

Persons Granted British Citizenship United Kingdom, 2006

08/07

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MAIN POINTS:

- Applications for British citizenship fell by 32 per cent in 2006 to 149,035 (paragraph 1).
- The number of persons granted British citizenship in the United Kingdom fell by 5 per cent to 154,095 in 2006 (paragraph 2).
- 50 per cent of grants were on the basis of residence, 18 per cent marriage, and 28 per cent minor children (paragraph 5).
- Citizens of countries in Asia and Africa accounted for 41 and 30 per cent respectively of total grants (paragraph 6).
- The main nationalities granted British citizenship were India, Pakistan, Somalia and Philippines (10, 7, 6 and 6 per cent respectively) (Paragraph 6).
- The number of persons attending a British citizenship ceremony fell by 8 per cent to 103,530 in 2006 (paragraph 14).
- Other sources indicate that approximately 60 per cent of overseas-born people who had been in the UK for six years or more in 2006 were British citizens (paragraph 20).

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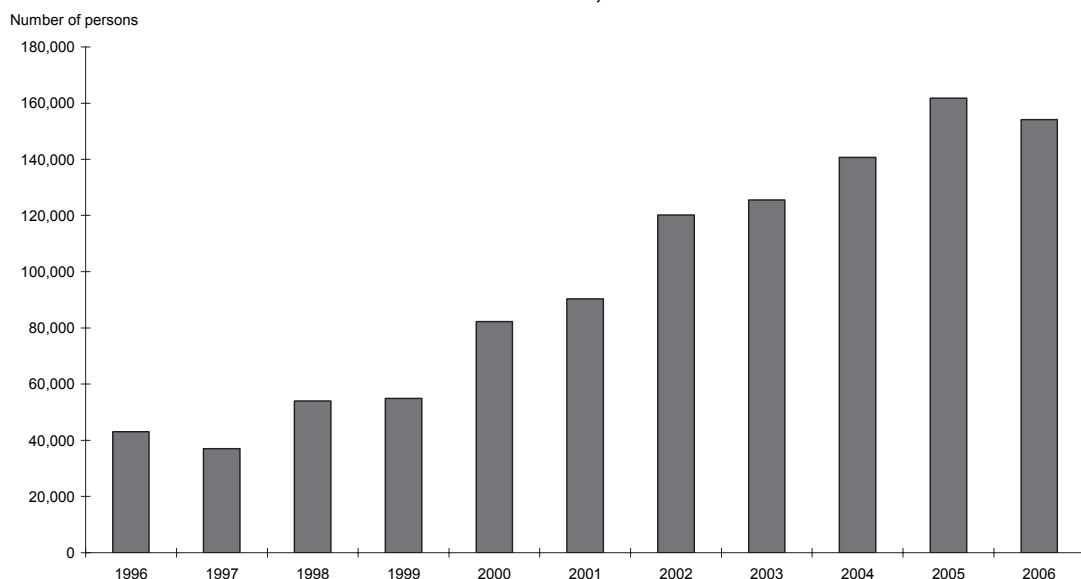
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Figure 1

GRANTS OF BRITISH CITIZENSHIP IN THE UNITED KINGDOM, 1996 TO 2006



Introduction

This bulletin provides provisional summary statistics on applications for, and grants/refusals of, British citizenship in 2006 and preceding years. It also contains the results of an analysis to estimate British citizenship take-up rates.

The British Nationality Act 1981 came into force on 1 January 1983 and replaced citizenship of the United Kingdom and Colonies with three separate citizenships, statistics on which are shown in the tables indicated below.

1. British citizenship, for people closely connected with the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man (Tables 1-5).
2. British overseas territories citizenship, for people connected with the British overseas territories (Table 6).
3. British Overseas citizenship, for those citizens of the United Kingdom and Colonies without connections with either the United Kingdom or the British overseas territories (Table 6).

The Nationality, Immigration and Asylum Act 2002 added to the British Nationality Act 1981 and requires all successful applicants for British citizenship who are aged 18 or above to take an oath and pledge at a citizenship ceremony, unless exempted by the Home Secretary. The ceremony is organised by County Councils and Local Authorities within the United Kingdom and Gibraltar (the statistics are in Table 8).

Further information explaining the position from 1 January 1983 under the 1981 Act, and explaining some changes made by the British Overseas Territories Act 2002 is at:

<http://www.ind.homeoffice.gov.uk/lawandpolicy/policyinstructions/nismenu>.

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SECTION ONE: PERSONS GRANTED BRITISH CITIZENSHIP

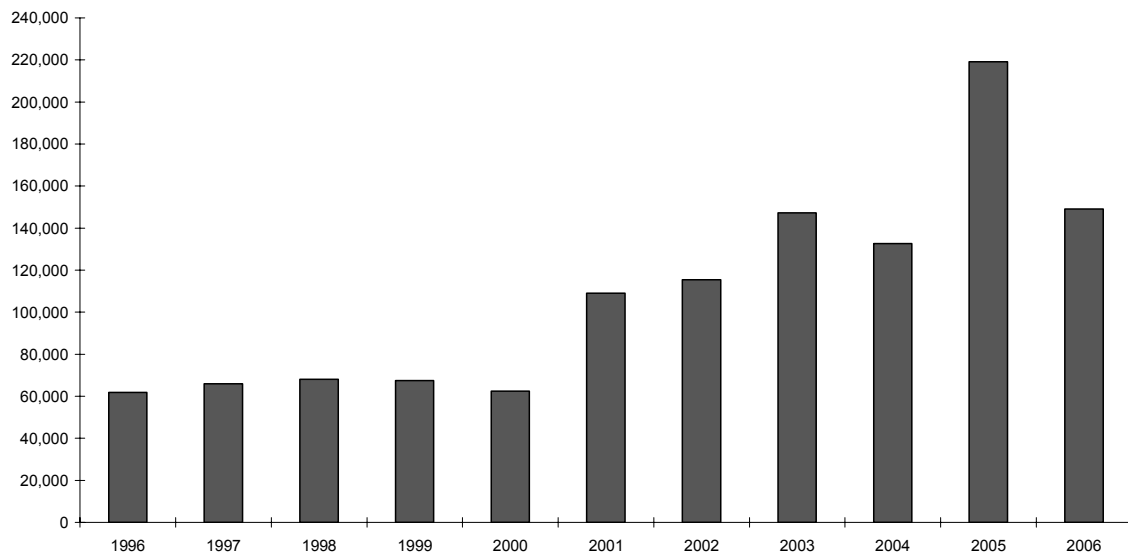
Applications Received (Figure 2 and Table 1)

1. The number of applications received for British citizenship in 2006 was 149,035 – a fall of 32 per cent compared to the previous year when 219,115 applications were received. This decrease marks a return to levels prior to the introduction of a new requirement on 1 November 2005 for applicants to demonstrate knowledge of life in the UK as well as their English language ability; this change appears to have resulted in a surge in applications earlier in that year. The fall in applications in 2006 was a significant change from the 65 per cent rise in applications in 2005; however, the number of applications is 12 per cent higher than in 2004.

Figure 2

APPLICATIONS RECEIVED IN THE UNITED KINGDOM FOR BRITISH CITIZENSHIP 1996 TO 2006

Number of persons



Grants and Refusals (Figure 1 and Table 1)

2. The number of persons granted British citizenship in 2006 was 154,095, a decrease of 5 per cent on the previous year. This is the first year to see a fall in grants of British citizenship since 1997; this may have been related to the surge of grants in 2005 (see above).

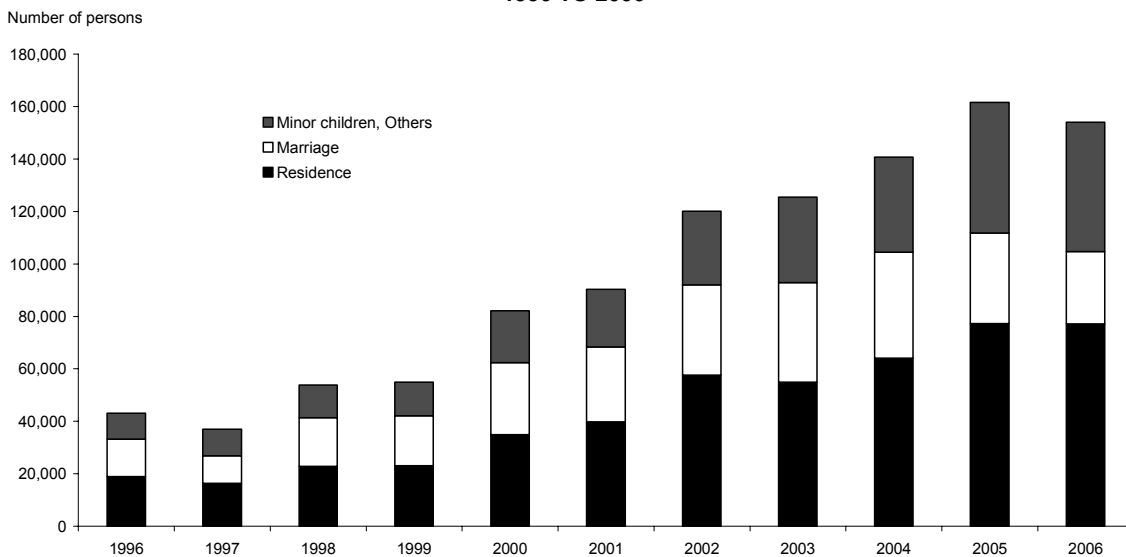
3. 15,360 applications for British citizenship were refused, withdrawn or found to be British already in 2006, a decrease of 8 per cent on 2005 when 16,645 applications received these decisions. Refusals made up 9 per cent of all decisions in 2006, the same proportion as in 2005.

