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A dozen key facts on immigration

Migrants are arriving at the rate of 500,000 a year - or nearly one a minute.[1]

1 Allowing for those who leave, net foreign migration reached 333,000 in 2007, three times the level of 1997.[2]

2 The total of migrants who have arrived since 1997 is about 3 million[3] (net foreign immigration of 2.67 plus half the latest estimate of 725,000 illegals).[4]

3 In 2007 one in three London residents were born outside the UK.[5]

4 In 2008 one in nine of the UK population was born overseas.[6]

5 Immigration will add nearly 7 million to our population in the next 20 years, mainly in England.[7] That is equivalent to seven times the population of Birmingham.

6 England is now the most crowded country in Europe (apart from Malta)[8] and the fourth most crowded major country in the world.[9]

7 Nearly 40% of household formation in the period 2006-31 will be a result of new immigration - that is 2.5 million extra households.[10]

8 The government's own calculation is that immigration raised production by 0.15% per annum in the ten years to 2006[11] - that works out at 62 pence per head per week.

9 The number of foreign born workers over 16 had doubled since 1997 from 1.9 million to 3.8 million.[12] Of these 2.6 million came from outside the EU.

10 One in seven pupils aged 4-11 does not have English as a first language - amounting to 466,000 children.[13]

11 81% of the public agree that the government should substantially reduce immigration levels to Britain.[14]

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Updated

NOTES

- 1 ONS Total International Migration Time Series 1991 - 2007 Table 2.01a
- 2 Ibid
- 3 Ibid
- 4 Interim report from LSE London, 16 February 09 "Economic Impact on London and the UK of an Earned Regularisation of Irregular Migrants in the UK"
- 5 ONS Population Trends Number 135 Page 28
- 6 ONS Press Release 23 February 2009
- 7 Government Actuary's Department (GAD 2007), 2006 Based Principal Projection
- 8 Hansard 3 December 2007 Column 1036W updated
- 9 UN Population Stats
- 10 DCLG Statistical Release at www.communities.gov.uk/publications/corporate/statistics/2031households0309
- 11 "The Economic Impact of Immigration" Cm7414 June 2008
- 12 ONS Quarterly Migrant Worker Estimates February 2009 Table 2
- 13 www.desf.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s000786/SFR_09_2008.pdf
- 14 Yougov November 2007