

Update 05-2015

Migration Indicators: 05-2015

July 2015

Summary

- Internal outflows from London to the rest of England & Wales rose by 21 thousand to their highest level since 2004. Inflows also rose to be on par with levels seen in 2009.
- Long-term international inflows to the UK rose by 115 thousand in 2014 to reach their highest level over the period since 2002. With international outflows remaining stable, net flows increased by more than 50 per cent.
- The number of EU8 citizens migrating into the UK rose considerably in 2014 to 81 thousand; up 11 thousand from the previous year. Despite the rise, in-migration still remains considerably below the high of 112 thousand seen in 2007.
- The number of EU2 citizens migrating to the UK doubled to 46 thousand in 2014, their highest level.
- The number of non-EU citizens migrating has remained stable at just over 240 thousand whereas the number from EU countries has risen by 45 thousand to 228 thousand.
- Formal study remains the most popular reason for migrating to the UK and rose 16 thousand in 2014. This takes the number migrating for this reason to their highest level over the period since 2002.
- The number of people migrating to the UK in 2014 because of a definite job went up by 35 per cent (46 thousand) to 178 thousand; their highest level since the period began in 2002.
- The number of National Insurance Number allocations in 2015 in both London and the UK to EU2 citizens increased considerably; up 56 thousand and 193 thousand respectively and both equivalent to a rise of more than 195 per cent.
- The number of National Insurance Number registrations by those from the EU15 member states continued to rise and reached their highest level of 48 thousand, up 25 per cent compared to the previous year.
- Short-term international migration (3-12 months) flows remained steady in 2013 at about 230 thousand.

Background

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) release their Migration Statistics Quarterly Report alongside an update of a range of migration data in February, May, August and November of each year. The geography used in these datasets relates mainly to the UK and London with the exception of 'Flag 4' data which is solely for England and, internal and short-term international migration data which relates to England & Wales.

All data in this *Update* are annual and in all instances the latest month to which a dataset refers is given, e.g. year to end September 2011 is for the period from October 2010 to September 2011. Throughout the report when a new dataset is presented the end month is established, and then for simplicity each period is referred to solely by the year in which it ends.

This *Update* covers the following:

- Internal migration;
- International migration;
 - Long-Term International Migration (LTIM)
 - International Passenger Survey (IPS)
 - Comparison of LTIM and IPS data
 - EU8 citizens
 - EU2 citizens
 - Citizenship
 - Reasons for migration
- National Insurance Number (NINo) allocations;
- 'Flag 4' GP registrations; and
- Short-term international migration

Table 1 provides a summary of the most recent migration data by date and whether this *Update* and/or the accompanying Excel spreadsheet have been updated to incorporate this. The next scheduled main release of data is 27 August 2015.

Table 1: Migration data summary

Migration data	Most recent update	New
Internal migration	YE June 2014	Yes
Final LTIM and IPS	YE December 2013	Yes
Provisional LTIM and IPS	YE December 2014	Yes
NINo allocations	YE March 2015	Yes
'Flag 4' GP registrations	YE June 2013	Yes
Short-term international migration	YE June 2013	Yes

Definitions of key terms used in this *Update* can be found at the end of the document. All data can be found in the accompanying Excel workbook located on the Migration Indicators Datastore homepage (<http://data.london.gov.uk/dataset/migration-indicators>).

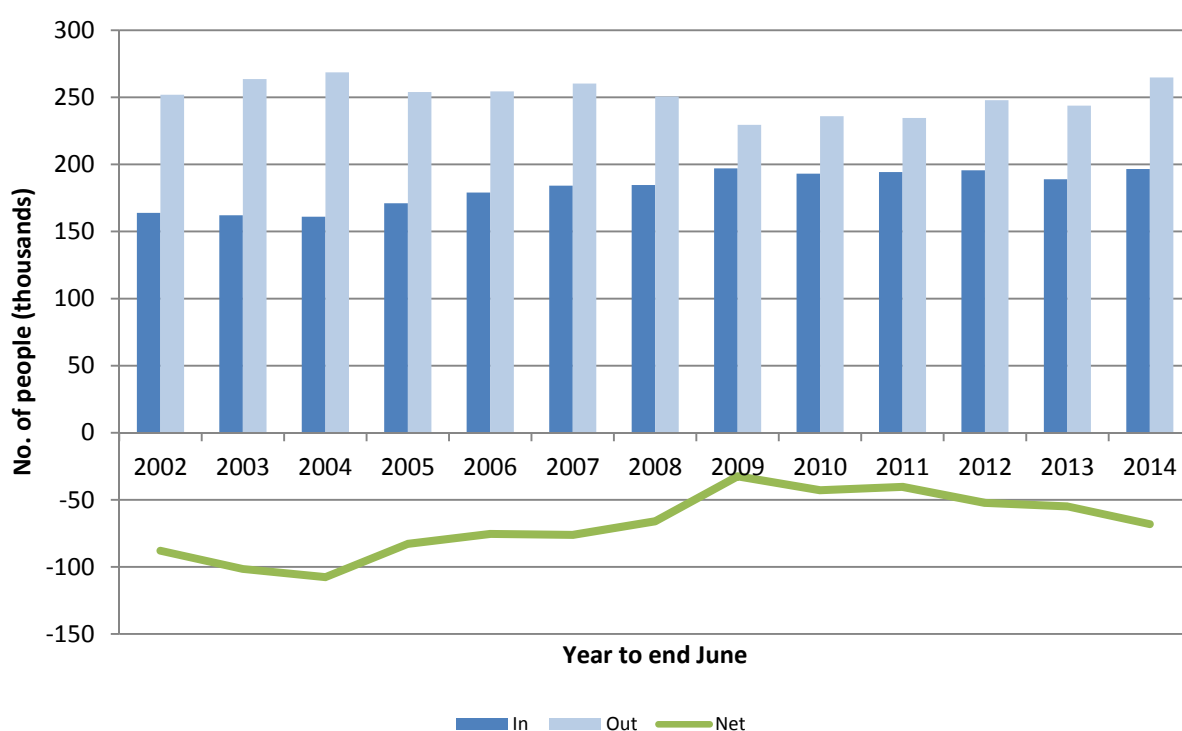
Internal migration

Most recent update: Year ending June 2014 (released June 2015).

Next update: Year ending June 2015 (released June 2016).

The most recent release of data was for the year ending June 2014. Figure 1 shows that both in and outflows to/from London rose in 2014. Outflows rose by 21 thousand to 265 thousand and their highest level since 2004. Inflows increased by less to 197 thousand and were on par with those seen in 2009. Net flow remains negative with more people leaving London than arriving.

Figure 1: Internal (England & Wales) migration, London, 12-month periods ending June of year given, thousands



Source: NHSCR moves and HESA data within the UK year ending June, ONS/PRDS

International migration

Most recent update: *Year ending December 2014 (released May 2015).*

Next update: *Year ending February 2015 (released August 2015).*

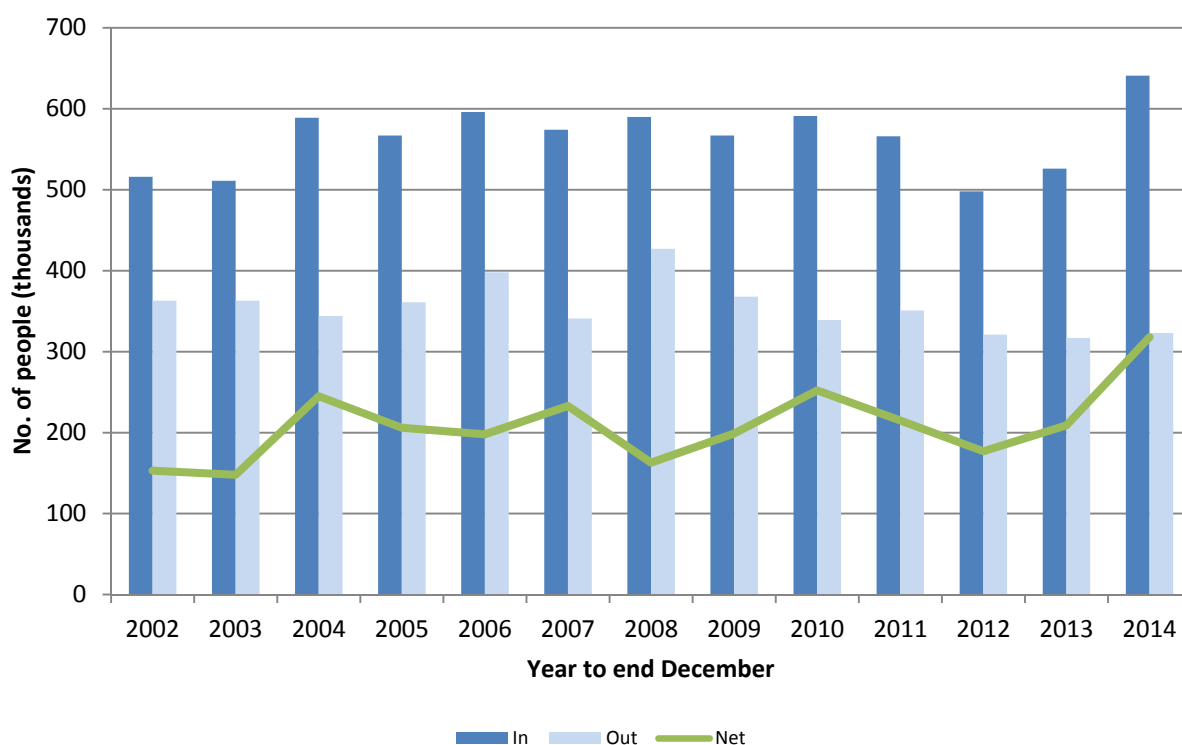
Long-Term International Migration (LTIM)

As part of the most recent release, ONS issued provisional LTIM data for the year ending December 2014. Final LTIM data for the year ending December 2014 will be released in November 2015.

