



Home Office

EU Settlement Scheme Statistics, March 2020

Experimental Statistics

16 April 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.

About the data

This is the twelfth monthly statistical release of high-level information on the EU Settlement Scheme, up to 31 March 2020.

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 March (01 March 2020 to 31 March 2020) and 'total' numbers since testing of the scheme began (from 28 August 2018 to 31 March 2020).

A more detailed quarterly statistical report on the EU Settlement Scheme was published on 06 February 2020, covering the period between 28 August 2018 to 31 December 2020, available at <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/eu-settlement-scheme-quarterly-statistics-december-2019>. The next detailed quarterly statistical report will be published in May 2020, covering the period to the end March 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. 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

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>

other outcomes (refusals, withdrawn or void, or invalid cases) are not fully captured in the report. The Home Office is currently developing electronic integration of the two systems with information on paper applications due to be included in the next detailed quarterly EUSS statistics release in May 2020, covering the period up to 31 March 2020.

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 March 2020 was 125,000.

Overall, the total number of applications received up to 31 March 2020 was more than 3.4 million (**3,468,700**).

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 March 2020 was 148,800. Of these, 52% were granted settled status and 42% were granted pre-settled status. Of the remaining applications, 4,800 received a withdrawn or void outcome, 3,300 were invalid, and 300 were refused⁴. Of the refusals, the vast majority (more than 99%) were refused on eligibility grounds⁵, and the remainder (less than 1%) were refused on suitability grounds⁶.

Overall, as of 31 March 2020, the total number of applications that have been concluded was more than 3.1 million (**3,147,000**). Of these, 58% were granted settled status and 41% were granted pre-settled status. Of the remaining applications, 23,900 received a withdrawn or void outcome, 10,000 were invalid and 600 were refused. Of the total refusals, 98% were refused on eligibility grounds and 2% 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 March 2020, the majority of applications were received from England (3,165,000), with an additional 172,800 from Scotland, 57,600 from Northern Ireland and 56,800 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 March 2020, Polish (665,500), Romanian (564,300) and Italian (351,600) nationals have submitted the highest number of applications. Approximately 182,500 applications have also been received from eligible 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 March 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: March 2020
Applications received	3,468,700	125,000

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

	Total ³	of which: March 2020
Applications concluded	3,147,100	148,800
Settled	1,813,300	77,800
Pre-settled	1,299,300	62,600
Refused ⁴	600	300
Withdrawn or void ⁴	23,900	4,800
Invalid ⁴	10,000	3,300

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

Country	Total ³	of which: March 2020
England	3,165,000	112,600
Scotland	172,800	6,500
Northern Ireland	57,600	2,300
Wales	56,800	2,300

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

Nationality	Total³	of which: March 2020
EU27	3,259,000	113,200
Poland	665,500	26,300
Romania	564,300	21,200
Italy	351,600	10,800
Portugal	273,400	7,500
Spain	210,900	7,000
Lithuania	177,000	6,700
Bulgaria	171,400	5,300
France	131,800	4,600
Latvia	98,400	2,300
Hungary	97,300	3,300
Germany	94,700	3,400
Netherlands	85,400	2,900
Greece	75,800	2,700
Slovakia	73,300	2,100
Czech Republic	41,600	1,400
Sweden	35,700	1,600
Belgium	23,500	900
Denmark	16,800	600
Austria	15,100	400
Cyprus	12,500	500
Finland	11,900	500
Estonia	9,300	300
Croatia	6,900	300
Ireland	6,000	300
Malta	4,800	200
Slovenia	3,100	100
Luxembourg	900	<50
EEA EFTA & Swiss nationalities⁷	25,500	1,400
Norway	14,700	800
Switzerland	9,400	500
Iceland	1,500	100
Liechtenstein	<50	<50
Non-EEA nationalities⁸	182,500	10,400

The next monthly statistical release will be published in May 2020, covering the period to end of April 2020.



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