

Update 08-2013

Migration Indicators: June 2013

June 2013

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 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.

The most recent release of data from the ONS was on 23 May 2013. The next scheduled release of data is 29 August 2013.

This *Update* covers the following:

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

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.

Internal migration

Most recent update: *Year ending September 2011 (released May 2012).*

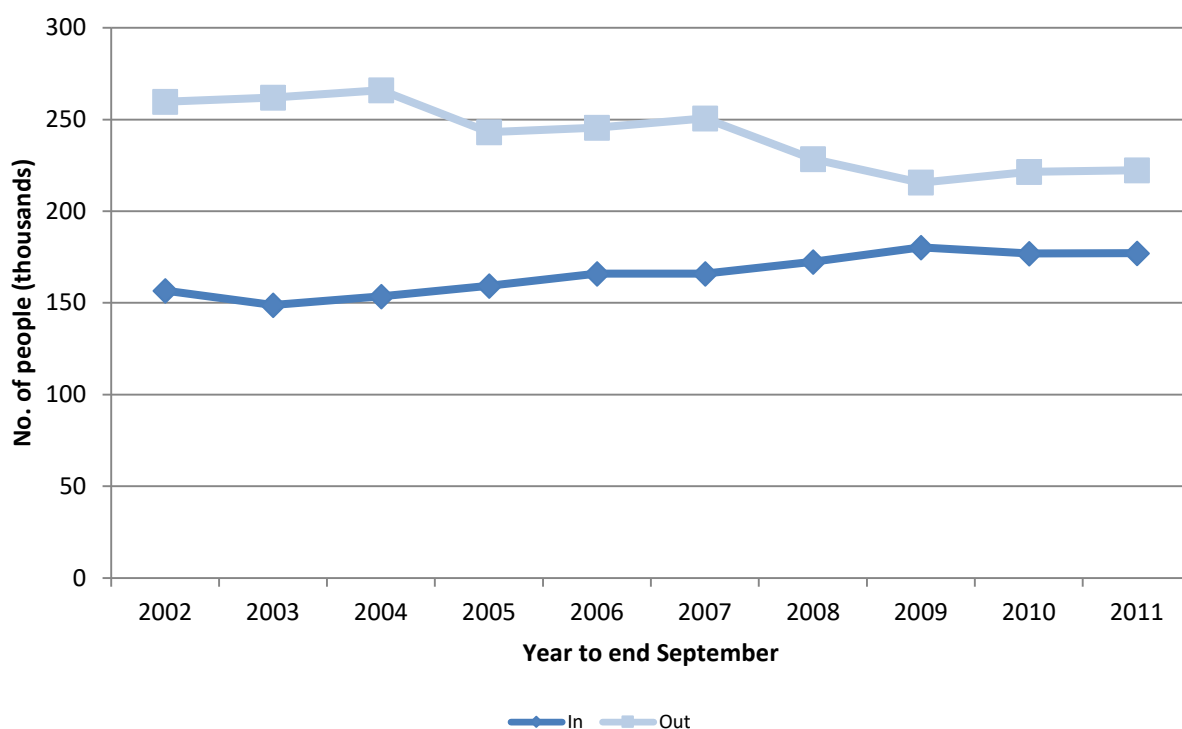
Next update: *Year ending June 2012 (released late 2013).*

The most recent release of data was for the year ending September 2011. The ONS have confirmed that this data, released May 2012, will be the last quarterly release and data will now be released annually for the period July to June.

Figure 1 shows that both the number of inflows and outflows to/from London for 2011 remained broadly similar to the two preceding years at around 180 thousand and 220 thousand respectively. Overall, inflows have risen from a low of 149 thousand in 2003 whereas outflows show the opposite trend. These were at a high of 266 thousand in 2004 and have since declined by over 40 thousand.

London inflows as a percentage of UK total flows have remained relatively constant for the past three years at around 15 per cent and are well above the low of less than 12 per cent for 2003. London outflows however continue to be in the region of about 20 per cent of total UK flows (2002 to 2011).

Figure 1: Internal (UK) migration, London, 12-month periods ending September of year given, thousands



Source: NHSCR moves within the UK and Isle of Man year ending September 2011, ONS/PRDS

