Country Report United Kingdom
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January 2010
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A. Key institutions involved in data collection

A.1. Office of National Statistics

Census
The Office for National Statistics (ONS) is responsible for the Census of Population in England and Wales, while censuses are conducted in Scotland and Northern Ireland by the General Register Office for Scotland (GROS) and the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA) respectively. As in most countries, the Census of population provides the most comprehensive and accurate data on the demographic and labour force characteristics, socio-economic circumstances and the housing stock of every individual in the country. Conducted every ten years (the latest was in 2001), the Census provides an enumeration of the entire population. Data on stocks of the foreign-born population in the UK can be extracted from the Census and split into various categories including age, sex, occupation and level of education. Some information is disaggregated by ethnic groups (ethnicity recorded since 1991). Nationality has not been collected since 1961. There are however plans to include a question on nationality in the 2011 Census. Although the Census is mostly used to obtain data on stocks, it can also provide some data on flows. Data on immigration flows are obtained from the question on place of residence (including country outside the UK) one year ago (it records moves in one-year only, e.g. 2000/1 for the latest). The Census provides a snapshot view of international migration flows. Census data are extremely valuable because they are available at very small area levels.

Labour Force Survey
The LFS is another important source of information on population stocks in the UK. It is a continuous quarterly sample survey covering persons residing in private households and in NHS accommodation in the UK but excludes most communal establishments (such as hostels and caravan parks). Its main purpose is to provide information on the UK labour market. The questionnaire design, sample selection, and interviewing are carried out by the Social and Vital Statistics Division of the Office for National Statistics (ONS) on behalf of the Statistical Outputs Group of the ONS. The ONS publishes full UK LFS results although the fieldwork is carried out by different organisations in Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The LFS can also be used to measure immigration flows and is used by the ONS to better estimate the distribution of in-migrants into the UK. Key information on the stock of migrants in the economy is obtained from the LFS, including age, sex, country of birth, nationality, employment/unemployment activity, occupation, sector, professional category and ethnicity. Respondents born outside the UK are asked for their year of entry to the UK. It is worth noting that the LFS will be integrated in the Integrated Household Survey (IHS) from 2008, together with other household surveys. Questions on the address of residence one year and three months ago should then be asked to all respondents over the whole year, and during spring quarter only.

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1 The ONS is however currently looking at how to cover communal establishments, either as part of the LFS, or as a separate stand-alone survey.
A.2 Home Office

**Borders and Immigration Agency (BIA)**

The BIA records immigration of persons subject to immigration control in the UK, and therefore excludes EU/EEA nationals and Commonwealth citizens (including British citizens who commonly make up around 20% of inflows\(^2\)) who have a right to reside in the UK. The main source of international migration data in the UK is the International Passenger Survey (IPS). Statistical data publication and supply of asylum applications, decisions and returns data to EUROSTAT is the responsibility of Immigration Research and Statistics (IRS), part of the BIA's Research Development and Statistics Directorate (RDS) which is embedded within IND.

The main administrative database maintained and operated by BIA is the Casework Information Database (CID). It is made of different subsets containing records of individual cases relating to asylum procedures, extensions to leave to remain and permanent settlement, and acquisition of citizenship. These contain information relating to a person's claim and how it is progressing through the system, as well as personal information on the applicant. This information is entered by the caseworker who processed the application form or undertook the interview with the immigrant. It is updated as the claim progresses through to initial decision and any subsequent appeals. IRS uses a dataset for research and analysis purpose that is a range of subsets extracted from the administrative database.

B. Historical evolution of the national data collection system/data collection practices and policies on data collection

There is no central civil registration of population in the UK and, therefore, there is no systematic count of all the people entering or leaving the UK. Registrar’s offices keep registers of births, marriages and deaths at the local level (which allows the production of high quality figures on natural change) but there is no centralisation of civil registration.

**Borders and Immigration Agency**

Following the reorganisation of the Home Office in 2006, the Border and Immigration Agency (BIA) was created in order to assume the responsibilities of the Immigration and Nationality Directorate (IND) for managing immigration control in the UK. The data areas covered by the BIA’s different systems can be summarised using the BIA terminology as follows:

- **Borders**, i.e. passengers given leave to enter the UK (by purpose of journey), and passengers refused entry at port and subsequently removed (by nationality, excluding EEA nationals and Switzerland). These statistics are obtained using the controlled landings compiled from landing cards collected from all ports and electronic gate transits (Iris Recognition Immigration System - IRIS pilot scheme), the numbers on refugees and

\(^2\) Jim Newman, ONS
exceptional leave together with the refusals and removals based on administrative data collated from the BIA CID.

- **Asylum**: asylum data are based on administrative data collated from the BIA CID combined with data on appeals derived from data supplied by the Asylum and Immigration Tribunal (AIT).

- **Asylum Support**: Information based on administrative data collated from the BIA Asylum Support System (ASYS).

- **Managed Migration**: *extensions and settlement* which covers the grants and refusals of extensions of leave to remain and settlement in the UK (by category and nationality). These statistics are based on administrative data collated from the BIA CID combined with data on settlement on arrival derived from Landing Cards.

- **Managed Migration European residence documents** which cover the issue and refusal of residence documentation (excluding Worker Registration Scheme) to EEA nationals and their family members (by geographical region and year). These statistics are based on administrative data collated from the BIA CID.

- **Enforcement and Compliance** covers the persons in or leaving detention in the UK, as well as persons removed from the UK and those subject to enforcement action (by type of removal and nationality). These statistics are based on data collated from the BIA CID and other administrative data sources.