4. The total number of decisions made in 2006 fell by 5 per cent to 169,455. This fall can be attributed to fewer applications being received during the year.

Basis of Grant (Figure 3 and Table 2)

5. Residence in the United Kingdom continued to be the most frequent basis on which persons were granted British citizenship in 2006. The number of such grants was 77,120, 50 per cent of the total. The number of grants to persons on the basis of marriage to a British citizen was 27,600, 18 per cent of the total. These proportions differ slightly from those in the previous year (48 per cent and 21 per cent respectively). However, grants on the basis of marriage continued the fall from 2004 when a record number of persons (40,385) were granted citizenship in this category. Most of the remaining grants in 2006 (42,465) were to minor children¹ which accounted for 28 per cent of the total.

Figure 3 GRANTS OF BRITISH CITIZENSHIP IN THE UNITED KINGDOM, BY BASIS OF GRANT, 1996 TO 2006



Previous Nationality (Figure 4 and Tables 3, 4)

6. Persons whose previous nationality was from countries in the African continent constituted 30 per cent (46,280) of all grants in 2006, 2 per cent less than in 2005. The Indian sub-continent accounted for 19 per cent (29,110) of grants, 4 per cent less than in 2005. While grants made to people from the Remainder of Asia rose by 10 per cent to 24,295, grants made to people from the Remainder of Europe (i.e. outside the European Economic Area) decreased by 18 per cent to 20,210. Grants made to people from Serbia and Montenegro remained the highest within Europe, (7,550), 37 per cent of grants in the Remainder of Europe outside the EEA and 5 per cent of all grants.

7. The Philippines saw the highest increase in grants in 2006: to 8,840 (an increase of 133 per cent as compared to 3,800 in 2005).

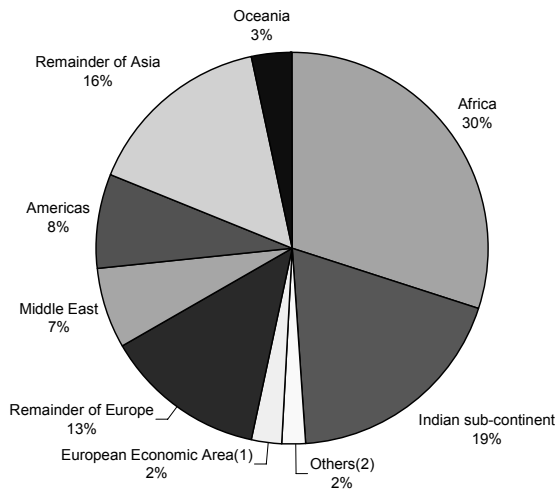
8. Nationalities with the largest numbers of grants in 2006 were: Indian 15,125 (10 per cent of the total); Pakistani 10,260 (7 per cent); Somalian 9,050 (6 per cent); Philippino 8,840 (6 per cent); South African 7,670 (5 per cent); Serbian and Montenegrin 7,550

¹ Children under the age of 18.

(5 per cent); Nigerian 5,870 (4 per cent); Sri Lankan 5,720 (4 per cent); and Turkish 5,590 (4 per cent).

Figure 4

GRANTS OF BRITISH CITIZENSHIP IN THE UNITED KINGDOM IN 2006 BY PREVIOUS NATIONALITY
(Total number of persons 154,095)



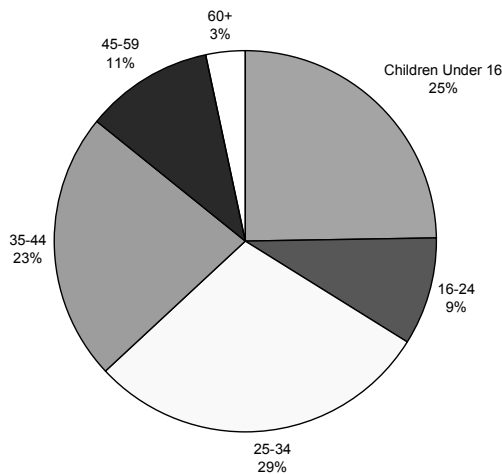
(1) Includes British overseas territories citizens (except from Gibraltar) and British Overseas citizens
(2) Includes British Overseas territories citizens from Gibraltar

Grants by Age (Figure 5 and Table 5)

9. The majority of grants of British citizenship were to people aged between 25 and 34 (29 per cent of the total), the same proportion as the previous year. Children under 16 constituted 25 per cent of total grants, which was 2 percentage points higher than in 2005. Persons aged 35 to 44 constituted 23 per cent of the total; 45 to 59 11 per cent; 16 to 24 9 per cent; and the over-60s 3 per cent.

Figure 5

GRANTS OF BRITISH CITIZENSHIP IN THE UNITED KINGDOM IN 2006, BY AGE
(Total number of grants 154,095)⁽¹⁾



(1) Includes 40 cases where an age analysis is not available.

Other Grants of British Citizenship (Table 6)

10. 615 people were granted British citizenship in 2006 under the British Nationality (Hong Kong) Act 1997. This brought the total number of grants since 1997 under this Act to 5,370. This was in addition to 136,500 grants in 1991-97 under the earlier 1990 Act and its associated Selection Scheme, under which key workers in Hong Kong and their spouses and dependants were granted British citizenship.

Reasons for Refusal of British Citizenship (Figure 6 and Table 7)

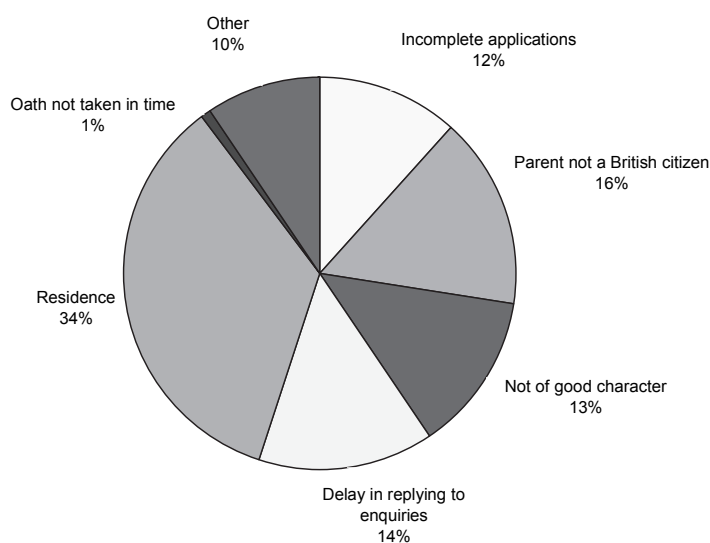
11. There was a 6 per cent fall in the number of persons refused British citizenship in 2006. Of the 13,660 refusal decisions made, 35 per cent (4,750) were refusals on the grounds of Residence, 16 per cent (2,175) were refused because the parent was not a British citizen, 14 per cent (1,950) were due to the applicants delay in replying to enquiries from IND², 13 per cent (1,775) because the applicant was considered not to be of good character, and 12 per cent (1,600) due to incomplete application. Other miscellaneous reasons for refusal made up 10 per cent (1,305) and 1 per cent (105) were refused because the oath was not taken in time.

12. 6,110 applications were rejected in 2006, just under twice as many as in 2005. In 2005 and 2006, new processes for rejecting applications, prior to any substantive consideration of the case, were introduced. These processes deal with situations where the applicant is found to be British already or whose application is not at the outset supported by the requisite evidence of entitlement to or qualification for British citizenship.

13. 255 cases were terminated before a decision had been reached, the applicant having given notice of withdrawal of the application.

Figure 6

REASONS FOR REFUSAL OF BRITISH CITIZENSHIP 2006, BY TYPE OF REFUSAL
(Total number of refusals 13,660)⁽¹⁾



(1) Excludes cases where the applicant was found to be British already, rejected applications and withdrawals.

² The Immigration and Nationality Directorate, now the Border and Immigration Agency.

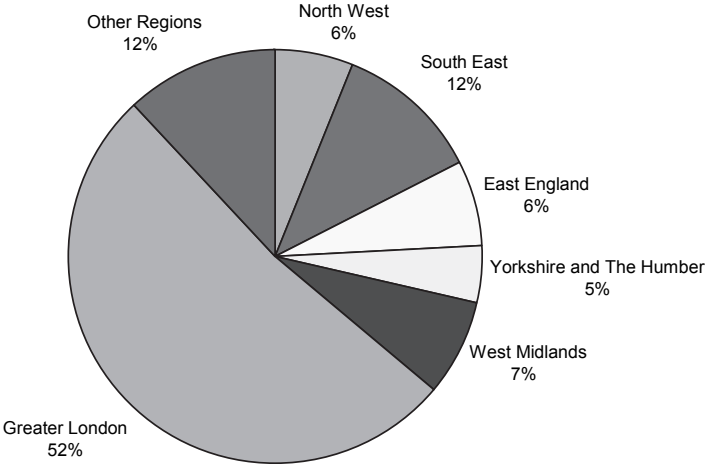
British Citizenship Ceremonies (Table 8)

14. A new table, Table 8, shows that the number of persons attending British citizenship ceremonies in 2005 was 112,815 and in 2006 was 103,530, a fall of 8 per cent.

