificates were granted to individuals who were registered male at birth (who thus legally became female as a result), while 19 were granted to individuals who were registered female at birth.

As in previous quarters, full Gender Recognition Certificates were granted to applicants of a range of ages. Certificates granted included to 20 applicants born in the years 1970-1979, 19 applicants born in 1960-1969, and 17 applicants born in 1980 or later.

Figure C: Full Gender Recognition Certificates granted during October-December 2010, by gender at birth and year of birth

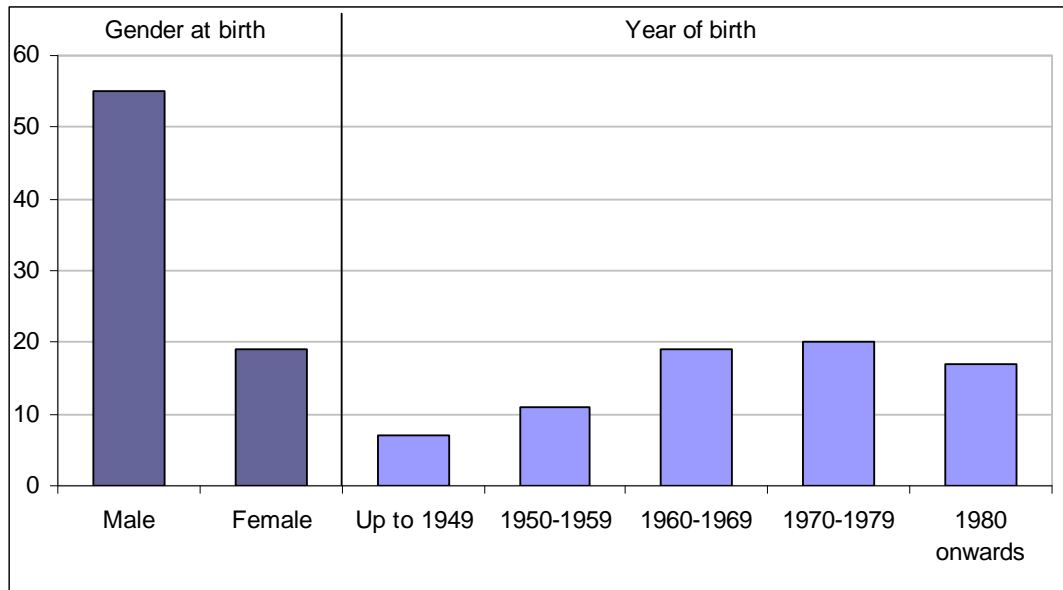


Table 1: Applications received by the Gender Recognition Panel, July 2009 to December 2010

Time period	Total applications received	By track	
		Standard track (1)	Overseas track (2)
Quarter			
Jul-Sep 2009	70	68	2
Oct-Dec 2009	77	72	5
Jan-Mar 2010	63	60	3
Apr-Jun 2010	83	75	8
Jul-Sep 2010	86	82	4
Oct-Dec 2010	72	67	5
Latest 3 months			
Oct-10	25	25	0
Nov-10	32	30	2
Dec-10	15	12	3

(1) "Standard track" applications are those submitted under the standard application process, on the basis of living permanently in the acquired gender.

(2) "Overseas track" applications are those submitted under the overseas application process, on the basis of having changed gender under the law of an approved country or territory outside the United Kingdom.

Table 2: Applications dealt with by the Gender Recognition Panel, July 2009 to December 2010

Time period	Total applications dealt with	Outcome				Applications pending at end of period
		Full GRC granted	Interim GRC granted	Refused	Application withdrawn	
Quarter						
Jul-Sep 2009	72	60	5	4	3	83
Oct-Dec 2009	79	68	5	6	0	81
Jan-Mar 2010	51	47	3	1	0	93
Apr-Jun 2010	61	46	7	6	2	115
Jul-Sep 2010 (1)	80	63	0	8	9	121
Oct-Dec 2010	85	74	5	6	0	108
Latest 3 months						
Oct-10	17	13	1	3	0	129
Nov-10	34	31	2	1	0	127
Dec-10	34	30	2	2	0	108

(1) Figures for the quarter Jul-Sep 2010 have been revised; 4 applications previously reported as being pending at the end of the period had actually been withdrawn. Please see Explanatory Notes for more information.