- **Managed Migration citizenship** statistics on the persons granted British citizenship, which are based on administrative data collated from the BIA Case Information Database.

Data are also collected from landing cards. All non-EEA nationals seeking to enter the UK from outside the common travel area (UK, the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man and the Republic of Ireland) are required to complete a landing card on arrival at a point of entry to the UK. The Home Office currently enters data from landing cards into a database. This provides valuable information on numbers of non-EU/EEA persons entering the country and their nationality, but only a limited number of variables are recorded at the moment. An electronic system (e Borders) is being developed and implemented at ports and will provide a valuable IT-based source for landing cards information.

All other data are input by caseworkers and, in theory, should be associated with a single person record. There is the issue that the parts of the system dealing with the different areas of business came on line at different times (2000 for asylum, 2002 for settlement & nationality and 2003 for enforcement) and that the system has not had historic data migrated to it, making cohort analysis within the database ineffective. There are also problems with duplicate persons being entered when they present with different name spellings or other biographic details.
Visas
UKvisas is the Directorate responsible for entry clearance work overseas. It was formed in June 2000 as a joint Foreign & Commonwealth Office (FCO) and Home Office initiative. The former is responsible for entry clearance operation overseas and the latter for immigration policy.

Information on Visas is recorded in the ‘UKvisas Central Reference System’. There is no direct link between the UKvisas database and other Home Office databases. There are different types of entry clearance. It is possible to distinguish between the settlement and non-settlement applications. The latter represents about 96% of the total number of applications and covers the following endorsement categories: EEA Family Permits, Visitors (including Family Visits), Student, Working Holiday Makers, Work Permits, and ‘other’ categories.

Data collected from the Visa application forms include a large range of socio-demographic information on the applicant (i.e. name, age, gender, date and place of birth, nationality, and marital status) as well as the type and duration of the visa applied for and the status/outcome of application, and this information should be recorded onto the CRS.

The most useful local data from the Home Office is likely to be information on the Seasonal Agriculture Workers Scheme (SAWS), but only for some geographical areas. For decades, this scheme had granted seasonal work permits to non-EU citizens to take on employment on farms in the United Kingdom. It is worth noting that from 1 January 2008, the scheme applies to Romanian and Bulgarian nationals only (it was opened to non-EU nationals before that date) and will be entirely phased out by 2010.

National Health Service (NHS) - National Health Service Central Register (NHSCR)
This register records every move relating to a change of address of NHS GP to another GP in a different health area in England and Wales. Until 1 April 2008, it was administered by the ONS but the NHSCR has now been transferred to the NHS Information Centre for Health and Social Care. The ONS uses these records as its main source of data to estimate internal migration within England and Wales, and receives data on cross-border moves between England & Wales and Scotland and Northern Ireland based on health registers in a reciprocal arrangement with the statistical offices of the devolved administrations (GROS and NISRA). The NHS Central Register also includes some data on new entrants to NHS from overseas.

Local Authorities - Electoral roll
Electoral rolls are collected and administered by local authorities. They are the basis for the definite list of UK voters. They can be a source of information on immigrants who are entitled to vote in the UK, i.e. people aged 18 years and above who are Commonwealth citizens or EU citizens. Electoral roll data are sold by private companies. Since 2001, people can however opt-out in order not to appear in the listings that can be passed on to third parties. There is also a problem of under-registration. Those listings are therefore not a comprehensive list of people.

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3 These different types of entry clearance are: Visa (for visa nationals, stateless persons and refugees); Entry clearance (for non-visa nationals and British nationals other than British citizens); Family permit (for dependants of EEA nationals).

4 Citizens from the nearly fifty Commonwealth countries can vote in general and local elections, while EU citizens can only vote in European parliamentary and local elections.
ER data have mainly been used as a source of data for measuring internal migration within the UK, but it also potentially provides an alternative indication of emigration from the UK based on overseas voter records (Greater London Authority, 2006).

*Office of National Statistics*

The major variables used in the UK when analysing the origin and ancestry of the population are the ‘country of birth’ and ‘ethnicity’. Unlike most EU countries, citizenship is not recorded in UK Censuses, although there are plans to include a citizenship question in the 2011 Census. Ethnic categories in the 2011 Census. The ONS produces international migration estimates at the UK level that are known as Total International Migration (TIM). These estimates are based on the UN definition of a long-term migrant (over 12 months) and are made using data from different sources:

- the International Passenger Survey (IPS)
- the Home Office administrative sources on asylum seekers
- the Irish Quarterly National Household Survey (QNHS) and Irish National Health Service Central Register (NHSCR).
- the Labour Force Survey (LFS)

A detailed consultation on user needs for ethnicity, national identity, language and religion information from the 2011 Census in England and Wales took place between December 2006 and March 2007. Users were asked whether the introduction of new ethnic categories such as ‘Black British’, ‘Arab’ or ‘Gypsy/Romany/Irish Traveller’ would help provide for their information needs. It also asked users their opinion with respect to the use of a new question on national identity to allow respondents to declare other types of ethno-cultural attachment, which are not covered by the ethnic question as it is conceived. The responses to this consultation, along with those from other users and stakeholders, will inform further question development. Question testing research with members of the public took place throughout 2007. ONS will then make recommendations in early 2008 on the questions for the 2009 Rehearsal and 2011 Census. These will then need to be agreed by Parliament in early 2010 (ONS website). The proposed topics to be included in the 2011 Census will be announced in a Government White Paper in autumn 2008 after further user consultation and testing, and the questions themselves approved by Parliament towards the end of 2009.