15. Over half of all ceremonies in 2005, 63,045 (56 per cent) and in 2006, 53,755 (52 per cent) were held within Greater London. The South East region was the next highest with 12,030 in 2005 and 12,020 in 2006.

16. In 2005 and 2006 the Authorities holding the highest numbers of ceremonies were: Ealing 3,895 (3 per cent); Brent 3,755 (3 per cent); and Birmingham 2,970 (3 per cent). The corresponding figures in 2006 were: Birmingham 3,240 (3 per cent); Brent 3,030 (3 per cent); and Ealing 3,015 (3 per cent).

Figure 7 **PERSONS ATTENDING BRITISH CITIZENSHIP CEREMONIES**
IN 2006, BY REGION
(Number of ceremonies, 103,530)



SECTION TWO: BRITISH CITIZENSHIP TAKE-UP RATES

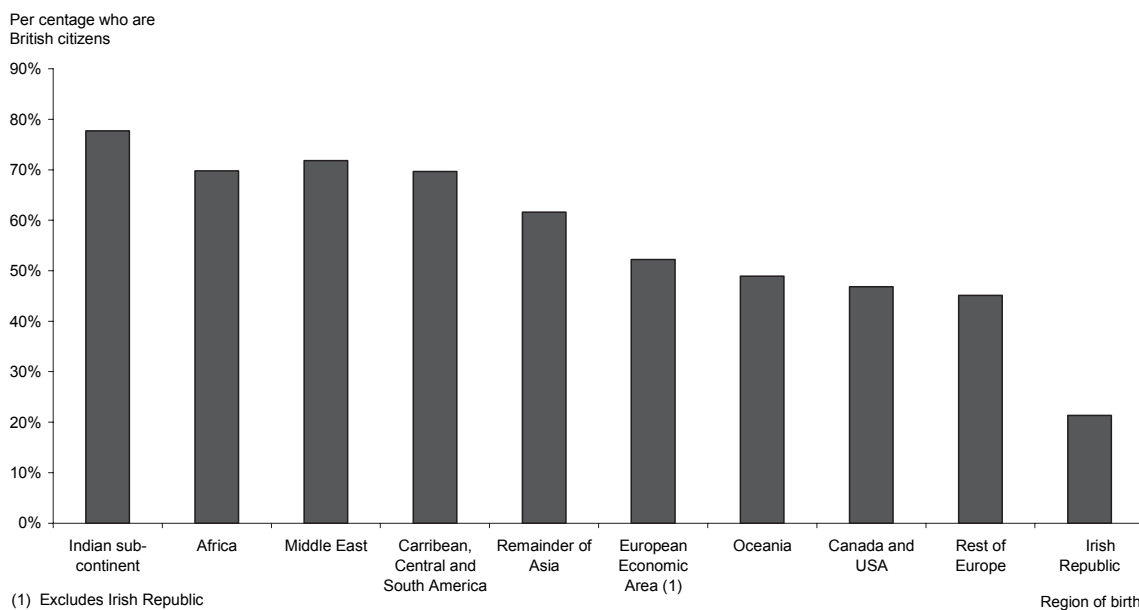
An Analysis of the Tendency of Overseas Nationals to take up British Citizenship (Figure 8 and Table 9)

17. The Research, Development and Statistics Directorate carries out annual analyses of the “take-up rate” of citizenship using information from the UK Labour Force Survey (LFS) in response to an initial interest from the Life in the UK Advisory Group³, in the tendency of overseas nationals to apply for and obtain British citizenship when they are eligible to do so.

18. The LFS was used to produce estimates of the proportion of overseas-born persons living in the UK who, when questioned in 2006, said they were British citizens. This information, when compared with the total overseas-born population, gave an indication of the proportion of migrants to the UK who had taken up British citizenship.⁴ However, there are a number of well documented reasons why the LFS is deficient in estimating population sizes.⁵ These rates are estimates and exclude a proportion of citizenship grants – most significantly those persons born in the UK who acquire British citizenship, for example via registration.

19. Figure 8 shows the proportion of overseas-born persons who are British citizens once they have been in the UK for six years or more – the earliest at which the majority of migrants would be granted British citizenship.⁶ In addition, Table 9 shows this analysis for those who have been in the UK for between six and ten years, between eleven and twenty years, and twenty-one years or more.

Figure 8 PERCENTAGE OF OVERSEAS BORN PERSONS WHO, AFTER SIX YEARS OR MORE IN THE UK, HAD OBTAINED BRITISH CITIZENSHIP, BY REGION OF BIRTH, 2006



³ See Explanatory Note 11.

⁴ See Explanatory Notes 12 to 18.

⁵ See explanatory Note 14.

⁶ Eligibility criteria for British citizenship vary, but the usual maximum is 5 years residency in the UK, plus on average 1 year to allow for the application to be processed.

20. In 2006, 60 per cent of overseas-born people who had been in the UK for six years or more were British citizens. This rate varied with region of birth and increased with time spent in the UK prior to obtaining citizenship. These rates have remained largely unchanged since 2002.

21. People born in developed countries such as Australia, New Zealand, USA, Canada and EU states were less likely to become British citizens than those born in developing countries in such regions as Africa, Asia and the Middle East.

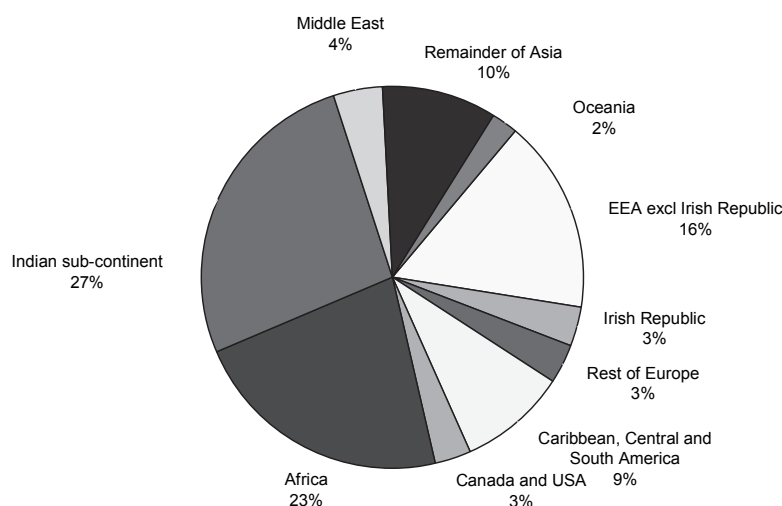
22. The longer a person had remained in the UK the more likely they were to have gained British citizenship: 31 per cent of overseas-born people who had been in the UK for between 6 and 10 years in 2006 were British, compared with 72 per cent of those who had been in the UK for over 20 years.

23. Those born in Africa were more likely than others to have become British citizens after residing in the UK for over 20 years (91 per cent compared with, for example, 87 per cent of Indian sub-continent-born people). However, they were more likely to wait before applying – only 37 per cent of African-born people who had been in the UK for between 6 and 10 years were British citizens compared with 47 per cent of Indian sub-continent-born people.

24. People born in the Irish Republic were unlikely to become British citizens – only 25 per cent of those who had lived here for over 20 years had become British citizens.

Figure 9

COUNTRY OF BIRTH OF NON-UK BORN BRITISH CITIZENS
RESIDENT IN THE UK, 2006⁽¹⁾



(1) Excludes persons born in "Other New Commonwealth", "Rest of the world", "Stateless", "At sea or in air" and when no response is given.
Source: UK Labour Force Survey, January 2006 to December 2006

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British citizenship take-up rates

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Table 1 Applications for British citizenship received and decided in the United Kingdom, 1996 - 2006

Year	Applications received	Decisions taken		Refusal as a % of all decisions
		Grants ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾	Refusals ⁽³⁾	
1996	61,800	43,070	4,770	10%
1997	66,000	37,010	4,745	11%
1998	68,030	53,935	3,750	7%
1999	67,400	54,900	3,995	7%
2000	62,475	82,210	6,785	8%
2001	109,005	90,295	9,530	10%
2002	115,500	120,125	8,455	7%
2003	147,345	125,535	10,480	8%
2004	132,630	140,705	13,650	9%
2005 ^(R)	219,115	161,700	16,645	9%
2006 ^(P)	149,035	154,095	15,360	9%

(1) See explanatory note 5.

(2) Data from November 2001 include grants of British citizenship in the Channel Islands and Isle of Man.

(3) Includes small numbers of applications withdrawn and applicants found to be British already.

Table 2 Grants⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾ of British citizenship in the United Kingdom by basis of grant, 1996 - 2006

Number of persons

Year of grant	All grants	Residence	Marriage ⁽³⁾	Minor children	Other ⁽⁴⁾
1996	43,070	18,970	14,285	9,270	540
1997	37,010	16,465	10,355	9,545	645
1998	53,935	22,935	18,495	11,975	530
1999	54,900	23,170	18,920	12,270	540
2000	82,210	34,980	27,425	19,160	645
2001	90,295	39,775	28,625	21,270	625
2002	120,125	57,595	34,415	26,320	1,795
2003	125,535	54,965	37,965	30,345	2,255
2004	140,705	64,070	40,385	30,280	5,970
2005 ^(R)	161,700	77,335	34,495	41,640	8,230
2006 ^(P)	154,095	77,120	27,600	42,465	6,905

(1) See explanatory note 5.

