



## Statistical News Release: Immigration Statistics

28 August 2014

*Immigration Statistics, April – June 2014*

Home Office's *Immigration Statistics April - June 2014* release, published today, provides the latest figures on those subject to immigration control. All data below relate to the year ending June 2014 and all comparisons are with the year ending June 2013, unless indicated otherwise.

### Key points from the latest release

#### Work

There were 10% more work-related visas granted (up 14,799 to 159,302), largely accounted for by higher numbers for skilled workers (Tier 2, +11,744), and for Youth mobility and temporary workers (Tier 5, +3,992), partially offset by fewer visas granted for high value workers (Tier 1) which fell by 2,090. The 2,090 fall for high value workers (Tier 1) was accounted for by fewer visas in the 2 categories that have now been closed to new entrants: Tier 1 Post-Study (-2,292) and Tier 1 General (-1,283), and partially offset by increases for the Tier 1 Entrepreneur (+836) and Tier 1 Investor (+484) categories.

There were 37% fewer work-related extensions (down to 92,075) also largely due to the closure of Tier 1 Post-Study and Tier 1 General; and 20% fewer permissions to stay permanently (down to 48,492). Work-related admissions data follow a similar trend to visas data and were 10% higher in 2013 than 2012 (up 13,800 to 156,300)

#### Study

Study-related visas (excluding student visitors) granted have risen 7% (+13,885 to 218,295). The 13,885 increase includes higher numbers for Chinese (+3,979, +7%), Brazilian (+2,649, +115%), Malaysian (+1,852, +23%) and Libyan (+1,550, +64%) nationals. There were falls in study visas granted to Pakistani (-2,511, -35%) and Indian (-1,711, -12%) nationals.

The higher numbers of visas granted corresponded to a 5% increase in university sponsored study visa applications (main applicants) to 167,105. There were falls in applications sponsored by other education sectors. The sponsored applications figures for further education fell 25% to 19,806, English Language schools fell 4% to 3,290 and independent schools fell 5% to 13,091.

#### Student visitors

There was an 8% increase in student visitor visas granted, to 78,109. Student visitors are normally only allowed to stay for up to 6 months (11 months for English Language schools) and cannot extend their stay. However, the latest data on passenger arrivals, including the majority of student visitors who do not need a visa, showed a fall of 12% in student visitor arrivals (falling 36,100 to 263,000 in 2013).

#### Asylum

There were 23,479 asylum applications (main applicants), similar to the previous 12 months (23,523), but low relative to the peak in 2002 (84,132). The largest numbers of applications were from Pakistani (3,081), Eritrean (2,115), Iranian (2,041) and Syrian (1,716) nationals.

#### Visitors

There were 1.91 million (1,907,845) visitor visas granted, an increase of 5% (+99,063). The 99,063 increase was largely accounted for by higher numbers for Chinese (+63,090 or +26%), Kuwaiti (+20,145, +29%) and Saudi Arabian (+14,001, +17%) nationals. By contrast, the largest falls were for nationals of South Africa (-8,897, -10%), United Arab Emirates (-8,565, -27%), Qatar (-5,613, -27%), Russia (-5,008, -3%) and Oman (-4,449, -46%). The falls for United Arab Emirates, Qatari and Omani nationals are likely to reflect the introduction of the Electronic Visa Waiver on 1st January 2014, allowing these countries' nationals to visit the UK for up to six months without a visa.

The latest data on non-EEA visitors arriving at the UK border, including those who do not need a visa, showed a 13% increase; from 7.7 million in 2012 to 8.7 million in 2013.

## Other points to note

### Admissions and refusals at port

There were 110.1 million journeys to the UK, a 2% increase (up 1.8 million). This was accounted for by 0.6 million more journeys by British, other EEA and Swiss nationals (totalling 95.8 million) and 1.2 million more journeys by non-EEA nationals (14.3 million).

The number of passengers refused entry at port rose by 6% to 16,886.