*General Household Survey (GHS)*  
The General Household Survey (GHS) is a continuous national survey of people living in private households, conducted on an annual basis by the ONS. It collects data on a range of core topics, covering household, family and individual information. The 2005-2006 GHS fieldwork is the first to be undertaken under a new longitudinal survey design. The new design is also accompanied by a slight change in substantive emphasis, which leans towards a greater range of questions on social exclusion. The changes to the GHS aim to satisfy new EU requirements to produce comparable data from a Survey of Income and Living Conditions (EU-SILC).  

An ‘ethnic group’ question was introduced in the Census for the first time in 1991 in England, Wales and Scotland (Northern Ireland introduced it in 2001). The number of ethnic group categories was increased in 2001 with the addition of new ‘White’ categories and ‘Mixed’ categories.
C. Key coordination and linking

C.1. Coordination

The UK is characterised by the lack of a single comprehensive system to measure in- and out-migration in the country as a whole and at sub-regional level. In the absence of such a system, there are a number of separate administrative systems that provide, directly or indirectly, information on migrant activity. The co-existence of sometimes different regional data collection systems in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland (e.g. 3 different censuses in England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland) also adds to the difficulty of establishing common tools and methodologies to measure migration and integration in the UK. There is however much coordination between the Office for National Statistics, the General Register Office for Scotland and the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency, to ensure consistency of outputs at the UK level, and the variables collected in the regional questionnaires are broadly the same with some minor differences (e.g. a question on religion has been included in the Northern Ireland Census questionnaire since its inception while it was only introduced as a voluntary question in 2001 in England and Wales - see Census narrative description).

C.2. Linking

There is a key person identifier across all sections of Casework Information Database, other than the Landing Card data, which is uploaded in bulk from information gleaned from the cards. Therefore, there is no systematic link between the landing card data for border control and that in CID for asylum. There is also no common identifier amongst the general population and so individuals are not linked across government departments systems. The ONS has an agreement with the NHS to access their data. NHS data are however not accessible to other parts. There is also currently no access to School Census data to anyone outside Education.

D. Concepts and definitions

D.1. Citizenship and country of birth

D.2. Foreign and UK background
D.3. Other important concepts

*International migrants*
The LFS covers foreign-nationality workers and foreign-born workers and allows identification of an international migrant as ‘someone who is living in this country at the time of the survey, having been resident outside the UK a year before’. This question is currently asked only every Spring quarter, together with a question on their place or country of residence three months earlier. Although an extremely useful source of data on labour migration in the UK, the National Insurance registrations cannot, for instance, be easily combined with other sources:

‘[Its] definition of migrants – overseas nationals allocated a NINo - differs from other published statistics in the area, such as International Migration statistics derived from the International Passenger Survey (IPS), and statistics on foreign workers derived from the Labour Force Survey (LFS). The IPS-based statistics define a migrant as someone who stays in the UK for at least a year following arrival. The LFS defines a foreign worker as someone who works but has foreign citizenship, and a foreign-born worker as anyone born outside of the UK, including British citizens. The various definitions of migrants mean the data sources may have different numbers of migrants for the same time period.’

From the IPS, immigrants and emigrants are recorded as those intending to live in the UK or move away from the UK for a year or more, having lived out of the UK (for immigrants) or in the UK (for emigrants) for at least a year. As the IPS measures the ‘intended’ length of stay which might differ from the ‘actual’, its estimates are then adjusted for those who switched from visitor/short term migrant to long-term migrant status (visitor switchers), and back the other way from migrant to non-migrant status (migrant switchers).

*Work permits*
All foreign nationals who are not EEA citizens and who wish to work in the UK must obtain a Work Permit. Therefore, the Work permits database is potentially a useful source of information on non EEA migrants. Data are available by employer's postcode for nationality, occupation, industry and gender from 1995. However, data are only provided for the ‘20 largest industries only’ and only on the number of people with current Work Permits.

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6 An estimate of the number of visitor switchers (i.e. people who arrive/leave as visitors but then decide to migrate) is calculated based on separate estimates for European Economic Area (EEA) and non-EEA citizens. With the accession of ten eastern European countries to the EEA in 2004, this has fed through to a noticeable rise in visitor switcher estimates over the last three years.
7 The ONS changed the methods used to estimate visitor switchers and migrant switchers in 2007. The details are reported here: [www.statistics.gov.uk/downloads/theme_population/Mig_vis_switching.pdf](http://www.statistics.gov.uk/downloads/theme_population/Mig_vis_switching.pdf).
8 However some categories of people are not required to obtain a work permit to work in the UK, such as permit-free categories (e.g. clergy), working holiday-makers (young Commonwealth citizens between 17 and 27) and dependents of work-permit holders.
Race Equality
The Race Relations Act of 1976 (amended in 2000) gives public authorities a general duty to promote race equality. This legal duty has led to an increasing need for knowledge on ethnicity and has therefore encouraged the collection of statistical data on ethnicity in order to monitor the impact of public services (including education, health, police) and policies on different ethnic groups.