(2) Data from November 2001 include grants of British citizenship in the Channel Islands and Isle of Man.

(3) Includes Civil Partnership introduced from 5 December 2005 (See explanatory note 3 s.6(2)).

(4) Includes British overseas territories citizens (before February 2002 known as British Dependent Territories citizens) from Gibraltar registered as British citizens under s.5 of the British Nationality Act 1981.

Table 3 Grants⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾ of British citizenship in the United Kingdom by geographical region, 2002 - 2006

Previous nationality grouped by geographical region	Number of persons				
	2002	2003	2004	2005 ^(R)	2006 ^(P)
European Economic Area ⁽³⁾	1,575	2,225	4,165	4,090	3,840
Remainder of Europe	17,755	17,230	15,940	24,600	20,210
Americas	8,035	10,455	12,055	13,605	12,015
Africa	37,560	40,125	44,915	47,235	46,280
Indian sub-continent	26,685	29,695	33,360	30,380	29,110
Middle East	9,440	6,250	6,960	10,185	10,240
Remainder of Asia	15,355	13,180	16,115	22,050	24,295
Oceania	1,740	3,875	4,620	4,985	4,980
Other ⁽⁴⁾	1,985	2,500	2,580	4,570	3,125
All grants	120,125	125,535	140,705	161,700	154,095

(1) See explanatory note 5.

(2) Data from November 2001 include grants of British citizenship in the Channel Islands and Isle of Man.

(3) Includes the 10 accession states from 2004 and British overseas territories citizens (before February 2002 known as British Dependent Territories citizens) - from Gibraltar.

(4) British overseas territories citizens (before February 2002 known as British Dependent Territories citizens) except from Gibraltar, British Overseas citizens, British subjects, British protected persons, stateless and nationality uncertain.

Table 4 Grants⁽¹⁾ of British citizenship in the United Kingdom in 2006^(P) by previous nationality, type and category of grant

Previous nationality	Total	Naturalisation		Registration						Number of persons	
		Residence s.6(1)	Marriage ⁽²⁾ s.6(2)	Entitlement ⁽³⁾			Discretionary ⁽⁴⁾			Other ⁽⁵⁾ ss4A,4(5), 27(1),S.8	
				Adult ss 7,8, 10(1),13(1)	Minor Children ss 1(3),3 (2),3(5),9	Other ⁽⁵⁾ ss4B,C,4(2), 5,S.2,1(4)	Adult ss8(2),(3), 10(2),13(3)	Minor Children ss3(1)			
									Other ⁽⁵⁾		Adult
European Economic Area											
Austria	25	10	†	-	5	†	-	5	-		
Belgium	75	20	10	-	20	5	-	25	-		
Cyprus	105	55	10	-	20	†	-	15	-		
Czech Republic	95	25	45	-	15	-	-	10	-		
Denmark	25	5	5	-	10	5	-	†	-		
Estonia	60	25	5	-	5	-	-	20	-		
Finland	30	10	5	-	5	-	-	10	-		
France	340	105	40	-	95	30	-	60	-		
Germany	260	75	65	5	50	20	†	45	-		
Greece	150	80	20	-	25	5	-	20	-		
Hungary	110	35	40	-	10	5	-	20	-		
Iceland	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Ireland	115	45	25	-	15	5	-	25	-		
Italy	260	120	30	-	65	20	-	30	-		
Latvia	90	45	15	-	10	-	-	20	-		
Lithuania	215	90	25	-	55	-	-	45	-		
Luxembourg	5	†	-	-	†	-	-	-	-		
Malta	45	15	5	15	5	5	-	5	-		
Netherlands	115	45	10	5	30	10	-	15	-		
Norway	30	5	†	†	10	†	-	15	-		
Poland	580	275	140	-	95	5	-	65	-		
Portugal	535	270	40	-	160	10	-	60	-		
Slovakia	155	50	80	-	15	-	-	10	-		
Slovenia	10	5	†	-	†	-	-	-	-		
Spain	170	30	20	-	65	5	-	50	-		
Sweden	55	15	10	†	10	5	-	15	-		
European Economic Area	3,665	1,455	660	25	795	140	†	585	-		

Table 4 Grants⁽¹⁾ of British citizenship in the United Kingdom in 2006^(P) by previous nationality, type and category of grant (continued)

Previous nationality	Total	Naturalisation		Registration						Number of persons		
		Residence s.6(1)	Marriage ⁽²⁾ s.6(2)	Entitlement ⁽³⁾			Discretionary ⁽⁴⁾			Adult ss8(2),(3), 10(2),13(3)	Minor Children ss3(1)	Other ⁽⁵⁾ ss4A,4(5), 27(1),S.8
				Adult ss 7,8, 10(1),13(1)	Minor Children ss 1(3),3 (2),3(5),9	Other ⁽⁵⁾ ss4B,C,4(2), 5,S.2,1(4)	Adult	Minor Children	Other ⁽⁵⁾			
Remainder of Europe												
Albania	885	410	185	-	120	-	-	-	170	-		
Armenia	110	65	15	-	10	-	-	-	20	-		
Azerbaijan	130	80	15	-	15	-	-	-	25	-		
Belarus	170	90	50	-	5	-	-	-	25	-		
Bosnia-Herzegovina	230	150	35	-	25	-	-	-	20	-		
Bulgaria	625	320	105	-	125	-	-	-	75	-		
Croatia	605	370	75	-	55	†	-	-	105	-		
Cyprus (non European Union)	390	195	35	-	70	†	-	-	85	-		
Georgia	175	100	15	-	20	-	-	-	40	-		
Kazakhstan	95	40	30	-	5	-	-	-	20	-		
Kyrgyzstan	45	15	15	-	†	-	-	-	10	-		
Macedonia	135	75	40	-	10	-	-	-	5	-		
Moldova	90	35	30	-	5	-	-	-	20	-		
Romania	600	275	170	-	70	-	-	-	85	-		
Russia	1,830	870	535	-	115	-	-	-	310	†		
San Marino	†	-	†	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Serbia and Montenegro	7,550	4,255	395	-	1,410	-	-	-	1,495	-		
Switzerland	95	15	15	-	25	15	-	-	25	-		
Tajikistan	10	†	†	-	5	-	-	-	†	-		
Turkey	5,590	2,885	945	-	860	10	-	-	895	-		
Turkmenistan	10	5	5	-	†	-	-	-	†	-		
Ukraine	865	405	245	-	75	-	-	-	140	-		
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	†	†	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Uzbekistan	60	25	15	-	5	-	-	-	15	-		
Remainder of Europe	20,305	10,685	2,970	-	3,030	25	-	-	3,595	†		

Table 4 Grants⁽¹⁾ of British citizenship in the United Kingdom in 2006^(P) by previous nationality, type and category of grant (continued)

Previous nationality	Total	Naturalisation		Registration						Number of persons	
		Residence s.6(1)	Marriage ⁽²⁾ s.6(2)	Entitlement ⁽³⁾			Discretionary ⁽⁴⁾			Other ⁽⁵⁾ ss4A,4(5), 27(1),S.8	
				Adult ss 7,8, 10(1),13(1)	Minor Children ss 1(3),3 (2),3(5),9	Other ⁽⁵⁾ ss4B,C,4(2), 5,S.2,1(4)	Adult ss8(2),(3), 10(2),13(3)	Minor Children ss3(1)			
									Other ⁽⁵⁾		Adult
Americas											
Antigua and Barbuda	15	10	5	-	†	-	-	-	5	-	
Argentina	120	45	45	-	5	5	-	-	10	-	
Bahamas	15	5	5	5	†	†	-	-	†	-	
Barbados	145	85	30	-	10	10	-	-	10	-	
Belize	15	10	5	-	-	†	-	-	-	-	
Bolivia	70	45	5	-	†	-	-	-	20	-	
Brazil	540	250	200	-	30	5	-	-	55	-	
Canada	1,325	395	265	-	70	480	-	-	115	-	
Chile	100	60	25	-	5	5	-	-	5	-	
Colombia	1,580	880	180	-	215	5	-	-	300	-	
Costa Rica	15	5	†	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	
Cuba	90	35	40	-	†	†	-	-	10	-	
Dominica	50	20	25	-	†	5	-	-	†	-	
Dominican Republic	35	10	15	-	-	†	-	-	5	-	
Ecuador	955	465	50	-	240	-	-	-	200	-	
El Salvador	10	5	5	-	†	-	-	-	-	-	
Grenada	65	30	25	-	†	5	-	-	10	-	
Guatemala	5	†	†	-	†	-	-	-	5	-	
Guyana	240	135	50	-	10	5	-	-	35	-	
Haiti	5	5	†	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	
Honduras	10	†	5	-	-	-	-	-	†	-	
Jamaica	2,525	1,110	710	-	215	55	-	-	440	-	
Mexico	145	55	55	-	10	10	-	-	15	-	
Nicaragua	5	†	†	-	-	-	-	-	†	-	
Panama	10	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	

Table 4 Grants⁽¹⁾ of British citizenship in the United Kingdom in 2006^(P) by previous nationality, type and category of grant (continued)