International migration

Most recent update: *Year ending September 2012 (released May 2013).*

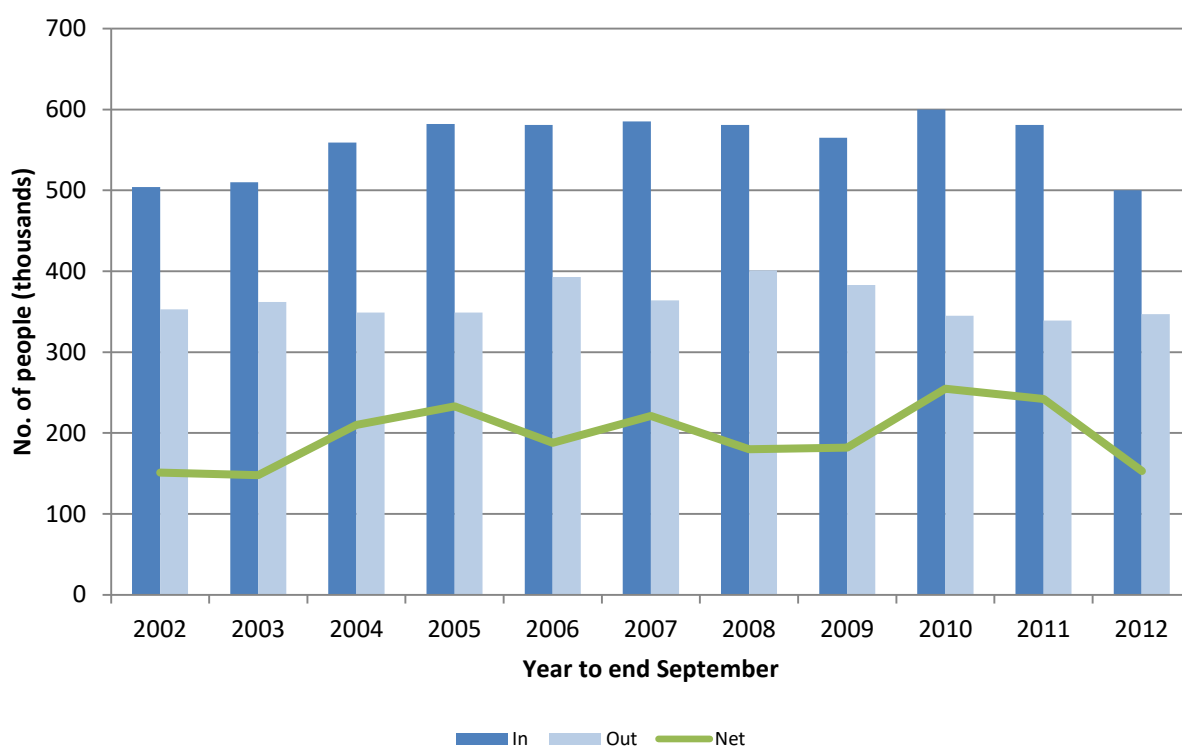
Next update: *Year ending December 2012 (released August 2013).*

In comparison to internal migration which has seen changes in the hundreds, the numbers of people migrating internationally is in the thousands highlighting the difference in scale of the two.

Long-Term International Migration (LTIM)

Figure 2 shows that inflows into the UK continued to fall from a high in 2010 of 600 thousand to reach some 500 thousand, a drop of over 80 thousand when compared to the same time period in 2011, and similar to 2002 levels. Outflows rose slightly to 347 thousand; up by 8 thousand from the previous year. Net UK migration fell to its lowest level; similar to the amount of net migration in the early 2000s.

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



Source: Long Term International Migration (LTIM) estimates year ending September 2012, ONS

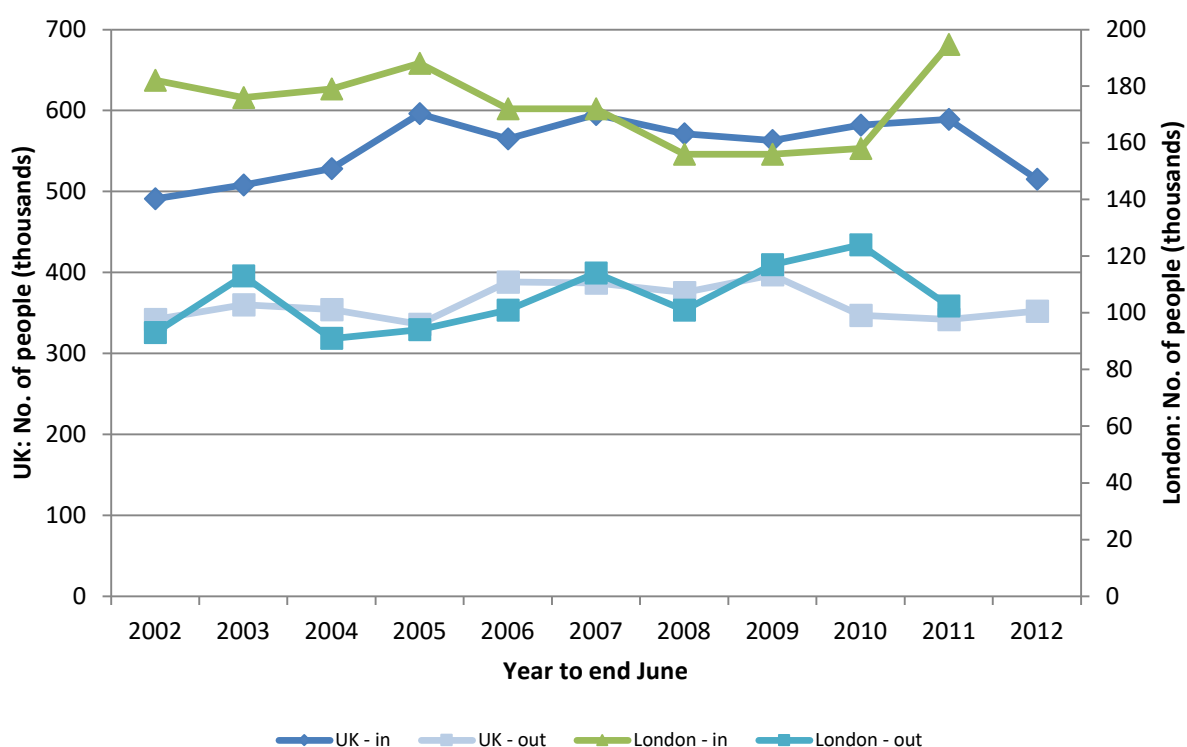
Figure 3 compares UK and London inflows and outflows. The data for London are for year ending June 2011 as this is the most recent data available. Consequently the UK data used for the comparison is also for year ending June. In 2011, UK inflows remained relatively stable compared to previous years at just below 600 thousand. London inflows however rose by 37 thousand in 2011 compared to 2010 to 195 thousand having been at about 150 thousand for the three preceding years.

