

Ethnicity and Migration: Waitakere City and New Zealand Trends

1. Introduction

This report provides a selection of statistics, primarily from the most recent Census held in March 2001, on ethnicity and migration relevant to Waitakere City.

2. An Overview of Migration to Waitakere City, 1992-2003

In this section we provide a brief summary of migration over the last 10 years or so. We will consider only external migrants, i.e., those from overseas, rather than those who have come to Waitakere City from other parts of New Zealand.

Figure 1 shows the number of migrants arriving in each 12-month period by broad geographic region of last permanent residence, for July 1992–July 1993 and July 2002–July 2003 as collated from arrival cards collected at points of entry. These figures include New Zealand citizens returning home after a lengthy overseas visit; up to one-third of migrants are returning New Zealanders, according to Statistics New Zealand. The figures do not include, however, those migrants who enter other New Zealand destinations on their arrival cards but subsequently move to Waitakere City, which is often an attractive location for new migrants because of the availability of relatively affordable housing.

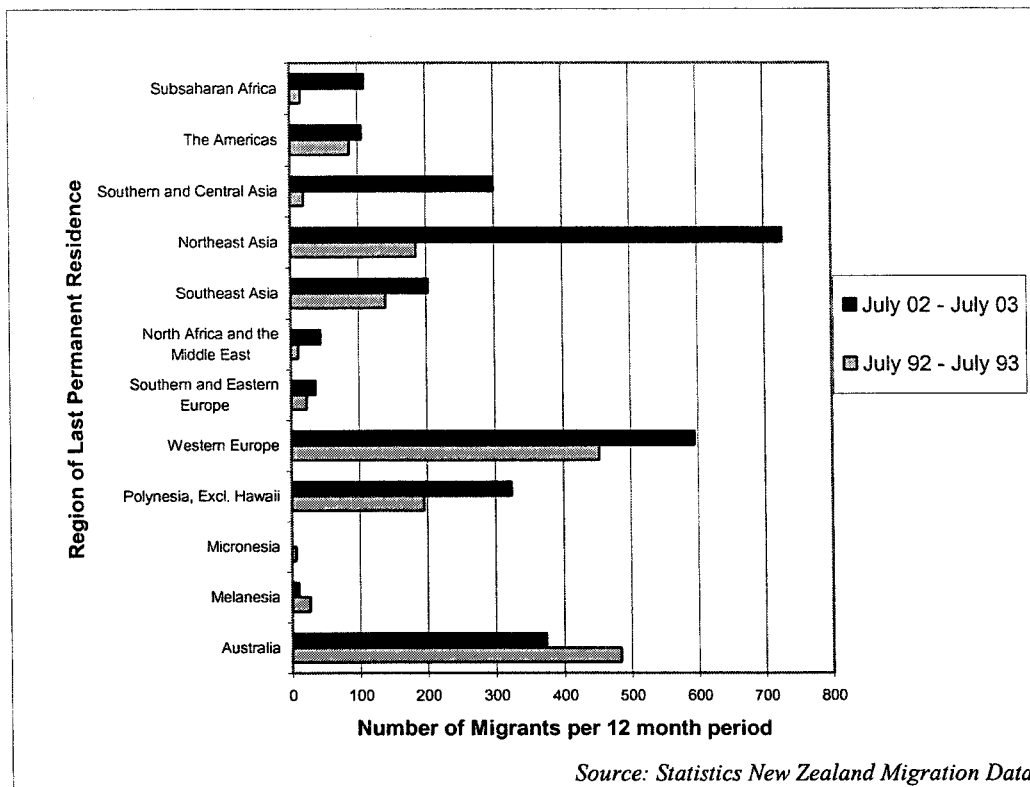
The largest increase over this 10-year time period has been for migrants from Northeast Asia (see notes on page 3 for a list of countries making up this category), having increased from 185 over the period July 1992–93 to 728 over the period July 2002–03. This growth has not been constant from year to year, but has followed the pattern shown in Figure 2, where the migration trends from Southeast Asia and Western Europe are also shown for comparison. Migration from Australia and Melanesia, by contrast to that from all other regions, as indicated by Figure 1, has decreased from July 92–93 to July 02–03.