Figure 2 shows provisional LTIM flows for the UK for the year ending December 2002 to 2014. Inflows rose considerably in 2014, up 115 thousand (21.9 per cent) compared to the previous year to reach 641 thousand. This is not only the largest increase since 2002 but also takes inflows to their highest level over the period since 2002.

Outflows on the other hand remained stable at around 320 thousand. A combination of steady outflows yet rising inflows, means that net flow increased by more than 50 per cent; an increase of 109 thousand to 318 thousand. This is the highest level of net flow over the period (2002-2014) and continues the increase in net flow from the previous year.

Figure 2: Long-Term International Migration, UK, 12-month periods ending December of year given, thousands



Source: *Long Term International Migration (LTIM) estimates year ending December, ONS*

Figure 3 compares UK and London inflows and outflows. The most recent London level data is still for year ending December 2013 as London level data is only released annually (part of the November 'final' LTIM release).

In 2013 both UK and London inflows rose when compared to the previous year by 5.6 and 6.9 per cent respectively. This is in sharp contrast to 2012 when both sets of inflows fell considerably reaching their lowest point over the period since 2002.

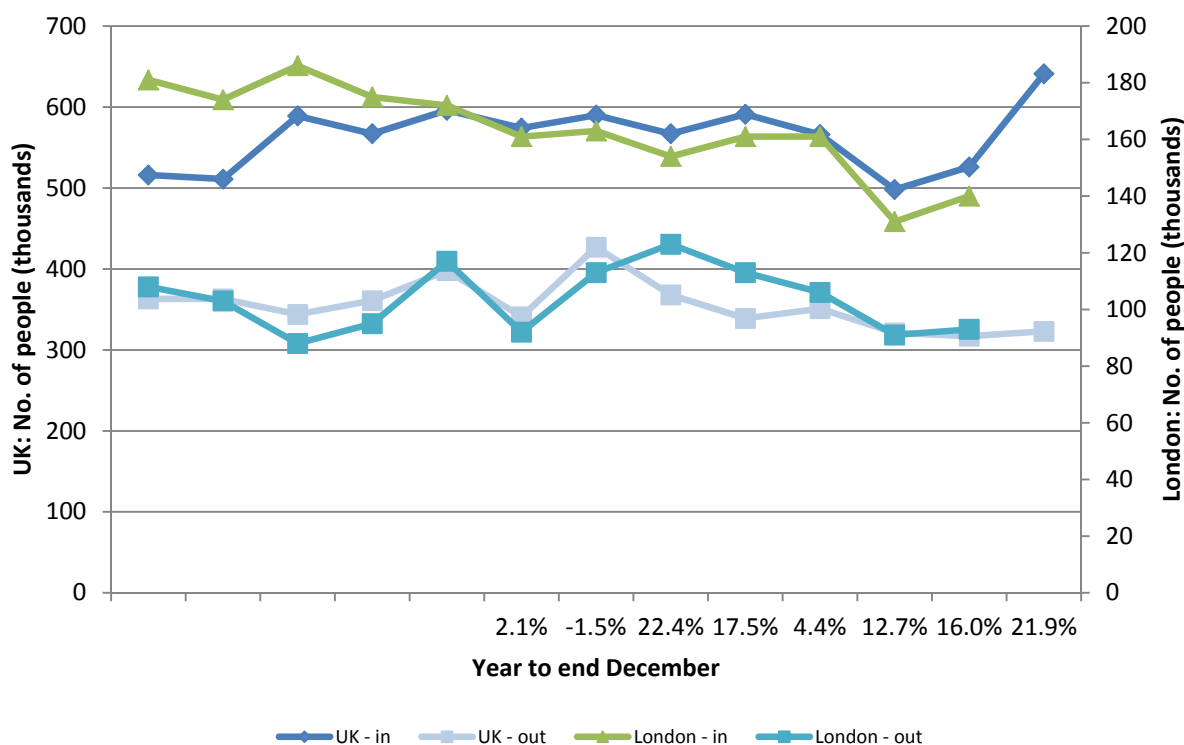
Outflows in the two areas showed contrasting patterns. Outflows from London rose by some two thousand whilst those from the UK as a whole fell by four thousand. These equate to a 2.2 and -1.2 per cent fall respectively.

Despite the fall in outflows from the UK, net flow remains positive and rose between 2012 and 2013 resulting in some 32 thousand more people arriving in the UK than leaving. This is an 18.1 per cent rise from the previous year which saw net flow fall. London's net flow rose by a similar percentage (17.5 per cent).

London's in- and outflows as a proportion of UK in- and outflows remained stable at around 26 per cent for inflows and 29 per cent for outflows.

In 2014, the number of inflows to the UK continued to rise (as already discussed) with outflows remaining stable. It remains to be seen whether London showed a similar pattern to the UK in 2014.

Figure 3: International migration based on LTIM, London and UK, 12-month periods ending December of year given, thousands



Source: Long Term International Migration (LTIM) estimates years ending December, ONS

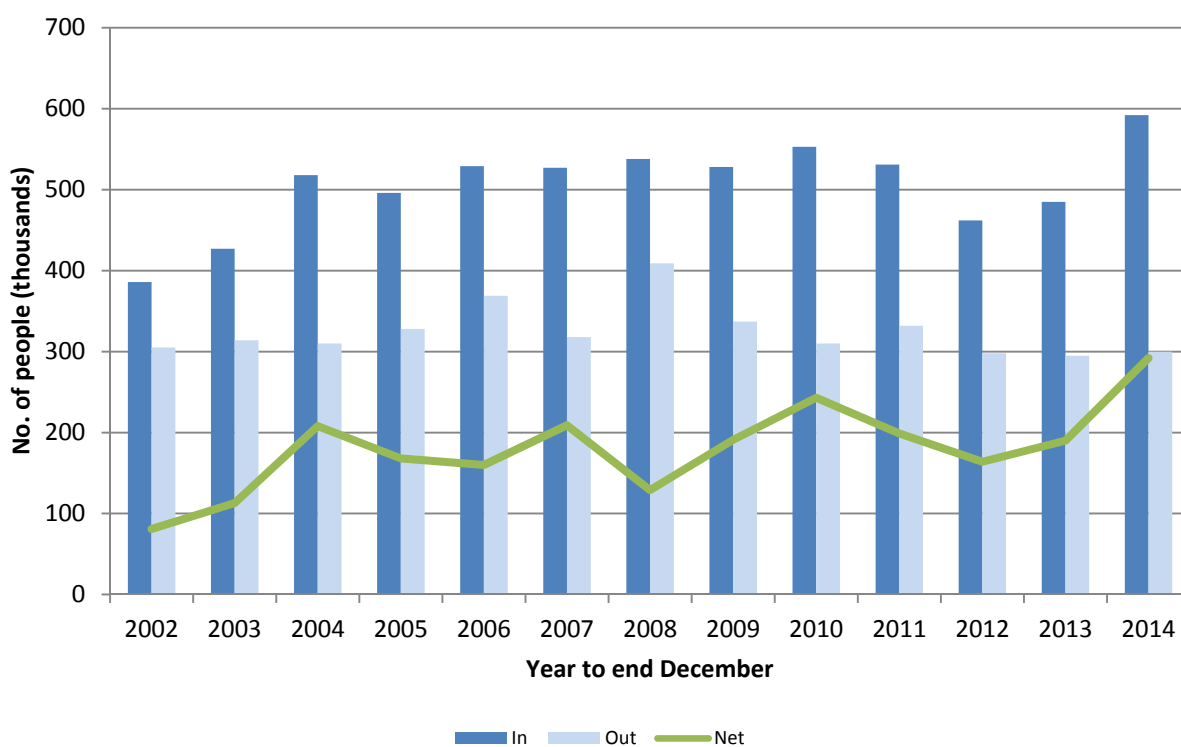
International Passenger Survey (IPS)

IPS estimates provide an alternative source of information on international migration and are based on a sample survey of passengers arriving and departing from UK airports, seaports and the Channel Tunnel. They form part of the LTIM estimates.

IPS estimates of international migration show in-migration has risen by 107 thousand people from the previous year to a high of 592 thousand in 2014 (Figure 4); a 22.1 per cent increase. This is the highest level of in-migration recorded over the period since 2002.