Comparing UK and London outflows also shows different patterns. UK outflows have stayed at about 345 thousand for both 2010 and 2011 whereas London's outflows have dropped by 22 thousand between 2010 and 2011 to 102 thousand. Outflows for London are still above the low reached in 2004 of 91 thousand.

UK net flow for 2011 remains positive indicating that more people are moving to the UK than leaving. The UK saw its net flow rise by 12 thousand when compared to 2010; an increase itself of more than 80 thousand compared to 2009. Net flows for London are also positive and rose considerably from 34 thousand in 2010 to 92 thousand in 2011; a rise of 58 thousand. This is largely due to both an increase in inflows alongside a drop in outflows.

London's flows as a percentage of UK flows for 2011 rose from 27.1 per cent to 33.1 per cent for inflows and dropped from 35.7 per cent to 29.9 per cent for outflows. However, it is net flow which saw the largest rise; an increase from 14.5 per cent to 37.7 per cent.

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



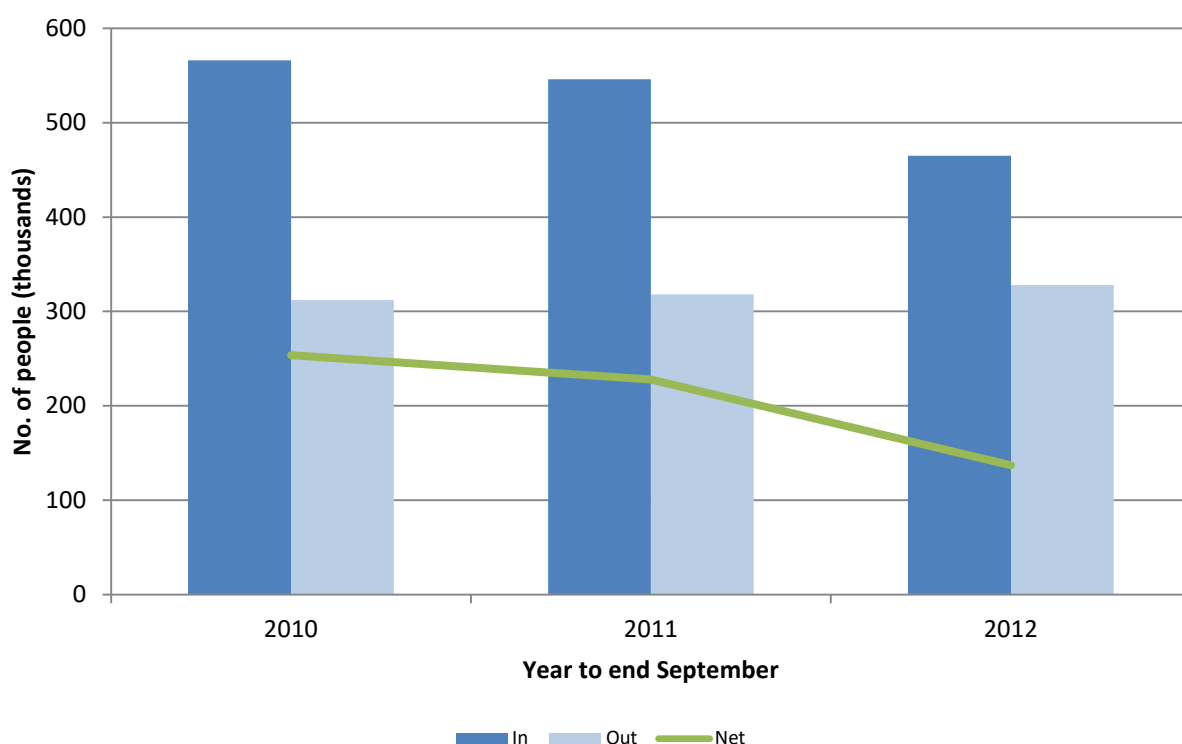
Source: Long Term International Migration (LTIM) estimates years ending June 2011 and 2012, ONS