More detailed statistics giving the total number of migrants for the whole period July 1992 to July 2003 by country of last permanent residence are given in Table A1 of the Appendix.

The migration data shows that those countries from which migrant numbers increased the most from the July 1992–93 period to the July 2002–03 period in Waitakere City, in terms of percentage change, were India (2025%), China (1867%), Korea (824%), South Africa (810%), United Arab Emirates (700%), Iran (700%), Vietnam (600%) and Ireland (500%).

While these percentage changes are large in comparison to, say, those for migrants arriving from the United Kingdom (where the change from July 1992–93 to July 2002–03 was 30%) or Australia (a decrease of 21.8% over the same time period), the actual numbers of migrants is small compared to the population as a whole: there were a total of 961 migrants from these eight countries (India through Ireland as listed above) arriving in the July 2002-03 time period, compared to 65 migrants in the July 1992-93 time period. This is approximately one-half of one percent of the total Waitakere City population (July 2002-03) compared to 0.05% (July 1992-93).

Figure 1: Number of migrants to Waitakere City arriving over a 12 month period by region of origin for July 92–July 93 and July 02–July 03. Countries included in each of the regional categories are listed in Table A1 in the Appendix.



In the Auckland region, approximately 1 in 3 people in the 2001 Census were born overseas, the same proportion as the whole of the country back in 1901. The largest total number of migrants over the years July 1992 to July 2003 came from the United Kingdom (4716), Australia (4623), and the People’s Republic of China (1895). The next largest groups of migrants originated from Fiji (1332) and Samoa (1112). The total number of migrants from all countries during this period was 25,285, equivalent to 15% of the 2001 Waitakere City population.

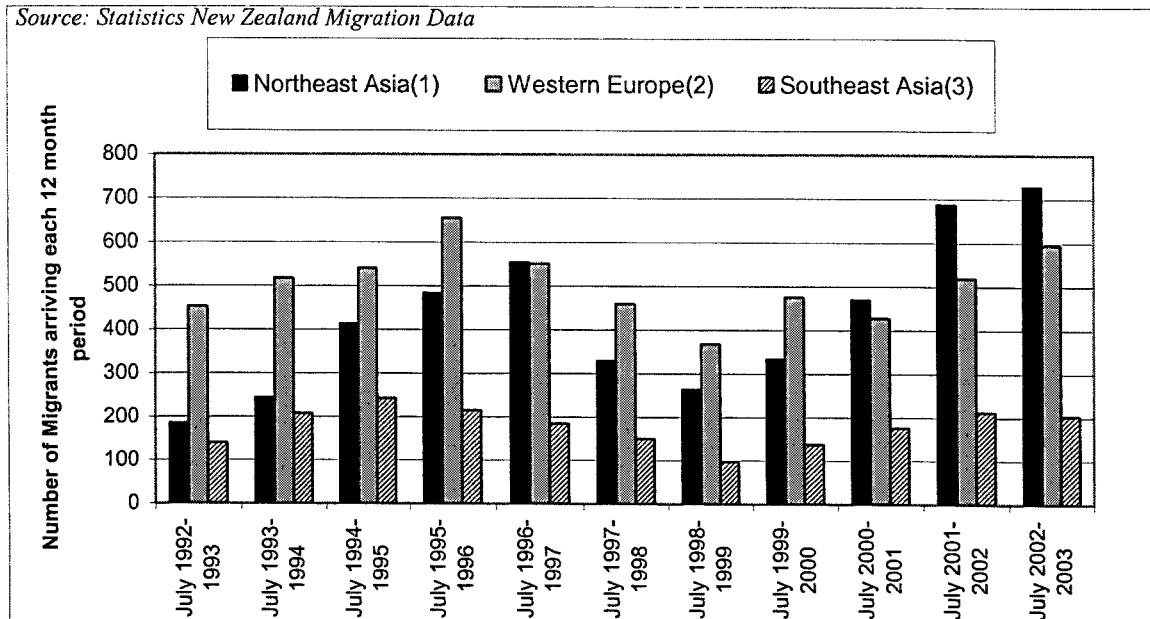
New migrants to Waitakere City have tended to choose to live in areas where there are established migrant communities. The eight Census Area Units where the highest numbers of recent migrants (defined as those who have lived in New Zealand less than five years) were living at the time of the 2001 Census are given in Table 1.