Outflows from the UK remained relatively on par with the previous year at 300 thousand. However the large rise in inflows contributed to the increase in net flow of 102 thousand, the highest net flow over the period since 2002.

Figure 4: International migration based on IPS, UK, 12-month periods ending December of year given, thousands



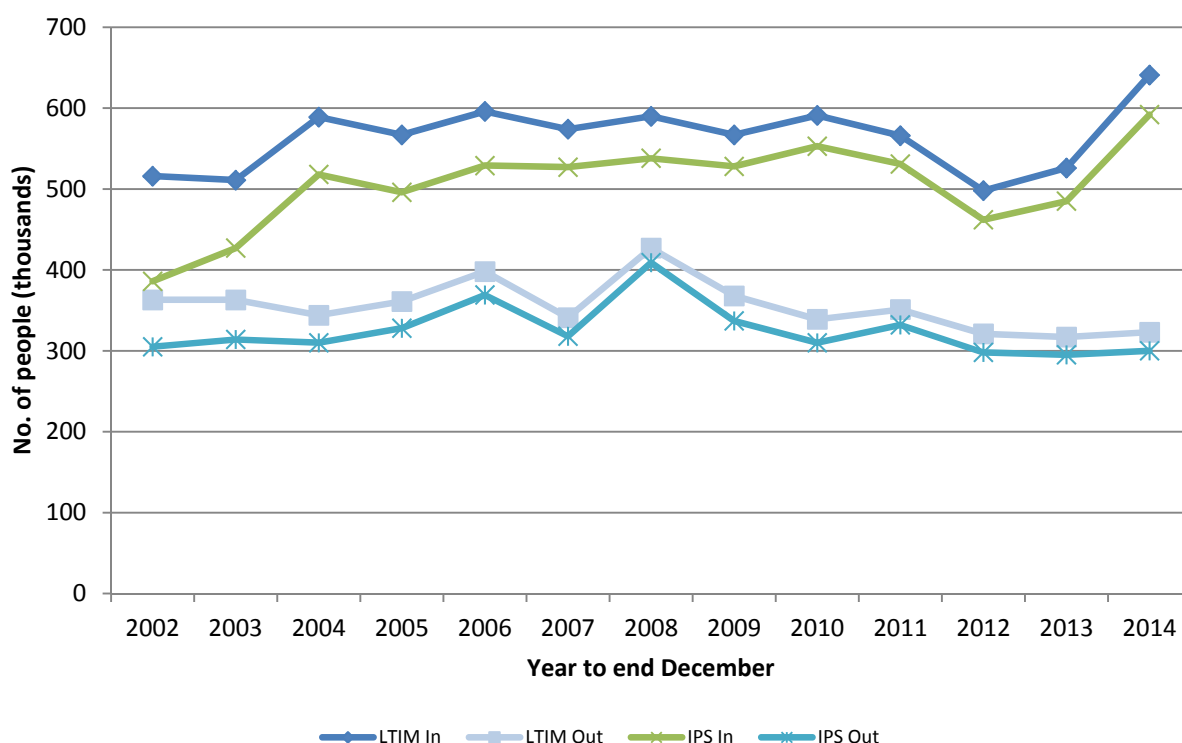
Source: International Passenger Survey (IPS) estimates year ending December, ONS

Comparison of LTIM and IPS

Figure 5 shows in and out-migration for both LTIM and IPS data between 2002 and 2014. The LTIM data for both in and out-migration are higher, which is to be expected as they are adjusted to take into account other data sources such as asylum seekers and those migrating to/from Northern Ireland. However both sets of data follow the same trend with there being larger difference in inflows than outflows.

The difference in both in- and outflows has narrowed over time from over 100 thousand more LTIM inflows than IPS in the early 2000s to some 40 thousand in recent years. 2014 did however see a rise in the difference in inflows to 49 thousand; the largest difference since 2008. The difference in outflows has been smaller and remains stable at around 20 thousand for 2014.

Figure 5: International migration based on LTIM and IPS data, UK, 12-month periods ending December of year given, thousands



Sources: Long Term International Migration (LTIM) and International Passenger Survey (IPS) estimates year ending December, ONS

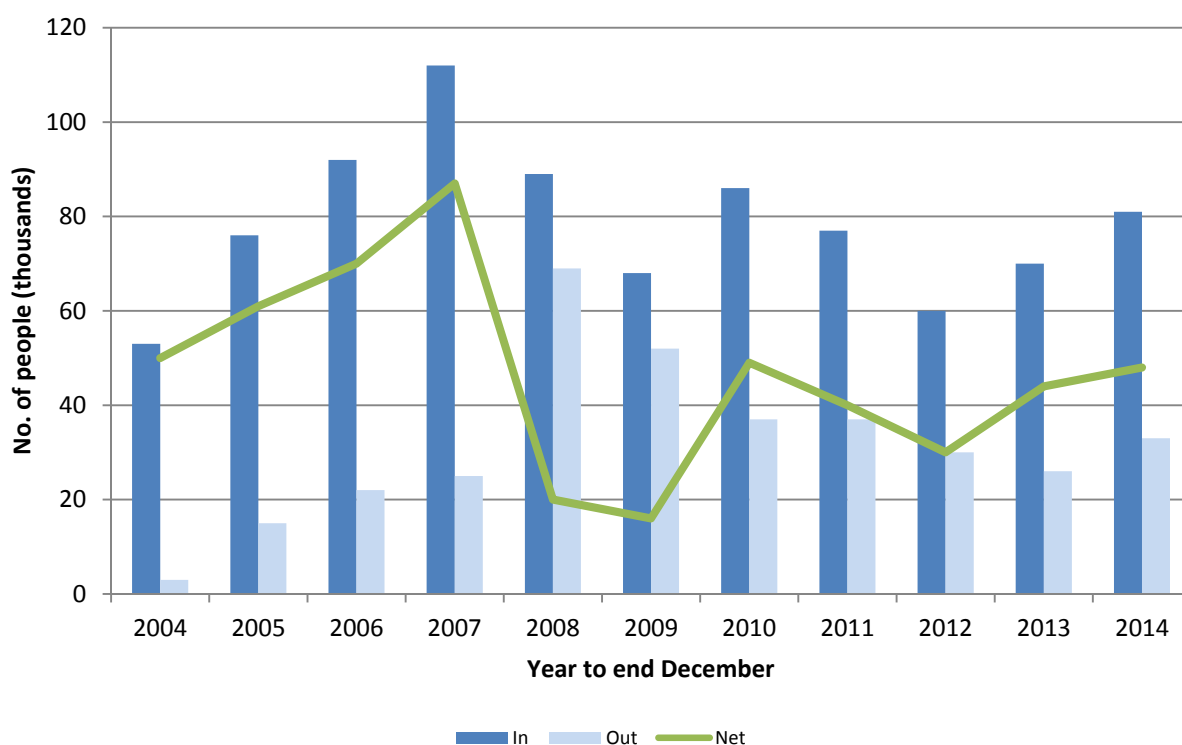
EU8 citizens

Figure 6 shows that the number of EU8¹ citizens migrating into the UK rose again in 2014; up 11 thousand to 81 thousand when compared to the previous year. This is the second consecutive rise although the number of in-migrants still remains considerably below the high of 112 thousand seen in 2008.

Outflows also rose in 2014 to 33 thousand; an increase of seven thousand. Despite the rise, outflows remain relatively low compared to the late 2000s, especially 2008, when 69 thousand left the UK.

Rising numbers of in-migrants coupled with a smaller increase in outflows has led to net migration of EU8 citizens rising for the second successive year to reach 48 thousand. This is similar to the level of net migration seen in 2010. Over the period since 2004, the highest level of net migration was in 2007 when there were nearly 90 thousand more EU8 citizens moving to the UK than leaving.

Figure 6: Migration of EU8 citizens, UK, 12-month periods ending December of year given, thousands



Source: Long Term International Migration (LTIM) estimates year ending December, ONS

Following accession in 2004, over 40 per cent of migrants to the UK from the EU were from EU8 countries. This rose to 57.4 per cent in 2007 but by 2014 was only 30.2 per cent. This is the lowest proportion of migrants from EU8 countries since 2004.