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 for 2012 show in-migration has fallen by just over 80 thousand people from the previous year to 465 thousand (Figure 4). Outflows on the other hand have continued to rise reaching nearly 330 thousand; up by 10 thousand compared to 2011. As a result net inflow has dropped considerably to less than 140 thousand.

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

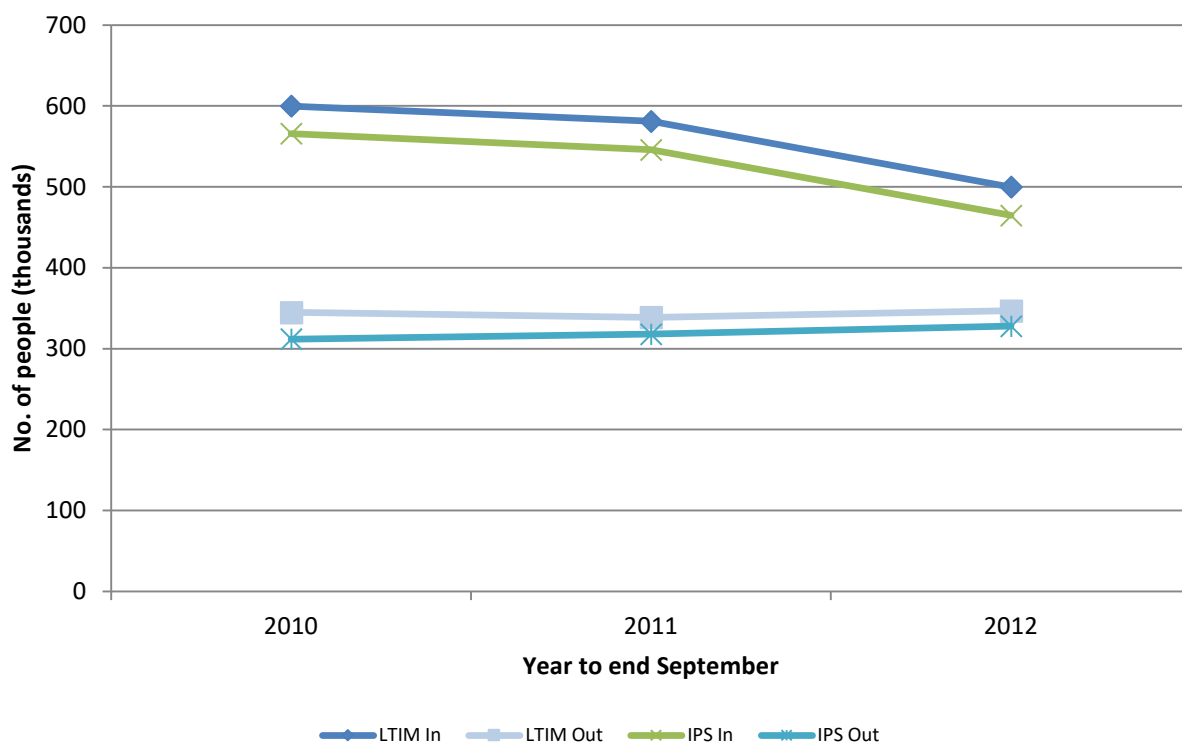


Source: International Passenger Survey (IPS) estimates year ending September 2012, ONS

Comparison of LTIM and IPS

Figure 5 shows in and out-migration for both LTIM and IPS data between 2010 and 2012. 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 the overall difference being the greatest in 2010.