Table 1: Number of new migrants (those having lived less than 5 years in New Zealand) by Census Area Unit (CAU) for those CAUs having over 400 new migrants in 2001.

| Census Area Unit | Number of new migrants |
|------------------|------------------------|
| New Lynn North | 1125 |
| Ranui North | 600 |
| Lucken Point | 522 |
| Fairdene | 468 |
| Kelston Central | 438 |
| Glen Eden East | 429 |
| Rewarewa | 414 |
| Henderson North | 411 |

Source: Statistics New Zealand Census 2001

Figure 2: Trends in 12-month period migration from Northeast Asia, Western Europe, and Southeast Asia to Waitakere City, July 1992-July 2003.



Note: Regional categories for this dataset are defined as follows:

1. Northeast Asia: People's Republic of China, Hong Kong, Republic of Korea, Japan, Taiwan, Macau, and Mongolia.
2. Europe: England, Germany, Netherlands, Scotland, Ireland, Switzerland, France, Wales, Sweden, Northern Ireland, Norway, Denmark, Channel Islands, Belgium, Finland, Austria, Isle of Man, Iceland, and Luxembourg.
3. Southeast Asia: Philippines, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, Indonesia, Cambodia, Brunei Darussalam, Viet Nam, Laos, and East Timor.

A natural consequence of immigration to New Zealand has been, and is expected to be into the future, a change in the age distribution of the country, reducing the general ageing trend which would otherwise occur. Waitakere City's median age was 32 in 2001 (somewhat lower than the national median of 34.7), compared with 29 in 1991. By way of comparison, on average throughout New Zealand, the median age of Korean immigrants was 24.6 years; for Chinese and Indian immigrants the median ages were 28.8 and 29.0 years respectively. Forty percent of migrants arriving in 2001 were between 25 and 44 years old, 45% were younger than 25, and just 3% were 65 years and older.

3. Ethnicity in Waitakere City

The relative proportion of Census respondents identifying as belonging to the European, Maori, Pacific Peoples, Asian, or Other Ethnic Groups is given in Table 2. These categories are known in the Census context as Level 1 categories and are aggregations of up to 231 more specific ethnic groups. Ethnicity statistics at an intermediate detail level, Level 3 (having 41 categories), are given in Table 3 below.

Table 2. Ethnicity of Waitakere City residents as measured in the 2001 and 1996 Census. Percent values are calculated from the total population count of 168,750 (2001 Census) and 155,565 (1996 Census), and do not add up to 100% as respondents may identify with, and nominate, more than one ethnic group.

| Level 1 Ethnicity Group | Number of responses (2001) | Percent of Waitakere City total population | Number of responses (1996) | Percent of Waitakere City total population |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|--|----------------------------|--|
| European | 117,666 | 69.7% | 115,983 | 74.6% |
| Maori | 21,399 | 12.7% | 20,181 | 13.0% |
| Pacific Peoples | 25,167 | 14.9% | 18,414 | 11.8% |
| Asian | 17,868 | 10.6% | 11,115 | 7.1% |
| Other Ethnic Groups | 1,647 | 1.0% | 897 | 0.6% |

Source: Statistics New Zealand Census, 2001 and 1996

While not directly correlated to ethnicity, the number of languages spoken in Waitakere City, and the numbers of residents able to speak them, is another useful indicator of social change. In the 1996 Census, the most commonly spoken languages apart from English were Samoan (7341 speakers), Maori (4488), Chinese (3114), Dutch (1785), French (1647) and German (1527). Hindi and Korean were spoken by 1059 and 1011 people respectively. Further details on languages spoken for the 2001 Census are currently being sought from Statistics New Zealand.