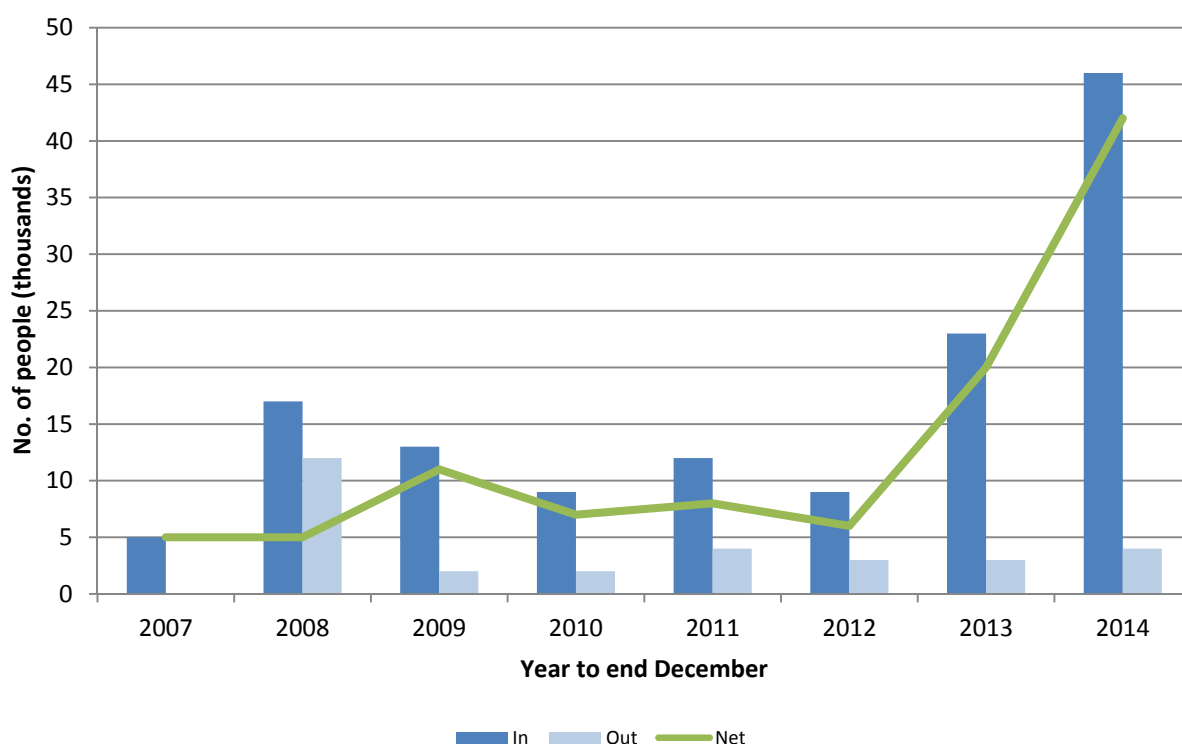
¹ See Key Terms and Definitions for a list of countries in the EU8

EU2 citizens

EU2 citizens comprise of Bulgarians and Romanians who joined the EU in 2007. However work restrictions were placed on citizens of these countries regarding the type of employment that they could take up in the UK. These restrictions ended on 1 January 2014.

LTIM data does not provide separate numbers for those migrating to the UK from EU2 nations. However, this data is available as part of the IPS. Although the IPS is not considered as comprehensive a source as LTIM data, it does provide an indication of trends.

Figure 7: Migration of EU2 citizens, UK, 12-month periods ending December of year given, thousands



Source: International Passenger Survey (IPS) estimates year ending December, ONS

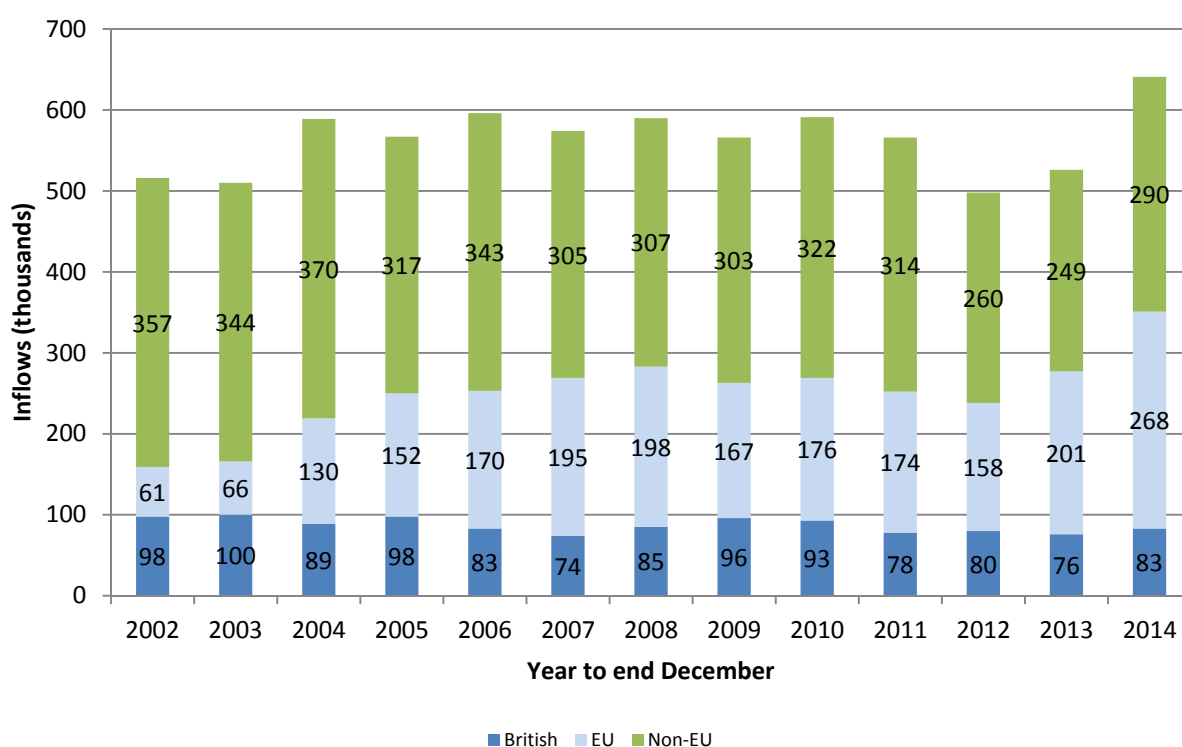
Figure 7 shows that for the year ending December 2014 the number of EU2 citizens migrating to the UK doubled to 46 thousand; the highest number since these countries joined the EU in 2007. Outflows remained stable at fewer than five thousand resulting in net flow more than doubling to 42 thousand.

Citizenship

Data on migrants' citizenship is released as part of the LTIM data. Figure 8 shows the split of British, EU and Non-EU in-migrants to the UK. For the year ending December 2014, the number of both EU and non-EU in-migrants has risen by 67 thousand and 41 thousand respectively. In spite of the rise, the number of non-EU migrants remains below the 300 thousand mark seen throughout the 2000s. The number of EU citizens migrating to the UK however is at its highest level over the period from 2002.

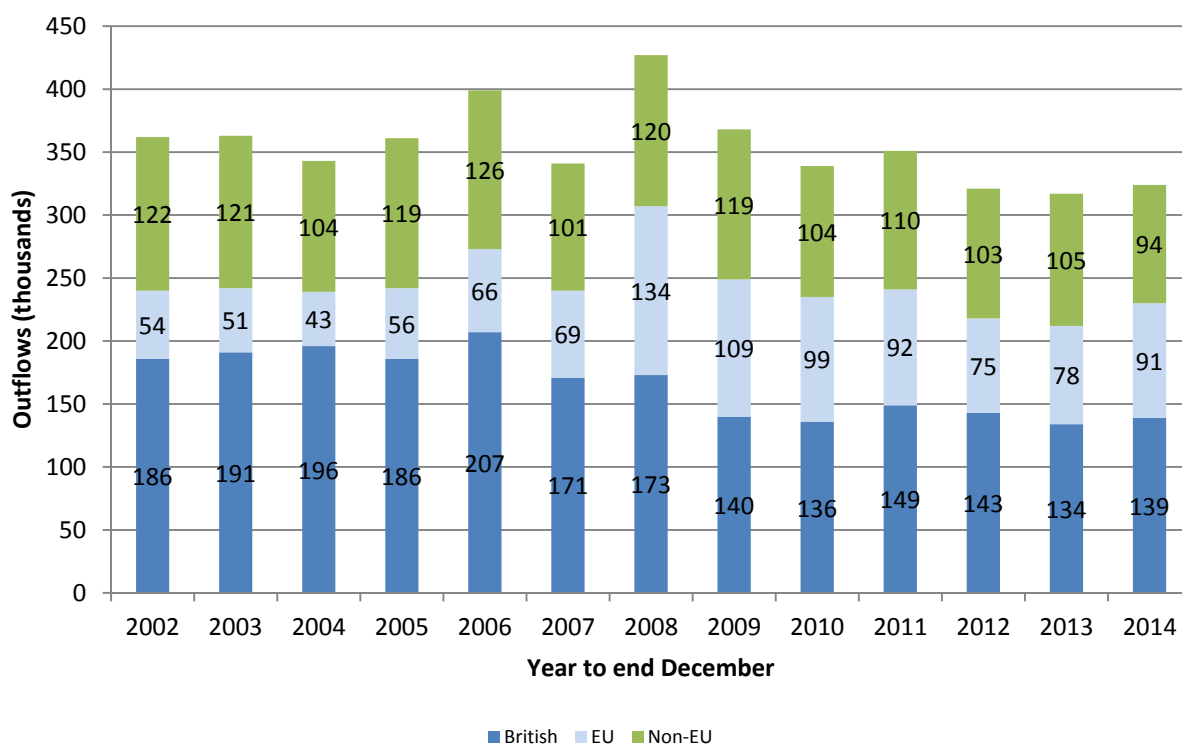
British in-migrants remained stable at around 80 thousand and are some 20 thousand lower than the early to mid-2000s.