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

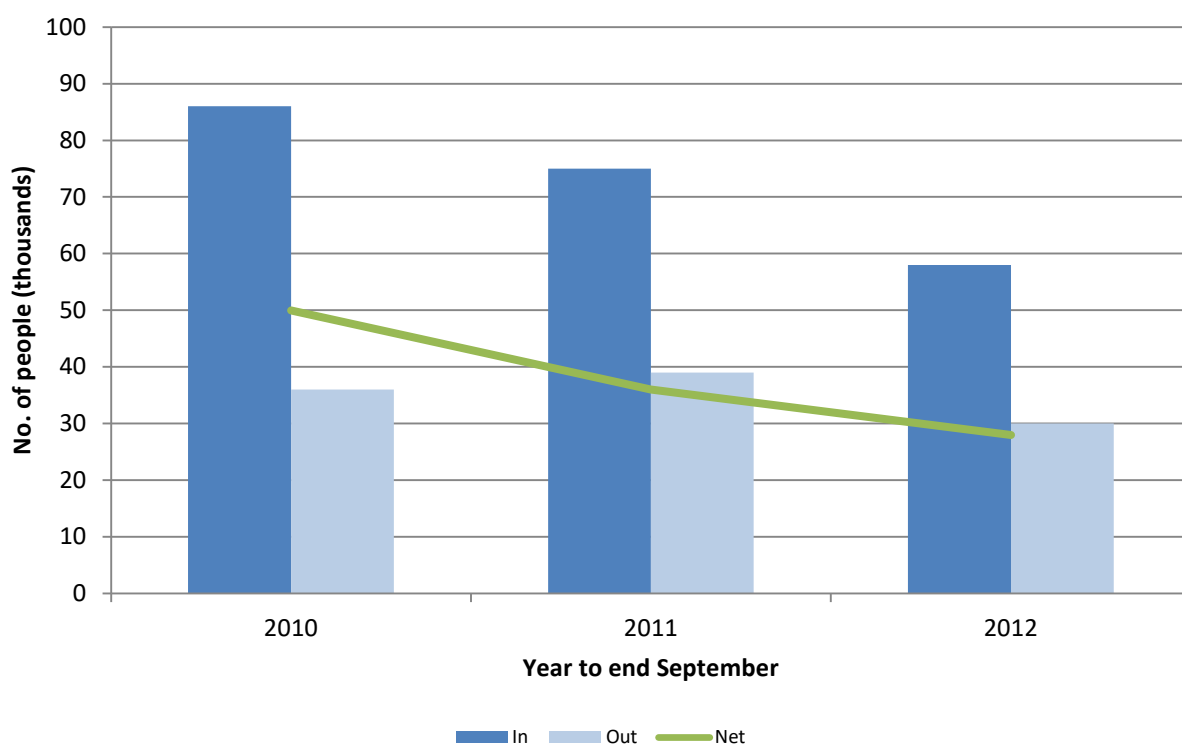


Sources: Long Term International Migration (LTIM) and International Passenger Survey (IPS) estimates year ending September 2012, ONS

EU8 citizens

Figure 6 shows that the number of EU8¹ citizens migrating into the UK each year since 2010 has fallen year on year from 86 thousand people to only 58 thousand in 2012. No data for year ending September is available before 2010. Outflows rose slightly in 2011 before dropping in 2012 to 30 thousand, some six thousand fewer than in 2010. Net migration as a result has nearly halved to 28 thousand people although it remains positive with more EU8 citizens immigrating to the UK than leaving.

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



Source: Long Term International Migration (LTIM) estimates year ending September 2012, ONS

In 2010 over 47 per cent of migrants to the UK from the EU were from EU8 countries. This has since dropped to just over 39 per cent.

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

National Insurance Number (NINo) allocations

Most recent update: *Year ending March 2012 (released August 2012).*

Next update: *Year ending March 2013 (released August 2013).*

All NINo data is for the 12 months ending March of the year given. The total number of NINo registrations in the UK fell in 2012 by more than 100 thousand to 600.8 thousand compared with the previous year. Although this is one of the lowest numbers of NINo allocations in recent years, it is significantly higher than in the early 2000s; in 2003 for example there were only 346.2 thousand registrations.

Registrations in London in 2012 also fell compared with 2011 by more than 51 thousand to around 250 thousand. This is very similar to 2010 levels and, as was the case with UK registrations, a much higher number than in the early 2000s.

Enlargement of the EU in 2004 resulted in much higher numbers of NINo registrations in both the UK and London with the UK experiencing a rise of more than 50 per cent in the number of NINo registrations in 2006 compared to 2005. The same trend was also observed in London with a slightly lower rise of 39 per cent.

Figures 7 and 8 show the trends for EU8 and EU2² nationals. NINo registrations to EU8 nationals peaked in 2007 with 309 thousand registrations in the UK of which 64.6 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 168.9 thousand NINo registrations to EU8 nationals in the UK of which 39.5 thousand (23.4 per cent) were in London.

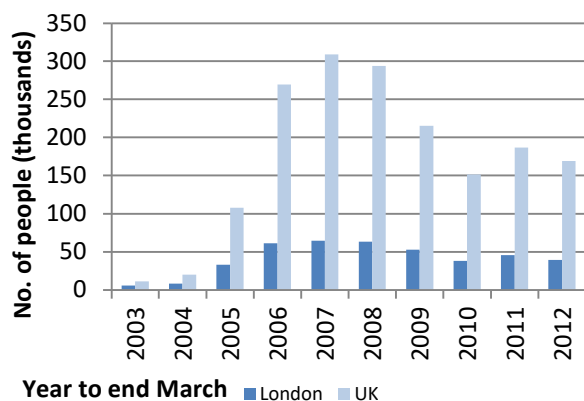
Registrations of EU2 nationals increased in 2008 the year following accession of these countries to the EU. In London the number of NINo registrations to EU2 nationals also peaked in the same year at 23.4 thousand registrations accounting for 63.4 per cent of UK registrations. The number of registrations in London has since fallen to 16.3 thousand (2012) whereas the number of UK registrations has remained relatively stable resulting in London's proportion of registrations now accounting for only 45.8 per cent of UK registrations.