Table 3. Ethnicity in Waitakere City, as measured by the 2001 Census, at the Level 3 classification.

| Level 3 Ethnicity Category | Number of responses | Percent of total Waitakere City population |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|--|
| New Zealand European | 104247 | 61.78% |
| British and Irish | 4644 | 2.75% |
| Other European | 2718 | 1.61% |
| Dutch | 1722 | 1.02% |
| European not further defined | 1407 | 0.83% |
| South Slav (formerly Yugoslav) | 1008 | 0.60% |
| Australian | 948 | 0.56% |
| German | 579 | 0.34% |
| Italian | 177 | 0.10% |
| Polish | 129 | 0.08% |
| Greek (incl Greek Cypriot) | 66 | 0.04% |
| Other European not further defined | 21 | 0.01% |
| Total European | 117,666 | 69.72% |
| Maori | 21399 | 12.68% |
| Total Maori | 21,399 | 12.68% |
| Samoan | 13407 | 7.94% |
| Cook Island Maori | 3642 | 2.16% |
| Tongan | 2892 | 1.71% |
| Niuean | 2439 | 1.45% |
| Other Pacific Peoples | 1545 | 0.92% |
| Fijian | 825 | 0.49% |
| Tokelauan | 366 | 0.22% |

| Level 3 Ethnicity Category | Number of responses | Percent of total Waitakere City population |
|---|----------------------------|---|
| Pacific Peoples not further defined | 51 | 0.03% |
| Total Pacific Peoples | 25,167 | 14.92% |
| Chinese | 7320 | 4.34% |
| Indian | 4635 | 2.75% |
| Korean | 1839 | 1.09% |
| Filipino | 1218 | 0.72% |
| Other Southeast Asian | 1122 | 0.66% |
| Japanese | 357 | 0.21% |
| Khmer/Kampuchean/Cambodian | 348 | 0.21% |
| Sri Lankan | 318 | 0.19% |
| Asian not further defined | 312 | 0.18% |
| Other Asian | 303 | 0.18% |
| Vietnamese | 84 | 0.05% |
| Southeast Asian not further defined | 12 | 0.01% |
| Total Asian | 17,868 | 10.59% |
| Middle Eastern | 984 | 0.58% |
| African (or cultural group of African origin) | 375 | 0.22% |
| Latin American/Hispanic | 222 | 0.13% |
| Other | 66 | 0.04% |
| Total Other Ethnic Groups | 1,647 | 0.97% |

4. The Asian Ethnic Group

The Asian ethnic group is the fastest growing community in Waitakere City. In 1991, Asian people made up 4% of the Waitakere population. By 1996, this had grown to 7% and at the time of the 2001 Census, Asians represented 10% of Waitakere residents.

Of those identifying in the 2001 Census in Waitakere City as belonging to the Asian Ethnic group, 41% stated they belong to the Chinese ethnic group, 26% to the Indian ethnic group, and 15% to the Southeast Asian ethnic group. Just over 10% (1% of Waitakere City as a whole) identify themselves as Korean, the ethnic group showing the greatest increase over the whole of New Zealand between 1991 and 2001.

The four major Chinese ethnic groups are the Hong Kong-born Chinese, which were the earliest to arrive in New Zealand; Chinese from Taiwan, who entered mostly in the early 1990s; migrants from the People's Republic of China (the largest group); and the New Zealand-born Chinese (Theresa Garner, "One in four NZ Chinese born here", *New Zealand Herald*, 27 October 2003).

