



## Migration Indicators: November 2008

### Background

On 19 November 2008 the Office for National Statistics (ONS), with the Home Office and the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP), published a range of demographic statistics as part of the most recent quarterly consolidated release. Several of the datasets relate either directly or indirectly to migration. The geography used in the indicators varies but in all cases relates to the UK. This Update presents these indicators as they relate to the UK and the South East.

### Internal Migration

**Table 1: Internal Migration to and from South East, 12 month periods (thousands)**

	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007 Q1	2008 Q1	Annual change
<b>In</b>	225.7	225.6	226.0	216.4	219.6	226.1	225.8	<b>218.1</b>	-7.7
<b>Out</b>	217.5	216.0	213.6	202.4	200.2	202.1	202.1	<b>196.2</b>	-5.9
<b>Net</b>	8.2	9.6	12.4	14.0	19.4	24.0	23.7	<b>21.9</b>	-1.8
<b>UK</b>	1,268	1,263	1,270	1,213	1,212	1,227	1,228	<b>1,200</b>	
<b>South East Flows as % of UK</b>									
	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007 Q1	2008 Q1	
<b>In</b>	17.8	17.9	17.8	17.8	18.1	18.4	18.4	<b>18.2</b>	
<b>Out</b>	17.2	17.1	16.8	16.7	16.5	16.5	16.5	<b>16.4</b>	

Data on migration within the UK are based on patient re-registrations in cumulative 12-month periods. The full dataset is for countries of the UK and English regions showing flows between regions, hence the UK figure is the total number of inter-regional moves. The latest 12-month period to the end of March 2008 shows reductions in all gross flows over the year and the net gain to the South East has also reduced.

### International Migration

Data on international migration are based on a number of sources, principally the International Passenger Survey but also estimates of moves to and from the Republic of Ireland and asylum seekers. The full dataset relates to calendar years for countries of the UK and English regions. However, a secondary set of information is used for the mid-year to mid-year flows at local authority level for the preparation of the mid-year estimates. The latest data relate to 2007 but the following table shows the longer trends in the more familiar mid-year form. While nationally the gross flows have declined over the past year the South East flows have increased slightly and net inflows to both UK and the South East have increased.

**Table 2: International Migration to and from South East and the UK, 12-month periods (thousands)**

		2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006	2006-07	2007	Annual Change
<b>UK</b>	<b>In</b>	488	505	526	593	561	591	..	<b>577</b>	-14
	<b>Out</b>	336	357	353	334	387	400	..	<b>340</b>	-60
	<b>Net</b>	152	147	173	258	174	191	..	<b>237</b>	46
		2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006	2006-07	2007	Annual Change
<b>South East</b>	<b>In</b>	67	71	74	77	71	81	81	<b>84</b>	3
	<b>Out</b>	62	52	59	46	57	53	61	<b>54</b>	1
	<b>Net</b>	5	19	15	31	14	28	20	<b>30</b>	2
		2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006	2006-07	2007	
<b>South East as % of UK</b>	<b>In</b>	14	14	14	13	13	14	..	<b>15</b>	
	<b>Out</b>	18	15	17	14	15	13	..	<b>16</b>	
	<b>Net</b>	3	13	9	12	8	15	..	<b>13</b>	

### Asylum Seekers

**Table 3: Asylum: UK Applicants (12-month periods) and Supported Asylum seekers at end of period (thousands)**

		2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2007 Q3	2008 Q3	Annual change
<b>UK Applicants</b>		76.5	72.5	39.7	30.3	24.4	22.3	25.0	22.3	<b>25.8</b>	3.5
<b>Supported</b>											
		2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2007 Q3	2008 Q3	Annual change
<b>UK</b>							48.1	30.6	47.2	<b>30.9</b>	-16.3
<b>South East</b>							1.1	0.7	1.0	<b>0.8</b>	-0.3

Data on asylum seekers are now collected by the UK Border Agency and made available by the Home Office. The applications data are only available for the UK as a whole but the information on those asylum seekers who receive either subsistence only or accommodation support are available for all regions and local authorities, although data are rounded to the nearest five and are not published if less than 15 cases (subsistence). However, in the case of accommodation support all local authorities giving some support (even if rounded to zero) are shown in the tabulations. Asylum applications have recently started to rise again after falling from the annual totals of over 70,000 around the turn of the century. Numbers receiving support are still falling, representing some backlog of those applying in earlier years.