Figure 9 shows that the most registrations to nationals from overseas in 2012 were to those from EU accession countries³ accounting for 206.2 thousand registrations in the UK. This is however a considerable drop from a peak of 332.4 thousand registrations in 2008. Registrations from Asian and Middle Eastern nationals (149.6 thousand) and EU (excluding EU accession countries) nationals (143.8 thousand) were the next highest. All regions saw a drop in the number of NINo registrations to their nationals during the most recent period (2012) with the exception of EU (excluding EU accession countries) nationals.

² The EU2 consists of Bulgaria and Romania.

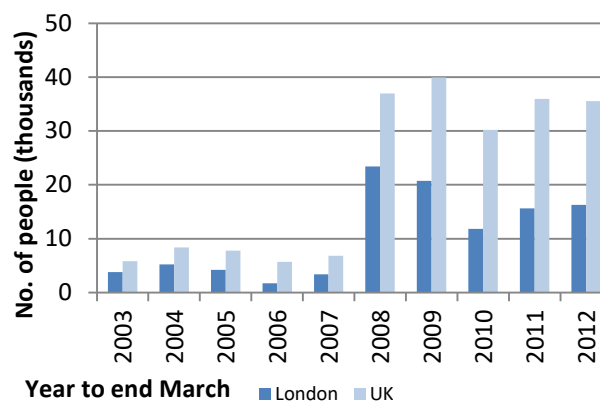
³ In this instance EU Accession countries refers to the EU8, the EU2, Malta and Cyprus.

Figure 7: National Insurance Number allocations to EU8 nationals, London and UK, 12-month periods ending March of year given, thousands



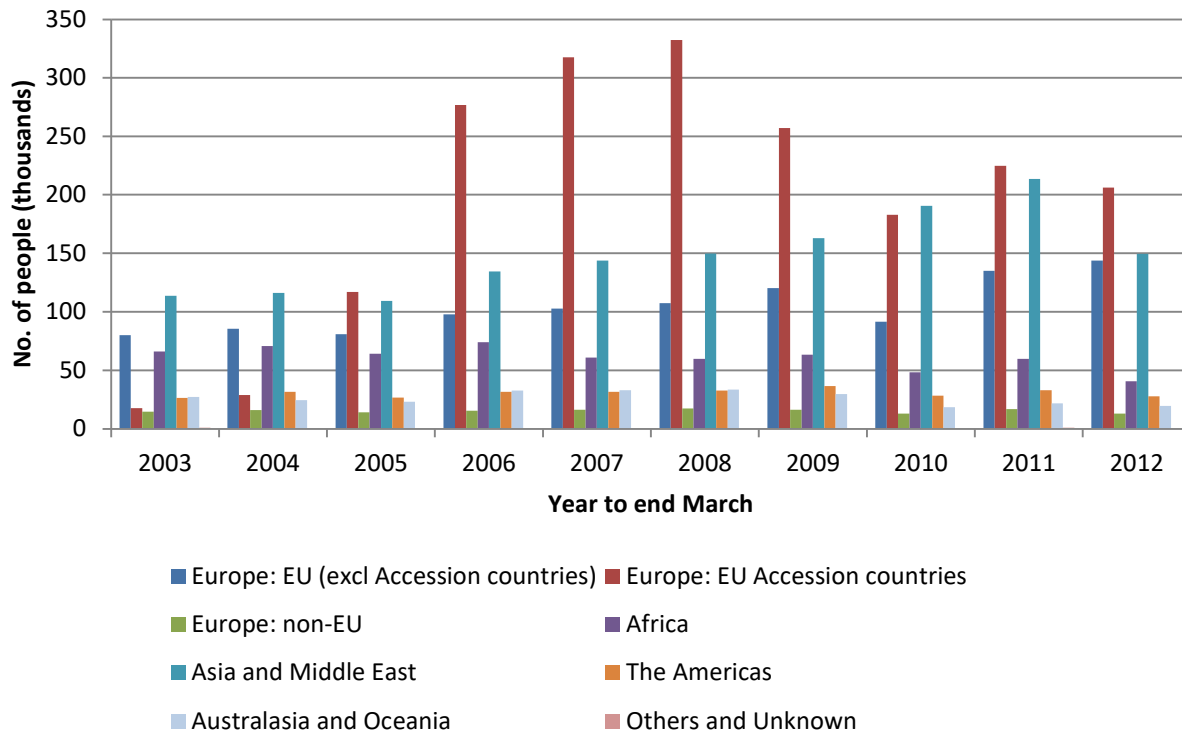
Source: NINo registrations to adult overseas nationals entering the UK year ending March 2012, DWP