More detailed demographic statistics on Waitakere City's ethnic groups are currently being sought from Statistics New Zealand. In the absence of this data, we provide in the following sections some national statistics on the Asian ethnic group. Because two thirds of those identifying as belonging to the Asian ethnic group live in the Auckland region, the national statistics are likely to be comparable, in a general sense, with those for Waitakere City residents. For example, nationally, the ratios of Chinese, Indian, and Korean people within the Asian ethnic group are 44%, 26%, and 8%, very similar to the statistics we do have for Waitakere City mentioned above (41%, 26% and 10%). However, we stress that these figures do not represent actual

Waitakere City statistics and have been included only because the Waitakere City numbers are not yet available.

4.1 The New Zealand Asian Population

4.1.1 Education

A relatively large proportion of those identifying as belonging to the Asian ethnic group are studying 20 or more hours per week, which explains the Census results in 2001 showing that 42% of respondents identifying as Asian in Waitakere City are not in the labour force. In 2001, 50% of Asian people nationally aged 15-24 years were studying full time, compared to 36% for New Zealand people as a whole in this age group. Including part time students studying “at school or any other place” raises the percentages to 63% for Asian students and 47% for New Zealand as a whole (aged 15-24). Students from the Asian ethnic group are more likely to leave school with an A or B Bursary as their highest qualification: Ministry of Education statistics show that 1 in 4 students from the Asian ethnic group in Waitakere City leaving school in 2002 had obtained this qualification, compared to approximately 1 in 9 for all Waitakere City school-leavers.

4.1.2 Employment

The high percentage of Asian people studying contributes to the median annual income of the Asian ethnic group being relatively low in comparison with the national median annual income: \$10,400 as against \$18,500. Asian adults aged from 35-44 years, however, had a median annual income equal to this latter figure. Wages and salaries were the most common sources of income for Asian adults in the 12 months prior to the 2001 Census (44% on average throughout New Zealand); for the population as a whole, 57% percent of adults received wages and salaries.

Labour participation rates for Asian ethnic groups nationally range from 43% for the Korean ethnic group to 77% for the New Zealand-born Indian population. Those in the Sri Lankan (67%) and Filipino (75%) groups also had relatively high rates of labour force participation.

The average unemployment rate among Asian people is 13% and is highest among Cambodians, Koreans and Sri Lankan (all 16%) and lowest among Filipino (9%), New Zealand-born Chinese (8%) and New Zealand-born Indian (10%). This compares with the unemployment rate for all of New Zealand of 7% (all figures from the 2001 Census).

Forty-three percent of the Asian ethnic group worked as either professionals, legislators, administrators and managers, or technicians and associate professionals, compared with 40% for the total New Zealand population. Sri Lankan and Korean people were most likely to be employed in these types of occupations.

4.1.3 Languages spoken

For New Zealand as a whole, the most commonly spoken language for the usually resident Asian population is English, at 85% of respondents. The next most common languages were Yue or Cantonese (16%), Northern Chinese or Mandarin (12%) and Hindi (10%). As the report on Ethnic Groups by Statistics New Zealand notes, “among those with a language, people in the Filipino (99%) and Sri Lankan (95%) ethnic groups were most likely to be able to speak English; the Korean (73%) and Cambodian (74%) ethnic groups had the lowest proportions of English speakers.”

5. Future trends in the Ethnicity of Waitakere City

The future ethnic composition of a population is generally difficult to estimate with a high degree of confidence, given the uncertainties in fertility rates, and the fluctuations in immigration rates of the type illustrated in Figure 2 which are caused by changes in immigration policy, changes in perceptions of New Zealand as an attractive country to migrate to, and so on. Population projections for the years 2001, 2006, 2011 and 2016, provided by Statistics New Zealand for Waitakere City, however, can provide a useful indication of changes we can expect in the City and are presented in this section.

Table 4 provides figures for the population of each broad, Level 1 category ethnic group over the next three Census years, based on Statistics New Zealand's "Medium" growth scenario (where births, deaths, and immigration values are at the middle of a certain range). Note that the 2001 figures differ from those provided in Table 1; this is due to the fact that the Table 4 figures are estimates that include growth from the Census date (March 6th) to June 30th and correct for net Census undercount.