Figure 8: Citizenship of in-migrants, UK, 12-month period ending December of year given, thousands



Source: Long-Term International Migration (LTIM) estimates year ending December, ONS

Figure 9: Citizenship of out-migrants, UK, 12-month period ending December of year given, thousands



Source: Long-Term International Migration (LTIM) estimates year ending December, ONS

The number of non-EU out-migrants fell by 11 thousand to 94 thousand in 2014, their lowest level over the period since 2002. However the number of both EU and British out-migrants rose in 2014; by 13 thousand and five thousand respectively.

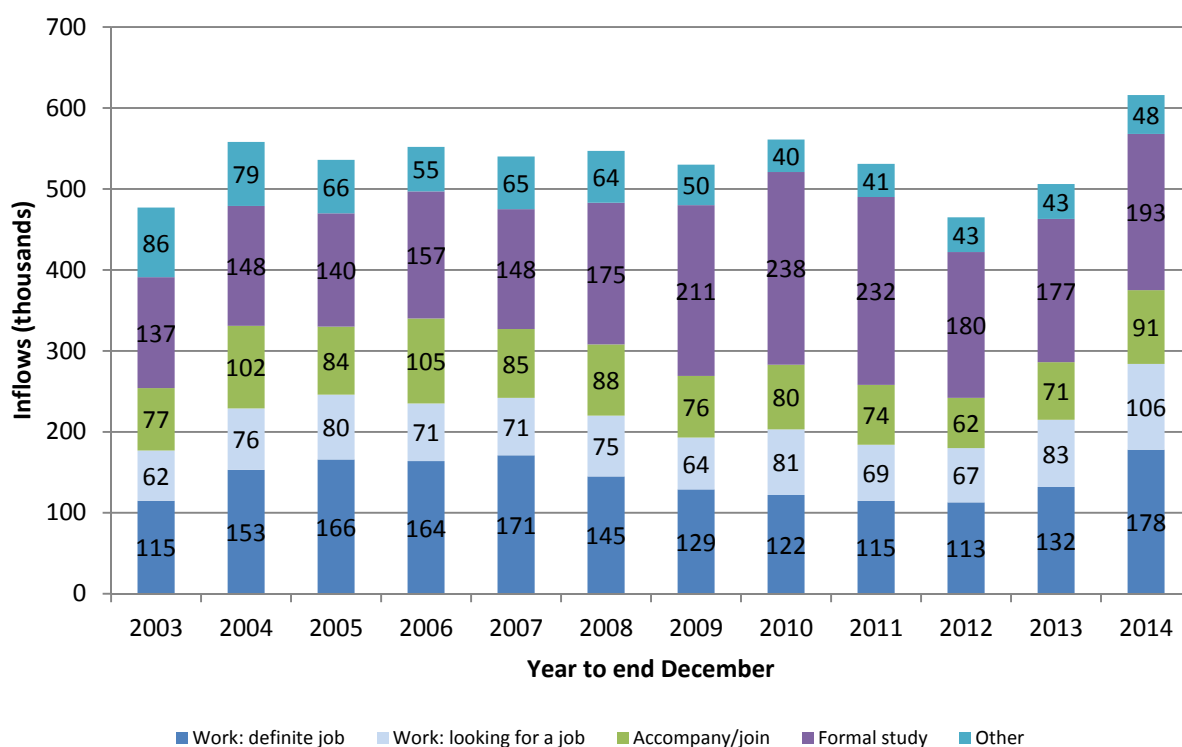
Reasons for migration

The most popular reason for migrating to the UK continues to be for 'formal study' with 193 thousand people migrating to the UK for this reason during the year ending December 2014. This was an increase of 16 thousand and takes the number migrating to the UK for 'formal study' to its highest level in three years.

In percentage terms, the largest increase was in those who migrated to the UK because of a 'definite job' (34.9 per cent or a rise of 46 thousand). This took the number migrating for this reason to 178 thousand, the highest number over the period since 2003.

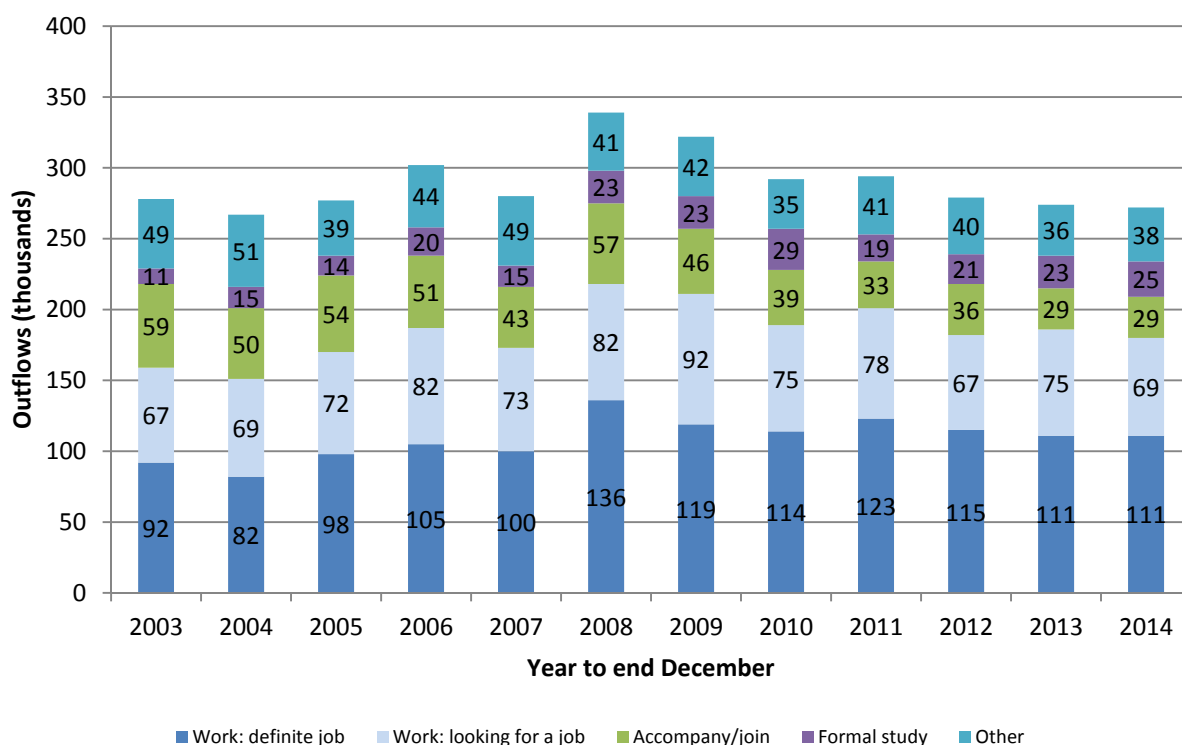
All other reason categories also saw the number of in-migrants rise. The number moving to the UK to look for a job increased by 23 thousand taking the total to 106 thousand and its highest level over the period from 2003. The number moving to 'accompany/join' someone rose by 20 thousand with the 'other' category having the smallest increase of five thousand.

Figure 10: Reasons for in-migration, UK, 12-month periods ending December of year given, thousands



Source: Long-Term International Migration (LTIM) estimates year ending December, ONS

Figure 11: Reasons for out-migration, UK, 12-month periods ending December of year given, thousands



Source: Long-Term International Migration (LTIM) estimates year ending December, ONS

In terms of out-migration, with the exception of those who left the UK to look for a job, numbers have remained steady over the past year. The number who left the UK to find a job fell by six thousand in 2014 to 69 thousand. The number who left because of a definite job from the largest group of out-migrants at 111 thousand.

The reason for emigrating can be different to the original reason for immigrating to the country and consequently it is not possible to compare Figures 10 and 11 directly.

National Insurance Number (NINo) allocations

Most recent update: *Quarter 1: January-March 2015 (released May 2015).*

Next update: *Quarter 2: April-June 2015 (released August 2015).*

The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) releases quarterly NINo registration data via the Stat-Xplore website (<https://stat-xplore.dwp.gov.uk/>). The accompanying Excel workbook data provides this data by quarter although this *Update* concentrates mainly on allocations to year end March. DWP have stated that NINo registrations during the quarter April to June 2014 are estimated to be around 15-25 per cent lower than would otherwise be the case due to a change to the process of recording NINos. This impacts on comparisons of NINo registrations over time.

NINo registrations are used as proxy for international migration as to work in the UK you are required to have a NINo. However they provide no indication as to when the person arrived in the UK as they are based on recorded registration date with the HMRC system.

