

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

A total of 513,000 people born in other countries made up an estimated 9.4% of the South West's population of 5,448,000 in 2017, which is lower than the UK average of 14.4%.

The foreign born make up the largest share of the population in Exeter (20.6%) and Bournemouth (19.8%) with much lower shares in other areas such as Cornwall (4.9%) and East Devon (5.1%).

Most migrants in the South West are from non-EU countries: 53% in 2017, which is lower than the UK average of 61%. In 2017 there were:

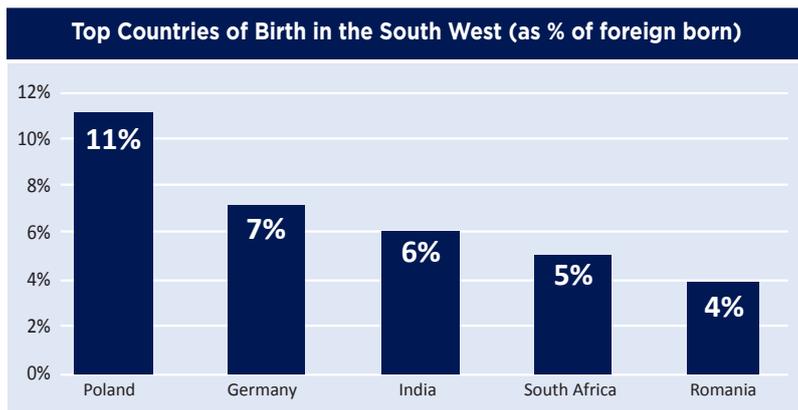
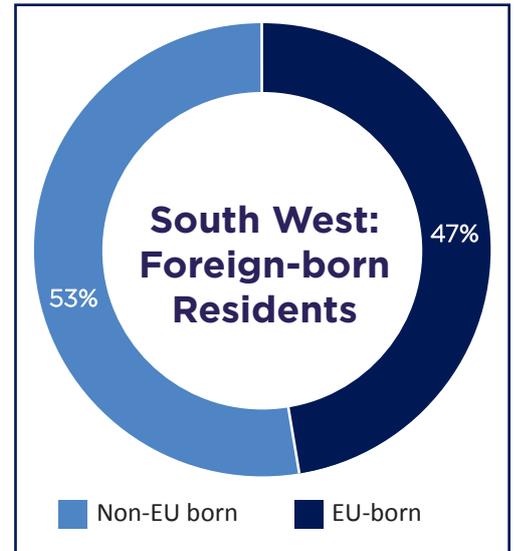
- **243,000 EU-born residents** (4% of the population of South West; 47% of the region's foreign-born residents)
- **270,000 non-EU born residents** (5% of the population of South West, 53% of the region's foreign-born residents)
- **4,934,000 UK-born residents** (91% of the region's population)

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

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

- **Poland:** 56,000 or 11% of the region's foreign-born residents
- **Germany:** 36,000 or 7%
- **India:** 32,000 or 6%
- **South Africa:** 24,000 or 5%
- **Romania:** 22,000 or 4%

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 South West work in?

Approximately 12% of people working in the South West in 2017 were foreign born, lower than the UK average of 18%. About 6% were born in EU countries (170,000 workers) and 6% non-EU countries (162,000 workers).

The top industry employing both EU and non-EU born workers was health, education and public administration (48,000 EU-born workers and 55,000 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 |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Health, education and public administration | 48,000 (6%) | 55,000 (7%) | 103,000 (12%) | 723,000 (88%) | 825,000 (100%) |
| Professional services, finance and admin | 23,000 (5%) | 26,000 (6%) | 50,000 (11%) | 405,000 (89%) | 455,000 (100%) |
| Manufacturing | 32,000 (12%) | 16,000 (6%) | 47,000 (18%) | 210,000 (82%) | 257,000 (100%) |
| Retail | 18,000 (5%) | 17,000 (5%) | 35,000 (9%) | 334,000 (91%) | 369,000 (100%) |
| Hospitality | 18,000 (9%) | 16,000 (8%) | 34,000 (18%) | 154,000 (82%) | 188,000 (100%) |
| Transport and IT | 13,000 (6%) | 15,000 (8%) | 28,000 (14%) | 170,000 (86%) | 198,000 (100%) |
| Other industries | 19,000 (4%) | 17,000 (4%) | 37,000 (8%) | 424,000 (92%) | 460,000 (100%) |
| All industries | 170,000 (6%) | 162,000 (6%) | 332,000 (12%) | 2,420,000 (88%) | 2,752,000 (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.