Figure 8: National Insurance Number allocations to EU2 nationals, London and UK, 12-month periods ending March of year given, thousands



Source: NINo registrations to adult overseas nationals entering the UK year ending March 2012, DWP

Figure 9: National Insurance Number allocations by geographical area, UK, 12-month periods ending March of year given, thousands



Source: NINo registrations to adult overseas nationals entering the UK year ending March 2012, DWP

'Flag 4' GP registrations

Most recent update: *Year ending June 2011 (released August 2012).*

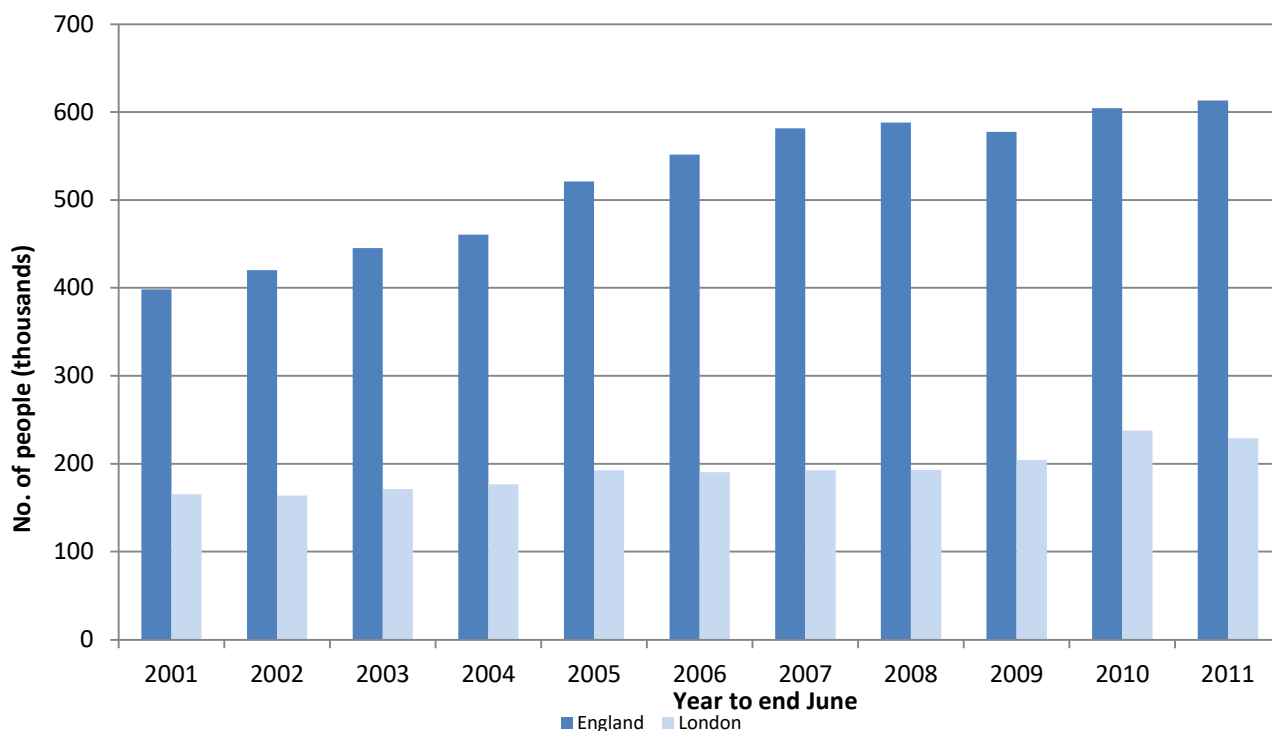
Next update: *Year ending June 2012 (released August 2013).*

'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 10 shows the number of 'Flag 4' registrations between 2001 and 2011 for both London and England. Overall, the numbers show that registrations in England have been rising since 2001 with the exception of a slight decline in 2009. There was an increase of nearly nine thousand registrations between 2010 and 2011 taking the total number of 'Flag 4' registrations up to 613 thousand (2011). This is nearly 215 thousand higher than in 2001.

London registrations have also shown a rising trend peaking at nearly 238 thousand in 2010. However, unlike England registrations, those for London fell in 2011 by 8.7 thousand to 229 thousand, meaning London's percentage share of registrations has fallen to 37.4 per cent from 39.3 per cent the preceding year and a high of 41.5 per cent in 2001.