Nationality and Citizenship
The concepts of ‘nationality’ and ‘citizenship’ are regarded as largely synonymous in the UK, as opposed to ‘national identity’ which is regarded as something different. The concept of nationality has not been much used in the UK for the measurement of integration because the nationality laws associated with Britain’s former colonies are far too complex to be a useful criterion. It is furthermore of very limited use as an indicator for racism and discrimination as the immigration history in the UK means that most members of the ‘visible minorities’ are British citizens. For many years, the only statistics regularly available in the UK were based on people’s country of birth. This became increasingly less relevant when used on its own to specify ethnicity as subsequent generations were born within the UK, and as time goes on, measures including parents’ country of birth to indicate second generation migrants also become less useful.

Ethnicity
Ethnicity is a very subjective and multi-faceted concept and there is no consensus on what constitutes an ‘ethnic group’. It is therefore not surprising that the ethnic categories that have been used for official statistics in the UK have changed over time as a result of the evolution of society, policy needs and the perceptions of different concepts relating to race and ethnicity. The definition of ethnic classifications has had to evolve somehow in order to reflect these changes while remaining consistent enough in order to meet the need for comparability over time and between sources. Ethnic groups are usually presented in a self-identification question and it is crucial that the classifications reflect people’s sense of belonging. The ethnic grouping as it is usually recorded in the UK combines one or more of the following categories: country of birth of individual and/or parents, colour (White, Black British), national/geographical origin (Indian, Pakistani), racial group and religion. A ‘mixed’ category was added in the 2001 Census following research showing that such a category was deemed acceptable provided that an opportunity were given to record the relevant details as a written description.

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9 It is usually argued that different aspects define an individual’s ethnicity. These aspects include: the country of birth, nationality, language spoken at home, parents’ and own country of birth, skin colour, national geographical origin, racial group and religion.
E. Availability of data

E.1. Core demographic data on immigrants and migration control

E.1.a Population stocks and general demographic characteristics

The UK's data on population stocks are mostly derived from the Census which is run by the Office of National Statistics. Further details on stock data are included in the following section.

E.1.b Migration flows

Home Office
Workers Registration Scheme
The most important Home Office Scheme for the purpose of measuring migration is the Workers Registration Scheme (WRS) for A8 countries migrants. In 2004, the UK decided with the Republic of Ireland and Sweden to open its borders to migrants from the new accessing countries. It then put in place transitional measures to regulate access to the labour market (and also restrict access to welfare benefits) by A8 countries nationals, via the WRS. A8 migrant workers register within one month of starting a new job and must register more than once if employed by more than one employer or if they change employer. Registration is no longer required after working for at least 12 months.

The WRS is the main source of data on in-migration from the new Member States and provides rather detailed socio-economic data on these populations (including age, gender, nationality, industry, occupation). There are however issues around the accuracy of the statistics derived from this scheme. Since there is no de-registration process, it is indeed impossible to know the number of people who have left the country and data can lead to overestimation of the number of migrant workers at national and local level. Furthermore, this scheme is for employees and those who are self-employed are not covered. Additional limitations relate to the uncertain level of under-registration, the limited information on length of stay and secondary migration within or outside the UK and the use of non-standard industry and occupation categories.

Office of National Statistics
The ONS is also responsible for conducting surveys that provide important migration data. The most important ones are the International Passenger Survey (IPS) (used by the ONS to produce its Total International Migration (TIM) estimates) and the above-mentioned Labour Force Survey (LFS) (which provides migration data on flows and stocks and is a prime source of information to measure integration in the labour market).

10 “A8 countries” refer to the Czech Republic, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Hungary, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia. Absolutely all restrictions were lifted for the two other new members – Malta and Cyprus – because of the low risk these countries represented in terms of immigration considering their small populations.

11 See methodology of the TIM estimates in section 4
International Passenger Survey (IPS)
The International Passenger Survey (IPS) is the main source of information on in- and out-migration to the UK. This continuous survey collects information from passengers arriving at and departing from the principal air, sea and the Channel Tunnel routes between the UK and countries outside the British Isles. The main purpose is to collect information on expenditures for the travel account of the balance of payment, on tourism and on international migration. Roughly 250,000 passengers are interviewed each year. Around one per cent of them are identified as long term migrants (according to the UN definition).

<table>
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<th>Stocks</th>
<th>Nationality/Citizenship</th>
<th>Country of Birth</th>
<th>Year of Immigration</th>
<th>Country of Previous/Next Residence</th>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Age/DOB</th>
<th>Duration of Stay</th>
<th>Purpose of Stay</th>
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<tr>
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<td>-</td>
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<td>? (countr-y of applic)</td>
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<td>-</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### E.1.c Residence permits

In the UK a Residence Permit is also known as leave to remain.

### E.1.d Acquisition and loss of citizenship

### E.1.e Asylum seekers and refugees

### E.1.f Irregular migration

*Home Office*

*Home Office Enforcement and compliance data.*

Enforcement data only cover those migrants subject to immigration controls against whom some enforcement actions have been taken and therefore represent only a fraction of the total illegal migrant population which, by definition, tend to evade those controls. It is extremely difficult to estimate the extent to which enforcement statistics are an indicator of the total illegally resident population and many estimates are therefore not based on these. In fact, direct methods are of limited value for measuring the illegally resident migrant population as much of it will remain statistically hidden to such methods (Pinkerton et al., 2004).