## National Insurance Numbers (NINOs)

**Table 4: National Insurance Numbers allocated to Overseas Nationals, financial years and calendar quarters (thousands)**

		2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2007 Q2	2008 Q2	Annual Change
<b>Total</b>	<b>UK</b>	349.2	370.8	439.7	662.4	713.5	733.1	166.1	175.5	9.4
	<b>South East</b>	37.4	43.5	51.0	80.2	79.3	82.9	..	19.1	..
		2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2007 Q2	2008 Q2	Annual Change
<b>EU A8</b>	<b>UK</b>	11.4	19.9	107.8	269.3	309.0	293.8	67.2	61.6	-5.6
	<b>South East</b>	0.9	1.7	14.3	33.8	34.1	33.8	..	6.9	..
		2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2007 Q2	2008 Q2	Annual Change
<b>Bulgaria &amp; Romania</b>	<b>UK</b>	7.2	13.3	7.8	5.7	6.8	36.9	8.5	11.2	2.7
	<b>South East</b>	0.5	0.9	1.0	0.9	0.7	3.5	..	0.0	..

New NINOs allocated to overseas nationals by the DWP have become a useful way of monitoring the flow of citizens of EU accession states coming to the UK for work. The data, rounded to the nearest ten, are available for all local authorities in the UK by a full range of origin countries. The total inflow continues to rise but the flow from the EU A8 countries (Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia) has started to fall. There has been the expected increase in flows from Bulgaria and Romania, which joined the EU at the beginning of 2007.

## Worker Registration Scheme (WRS) and Bulgaria/Romania

**Table 5: Worker Registration Scheme (A8); Accession Worker Cards and Registration Certificates (Bulgaria/Romania), calendar years and quarters (thousands)**

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2007 Q3	2008 Q3	Annual change
<b>WRS</b>	134.6	212.3	234.7	218.0	59.2	37.8	-21.4
				2007	2007 Q3	2008 Q3	Annual change
<b>Bulgaria/Romania</b>				40.9	9.5	6.5	-2.0

The WRS relates solely to the A8 countries. The data are available by 'regions' related to the first two characters of the postcode and do not align with the government office regions. For workers from Bulgaria and Romania there are a number of administrative ways by which they may legally obtain work in the UK. The data presented here relate to Accession Worker Cards and Registration Certificates, which are mainly given to the self-employed. Data on the Seasonal Agricultural Worker Scheme have not been presented here. None of the data are available below the level of the UK. The downturn in WRS reflects what has been seen with NINOs for A8 countries. It is too early to detect trends in the Bulgaria/Romania data.

## Conclusions

The most recent migration data generally show a diminution of migration flows, but the two measures that are used to prepare the mid-year estimates - internal and international migration - both show levels of net migration that imply that the South East is gaining more population through migration than was demonstrated by the ONS population estimates for mid-2007. Between mid-2006 and mid-2007 the net migration gain was estimated to be 44,000. The most recent estimates in combination show that the current loss could be increased to 52,000 – a gain of 22,000 internal migrants and a gain of 30,000 international migrants. The data for calendar year 2007 on births and deaths for the South East show a natural change of 26,000. Therefore the region is already on course for total population change in 2007-08 to be nearly 80,000 compared to 71,000 in 2006-07.

This report has been commissioned by the South East England Regional Assembly from the Greater London Authority.

For more information please contact John Hollis, Data Management and Analysis Group,  
Greater London Authority, City Hall (PP 24a), The Queen's Walk, London SE1 2AA  
Tel: 020 7983 4604 e-mail: [John.Hollis@london.gov.uk](mailto:John.Hollis@london.gov.uk)

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