Previous nationality	Total	Naturalisation		Registration						Number of persons	
		Residence s.6(1)	Marriage ⁽²⁾ s.6(2)	Entitlement ⁽³⁾			Discretionary ⁽⁴⁾			Other ⁽⁵⁾ ss4A,4(5), 27(1),S.8	
				Adult ss 7,8, 10(1),13(1)	Minor Children ss 1(3),3 (2),3(5),9	Other ⁽⁵⁾ ss4B,C,4(2), 5,S.2,1(4)	Adult ss8(2),(3), 10(2),13(3)	Minor Children ss3(1)			
									Other ⁽⁵⁾		Adult
Paraguay	5	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Peru	130	60	50	-	5	†	-	10	-	-	
St. Kitts and Nevis	10	†	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	
St. Lucia	85	40	25	-	5	†	-	10	-	-	
St. Vincent and the Grenadines	55	30	15	-	5	5	-	5	-	-	
Surinam	†	†	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Trinidad and Tobago	490	290	90	5	40	15	-	50	-	-	
United States of America	3,020	1,160	735	5	290	395	-	430	-	-	
Uruguay	25	10	5	-	†	-	-	5	-	-	
Venezuela	105	40	40	-	5	5	-	15	-	-	
Americas	12,015	5,310	2,705	10	1,180	1,015	-	1,795	-	-	
Africa											
Algeria	1,015	595	205	-	130	5	-	85	-	-	
Angola	945	455	20	-	320	-	-	150	-	-	
Benin	15	5	-	-	5	-	-	5	-	-	
Botswana	25	10	†	5	†	†	-	5	-	-	
Burkina Faso	10	5	†	-	-	†	-	†	-	-	
Burundi	425	255	15	-	80	-	-	70	-	-	
Cameroon	395	210	55	-	75	†	-	55	-	-	
Cape Verde	†	†	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Central African Republic	5	5	†	-	†	-	-	-	-	-	
Chad	50	35	5	-	5	-	-	5	-	-	

Table 4 Grants⁽¹⁾ of British citizenship in the United Kingdom in 2006^(P) by previous nationality, type and category of grant (continued)

Previous nationality	Total	Number of persons							
		Naturalisation		Registration					
		Residence	Marriage ⁽²⁾	Entitlement ⁽³⁾			Discretionary ⁽⁴⁾		
				Adult	Minor Children	Other ⁽⁵⁾	Adult	Minor Children	Other ⁽⁵⁾
s.6(1)	s.6(2)	ss 7,8, 10(1),13(1)	ss 1(3),3 (2),3(5),9	ss4B,C,4(2), 5,S.2,1(4)	ss8(2),(3), 10(2),13(3)	ss3(1)	ss4A,4(5), 27(1),S.8		
Comoros	†	†	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Congo	550	285	25	-	160	†	-	85	-
Congo Democratic Republic	1,910	835	70	-	675	5	-	325	-
Djibouti	10	5	†	-	†	-	-	†	-
Egypt	595	285	100	-	80	20	-	105	-
Equatorial Guinea	†	-	†	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eritrea	705	445	30	-	105	-	-	125	-
Ethiopia	670	465	55	-	80	-	-	70	-
Gabon	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gambia	315	135	65	-	75	†	-	40	-
Ghana	2,990	1,555	470	-	605	40	-	320	-
Guinea	35	15	5	-	5	-	-	10	-
Guinea-Bissau	5	5	-	-	†	-	-	†	-
Ivory Coast	395	190	20	-	135	†	-	50	-
Kenya	2,380	1,145	355	55	340	90	†	390	†
Lesotho	10	10	†	-	-	-	-	†	-
Liberia	170	90	10	-	45	†	-	20	-
Libya	460	205	40	-	125	10	-	85	-
Madagascar	5	5	5	-	-	-	-	†	-
Malawi	130	50	20	-	10	20	-	30	-
Mali	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mauritania	5	5	†	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mauritius	640	375	135	-	70	10	-	50	-
Morocco	495	225	210	-	40	†	-	20	-
Mozambique	20	10	5	-	†	-	-	5	-
Namibia	25	10	10	†	†	-	-	5	-
Niger	15	10	†	-	†	-	-	5	-

Table 4 Grants⁽¹⁾ of British citizenship in the United Kingdom in 2006^(P) by previous nationality, type and category of grant (continued)

Previous nationality	Total	Naturalisation		Registration						Number of persons	
		Residence	Marriage ⁽²⁾	Entitlement ⁽³⁾			Discretionary ⁽⁴⁾			Other ⁽⁵⁾	Other ⁽⁵⁾
				Adult	Minor Children	Other ⁽⁵⁾	Adult	Minor Children	Other ⁽⁵⁾		
Nigeria	5,875	3,085	1,000	†	1,010	145	-	640	-	-	
Rwanda	565	310	20	-	125	-	-	115	-	-	
Sao Tome Principe	†	†	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Senegal	25	15	5	-	5	-	-	†	-	-	
Seychelles	70	40	10	-	10	-	-	10	-	-	
Sierra Leone	1,660	970	120	-	420	10	-	140	-	-	
Somalia	9,050	5,215	325	-	1,130	5	-	2,370	†	-	
South Africa	7,670	4,495	1,395	5	475	425	†	870	-	-	
Sudan	965	560	120	-	115	5	-	165	-	-	
Swaziland	5	†	†	-	†	-	-	†	-	-	
Tanzania	675	310	110	5	140	20	-	90	-	-	
Togo	120	75	10	-	25	-	-	10	-	-	
Tunisia	130	45	60	-	5	5	-	15	-	-	
Uganda	1,100	595	90	†	215	30	-	170	-	-	
Western Sahara	†	-	†	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Zambia	400	195	45	†	50	20	-	95	-	-	
Zimbabwe	2,545	1,300	260	160	235	65	-	530	-	-	
Africa	46,280	25,145	5,500	235	7,125	920	5	7,345	5		
Indian sub-continent											
Bangladesh	3,725	1,270	1,910	-	145	5	-	400	-	-	
India	15,125	7,680	4,380	5	1,490	90	-	1,475	5	-	
Pakistan	10,260	3,820	4,295	-	775	40	-	1,330	-	-	
Indian sub-continent	29,110	12,775	10,585	5	2,410	130	-	3,200	5		

Table 4 Grants⁽¹⁾ of British citizenship in the United Kingdom in 2006^(P) by previous nationality, type and category of grant (continued)

Previous nationality	Total	Naturalisation		Registration						Number of persons	
		Residence s.6(1)	Marriage ⁽²⁾ s.6(2)	Entitlement ⁽³⁾			Discretionary ⁽⁴⁾			Other ⁽⁵⁾ ss4A,4(5), 27(1),S.8	
				Adult ss 7,8, 10(1),13(1)	Minor Children ss 1(3),3 (2),3(5),9	Other ⁽⁵⁾ ss4B,C,4(2), 5,S.2,1(4)	Adult ss8(2),(3), 10(2),13(3)	Minor Children ss3(1)			
									Other ⁽⁵⁾		Adult
Middle East											
Bahrain	15	10	-	-	†	5	-	5	-		
Iran	3,285	2,325	275	†	145	10	-	530	-		
Iraq	4,125	2,720	290	-	295	10	-	805	-		
Israel	570	220	160	-	70	45	-	80	-		
Jordan	320	155	75	-	25	5	-	60	-		
Kuwait	70	35	10	-	5	†	-	15	-		
Lebanon	515	265	80	-	80	†	-	90	-		
Oman	5	5	†	-	-	†	-	-	-		
Palestine	340	180	20	-	60	-	-	75	-		
Qatar	5	5	†	-	-	-	-	†	-		
Saudi Arabia	60	25	5	-	10	†	-	20	-		
Syria	390	170	75	-	55	†	-	85	-		
United Arab Emirates	20	5	†	-	5	†	-	5	-		
Yemen	520	195	110	-	50	20	-	145	-		
Middle East	10,240	6,310	1,105	†	805	100	-	1,910	-		
Remainder of Asia											
Afghanistan	3,400	1,870	190	-	345	†	-	990	†		
Bhutan	20	15	-	-	-	-	-	5	-		
Brunei	10	5	-	-	†	†	-	†	-		
Cambodia	15	†	5	-	†	-	-	10	-		
China	2,785	1,275	490	5	565	†	-	445	-		
Hong Kong SAR of China (Holder of Certificate of Identity)	10	5	†	-	†	†	-	-	-		
Hong Kong SAR of China (Holder of Special voucher)	85	25	15	-	25	†	-	20	-		

Table 4 Grants⁽¹⁾ of British citizenship in the United Kingdom in 2006^(P) by previous nationality, type and category of grant (continued)

