

Policy Area 1: Producing Additional Temporary Mobility Indicators, United Kingdom

Rebecca Jones

Office for National Statistics

United Nations Technical Workshop on International
Migration and Temporary Mobility Statistics
Warsaw, 16-19 July 2024



Current official statistics on international mobility produced by ONS

Long-term international migration estimates (LTIM)

- [Official estimates](#) of migrants arriving in or leaving the UK for 12 months or more.
- Immigration, emigration and net migration by EU, non-EU and British nationality and reason for migration.

Travel and Tourism estimates

- [Official estimates](#) of the number of visits overseas by UK residents and their spending abroad, and the number of visits to the UK by foreign residents and their spending in the UK.
- Number of completed visits (not visitors) that lasted for a period of less than 12 months.

Using UK Census Data to produce estimates on temporary international mobility

ONS Publications

- [The changing picture of short-term international migration, England and Wales: Census 2021](#) – published March 2023

TMI it can measure

- Number of foreign citizens temporarily present in the UK who are
 - Engaged in other types of employment
 - Engaged in training or education

Limitations

- Only produce every ten years
- Can be used for stocks but not for flows
- Limited analysis of additional temporary mobility indicators can be conducted

Survey-based data: International Passenger Survey (IPS)

ONS Publications

- [Short-Term International Migration for England and Wales: year ending June 2019](#) – published May 2021

TMIs it can measure

- Annual number of foreign citizens entering the UK temporarily for
 - Cross-border work
 - Seasonal work
 - Other types of employment
 - Training or education
 - Health-related treatments
- Annual number of resident foreign citizens and UK citizens departing the UK for temporary stays abroad

Limitations

- Based on number of visits rather than number of visitors
- Subject to sampling and non-sampling errors
- Data could not be published until 23 months after the mid-year to which it refers
- Will no longer collect arrival data

Admin-based data: Home Office Borders and Immigration (HOBI)

TMI's it can measure

- Annual number of foreign nationals entering the UK temporarily for
 - Cross-border work
 - Seasonal work
 - Other types of employment
 - Training or education
 - Asylum seekers/refugees
- Annual number of resident foreign nationals departing the UK for temporary stays abroad

Limitations

- Can be used for flows but not stocks
- Cannot measure British nationals
- Cannot identify those who have entered the UK on one type of visa but engaged in activities usually permitted under another type of visa
- Cannot do local level analysis

Other data sources for measuring temporary international mobility

Registration and Population Interaction Database (RAPID)

- Provides information on employment length
- Predominantly for stocks but can derive the implied flows

Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA)

- Provides information on length of study for international students

Transformed Labour Market Survey (TLFS)

- Information on seasonal workers
- Only provides information on those in the country for at least 6 months

Summary (1 of 2) – Additional temporary mobility indicators that can be measured

Stock - Number of foreign nationals temporarily present in the country who are:

- Engaged in seasonal work
- Other types of employment
- Engaged in training or education

Stock – Number of British nationals temporarily absent from the country who are:

- NA

Flow – Annual number of foreign nationals entering the country temporarily for:

- Cross-border workers
- Engaged in seasonal work
- Other types of employment
- Engaged in training or education
- Seeking health-related treatments
- Asylum seekers/refugees

Flow – Annual number of resident _____ departing the country for temporary stays abroad

- Foreign nationals
- British nationals

Summary (2 of 2) – Additional temporary mobility indicators that cannot be measured

Stock - Number of foreign nationals temporarily present in the country who are:

- Cross-border workers
- Seeking health-related treatments
- Asylum seekers/refugees

Stock – Number of British nationals temporarily absent from the country who are:

- Cross-border workers
- Engaged in seasonal work

Flow – Annual number of foreign nationals entering the country temporarily for:

- NA

Flow – Annual number of resident _____ departing the country for temporary stays abroad

- NA

THANK YOU

 Swyddfa Ystadegau Gwladol
Office for National Statistics

Rebecca Jones

pop.info@ons.gov.uk