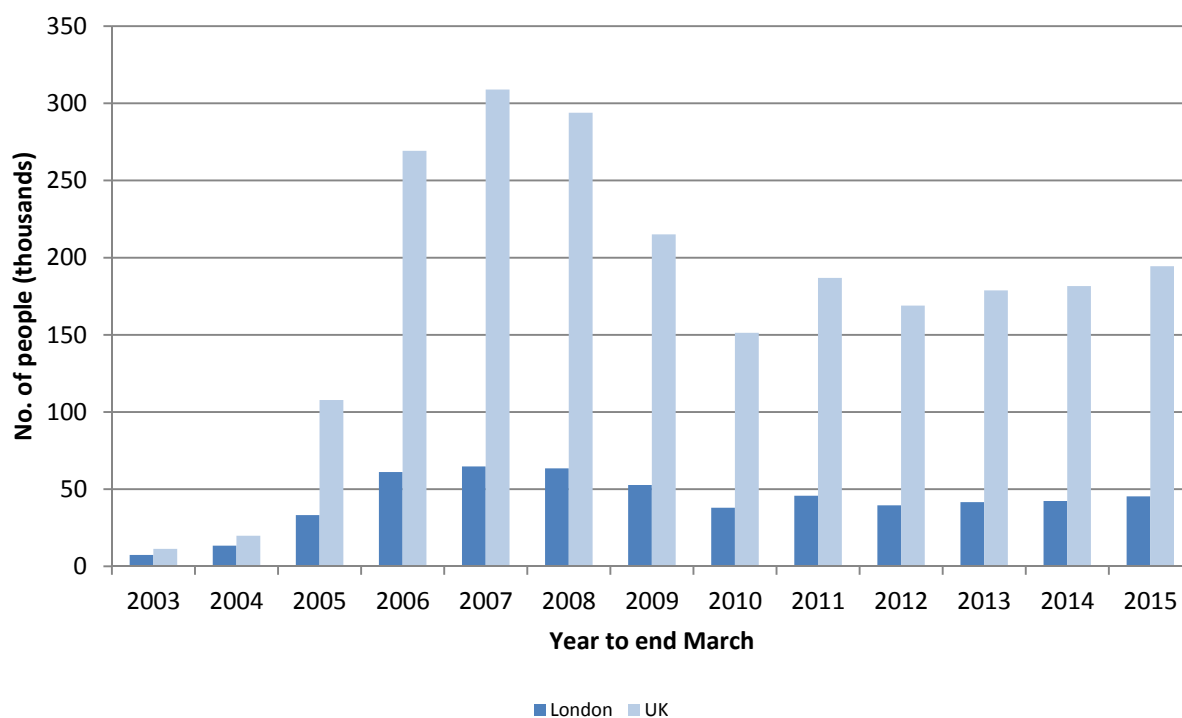
The total number of NINo registrations in the UK rose in 2015 by over 220 thousand to nearly 821 thousand compared with the previous year; a 36.7 per cent rise. This takes the number of registrations to their highest level over the period since 2002. Registrations in London also rose compared with the previous year to 334 thousand, up 91 thousand or 37.6 per cent. Like the UK, the number of registrations recorded in London in 2015 is at their highest over the period since 2002.

An end to working restrictions for Bulgarian and Romanians in January 2014 is likely to have had an effect on the considerable rise in NINo allocations in 2015. This copies a similar trend seen following accession of the EU8 countries to the EU.

Figures 12 and 13 show the trends for EU8 and EU2 nationals. NINo registrations to EU8 nationals peaked in 2007 with 309 thousand registrations in the UK of which nearly 65 thousand (20.9 per cent) were in London. However while the number of registrations in both areas fell in subsequent years, the number of registrations in London as a proportion of those in the UK rose to a high of 25.1 per cent in 2010. The most recent year of data shows there were 195 thousand NINo registrations to EU8 nationals in the UK of which 45 thousand (23.3 per cent) were in London. This is the third successive year that the number of NINo registrations has risen in both London and the UK although both remain below the levels seen in the mid-2000s.

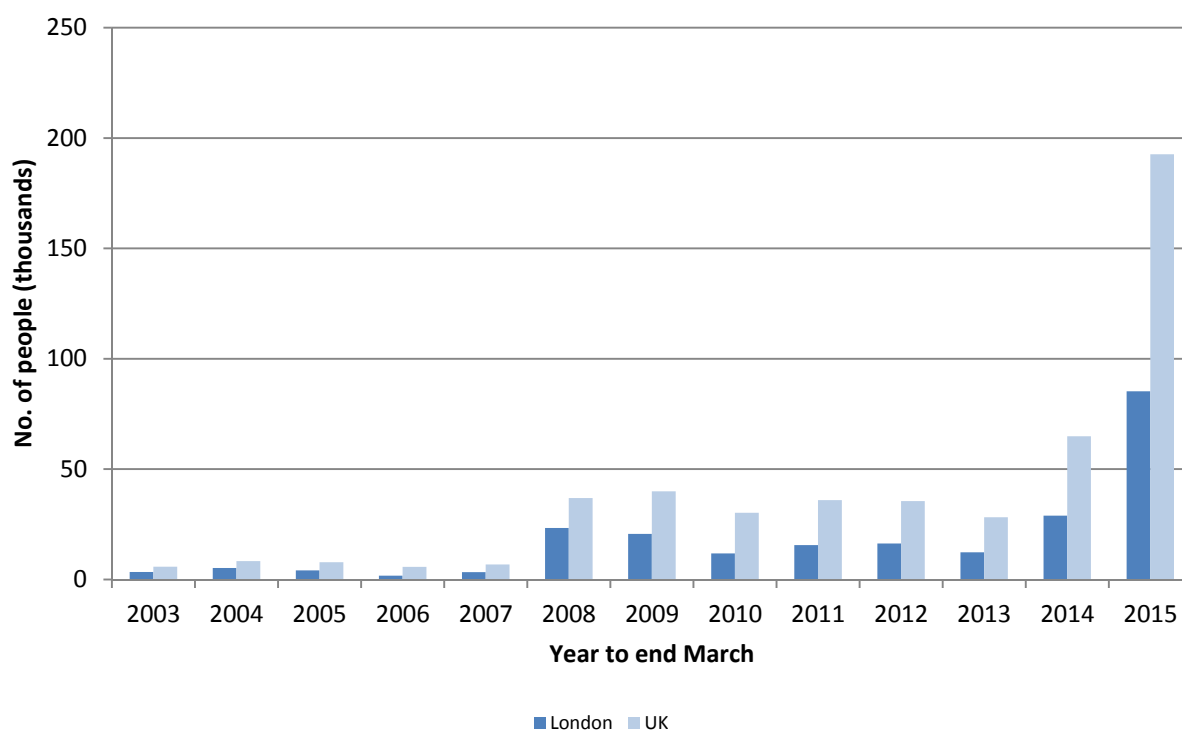
Registrations of EU2 nationals increased considerably in 2015 in both the UK and London. In London these were up 56 thousand (194.6 per cent) to 85 thousand whilst the UK saw a rise of nearly 193 thousand, equivalent to 196.9 per cent. London's proportion of NINo allocations to Bulgarians and Romanians remained steady at just below 45 per cent.

Figure 12: National Insurance Number allocations to EU8 citizens, UK and London, 12-month periods ending March of year given, thousands



Source: NINo allocations to adult overseas nationals entering the UK, DWP

Figure 13: National Insurance Number allocations to EU2 citizens, UK and London, 12-month periods ending March of year given, thousands



Source: NINo allocations to adult overseas nationals entering the UK, DWP

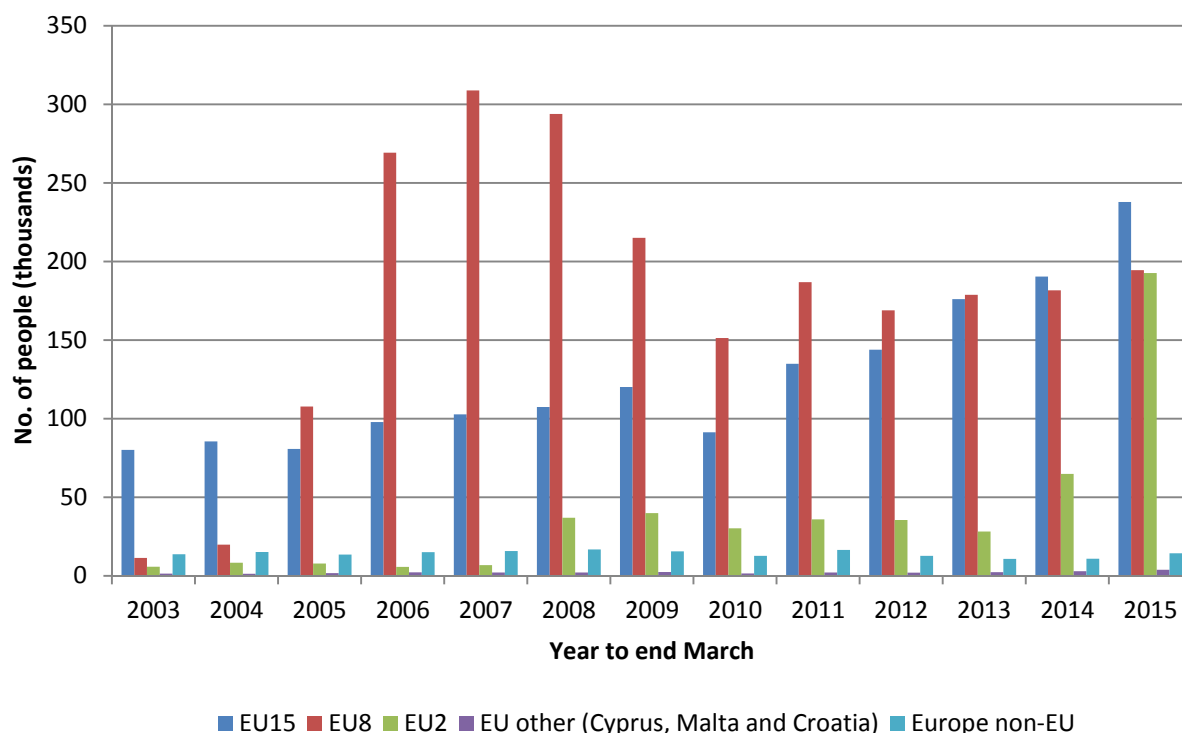
Figure 14 shows the number of NINo allocations by European geographical area. Since 2010 there has been a steady rise in the number of EU15 migrants registering for a NINo. For the year ending March 2015, registrations had risen 25 per cent, equivalent to 48 thousand registrations, compared to the previous year. This could be linked to continuing economic crises and high levels of unemployment in several EU15 countries.