Previous nationality	Total	Naturalisation		Registration						Number of persons	
		Residence s.6(1)	Marriage ⁽²⁾ s.6(2)	Entitlement ⁽³⁾			Discretionary ⁽⁴⁾			Other ⁽⁵⁾ ss4A,4(5), 27(1),S.8	
				Adult ss 7,8, 10(1),13(1)	Minor Children ss 1(3),3 (2),3(5),9	Other ⁽⁵⁾ ss4B,C,4(2), 5,S.2,1(4)	Adult ss8(2),(3), 10(2),13(3)	Minor Children ss3(1)			
									Other ⁽⁵⁾		Adult
Indonesia	170	60	65	-	15	-	-	30	-		
Japan	180	75	50	†	30	5	-	25	-		
Korea (South)	300	175	30	-	40	†	-	55	-		
Korea (North)	5	5	†	-	5	-	-	-	-		
Laos	10	-	5	-	5	-	-	-	-		
Malaysia	560	300	165	†	40	15	-	40	-		
Maldives	5	†	†	-	-	-	-	†	-		
Mongolia	45	20	5	-	5	-	-	15	-		
Myanmar (Burma)	145	110	20	-	10	-	-	10	-		
Nepal	915	480	50	-	40	†	-	345	-		
Philippines	8,840	5,195	1,025	-	955	†	-	1,665	-		
Singapore	95	45	20	5	10	5	-	5	-		
Sri Lanka	5,720	3,085	665	†	1,085	5	-	880	-		
Thailand	785	200	365	†	30	-	-	190	-		
Vietnam	190	65	60	-	25	†	-	40	-		
Remainder of Asia	24,295	13,005	3,220	15	3,240	40	-	4,770	†		
Oceania											
American Samoa	†	-	†	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Australia	3,380	1,375	505	†	120	1,165	-	210	-		
Fiji	25	10	10	-	-	†	-	†	-		
Nauru	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	†	-		
New Zealand	1,565	935	280	-	75	210	-	60	-		

Table 4 Grants⁽¹⁾ of British citizenship in the United Kingdom in 2006^(P) by previous nationality, type and category of grant (continued)

Previous nationality	Total	Naturalisation		Registration						Number of persons	
		Residence s.6(1)	Marriage ⁽²⁾ s.6(2)	Entitlement ⁽³⁾			Discretionary ⁽⁴⁾			Other ⁽⁵⁾ ss4A,4(5), 27(1),S.8	
				Adult ss 7,8, 10(1),13(1)	Minor Children ss 1(3),3 (2),3(5),9	Other ⁽⁵⁾ ss4B,C,4(2), 5,S.2,1(4)	Adult ss8(2),(3), 10(2),13(3)	Minor Children ss3(1)			
									Other ⁽⁵⁾		Adult
Papua New Guinea	5	-	†	-	-	-	-	-	†	-	
Samoa	†	†	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Solomon Islands	†	†	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Tonga	†	†	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Oceania	4,980	2,330	800	†	195	1,380	-	275	-	-	
Other											
British overseas territories citizen ⁽⁶⁾	470	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	465	
British Nationals (Overseas)	545	10	30	-	10	450	-	40	-	5	
British Overseas Citizen	1,545	25	10	†	5	1,485	-	5	-	10	
British subjects	190	15	†	15	†	155	-	†	-	†	
British protected persons	160	5	-	-	-	155	-	-	-	†	
Nationality Currently Unknown	10	†	†	-	5	†	-	5	-	-	
Nationality Unknown Officially Designated as Stateless	50	10	-	-	15	10	-	15	-	-	
Stateless - Defined 1954 Convention	100	25	†	-	40	†	-	30	-	-	
Stateless Refugee - Defined 1951 Convention	15	10	†	-	†	†	-	-	-	-	
Stateless refugee - Other	40	5	5	-	15	†	-	15	-	-	
Other	3,130	105	50	20	100	2,260	-	110	-	485	
All nationalities	154,015⁽⁷⁾	77,120	27,600	310	18,880	6,020	5	23,585	-	490	

(1) See explanatory note 5.

(2) Includes Civil Partnership(s.6(2)) introduced from 5 December 2005 (See explanatory note 3).

(3) See explanatory note 7.

(4) See explanatory note 8.

(5) Eligibility not restricted by age of applicant.

(6) Excluding Gibraltar BOTCs.

(7) In addition, 80 Gibraltar BOTCs were registered under section 5 of the British Nationality Act 1981.

Table 5 Grants⁽¹⁾ of British citizenship in the United Kingdom by age, 2003 - 2006⁽²⁾⁽³⁾

Age	Number of persons			
	2003	2004	2005 (R)	2006 (P)
Children Under 16	25,550	26,445	36,765	38,005
16-24	12,905	15,420	16,805	14,380
25-34	35,965	42,010	46,160	44,550
35-44	30,240	33,435	36,870	35,200
45-59	16,025	17,860	19,200	16,930
60+	4,690	5,370	5,810	4,990
Total	125,370	140,535	161,610	154,055

(1) See explanatory note 5.

(2) Data include grants of British citizenship in the Channel Islands and Isle of Man.

(3) Excludes 165 cases in 2003, 95 Cases in 2004, 50 cases in 2005 and 40 cases in 2006 for which information on age is not available; data is based on the cases for which information is provided, hence totals differ from those shown in tables 1, 2 and 3.

Table 6 Other grants of British citizenship by type of citizenship, 2002 - 2006

Type of citizenship	Number of persons				
	2002	2003	2004	2005 (R)	2006 (P)
British citizenship granted in the UK to residents of Hong Kong ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾	175	175	80	150	615
British overseas territories citizenship granted in the British overseas territories ⁽³⁾	515	1,355	1,000	245	430

(1) Includes persons of non-Chinese ethnic origin.

(2) Data prior to 2006, may undercount (See explanatory note 10).

(3) Data supplied by Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO).

Table 7 Reasons for refusal of British citizenship by type of refusal and other outcomes, 2003-2006

Reason for refusal	Number of applications			
	2003 (R)	2004 (R)	2005 (R)	2006 (P)
Incomplete applications ⁽¹⁾	600	820	1,310	1,600
Parent not a British citizen	775	1,100	1,670	2,175
Not of good character ⁽²⁾	945	1,195	1,665	1,775
Delay in replying to enquiries from IND	1,740	1,645	2,160	1,950
Residence ⁽³⁾	4,260	6,490	6,260	4,750
Oath not taken in time	115	105	340	105
Other ⁽⁴⁾	470	615	1,130	1,305
Total refusals	8,900	11,960	14,535	13,660
British already ⁽⁵⁾	1,400	1,495	1,860	1,445
Rejected applications ⁽⁶⁾	*	*	3,260	6,110
Withdrawn ⁽⁷⁾	180	195	250	255

(1) Includes cases where the applicant has not paid the fee, submitted unacceptable documentation, late and improper applications.

(2) Includes applicants who are considered a threat to national security.

(3) Includes applicants who have not lived lawfully in the UK for the required period, have been in breach of the immigration laws, have been absent from the UK for more than 450 days or more than 90 days in the in the last 12 months.
(See explanatory note 3, s6(1) and s6(2))

(4) Includes cases where the applicant: has an insufficient knowledge of English; is not of full capacity; is under/over the age limit; is not married to a British citizen; has no qualifying connections; is a threat to national security; and transitory period.

(5) Reflects cases where the applicant was already British and the application refused to 2005. In 2006 the figure includes applications rejected (see explanatory note 6).

(6) Applications rejected prior to consideration of the case (see explanatory note 6).

(7) Reflects cases where the application was withdrawn by the applicant.

Table 8 Persons attending a British citizenship ceremony by Region and Authority 2005 - 2006^(P)

Region	Authority ⁽¹⁾	Ceremony Attended ⁽²⁾		Region	Authority ⁽¹⁾	Number of persons	
		2005	2006 ^(P)			2005	2006 ^(P)
North East	Darlington	55	45	North West (cont)	Warrington	90	100
	Durham County Council	145	75		Wigan	75	95
	Gateshead	95	180		Wirral	105	120
	Hartlepool	35	15		Total	6,120	6,240
	Middlesborough Council	125	120	Yorkshire and The Humber	Barnsley M.B.C	50	60
	Newcastle upon Tyne	375	435		Calderdale	160	140
	North Tyneside	115	110		City of Bradford	1,145	1,000
	Northumberland	65	65		City of York	125	95
	Redcar and Cleveland	35	35		Doncaster	135	145
	South Tyneside	65	70		East Riding of Yorkshire	85	85
	Stockton-on-Tees	115	75		Kingston-upon-Hull	130	150
	Sunderland	85	160		Kirklees	570	500
Total	1,310	1,390	Leeds City		825	1,075	
North West	Blackburn and Darwen	360	495		North East Lincolnshire	65	70
	Blackpool	80	65	North Lincolnshire	70	65	
	Bolton	440	360	North Yorkshire	195	180	
	Bury	165	125	Rotherham	95	180	
	Cheshire	260	270	Sheffield City	825	825	
	Cumbria	110	90	Wakefield	155	170	
	Halton	15	25	Total	4,630	4,735	
	Knowsley	45	40	East Midlands	Derby City	465	480
	Lancashire	730	725		Derbyshire	185	160
	Liverpool	510	540		Leicester City	1,670	1,555
	Manchester	1,615	1,605		Leicestershire	420	410
	Oldham	305	335		Lincolnshire	270	200
	Rochdale	230	220		Northamptonshire	825	860
	Salford	155	240		Nottingham City	450	525
	Sefton	80	75		Nottinghamshire County Council	345	330
	St Helens	50	40	Rutland County Council	5	10	
	Stockport	255	255	Total	4,635	4,525	
Tameside	140	120					
Trafford	295	300					

Table 8 Persons attending a British citizenship ceremony by Region and Authority 2005 - 2006^(P) (continued)