Table 4: Statistics New Zealand population projections for Waitakere City, by ethnic group Medium projections for June 30 each year. The values for Asian, Maori, and Pacific Peoples are plotted in Figure 3.

| Ethnic Group | 2001 | 2006 | 2011 | 2016 |
|-----------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Asian | 20,000 | 33,800 | 40,900 | 47,100 |
| Maori | 24,000 | 26,500 | 29,000 | 31,700 |
| European | 125,400 | 125,000 | 125,400 | 124,900 |
| Pacific Peoples | 26,300 | 31,700 | 37,300 | 43,400 |

Source: Statistics New Zealand Subnational Ethnic Population Projections

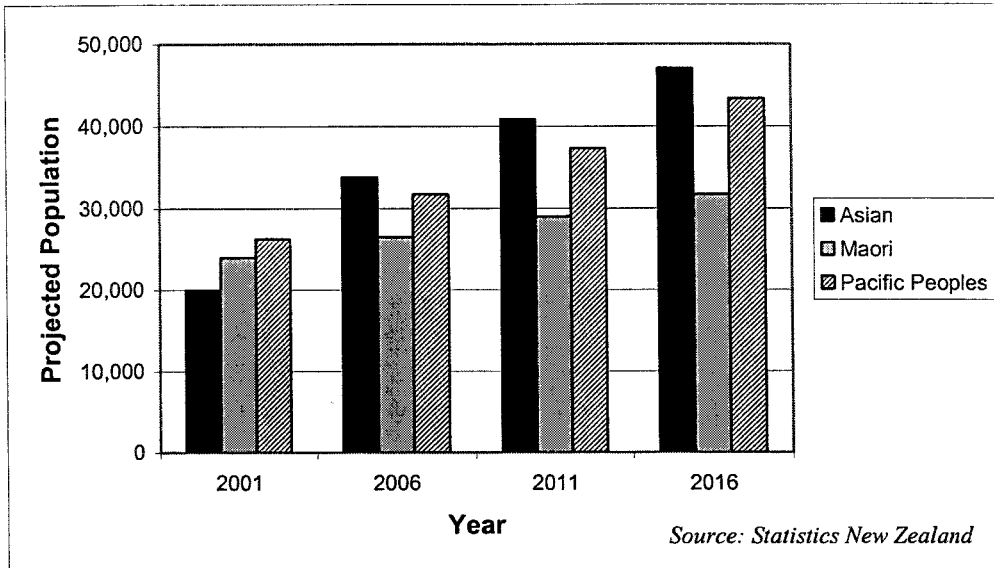
Table 5: Percentage change in the population of each ethnic group, relative to the 2001 value for that group.

| Ethnic Group | 2001 | 2006 | 2011 | 2016 |
|-----------------|------|-------|--------|--------|
| Asian | 0.0% | 69.0% | 104.5% | 135.5% |
| Maori | 0.0% | 10.4% | 20.8% | 32.1% |
| European | 0.0% | -0.3% | 0.0% | -0.4% |
| Pacific Peoples | 0.0% | 20.5% | 41.8% | 65.0% |

Source: Statistics New Zealand Subnational Ethnic Population Projections

Figure 3 shows the data in Table 4 graphically, with the exception of the European ethnic group due to the difficulty in plotting the much larger numbers for this group together with the other groups. As can be seen from Table 5, however, the European ethnic group is expected to remain fairly static in numbers over the next 12 years. The highest growth rates are expected for the Asian, then Pacific Peoples, ethnic groups, with rates for the Maori ethnic group being approximately half that for the Pacific Peoples group and one-fifth that for the Asian ethnic group.

Figure 3: Statistics New Zealand population projections for Waitakere City, by ethnic group (European group excluded on the chart due to the large difference in magnitude (see Table 3)). Medium projections for June 30 each year.