Registrations to those from EU2 countries also rose considerably over the past year; up 128 thousand or 197 per cent. This is likely to be because working restrictions for Bulgarians and Romanians in the UK came to an end in January 2014.

The number of registrations to those from EU8 countries also rose; an increase of 13 thousand and are at their highest level since 2009. Despite the rise to nearly 195 thousand they remain well below the high of nearly 309 thousand registrations seen in 2007.

Registrations to those from EU other and Europe (non-EU) countries rose by some 30 per cent when compared to 2014.

Figure 14: National Insurance Number allocations by European geographical area, UK, 12-month periods ending March of year given, thousands

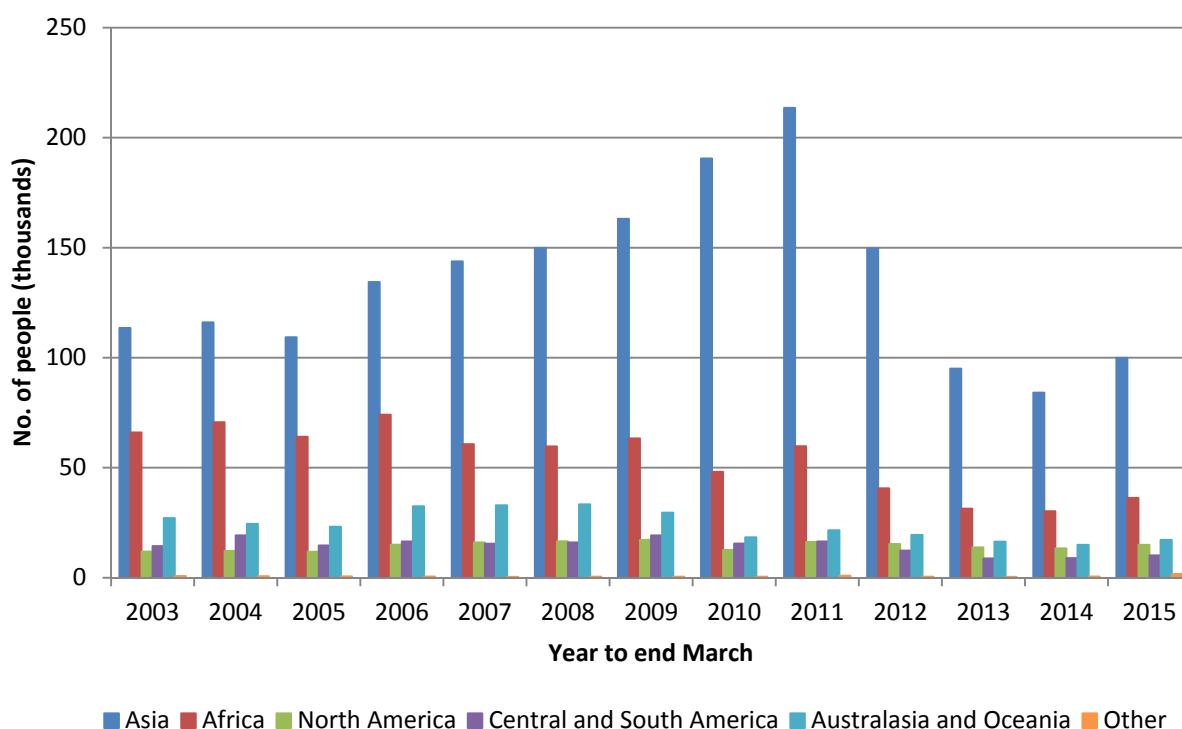


Source: NINo registrations to adult overseas nationals entering the UK, DWP

NINo registrations to those from Asia (including the Middle East) make up the largest group outside of Europe. However the number of registrations to those from these countries has fallen considerably from a high of over 213 thousand in 2011 to a low of 84 thousand in 2014. In 2015, registrations rose by 18.7 per cent taking the total for 2015 to nearly 100 thousand.

The number of NINo registrations to those from Africa rose by 20 per cent in 2015; up six thousand, having been declining since 2009. In spite of this rise, registrations remain well below the high of 74 thousand allocated in 2006.

Figure 15: National Insurance Number allocations by geographical area outside Europe, UK, 12-month periods ending March of year given, thousands



Source: NINo registrations to adult overseas nationals entering the UK, DWP

'Flag 4' GP registrations

Most recent update: *Year ending June 2013 (released August 2014).*

Next update: *Year ending June 2014 (released August 2015).*

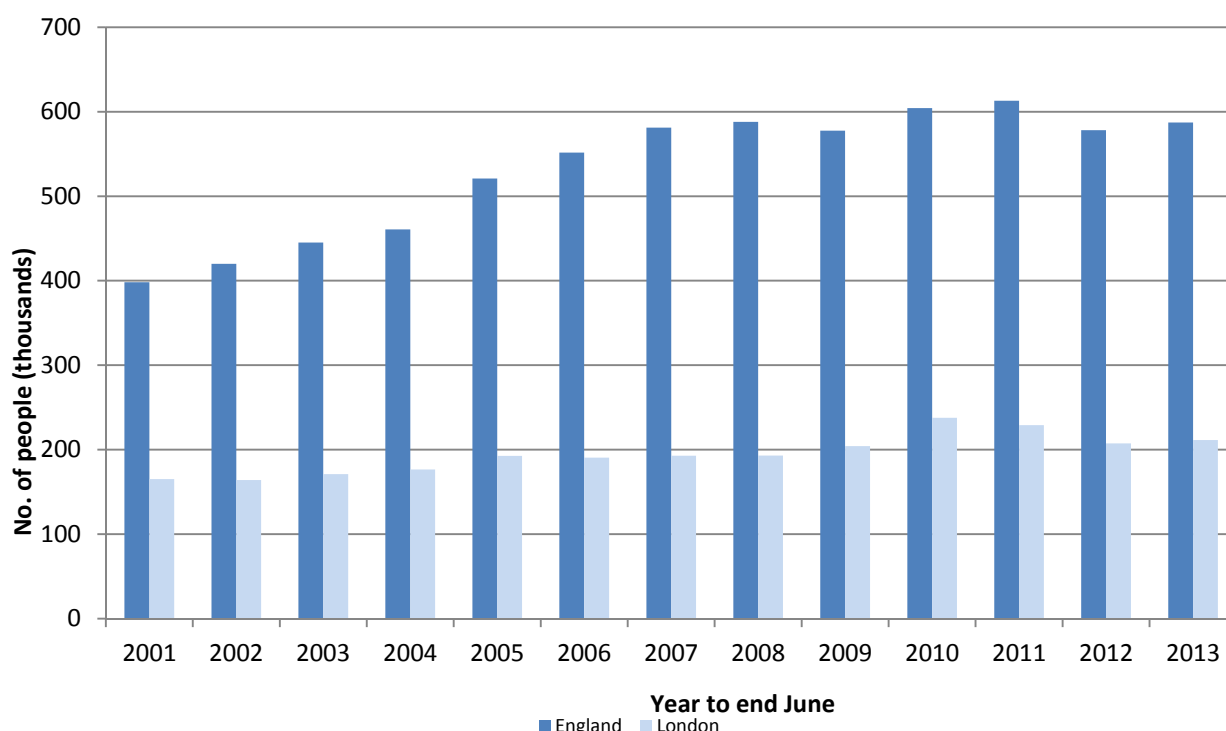
'Flag 4' data provides an indication of recent international in-migrants to an area through registrations with a GP. The data is released annually for both England and London and covers the period July to June of each year.