Following recommendations made by researchers working at the Migration Research Unit of University College London (Pinkerton et al., 2004), the Home Office produced estimates of the illegally resident population in the UK using an indirect technique previously used in the USA called the *residual method* (Woodbridge, 2005).
Residual Method uses data from the UK Census conducted in April 2001 and immigration data from the Home Office. It takes the total foreign-born population in the UK (excluding EEA-born population as they not subject to immigration control) obtained from the Census as its starting point, and then subtracts an estimate of the foreign-born population here legally. The later category consists of foreign-born persons living in the UK who have been granted settlement (estimate derived from Home Office flow data as stock figures were not available), temporary legal migrants (Home Office data on persons granted temporary leave to remain which period included the end of April 2001, e.g. persons on student or employment-related visas, including dependants) and quasi-legal migrants (Home Office data on number of persons awaiting a decision on their asylum application or the outcome of an appeal following a refusal). The difference between the total foreign-born population and this estimate of the 'legal' foreign-born population is an estimate of the number of unauthorised migrants in the UK. Using this method, the research team found that the total unauthorised migrant population (including failed asylum seekers) living in the UK in April 2001 was ranging between 310,000 and 570,000 (i.e. between 0.5 and 1% of total UK population) with a central estimate of 430,000 (i.e. 0.7% of the total UK population of 59 million at the time) (Woodbridge, 2005).

E.2. Measuring integration, discrimination and diversity

The level of integration in the UK can be estimated through many of the various department surveys and statistics. A formal definition of integration however does not exist and so the Government, think tanks, academic institutions and the media use whichever surveys and data they find serves their own definition best.

E.2.a Employment

ONS
Labour Force Survey (LFS)
The LFS is a particularly useful source of data on the labour market integration of migrants and Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) community. The LFS will be integrated in a larger survey named the Integrated Household Survey (IHS) from 2008\textsuperscript{12}. The surveys included for integration are: the Labour Force Survey (LFS) and associated boosts (APS), the General Household Survey (GHS), the Expenditure and Food Survey (EFS), the Omnibus Survey (OMN) and the English Housing Survey. The IHS should therefore be an extremely useful source of data on both migration and the multiple aspects of integration (employment, housing, income, education).

Department for Work and Pensions (DWP)
Another very important source of information on migrant workers is the National Insurance registrations dataset managed by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP). It is necessary to apply for a National Insurance Number (NINo) in order to

\textsuperscript{12} For an update on the progress towards the implementation of the IHS, see: http://www.statistics.gov.uk/articles/nojournal/IHS_web_update_Dec07.pdf
work (employed and self-employed) or claim benefits and tax credits in the UK. The DWP, through the Government employment agency (Jobcentre Plus), has responsibility for allocating National Insurance Numbers (NINo) to overseas nationals. The National Insurance registrations therefore give an indication of the annual increment to the national workforce and provide valuable information on economically active migrants. They include information on age, sex, region of residence, nationality, dates of arrival in the UK and of registration. Migrants not captured include children and migrants who choose not to work, or who work illegally, and those who make no benefit claims. Furthermore, the data does not account for the families and dependents of registered workers.

Once the NINo is allocated, Her Majesty’s Revenue and Customs (HMRC) register the NINo onto the National Insurance Recording System (NIRS). This administrative database holds details of national insurance contribution.

Finally, the Equality and Human Rights Commission publishes its own research, including recent reports on ‘Pay gaps and pay penalties by gender and ethnicity, religion, disability, sexual orientation and age’ and ‘Pay gaps across the equality strands: a review’.

### E.2.b Incomes, transfers and social benefits

**Department for Work and Pensions**

**Family Resources Survey (FRS)**

The Family Resources Survey (FRS) is a continuous survey collecting information on the incomes and circumstances of private households in the United Kingdom (or Great Britain before 2002-03). It is sponsored by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP). It currently has an annual target sample size of 24,000 private households (25,000 prior to April 1997).

The survey aims to: support the monitoring of the social security programme; support the costing and modelling of changes to national insurance contributions and social security benefits; provide better information for the forecasting of benefit expenditure. Households interviewed in the survey are asked a wide range of questions about their circumstances including receipt of Social Security benefits, housing costs, assets and savings. Migrant status is not recorded, only ethnicity. The General Household Survey is also a valuable source for information on ownership, for example, of consumer durables.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Data-Sources</th>
<th>Type of source</th>
<th>Population included</th>
<th>Variables identifying the migrant population/ population of migrant background</th>
<th>Key indicators available from dataset</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Family Resources Survey</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>Non-dependent adults (aged 16 and over) living in private households</td>
<td>Ethnicity</td>
<td>Household characteristics; income and state support receipt; tenure and housing costs; assets, savings and pensions; carers and those needing care.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

With respect to A8 country migrants, the Home Office WRS figures mentioned above are lower than the DWP NINo series because the DWP series also includes the self-employed, those claiming benefits/tax credits, and students who work. These are not registered in the WRS.
General Household Survey (EU SILC)  S  Non-dependent adults (aged 16 and over) living in private households  COB; year of entry; parents’ COB; ethnicity; national identity  consumer durables including vehicle ownership; income; Other topics like leisure or household burglary are covered periodically.

Expenditure and Food Survey  S  Ethnicity  Detailed analysis of household expenditure broken down by age, income, composition, socio-economic characteristics and geography. Includes: food and drink, housing, clothing and footwear, goods and services, transport, recreation, ownership of durable goods and more.

British Household Panel Survey  S  All household members (16 and over) - Panel study therefore same group of individuals interviewed each year  COB; year of entry; ethnicity, national identity?  Income from employment, benefits and pensions; household finances; consumer durables.