### Family

There were 6% more family visas granted (35,762 in the year ending June 2014). Family-related grants to stay permanently fell by 32% to 41,022 continuing the overall downward trend since the year ending March 2010 (75,852).

### Extensions

There were 12% fewer (-35,997) grants of extensions, falling to 255,812 grants, accounted for by 37% fewer work-related grants (-53,819), 6% fewer study-related grants of extensions (-6,101) and partially offset by 21% more family-related grants (+6,420).

The fall in work related extensions was accounted for by lower numbers in the Tier 1 General and the Post-Study work categories, both closed to new entrants, slightly offset by increases in Tier 1 Entrepreneur and Tier 2 Skilled worker categories. The increase in family-related extensions was explained by an increase in the new Family Life (10-year) category from 10,163 to 19,398 which was partly offset by a fall for spouses from 20,491 to 17,717.

### Permission to stay permanently (settlement)

There were 24% fewer (-36,434) grants of permission to stay permanently (settlement), falling to 117,737, accounted for by falls in work-related (-12,495), family-related (-19,261) and asylum-related grants (-7,167), slightly offset by an increase in grants for other reasons (+2,489).

### Detention

The number of people entering detention fell 2% to 29,124. There was a decline, continuing a long term trend, in the proportion of detainees being removed, from 59% in the year ending June 2013 to 56% in the year ending June 2014. There was an increase in the proportion of detainees granted temporary admission or release from 34% to 36% over the same period.

As at the end of June 2014, 3,079 people were in detention, 2% fewer than 12 months earlier (3,142).

In the second quarter of 2014 (April to June), 19 children entered detention in immigration removal centres, short-term holding facilities and pre-departure accommodation, which, together with the figures for the first quarters of 2011 and 2014, is the lowest in the series.

### Removals and Voluntary Departures

There were 12% fewer (-1,744) enforced removals from the UK in the year ending June 2014 (12,415), the lowest figure since the series began in 2004.

However there was a much larger, 3,940 increase (+12%) in total voluntary departures, to 37,216. Over the same period the number of passengers refused entry at port and who subsequently departed increased by 3% (+424) to 14,671.

**Further and more detailed analysis can be found in the *Immigration Statistics, April - June 2014*.**

## Notes to editors

1. *Immigration Statistics, April - June 2014* is available via the UK National Statistics publication hub website and the Home Office statistics web pages <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/home-office/series/immigration-statistics-quarterly-release>.
2. This release is published as part of a coordinated release of migration and population products. Today sees the release of the following publications:

#### Office for National Statistics (ONS)

- *Migration Statistics Quarterly Report (Jointly with Home Office, DWP and National Records of Scotland)*
- *Provisional Long-term International Migration (latest quarterly)*

The *Migration Statistics Quarterly Report* summarises the regular quarterly migration and related data published by the Home Office, DWP, ONS and NRS and is available at <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/taxonomy/index.html?nscl=Migration>

Department for Work & Pensions (DWP)

- *National Insurance Number (NINo) Allocations to Adult Overseas Nationals to June 2014*

3. The UK Statistics Authority has assessed Immigration Statistics against the Code of Practice for Official Statistics, and confirmed designation as National Statistics. More information can be found at report 177 on the UK Statistics Authority website <<http://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/assessment/assessment/assessment-reports/>>.
4. For **all press enquiries regarding the Home Office Immigration Statistics release**, please contact the Home Office Press Office who will liaise with the Home Office Statistics team.

Newsdesk: **020 7035 3535**

Please note that the press office deals with enquiries from the media only. Members of the public should phone Public Enquiries 020 7035 4848, or email to [MigrationStatsEnquiries@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:MigrationStatsEnquiries@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk)

**Press enquiries regarding ONS** publications should be directed to the ONS Press Office.

5. The Home Office Responsible Statistician is David Blunt, Chief Statistician and Head of Profession for Statistics.