Figure 10: 'Flag 4' registrations, London and England, 12-month periods ending June of year given, thousands



Source: 'Flag 4' GP registrations year ending June 2011, ONS/PRDS

Short-term international migration

Most recent update: *Year ending June 2011 (released May 2013).*

Next update: *Year ending June 2012 (released May 2014).*

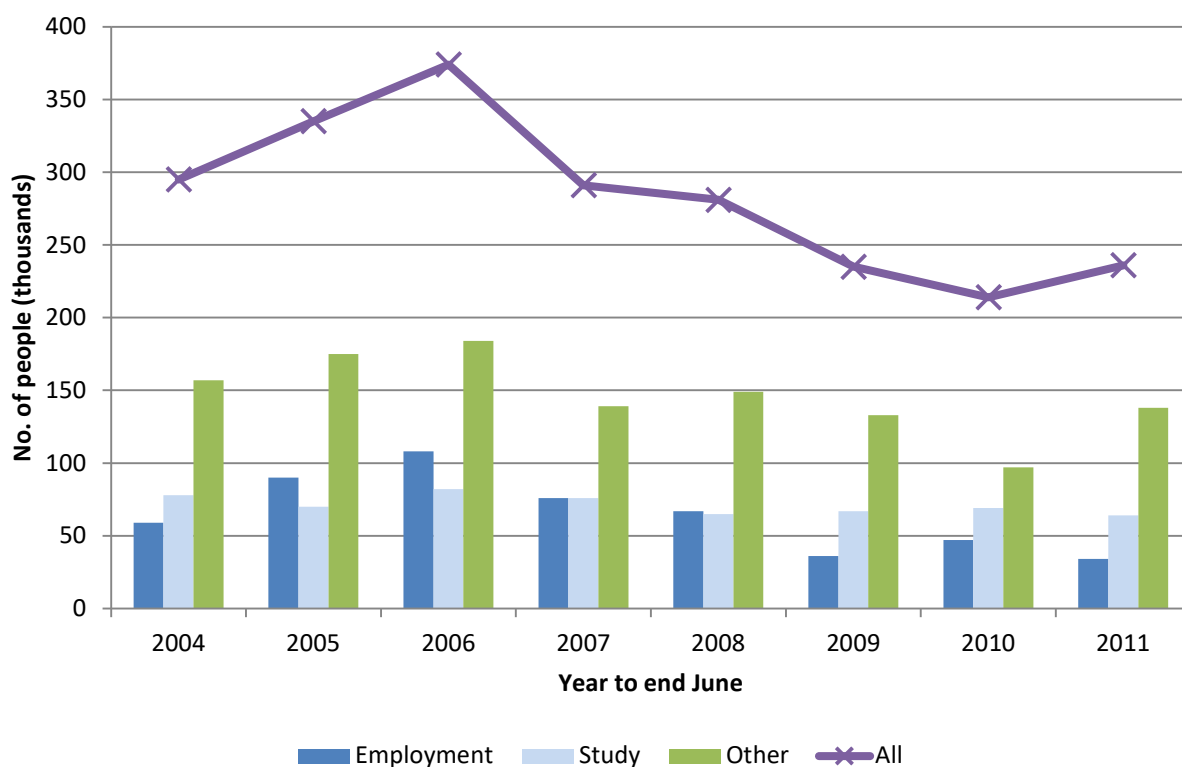
Short-term international migration (stays of less than 12 months) data is released annually for England & Wales for the period ending June of each year. The number migrating for employment rose year-on-year between 2004 and 2006 (Figure 11). It then fell for three consecutive years to 36 thousand before rising temporarily. The latest figures released for 2011 show that the number who migrated for employment purposes fell again to a low of 34 thousand.

The number migrating for study has also fallen but by less and has generally fluctuated around 70 thousand since 2004. It peaked at 82 thousand in 2006 and fell to a low of 64 thousand in 2011.

Short-term international migration largely consists of those migrating for reasons other than employment or study. For example, for 2011, 58.5 per cent of all short-term migrants gave a reason which was neither employment nor study. 'Other' includes those migrating for 'other employment' (those visiting an existing employer) and 'other' reasons (see Key Terms and Definitions at the end of this *Update*).

In total, 236 thousand people migrated to England & Wales for between 3 and 12 months in 2011. This is up from 214 thousand people for the year before but is still considerably below the peak of 374 thousand in 2006.

Figure 11: 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 2011, ONS

Key terms and definitions

Internal migration

Estimates of migration within the UK 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.

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.

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.

EU2

The EU2 comprises Bulgaria and Romania which are the latest two countries to have joined the EU in 2007. They were formerly known as the A2 (Accession 2).

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, 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 is the current grouping and includes all current 27 member states (including the UK). It is made up of the EU25 plus Bulgaria and Romania which joined the EU in 2007.

EU (European Union)

The EU in this sense comprises the EU15 up to 2003, the EU25 from 2004 to 2006, and the EU27 from 2007 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 will increase to 28 countries from July 2013 when Croatia becomes a member.

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.