Fourth National Survey of Ethnic Minorities  S  Adults (aged 16 and over) from BME communities  Ethnicity; parents’ COB; language  Income

E.2.c Housing and residential patterns

The most important source of information on housing and residential patterns in the UK is the ONS Census which identifies respondents’ country of birth, ethnicity, place of residence a year ago and their tenure, type of accommodation and amenities. A key interview survey which gives a richer picture but only identifies ethnicity rather than country of birth is the English House Condition Survey.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Data-Sources</th>
<th>Type of source</th>
<th>Population included</th>
<th>Variables identifying the migrant population/ population of migrant background</th>
<th>Key indicators available from dataset</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Census</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>All UK residents</td>
<td>Country of birth; ethnicity; residency a year ago.</td>
<td>Tenure, type of accommodation, amenities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English House Condition Survey</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>Adults aged 16 and over in private households (interview with household reference person only)</td>
<td>Ethnicity</td>
<td>Interview survey: Satisfaction with home and area; property details; local environment; trust. + Physical survey + Market value survey Housing deprivation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Survey of English</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>Families households (head of private</td>
<td>Ethnicity</td>
<td>Tenure; housing costs; housing history; moving</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Housing**

| Housing intentions; Separate modules for private tenants: tenancy type; rent; housing benefits; local area satisfaction. Housing deprivation. |

**CORE databases** (General Needs HA, Supported Housing HA, Low Cost Home Ownership Sales HA)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A</th>
<th>Persons letting or buying supported / low cost accommodation from Housing Associations(^1) and Local Authorities.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ethnicity; nationality of applicant (only UK, A8 country, other EEA country or other categories); reason for leaving previous home (reasons including: ‘left home country as refugee’ and ‘racial harassment’).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tenure; income; housing and other benefits; rent; reason for leaving previous accommodation; details of previous accommodation; property details.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**ONS LS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LS</th>
<th>People born on one of four birth dates in any year (longitudinal component of study) plus other people enumerated in their households at the census of population (non-longitudinal component of study)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ethnicity; emigration</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tenure, type of accommodation, amenities; housing deprivation.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

### E.2.d Health and access to Healthcare

As mentioned in section (X), the National Health Service does keep data on NHS users. Additionally, the Department of Health carries out detailed research on health issues including ethnic minority access to and levels of health. For example, *Delivering Race Equality in Mental Health Care (DRE)* is an action plan for achieving equality and tackling discrimination in mental health services in England for all people of Black and minority ethnic (BME) status, including those of Irish or Mediterranean origin and east European migrants.

The key data sources for health and ethnicity are the ONS Census and Health Survey for England.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Data-Sources</th>
<th>Type of source</th>
<th>Population included</th>
<th>Variables identifying the migrant population/population of migrant background</th>
<th>Key indicators available from dataset</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Census</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>All UK residents</td>
<td>Country of birth; ethnicity; residency a year ago.</td>
<td>Health status and disability, whether a carer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morbidity statistics from GP</td>
<td>GP and their patients (volunteering general practices)</td>
<td>Ethnicity</td>
<td>Reasons for which patients consult general practice, as perceived by GP and nurses.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

\(^1\) The 2001 Census indicates that 6.1% of all households and 10.2% of BME households live in the housing association social rented sector (source: CORE, ‘Ethnicity and Housing: the contribution of housing associations’, *CORE analysis*, issue n.5, August 2003).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study</th>
<th>Method</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Variables</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Health Survey for England</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>Adults in private households 16 and over</td>
<td>Ethnicity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Children aged 2-15 included since 1995</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Children aged 0-1 included since 2001</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethic Minority Psychiatric Illness Rates in the Community (EMPIRIC) - 2000</td>
<td>S (ad hoc)</td>
<td>Adults aged 16 to 74 living in private households from 5 of the main ethnic minority groups in England</td>
<td>Ethnicity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>British Crime Survey</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>Adults (aged 16 and over) living in private households</td>
<td>Ethnicity; nationality (7 cat.); COB (20 cat.), cultural background (since 2001/02)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LFS</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>Adults (aged 16 and over) living in private households and NHS accommodation</td>
<td>COB; nationality; year of entry; ethnicity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ONS LS</td>
<td>LS</td>
<td>People born on one of four birth dates in any year (longitudinal component of study) plus other people enumerated in their households at the census of population (non-longitudinal component of study)</td>
<td>Ethnicity; emigration?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drug use, Smoking and drinking among young people in England</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>Secondary school pupils aged 11-15</td>
<td>Ethnicity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sports Participation and Ethnicity in England</td>
<td>S</td>
<td></td>
<td>Physical activity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Survey of Sexual Attitudes and Lifestyle</td>
<td>S</td>
<td></td>
<td>Contraception and sexual health</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## E.2.e Education

*Department for Children, Schools and Families (formerly Department of Education and Skills - DfES)*

*National Pupil Database (NPD) and Pupil Level Annual School Census (PLASC)*

In January 2002, the Pupil Level Annual School Census (PLASC) was introduced to collect data on individual pupil characteristics for all pupils in maintained schools in England. This PLASC information has been linked with attainment data in the National Pupil Database (NPD). The NPD consists in an annual comprehensive count of all children in grant maintained schools in England (some 8 million).

As such, it does not provide a direct and comprehensive measure of migrant flows, but year on year comparisons can provide a strong indicator of migration by families with children. Although nationality is not recorded, the ‘first language’ variable can be used as a proxy for migrant status. The age, gender, address and ethnicity of the pupils are also recorded. Migration can therefore also be inferred by identifying children who joined the system at an age above the start of schooling.