Region	Authority ⁽¹⁾	Ceremony Attended ⁽²⁾		Region	Authority ⁽¹⁾	Number of persons	
		2005	2006 ^(P)			2005	2006 ^(P)
West Midlands	Birmingham	2,970	3,240	Geater London (cont)	Bromley	735	620
	Borough of Telford and Wrekin	110	105		Camden	2,045	1,725
	Coventry	820	910		Corporation of the City of London	80	85
	Dudley	255	245		Croydon	2,035	1,880
	Sandwell	660	835		Ealing	3,895	3,015
	Shropshire	60	75		Enfield	2,795	2,620
	Solihull MBC	160	145		Greenwich	1,695	1,315
	Staffordshire	280	265		Hackney	2,435	2,120
	Stoke-on-Trent	190	210		Hammersmith & Fulham	1,590	1,540
	Walsall	330	325		Haringey	3,110	2,130
	Warwickshire	355	360		Harrow	2,630	1,840
	Wolverhampton	555	775		Havering	395	350
	Worcestershire	285	230		Hillingdon	1,785	1,470
Total	7,030	7,715	Hounslow	2,075	1,690		
East of England	Bedfordshire	615	625	Islington	1,665	1,630	
	Cambridgeshire	650	725	Kensington and Chelsea	1,640	1,155	
	Essex	1,155	1,115	Kingston upon Thames	830	700	
	Herefordshire Council	55	40	Lambeth	2,475	2,275	
	Hertfordshire	1,910	1,760	Lewisham	1,965	1,655	
	Luton	940	695	Merton	965	1,475	
	Norfolk	390	420	Newham	2,890	2,115	
	Peterborough	310	375	Redbridge	2,100	1,790	
	Southend-on-Sea	245	165	Richmond upon Thames	855	725	
	Suffolk	415	385	Southwark	2,680	2,075	
	Thurrock	315	365	Tower Hamlets	1,580	1,810	
	Total	7,000	6,670	Waltham Forest	2,035	1,850	
Geater London	Barking & Dagenham	1,530	1,385	Wandsworth	2,095	2,135	
	Barnet	2,855	2,365	Westminster	2,565	2,035	
	Bexley	605	550	Total	63,045	53,755	
	Borough of Sutton (London)	655	590	South East	Bracknell Forest	215	235
	Brent	3,755	3,030		Brighton and Hove	495	445
				Buckinghamshire	790	715	

Table 8 Persons attending a British citizenship ceremony by Region and Authority 2005 - 2006^(P) (continued)

Region	Authority ⁽¹⁾	Ceremony Attended ⁽²⁾		Region	Authority ⁽¹⁾	Number of persons	
		2005	2006 ^(P)			2005	2006 ^(P)
South East (cont)	East Sussex	450	430	Scotland	Aberdeen City	195	180
	Hampshire	915	955		Aberdeenshire	60	60
	Isle of Wight	45	35		Angus	30	15
	Kent	1,350	1,470		Argyll & Bute Council	20	20
	Medway	315	270		City of Edinburgh	515	460
	Milton Keynes	765	790		Clackmannanshire	10	10
	Oxfordshire	995	1,045		Comhairle nan Eilean Siar	5	5
	Portsmouth	220	255		Dumfries & Galloway	40	15
	Reading	565	595		Dundee City	95	75
	Slough	1,015	1,015		East Ayrshire	20	25
	Southampton	385	365		East Dunbartonshire	65	70
	Surrey	1,990	1,890		East Lothian	25	15
	West Berkshire District Council	130	165		East Renfrewshire	45	45
	West Sussex	790	745		Falkirk	40	25
	Windsor & Maidenhead	330	315		Fife	115	95
	Wokingham	270	280		Glasgow City	585	675
Total	12,030	12,020	Highland	60	40		
South West	Bath and North East Somerset	95	80	Inverclyde	10	15	
	Bournemouth	200	210	Midlothian	25	15	
	Bristol	765	510	Moray	20	20	
	Cornwall	135	120	North Ayrshire	30	25	
	Devon	220	205	North Lanarkshire	65	60	
	Dorset	150	85	Orkney Islands	5	5	
	Gloucestershire	340	320	Perth & Kinross	30	25	
	North Somerset	80	80	Renfrewshire	50	40	
	Plymouth	90	100	Scottish Borders	30	20	
	Poole	95	90	Shetland Islands	5	5	
	Somerset	175	120	South Ayrshire	35	25	
	South Gloucestershire	155	165	South Lanarkshire	95	70	
	Swindon	225	270	Stirling	25	25	
	Torbay	40	50	West Dunbartonshire	10	10	
	Wiltshire	220	180	West Lothian	60	60	
	Total	2,985	2,585	Total	2,425	2,245	

Table 8 Persons attending a British citizenship ceremony by Region and Authority 2005 - 2006^(P) (continued)

Region	Authority ⁽¹⁾	Ceremony Attended ⁽²⁾		Region	Authority ⁽¹⁾	Number of persons			
		2005	2006 ^(P)			2005	2006 ^(P)		
Wales	Blaenau Gwent	5	5	Northern Ireland		280	230		
	Bridgend	40	50						
	Caerphilly	25	30		Channel Islands	Guernsey	20	30	
	Cardiff	410	445			Jersey	50	60	
	Carmarthenshire	45	70			Total	70	95	
	Ceredigion	20	25		Isle of Man		85	80	
	City & County of Swansea	105	130						
	Conwy	35	30						
	Denbighshire	25	35		Gibraltar		35	-	
	Flintshire	25	35						
	Gwynedd	25	35		Total (United Kingdom)		112,815	103,530	
	Isle of Anglesey	10	10						
	Merthyr Tydfil	10	15						
	Monmouthshire	30	20						
	Neath Port Talbot	25	30						
	Newport	105	105						
	Pembrokeshire	20	30						
	Powys	35	20						
	Rhondda-Cynon-Taff	45	30						
	Torfaen	20	15						
Vale of Glamorgan	50	45							
Wrexham	35	45							
Total		1,145	1,250						

(1) Includes both County and Local Authorities.

(2) Relates to adults only (See explanatory note 9).

Table 9 Take-up rates of British citizenship by region of birth, 2006^(P)

Region or country of birth	Total number of persons born outside the UK	British citizens born outside the UK	Proportion of persons who are British citizens after being in the UK for:			
			6 to 10 years	11 to 20 years	21 years or more	Total 6 years or more ⁽¹⁾
Europe	1,967,000	576,000	19%	38%	51%	42%
<i>EEA excl Irish Republic</i>	1,227,000	412,000	15%	42%	68%	52%
<i>Irish Republic</i>	424,000	87,000	6%	7%	25%	21%
<i>Rest of Europe</i>	316,000	77,000	30%	54%	69%	45%
Americas	643,000	310,000	26%	52%	76%	62%
<i>Caribbean, Central and South America</i>	396,000	231,000	26%	58%	83%	70%
<i>Canada and USA</i>	247,000	79,000	27%	45%	56%	47%
Africa	1,109,000	559,000	37%	68%	91%	70%
Indian sub-continent	1,075,000	663,000	47%	73%	87%	78%
Middle East	218,000	107,000	47%	80%	81%	72%
Remainder of Asia	599,000	239,000	31%	60%	81%	62%
Oceania	173,000	59,000	21%	39%	68%	49%
Other ⁽²⁾	32,000	13,000
Total excluding Other⁽²⁾	5,783,000	2,512,000	31%	58%	72%	60%

SOURCE: UK Labour Force Survey, January 2006 - December 2006. The figures presented in this paper are estimates and not definitive take-up rates of British citizenship.

There are a number of well documented reasons why the LFS is deficient in estimating the population of overseas nationals required for this analysis (see Background Note 14).

(1) The percentage of all people who were born in the stated region or country and had been resident in the UK for 6 years or more, who are British citizens

(2) Includes Other New Commonwealth, "rest of the world", stateless, at sea/in air, no response.

.. Not available due to small sample sizes.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Persons granted British Citizenship

1. The British Nationality Act 1981 came into force on 1 January 1983. Certain entitlements to citizenship, which had existed before 1 January 1983, were extended for a transitional period which, in most cases, ended on 31 December 1987.
2. The nationality shown in the first column of Tables 3 and 4 is the one, or in cases of dual nationality the main one, that the person possessed immediately before acquiring British citizenship.
3. The categories shown in Tables 2 and 4 relate to the section of the British Nationality Act 1981 under which citizenship was acquired. The following is a brief summary of the provisions of the relevant sections of the Act.

s.1(3) - entitlement to registration of a minor born in the United Kingdom since 1 January 1983 when one of his/her parents later becomes a British citizen or becomes settled in the United Kingdom.

s.1(4) - entitlement to registration of a person in the United Kingdom since 1 January 1983 who spent the first ten years of his/her life in the United Kingdom.

s.3(1) - discretionary registration of a minor as a British citizen.

s.3(2) - entitlement to registration of a minor less than one year old born outside the United Kingdom since 1 January 1983 (or outside the United Kingdom and the qualifying territories⁷ since 21 May 2002) to a parent who was a British citizen by descent.

s.3(5) - entitlement to registration of a minor born outside the United Kingdom since 1 January 1983 (or outside the United Kingdom and the qualifying territories⁷ since 21 May 2002) to a parent who was a British citizen by descent where the minor and parents are resident in the United Kingdom or a qualifying territory.⁷

s.4A - discretionary registration for adults and minors who are British overseas territories citizens by connection with a qualifying territory.⁷

s.4B - entitlement to registration for British overseas citizens, British subjects and British protected persons who have no other citizenship or nationality.

s.4C - entitlement to registration for certain people born after 7 February 1961 and before 1 January 1983 to mothers who were citizens of the United Kingdom and Colonies at the time of their birth.

s.4(2) - entitlement to registration of a British overseas territories citizen, a British Overseas citizen, a British National (Overseas), a British subject or a British protected person resident in the United Kingdom.