Table 3: Gender at birth and year of birth for full Gender Recognition Certificates granted, by quarter, July 2009 to December 2010

Time period	Total full GRCs granted	Gender at birth		Year of birth				
		Male	Female	Up to 1949	1950-1959	1960-1969	1970-1979	1980 onwards
Quarter								
Jul-Sep 2009	60	45	15	8	15	8	18	11
Oct-Dec 2009	68	58	10	10	14	21	16	7
Jan-Mar 2010	47	35	12	9	13	14	4	7
Apr-Jun 2010	46	36	10	6	12	19	3	6
Jul-Sep 2010	63	42	21	7	20	14	10	12
Oct-Dec 2010	74	55	19	7	11	19	20	17

Explanatory notes

1. The statistics in this bulletin relate to applications to, and decisions made by, the Gender Recognition Panel (GRP) in the quarter October to December of 2010. They are published by the Ministry of Justice, with assistance from officials at the GRP. This is the second edition in this series.
2. Under UK law, individuals are considered by the State to be of the gender – either male or female – that is recorded on their birth certificate. The Gender Recognition Act 2004, which came into effect on 4 April 2005, enables transsexual people to apply to the GRP to receive a Gender Recognition Certificate. Successful applicants who are issued with a certificate are considered legally to be of their acquired gender. Such individuals are entitled to all the rights appropriate to a person of their acquired gender, including the right to marry someone of the opposite legal gender, form a civil partnership with someone of the same legal gender, and to receive state pension at an age appropriate to their acquired gender. A person whose birth was registered in the UK is able to obtain a new birth certificate showing their recognised legal gender.
3. An application for a Gender Recognition Certificate requires applicants to demonstrate that:
 - They have, or have had, gender dysphoria.
 - They have lived fully for the last two years in their acquired gender.
 - They intend to live permanently in their acquired gender.

The overseas process requires applicants to demonstrate that they have been legally recognised in their acquired gender in a country or territory that is listed in the Gender Recognition (Approved Countries and Territories) Order 2005. The list is available on the GRP website (www.grp.gov.uk). Under all circumstances, an applicant must also prove that they are at least 18 years of age.

4. A full Gender Recognition Certificate issued by the GRP shows that a person has satisfied the criteria for legal recognition in the acquired gender. It is issued to a successful applicant if he or she is not married or in a civil partnership. From the date of issue, the holder's gender becomes the acquired gender for all purposes.
5. An interim Gender Recognition Certificate is issued to a successful applicant if he or she is married or in a civil partnership at the time of the application. The interim certificate is issued to allow the applicant and his or her spouse or civil partner to end their marriage or civil partnership easily. It has no legal significance beyond this use. When the marriage or civil partnership is ended, a full Gender Recognition Certificate will be issued to the successful applicant. Please note, however, that the statistics for full certificates issued presented in this bulletin do not count

those issued subsequent to an earlier interim certificate; the statistics relate to those full certificates which are issued in the *first* instance.

6. The Gender Recognition Panel is part of the Tribunals Service, which is an executive agency of the Ministry of Justice and provides administrative support for the tribunals' judiciary who hear cases and decide appeals. More information about the work of the Tribunals Service can be found on its website at www.tribunals.gov.uk.
7. **Revisions to previously published statistics:** The statistics previously published for the quarter July to September 2010 are subject to a small revision. There were 4 applications, previously recorded as being pending at the end of this period but had actually been withdrawn. As a result, the number of withdrawn applications during this quarter has been revised from 5 to 9, while the number of applications pending at the end of the quarter has been revised from 125 to 121 (see Table 2).

Contact points for further information

Press enquiries on the contents of this bulletin should be directed to the Tribunals Service press office:

Tel: 020 334 6510

Queries regarding the work of the Gender Recognition Panel should be directed to:

GRP
PO Box 9300
Leicester
LE1 8DJ
Tel: 0845 355 5155
Email: grpenquiries@tribunals.gsi.gov.uk

Other enquiries about these statistics should be directed to:

Justice Statistics Analytical Services division
Ministry of Justice
7th Floor
102 Petty France
London
SW1H 9AJ
Tel: 020 3334 3737
Email: statistics.enquiries@justice.gsi.gov.uk

General enquiries about the statistical work of the Ministry of Justice can be e-mailed to: statistics.enquiries@justice.gsi.gov.uk

General information about the official statistics system of the UK is available from www.statistics.gov.uk

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