This source of information can be used to confirm patterns and trends in migration derived from complementary sources. It is also a useful source of data on integration as it can be used to do analyses of educational outcomes and pupil attainments for different groups (including ethnic groups). However access to these data is very limited and generally not given outside education authorities. The DfCSF does however regularly publish research and statistics on ethnic minority pupil attainment etc.

The Labour Force Survey is also a useful source of information on the qualifications held by respondents and on the degree of workplace training they have undergone.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Data-Sources</th>
<th>Type of source</th>
<th>Population included</th>
<th>Variables identifying the migrant population/ population of migrant background</th>
<th>Key indicators available from dataset</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>National Pupil Database (NPD) / Pupil Level Annual Schools Census (PLASC) &amp; attainment data</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>All children in grant maintained schools in England (some 8 million)</td>
<td>Ethnicity; first language; age (if child joined the system at an age above the start of schooling)</td>
<td>Attainment data (pupils’ characteristics – such as ethnicity – can be matched to pupil attainment information) PLASC: Exclusions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Census</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>All UK residents</td>
<td>Country of birth; ethnicity; residency a year ago.</td>
<td>Educational/vocational qualifications</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Higher Education Statistics Agency</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>Students and staff in Higher Education Institutions in the UK</td>
<td>Nationality; Ethnicity; country of domicile; expected length of stay and year of programme</td>
<td>Higher Education qualifications; vocational qualifications; course attended; destination of</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### E.2.f Family and household

The Census and Integrated Household Surveys give important information on family and household composition.

### E.2.g Political participation

Political participation is gauged through two main surveys; the Citizenship and Social Attitudes surveys.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Data-Sources</th>
<th>Type of source</th>
<th>Population included</th>
<th>Variables identifying the migrant population/population of migrant background</th>
<th>Key indicators available from dataset</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Citizenship Survey</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>Representative sample of people aged 16 and over in England and Wales – boost sample of ethnic minority respondents</td>
<td>Country of birth; year of arrival; ethnicity; nationality?</td>
<td>Satisfaction with local services; political efficacy; activities in local community; Volunteering; Rights and responsibilities</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### E.2.h Crime and justice

The Citizenship Survey mentioned above also includes, for example, questions on trust in police and perceptions of prejudice. The British Crime Survey however gives the most relied-upon statistics on crime and ethnicity. The Police also records the incidence of racist incidents and so on.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Data-Sources</th>
<th>Type of source</th>
<th>Population included</th>
<th>Variables identifying the migrant population/population of migrant background</th>
<th>Key indicators available from dataset</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Citizenship Survey</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>Representative sample of people aged 16 and over in England and Wales – boost sample of ethnic minority respondents</td>
<td>Country of birth; year of arrival; ethnicity; nationality?</td>
<td>Trust in police and Courts; perceptions of racial and religious prejudice; services and prejudice; racial discrimination; own religion</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
F. Accessibility, quality and comparability

Administrative sources, such as the systems of government departments responsible for immigration controls (Home Office) or for services used by migrants (such as the National Health Service or the Department for Work and Pensions for migrant workers) were not primarily designed for statistical purposes and are therefore imperfect sources of information. The data from these systems record events or moves but they all have important limitations to provide a full picture of the migration stocks and flows. They typically provide much more information on in-migration than out-migration (particularly because of the absence of de-registration procedure for administrative systems) are therefore quite inadequate to help estimate population stocks. There are also limitations inherent in the registration process with people often delaying their registration until it is deemed necessary (particularly with health services), or not notifying their changes of address. Furthermore, they do not distinguish between long-term and short-term moves and may only capture a subset of the migrant population. Finally, statistics produced from administrative datasets are limited as individuals are not linked across different processes (e.g. border control, asylum, settlement, citizenship), nor with other government department datasets due to the lack of a common identifier.

Quarterly or annual time-series data can be generated; several quarters can also be combined. The data are available down to regional level (and larger sub-regions). The limitations of some surveys relate to the fact that a small sample size at the regional scale limits the detail that can be provided. There is also limited scope for sub-regional disaggregation of migrants. It is possible to obtain data for sectoral schemes but there are issues around the quality of the data that can be extracted from the Work permits database.

The IPS excludes migration via land routes between the UK and the Republic of Ireland and it also excludes many asylum seekers and their dependents. It includes questions on reason for entry, destination region, age, sex, marital status, citizenship and country of next/last residence. As the IPS does not capture most of the asylum seekers and their dependents and the migration via land routes between the UK and the Republic of Ireland, estimates are also adjusted for these groups using data from the Home Office (asylum seekers) and the Irish Central Statistics Office (CSO).

The only data from the CRS available to researchers are the aggregate statistics extracted from the CRS and the appeals data (from manual returns submitted by all entry clearance posts worldwide) that are published in the annual Entry Clearance Statistics reports. These statistics do not include cross-tabulations with socio-demographic variables.

G. Quality and scope of data collection

As for the WRS, the NiNo data do not show when overseas nationals leave the UK, nor the length of stay in the UK. Therefore, they cannot be used to measure out-migration or the overall stock of overseas nationals in the UK. This issue could to a certain extent be addressed in the future as DWP is currently investigating ways of identifying the date of the last economic activity of each number holder and this could give an indication as to whether the holder is still in the country (although migration might not be the only reason for ceasing to be in work).
The limitations of the NHS Central Register dataset relate to the frequent time lag between the actual migration and the registration (that might wait until there is a medical need to do so), particularly for some categories of people such as young men.

