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**Coverage**

United Kingdom

**Theme**

Population and Migration

# Key population and vital statistics for 2000

The North East region of England had the highest proportion of births outside marriage in the UK (50.5 per cent) and Northern Ireland the lowest (31.8 per cent). These and a range of other key statistics for population, births, deaths and migration in 2000 for the whole of the United Kingdom are published today\* by National Statistics.

This information is the latest to be analysed down to the level of local government and health areas in England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland in a convenient single volume. Other key findings show:

- The resident population of the United Kingdom was just under 59.8 million, England and Wales 52.9 million, Scotland 5.1 million and Northern Ireland 1.7 million. Of Government Office Regions in England, the South East continued to be the most populous region, with just over 8.1 million people.
- Within England, London had the highest estimated net inflow of population (52,000) followed by the South East (48,000). The West Midlands was estimated to have experienced the largest net loss due to migration (-7,500), followed by the North East (-2,500). Wales showed a net gain (11,800), Northern Ireland showed a net loss (-2,900), and Scotland a small net loss (-500).
- Allowing for the age structure of the population, at national level, Northern Ireland had the highest fertility rate (an average of 1.74 births per woman), while Scotland had the lowest (1.47 births per woman). Within England and Wales, London had the highest rate (1.72 births per woman), and the North East the lowest (1.57).

Issued by  
National Statistics  
1 Drummond Gate  
London SW1V 2QQ

Telephone  
Press Office 020 7533 5702  
Public Enquiries 0845 6013034

Statistician  
Jenny Wood 01329 813403  
Email [jenny.wood@ons.gov.uk](mailto:jenny.wood@ons.gov.uk)

Internet  
[www.statistics.gov.uk/releases](http://www.statistics.gov.uk/releases)

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\* *Key population & vital statistics 2000* Series VS no 27 PP1 no 23

**Available free on the ONS website:**  
[www.statistics.gov.uk/statbase/Product.asp?vlnk=539&more=N](http://www.statistics.gov.uk/statbase/Product.asp?vlnk=539&more=N)

## **BACKGROUND NOTES**

1. Details of the policy governing the release of new data are available from the press office.
2. National Statistics are produced to high professional standards set out in the National Statistics Code of Practice. They undergo regular quality assurance reviews to ensure that they meet customer needs. They are produced free from any political interference. © Crown copyright 2002.