Figure 16 shows the number of 'Flag 4' registrations between 2001 and 2013 for both London and England. Overall, the numbers show that registrations in England have been rising since 2001 with the exceptions of a slight decline in both 2009 and 2012. In 2013, the number of 'Flag 4' registrations in England once again rose taking the total number of 'Flag 4' registrations to 587 thousand. This is comparable to 2008 levels. Registrations remain below the high of 613 thousand seen in 2011.

London registrations have also shown a rising trend peaking at nearly 238 thousand in 2010. However, unlike England registrations, those for London have continued to fall since this peak reaching 207 thousand in 2012; a drop of 22 thousand from the previous year.

In 2013, the number of registrations in London rose by just over four thousand to reach 211 thousand. London's percentage share of registrations has remained steady in 2013 at around 36 per cent, considerably lower than the high of 41.5 per cent in 2001.

Figure 16: 'Flag 4' registrations, London and England, 12-month periods ending June of year given, thousands



Source: 'Flag 4' GP registrations year ending June, ONS/PRDS

Short-term international migration

Most recent update: Year ending June 2013 (released May 2015).

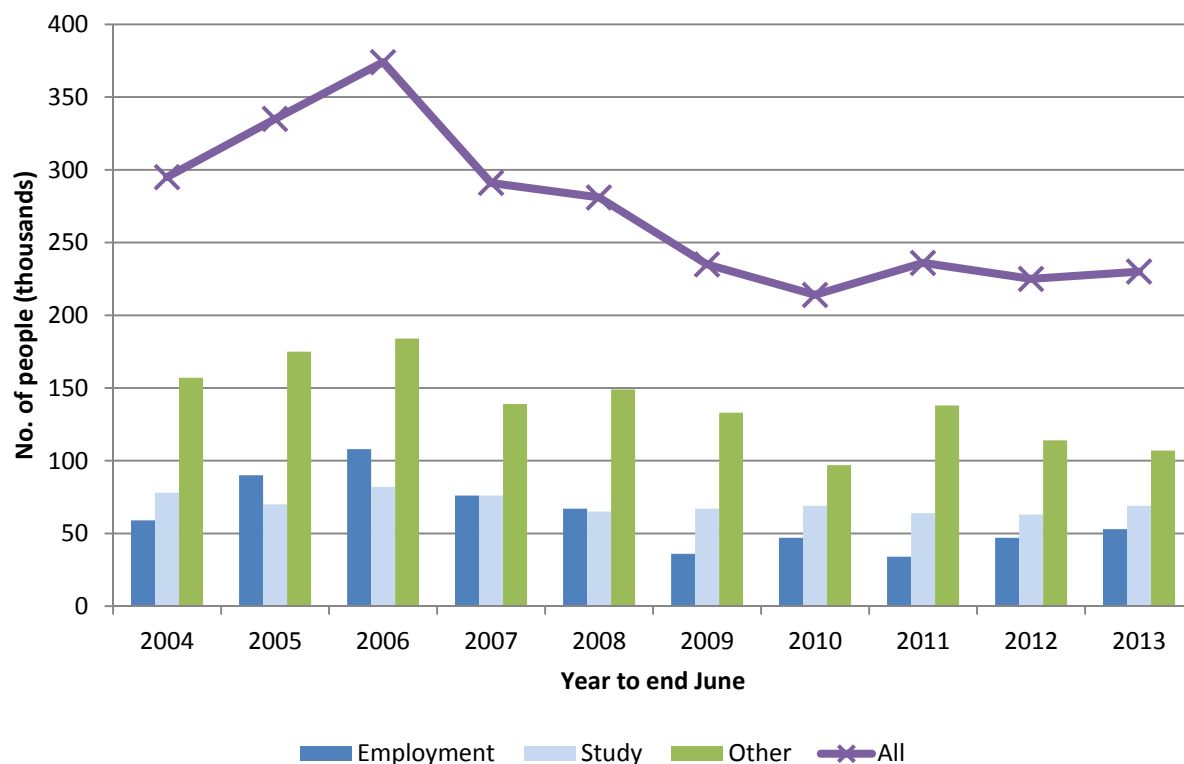
Next update: Year ending June 2014 (released May 2016).

Short-term international migration (stays of less than 12 months) data are released annually for England & Wales for the period ending June of each year. The number migrating to the UK for between three and 12 months has been declining since 2006 (a high of 374 thousand) and has remained relatively stable over the past three years at around 230 thousand.

The number migrating for employment rose year-on-year between 2004 and 2006 (Figure 17). It then fell for three consecutive years to 36 thousand before fluctuating. The latest figures released for 2013 show that the number who migrated for employment purposes rose for a second year running; an increase of six thousand taking the total to 53 thousand.

The number migrating for study has fluctuated since the late 2000s and in 2013 also increased by six thousand to be on par with the number seen in 2010 of 69 thousand. It is the 'other' category which makes up the largest group of short-term migrants to the UK. This encompasses those coming for 'other employment' reasons such as business trips and those visiting for reasons such as holidays, visiting family and for religious reasons.

Figure 17: Short-term migrants (3-12 months) inflows by reason, England & Wales, 12-month periods ending June of year given, thousands



Source: Short-term migration estimates year ending June, ONS

Key terms and definitions

Internal migration

Estimates of migration within England & Wales are mainly based on patient re-registrations (National Health Service Central Register [NHSCR]) and are released in cumulative 12-month periods. This tracks people's moves every time they re-register with a GP. However, not everyone will register with a GP every time they move. Certain groups of people are more likely to register (such as children and the older population) particularly those with a need for routine medical care and advice. The data also includes a student adjustment based on HESA (Higher Education Statistics Agency) data.

Long-Term International Migration (LTIM)

This is considered the most comprehensive estimate of international long-term migration. It is based on the IPS with adjustments made to take into account "*asylum seekers, migration to and from Northern Ireland and people whose length of stay changes from their original intentions*".

Interpolated LTIM data

Figures for years ending March and September for each year in the period to December 2009 have been interpolated by ONS. They are provided solely as an indication and should not be used.

Citizenship

The member countries of the European Union have altered over the period covered by the tables and charts. Estimates by citizenship are based upon membership of the relevant groups at the time of migration.

Reason for migration

Respondents are asked to identify their main reason for migration. The data included in this workbook excludes those who did not state a reason for their migration. "No reason stated" includes non-responses and the non-specific responses "Emigrating/Immigrating" and "Returning home to live". The reason for emigrating can be different to the original reason for immigrating to the country and consequently it is not possible to directly compare the data.

International Passenger Survey (IPS)

This is a sample survey of passengers arriving and departing from UK airports, seaports and the Channel Tunnel. ONS releases provisional IPS data so as to provide an indication of any changes in international migration prior to the release of LTIM data. This is because data from outside sources, such as asylum seeker data, which are used in the LTIM estimates are not available until a later date.

EU (European Union)

The EU in this sense comprises the EU15 up to 2003, the EU25 from 2004 to 2006, the EU27 from 2007 to 2013, and the EU28 from 2013 onwards. It is therefore not possible to directly compare the figures as the size of the EU has grown over the time period to take into account new member states. The EU most recently grew in size to 28 countries when Croatia became a member state in July 2013.

EU2

The EU2 comprises Bulgaria and Romania which joined the EU in 2007. They were formerly known as the A2 (Accession 2). Temporary work restrictions for citizens of the EU2 came to an end in January 2014.

EU8

The EU8 is made up of eight countries which joined the EU in 2004 alongside Cyprus and Malta. The EU8 is comprised of Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia. They were formerly known as the A8 (Accession 8).

EU15

The EU15 is made up of the 15 countries which were members of the EU in 2003. These encompass: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Republic of Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Sweden and UK.

EU25

The EU25 includes all countries that are part of the EU15 and the EU8 as well as Malta and Cyprus.

EU27

The EU27 comprises the EU25 plus the EU2.

EU28

The EU28 is the current grouping and includes all current 27 member states (including the UK). It is made up of the EU25 plus the EU2 plus Croatia who joined in July 2013.

National Insurance Numbers (NINOs)

A National Insurance Number (NINo) is necessary in order to be able to work in the UK and therefore the allocation of new NINos to overseas nationals by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) has become a useful way of monitoring the flow of people coming to the UK for work. The data, rounded to the nearest ten, are available for financial years for all local authorities in the UK by a full range of origin countries.

'Flag 4' GP registrations

'Flag 4s' are codes within the Patient Register Data Service (PRDS) held by the NHS. The flag indicates someone who has registered with a GP in England & Wales but was previously living overseas. They provide an indication of recent international in-migrants to an area.

Short-term migration

A short-term migrant is defined by the ONS as "*someone who changes their country of residence for between 1 and 12 months*" although data is also released for those who migrate for between 3 and 12 months. The data analysed covers short-term international migration only.

Short-term migration reasons:

Employment: migrants going to a definite new job which includes au pairs and those seeking a job.

Study: migrants arriving to attend formal study courses, includes both further and higher education.

Other employment: migrants visiting on business for their existing employer.

Other: migrants visiting for other reasons, e.g. holiday, visiting friends and relatives, medical treatment, religious pilgrimage.