⁷ References to "qualifying territory" are references to the British overseas territories except for the Sovereign Base Areas of Akrotiri and Dhekelia (in Cyprus).

s.4(5) - discretionary registration on the grounds of Crown service in a British overseas territory of a British overseas territories citizen, a British Overseas citizen, a British National (Overseas), a British subject or a British protected person.

s.5 - entitlement to registration of a British overseas territories citizen from Gibraltar.

s.6(1) - naturalisation of an adult by virtue of 5 years residence in the United Kingdom or UK Crown service.

s.6(2) - naturalisation of an adult who is married to⁸ British citizen by virtue of 3 years residence in the United Kingdom.

s.7 - transitional entitlements to registration of a Commonwealth citizen who was resident in the United Kingdom.

s.8(1) - transitional entitlement to registration of a woman still married since before 1983 to a man who became a British citizen on 1 January 1983.

s.8(2) and 8(3) - transitional discretionary registration of a woman married before 1983 to a man who either (a) became or would have become a British citizen but for his death (and they were no longer married) or renounced citizenship (and they were still married).

s.9 - transitional entitlement to registration of a minor less than one year old born abroad on or after 1 January 1983 who, if they had been born before 1 January 1983 and had been consularly registered, would have become a British citizen on 1 January 1983.

s.10(1) - entitlement to acquire British citizenship by a person who had renounced citizenship of the United Kingdom and Colonies before 1983.

s.10(2) - discretionary registration of a person connected with the United Kingdom who renounced citizenship of the United Kingdom and Colonies before 1983.

s.13(1) - entitlement to resume British citizenship by a person who has previously renounced it.

s.13(3) - discretionary registration of a person who has previously renounced British citizenship.

Schedule 2 - entitlement to registration of a stateless person.

Schedule 8 - relates to applications made before the commencement of the 1981 Act and provides that: (a) applications will continue to be decided in accordance with the provisions of the previous nationality Acts and (b) applicants, if successful, acquire the citizenship they would have acquired on 1 January 1983 if the application had been decided before 1983.

⁸ Or civil partner under the terms of the Civil Partnership Act (effective from 5 December, 2005).

4. There are currently six forms of British nationality.

- **British citizens** are the majority. They have that citizenship usually through a connection with the UK and have the right of abode in the UK.
- **British overseas territories citizens** (BOTCs) – known as British Dependent Territories citizens before February 2002 - have that citizenship through a connection with a British overseas territory such as Gibraltar, St Helena etc. NB. Hong Kong BDTCs lost that citizenship automatically on 1 July 1997 but may still hold another form of British nationality (see below).
- **British Overseas citizens** (BOCs) are a smaller group connected with the former British colonies who, for the most part, did not acquire citizenship of the new country when it attained independence. Hong Kong BDTCs became BOCs on 1 July 1997 if they would otherwise have been stateless.
- **British Nationals (Overseas)** (BN(O)s) are a separate sub-group of former Hong Kong BDTCs. The vast majority of British Nationals (Overseas) are ethnically Chinese who became Chinese on 1 July 1997. Although their BDTC status was lost on that date they are, as BN(O)s, entitled to hold a British passport.
- **British subjects** (BSs) are a dwindling group of people who normally hold that status for either: of the following reasons.
 - (a) By virtue of their birth in Eire before 1 January 1949.
 - (b) Because they were BSs before 1 January 1949 through a connection with a place which became a Commonwealth country on that date and, although they were potentially citizens of that country, did not acquire citizenship of that or any other country before 1 January 1983. Known as British subjects without citizenship before 1983, they would lose that status if they acquired another nationality.
- **British protected persons** (BPPs) are a small group of persons who hold that status through a connection (normally birth) with a place which was either a UK protectorate, protected state, mandated or trust territory. In most cases, BPP status was lost if the place was part of a country which attained independence or if they acquired another nationality.

5. **Grants:** A positive outcome of an application for British citizenship prior to attending a citizenship ceremony by applicants over 18 years of age. At the ceremony, the applicant takes the Oath or Affirmation of allegiance to Her Majesty the Queen and the Pledge of loyalty to the United Kingdom. Children under 18 do not have to take the Oath/Affirmation or Pledge.

6. **Rejection:** In 2005 and 2006, new processes for rejecting applications, prior to any substantive consideration of the case, were introduced. These processes deal with situations where the applicant is found to be British already or whose application is not at the outset supported by the requisite evidence of entitlement to or qualification for British citizenship. A number of rejections were previously erroneously included in the refusals for 2005. These have been excluded from the revised figures.

7. **Entitlement:** The applicant satisfied the conditions specified by the 1981 Act.

8. **Discretionary:** The success of the application depends, either in whole or in part on the Secretary of State being satisfied on the basis of all the information at his disposal that it would be appropriate to grant.

9. **Ceremony Attended:** A ceremony organised by County or Local Authorities for successful applicants over 18 years of age for British citizenship (Table 8). At the ceremony, the applicant takes the Oath or Affirmation of allegiance to Her Majesty the Queen and the Pledge of loyalty to the United Kingdom. Since 1 January 2004 this has been the final stage in the process of attaining British citizenship.

10. The figure relating to grants of British citizenship to residents of Hong Kong in the UK for 2006 is drawn from a new source of more complete data. It is understood that figures for 2005 and earlier years significantly under count grants of this type. There is therefore a discontinuity in the series between 2005 and 2006.

British Citizenship take-up rates

11. The 'Life in the UK Advisory Group' was established in September 2002 with the remit: "*To advise the Home Secretary on the method, conduct and implementation of a 'Life in the United Kingdom' naturalisation test.*" More information can be found at http://www.ind.homeoffice.gov.uk/ind/en/home/0/reports/life_in_the_uk.html

12. Information from the UK Labour Force Survey (LFS), run by the Office for National Statistics, was used to produce Table 9. The LFS is a quarterly sample survey of households living at private addresses in Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Its purpose is to provide information on the labour market but it includes questions on the respondents' country of birth, nationality, and the year in which they arrived in the UK (if born outside the UK). As these figures are based on a sample, they are estimates and subject to sampling error.

13. Data for four quarters in 2006 (January-March, April-June, July-September and October-December) were averaged to produce an annual estimate for 2006. Cross-tabulations of the LFS variables NATOX (main nationality) and CAMEYR (year in which respondent arrived in the UK, which is asked of all persons not born in the UK) against the variable CRYOX (country of birth) were produced. From these analyses, estimates were made of the number of overseas-born British citizens; dividing these by the total number of overseas-born persons in each nationality and year breakdown provided broad estimates of British citizenship take-up rate.

14. The figures presented in this paper are estimates and not definitive take-up rates of British citizenship. There are a number of well documented reasons why the LFS is deficient in estimating the population of overseas nationals required for this analysis. For example the LFS:

- excludes those who have not been resident in the UK for 6 months;
- excludes students in halls who do not have a UK resident parent;
- excludes people in most other types of communal establishments;
- is grossed to population estimates that include only migrants staying for 12 months or more.

15. Additionally the microdata are only grossed to population estimates consistent with those published in spring 2003 which are significantly lower than the latest population estimates.

16. The year of arrival question in the LFS refers to data of arrival to take up residence; if the respondent takes up residence in this country, but leaves the country to live elsewhere before returning to take up permanent residence again, it is the first date of arriving in this country that is requested in the survey.

17. The figures presented here should be treated as provisional. However, as percentages have been given in this bulletin, these would change very slightly when more up-to-date population estimates are applied to LFS estimates. The reason for this is that whilst the numbers of people born overseas will change with re-weighting of the microdata, percentages are relatively unaffected as both the numerator and denominator will change by similar proportions.

18. The figures in Table 9 show the proportions of overseas-born persons who are British citizens. The figures also include overseas citizens born in the UK, but this group is very small (4 per cent) in relation to the overseas-born population. These figures include persons of all ages, i.e. they include children born abroad. An appreciable number will have acquired citizenship by registration as children. This group will include some who were British at birth (e.g. children born to parents living in British military bases abroad) but it is not possible to separately identify them.

The following assumptions have been made to produce these estimates.

- The original nationality of overseas-born persons is the same as their country of birth.
- Dual nationals who have British as one nationality quote their British nationality as their main one, and those with two non-British nationalities quote the same nationality as their country of birth.
- The year given as when the respondent arrived in the UK is the year in which the respondent commenced his/her long-term stay in the UK. It may be the case that some persons become a UK citizen, then return to their country of birth – or another country – for a period of time, before returning to continue their life in the UK.

General

19. The following symbols are used in the tables.

* not applicable

- Nil

† 2 or less

.. Sample size too small to produce a reliable estimate

(P) Provisional figures

(R) Figures have been revised since the previous issue of this bulletin, for example to include late returns

20. Statistics for the years 1962-1983 were published annually in "Statistics of persons acquiring Citizenship of the United Kingdom and Colonies" (for 1962-77), "Tables of persons acquiring Citizenship of the United Kingdom and Colonies" (for 1978-82) and "Tables of persons acquiring British Citizenship" (for 1983), all of which are available from The Stationery Office. Statistics for 1984 and subsequent years were published in the relevant annual Statistical Bulletin.

Enquiries about the figures should be made to:

Home Office
Research, Development and Statistics Directorate
Immigration Research and Statistics
Room 1402
Apollo House
36 Wellesley Road
Croydon
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Home Office
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