How many foreign-born people live in the North West?

A total of 677,000 people born in other countries made up an estimated 9.5% of the North West's population of 7,134,000 in 2017, which is lower than the UK average of 14.4%.

The foreign born made up the largest shares of the population in Manchester (24.6%) and Blackburn with Darwin (16.6%), with much lower shares in other areas such as Cumbria (3.7%) and Wigan (4.3%).

Most migrants in the North West are from non-EU countries: 59% in 2017, which is similar to the UK average of 61%. In 2017 there were:

- 276,000 EU-born residents (4% of the population of North West; 41% of the region's foreign-born residents)
- 401,000 non-EU born residents (6% of the population of North West, 59% of the region's foreign-born residents)
- **6,456,000 UK-born residents** (90% of the region's population)

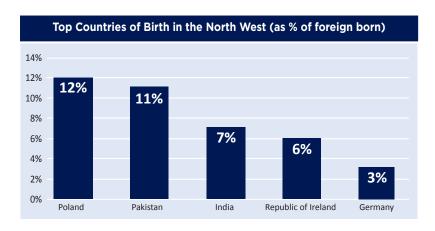
What are the top countries of birth for migrants in the North West?

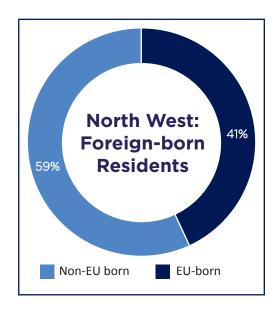
Top countries of birth in the North West in 2017 were:

Poland: 83,000 or 12% of the North West's foreign-born residents

Pakistan: 77,000 or 11%
India: 50,000 or 7%
Ireland: 41,000 or 6%
Germany: 22,000 or 3%

All these countries are also among the top countries of origin for the UK as a whole.





| UK's top 10 countries of birth | Percent of UK's foreign born | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|--|--|
| Poland | 10% | | |
| India | 9% | | |
| Pakistan | 6% | | |
| Romania | 4% | | |
| Republic of Ireland | 4% | | |
| Germany | 3% | | |
| Bangladesh | 3% | | |
| Italy | 2% | | |
| South Africa | 2% | | |
| China | 2% | | |

What industries do foreign-born workers in the North West work in?

Approximately 11% of people working in the North West were foreign born in 2017, lower than the UK average of 18%. About 5% of workers (166,000 people) were from EU countries and 6% (199,000 people) were from non-EU countries.

The top industry employing the EU born was manufacturing (29,000 EU-born workers) and the top industry employing the non-EU born was health and social work (38,000 non-EU born workers). These figures exclude seasonal agricultural work, which is not captured in the official data.

| Industry in 2017 | EU born | Non-EU born | Non-UK born | UK born | Total |
|--|--------------|--------------|---------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Retail | 25,000 (5%) | 30,000 (6%) | 55,000 (11%) | 420,000 (88%) | 475,000 (100%) |
| Health and social work | 17,000 (4%) | 38,000 (8%) | 55,000 (12%) | 424,000 (88%) | 480,000 (100%) |
| Professional services, finance and admin | 23,000 (4%) | 24,000 (5%) | 47,000 (9%) | 477,000 (91%) | 524,000 (100%) |
| Manufacturing | 29,000 (8%) | 14,000 (4%) | 43,000 (12%) | 316,000 (88%) | 359,000 (100%) |
| Transport and storage | 20,000 (11%) | 23,000 (13%) | 43,000 (24%) | 141,000 (76%) | 184,000 (100%) |
| Hospitality | 16,000 (8%) | 24,000 (12%) | 40,000 (21%) | 151,000 (79%) | 191,000 (100%) |
| Education | 10,000 (3%) | 15,000 (4%) | 26,000 (7%) | 328,000 (93%) | 353,000 (100%) |
| Other industries | 26,000 (3%) | 31,000 (4%) | 56,000 (7%) | 749,000 (93%) | 805,000 (100%) |
| All industries | 166,000 (5%) | 199,000 (6%) | 365,000 (11%) | 3,006,000 (89%) | 3,371,000 (100%) |

All data in these profiles come from Migration Observatory analysis of the Office of National Statistics' Annual Population Survey (APS) for 2017. The APS is a survey of private households has important limitations. The estimates come with margins of error, which means that small differences between figures presented may not be statistically significant – especially where the estimate itself is relatively small. The APS excludes some people, such as residents of communal establishments like hostels, and other groups may be undercounted due to survey non-response. The data do not include seasonal workers, and therefore do not provide reliable figures for agriculture in particular. Note on industry definitions: the 'retail' industry includes wholesale and repair of motor vehicles.