The Patient Register Data System (PRDS) and the NHSCR are due to be replaced by a new system (the Personal Demographics Service) in the longer term through the modernisation of the NHS systems. It will hold demographic information on all users of NHS services in England and Wales. Although registered as a requirement, it is unclear at this stage what information on international migration will be made available from this new source.

Although the value of the IPS as a primary source of data on migration flows is unquestionable, these data need to be treated with care. First of all, data are based on a question asking the migrant his/her ‘intention’ to stay in the UK (as opposed to the actual length of stay) and there are therefore uncertainties relating to the degree of honesty and/or accuracy of the responses. The adjustments made for migrant and visitor switching behaviours only partially address this issue. Secondly, the relatively small sample size of the survey means that only about one per cent of the persons sampled are identified as long-term migrants (approximately 2,400 for in-migration and 700 for out-migration), which considerably limits what can be inferred from it and does not allow for determining the accurate geographical distribution of these migration flows. There is particularly evidence that London is over-represented in the IPS sample given the importance of Heathrow and Gatwick as port sampling points.15

The methods currently used to measure migration in the UK are often regarded as inadequate and unable to provide a full picture of the stocks and flows of population at national and local level. Different initiatives have therefore recently been undertaken in order to improve migration statistics. The Improving Migration and Population Statistics (IMPS) project has been developed within the ONS and should allow the organisation to further investigate possible ways to improve the population statistics and establish where it is possible to introduce changes to sources and methods that will improve the quality of the statistics.16 It also established an Inter-departmental Task Force which produced a certain number of recommendations in December 2006 (ONS, 2006a). It particularly highlighted the scope for improving data sharing across government departments. Although Ministers are yet to give their explicit backing to this and other proposals, the ONS is already working on establishing a webpage that would provide information about all the migration statistics produced by the different government departments. The Task Force also identified an increasing demand for estimates of short-term migration (people moving for less than twelve months) and the ONS is currently working on developing and refining methods to address this need (ONS, 2007).

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15 Two recent developments aim to mitigate this issue: i) the sample size for out-migration has been boosted since the beginning of 2007, so sample sizes for ins and outs should now be more comparable; and ii) a recent port survey review has recommended increases to the number of interviewer shifts at a number of non-London airports, see: www.statistics.gov.uk/about/data/methodology/specific/population/future/imps/updates/downloads/PS REVIEW.pdf

16 More information available on the IMPS website: http://www.statistics.gov.uk/about/data/methodology/specific/population/future/imps/
H. Conclusions – Recommendations

Future data sources are being developed, including the e-borders system which is now at a crucial stage although not much information is currently available on it. The different departments (e.g. Home Office, Customs and Excise, Police) involved seem to be working together quite effectively – There are however issues around the funding available for data extraction which need to be resolved. The attempts at creating a national ID card scheme have met with great controversy although the scheme would likely allow for better and easier data gathering and the presence of a national identifier would allow for richer statistical analysis. The ongoing devolution process and regionalisation of data production (see HO) – might have an impact on the future of migration measurement.

All official statistics are not currently easily accessible from one website in the UK, and the establishment of such a site is strongly recommended. Linkages between different government departments on data sharing are good but could be improved.
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Interviews (ANY MORE?)
ONS/Migration Unit: Rhian Tyler, Nigel Swier, Jim Newman and Jenet Woodford, 21 September 2007, Titchfield.


Peter Boden (Leeds University), 18 July 2007

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ESRC Census Programme: www.census.ac.uk
Department for Work and Pensions: www.dwp.gov.uk
Economic and Social Data Service: www.esds.ac.uk
Information Commissioner's Office: www.ico.gov.uk
Office for National Statistics: www.statistics.gov.uk
Question Bank, University of Surrey: http://qb.soc.surrey.ac.uk/
UK Data Archive: www.data-archive.ac.uk
### Annex 1 - Key variables recorded in the data sources of most relevance for integration and discrimination research.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Data sources</th>
<th>Type of dataset</th>
<th>Country of birth</th>
<th>Nationality/citizenship</th>
<th>Year of entry</th>
<th>Ethnicity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Census</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Passenger Survey (IPS)</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labour Force Survey (+APS boosts)</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Insurance registrations</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X (date of arrival and of registration)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work Permits</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Year of application</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workers Registration Scheme (WRS)</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Year of registration</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Pupil Database/PLASC</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>First language</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA)</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>X (country of domicile)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Resources Survey (FRS)</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenditure and Food Survey</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Only UK, Irish, Other</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Household Survey</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>20 cat.</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CORE database</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>UK nat. resident in the UK/returning from overseas / A8 c. nationals / Other EEA c. /Other c. + question on refugee status for lettings log</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English House Condition Survey</td>
<td>S</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Survey of English Housing</td>
<td>S</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Survey for England</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>Only in 1999 &amp; 2004</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citizenship Survey</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>UK nat. + please specify (need to find whether they use nat. written in)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Survey</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Broad cat. (UK nat., Irish, European, other, Asian, African/Caribbean)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------------------------</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Attitudes Survey</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Broad cat. (UK nat., Irish, European, other, Asian, African/Caribbean)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>British Crime Survey (BCS)</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>20 cat.</td>
<td>7 cat.</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ONS LS</td>
<td>LS</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Integrated Household Survey (from 2008)</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Adapted from Greater London Authority, 2006.