Data Sources

Information presented in this report comes from a number of Statistics New Zealand sources (except where noted) including:

Statistics New Zealand: 2001 Census: Ethnic Groups. Catalogue Number 22.111. ISBN 0-478-20785-9, October 2002. Available online at www.stats.govt.nz.

Statistics New Zealand: 2001 Census: Asian People. Catalogue Number 22.119. ISBN 0-478-20794-8, October 2002. Available online at www.stats.govt.nz.

Statistics New Zealand: Subnational Ethnic Population Projections. Available online at www.stats.govt.nz

Appendix

Table A1: Detailed breakdown of countries of last permanent residence for migrants to Waitakere City (July 1992 – July 2003). Note that country of last permanent residence is not the same as nationality. Statistics New Zealand figures suggest that generally one third of migrants are New Zealanders returning home from extended overseas visits. This is particularly relevant when interpreting migrant numbers from Australia and the United Kingdom.

| Country of Last Permanent Residence | Total Migrants (Jul 92-Jul 03) |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Australia | 4604 |
| Norfolk Island | 19 |
| AUSTRALIA TOTAL | 4623 |
| Papua New Guinea | 87 |
| Solomon Islands | 54 |
| Vanuatu | 19 |
| New Caledonia | 9 |
| MELANESIA TOTAL | 169 |
| Kiribati | 13 |
| Nauru | 9 |
| Guam | 6 |
| Micronesia, Federated States of | 1 |
| Northern Mariana Islands | 1 |
| MICRONESIA TOTAL | 30 |
| Fiji | 1332 |
| Samoa | 1112 |
| Tonga | 245 |
| Cook Islands | 232 |
| Niue | 100 |
| Tuvalu | 39 |
| Samoa, American | 32 |
| Tokelau | 26 |
| French Polynesia | 10 |
| Pitcairn | 3 |
| POLYNESIA, Excl. Hawaii | 3131 |
| England | 3107 |
| United Kingdom nfd | 1357 |
| Germany | 228 |
| Netherlands | 220 |
| Scotland | 181 |
| Ireland | 118 |
| Switzerland | 79 |
| France | 72 |
| Wales | 47 |
| Sweden | 26 |
| Northern Ireland | 24 |
| Norway | 23 |
| Denmark | 20 |
| Channel Islands | 19 |
| Belgium | 15 |
| Finland | 13 |
| Austria | 7 |

| Country of Last Permanent Residence | Total Migrants (Jul 92-Jul 03) |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| Isle of Man | 5 |
| Iceland | 3 |
| Luxembourg | 1 |
| WESTERN EUROPE TOTAL | 5565 |
| Croatia | 167 |
| Yugoslavia, Federal Republic of | 129 |
| Russia | 62 |
| Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM) | 47 |
| Spain | 30 |
| Italy | 28 |
| Poland | 22 |
| Romania | 14 |
| Czech Republic | 14 |
| Greece | 11 |
| Slovakia | 11 |
| Malta | 10 |
| Slovenia | 9 |
| Bosnia and Herzegovina | 8 |
| Portugal | 7 |
| Ukraine | 6 |
| Cyprus | 5 |
| Hungary | 5 |
| Belarus | 2 |
| Lithuania | 1 |
| Latvia | 1 |
| SOUTHERN AND EASTERN EUROPE | 589 |
| Iraq | 53 |
| Jordan | 42 |
| United Arab Emirates | 38 |
| Saudi Arabia | 38 |
| Israel | 33 |
| Oman | 32 |
| Iran | 27 |
| Turkey | 19 |
| Kuwait | 15 |
| Bahrain | 6 |
| Yemen | 6 |
| Egypt | 5 |
| Lebanon | 2 |
| Qatar | 2 |
| Algeria | 1 |
| Syria | 1 |
| NORTH AFRICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST | 320 |
| Philippines | 547 |
| Malaysia | 545 |
| Singapore | 234 |
| Thailand | 229 |
| Indonesia | 215 |
| Cambodia | 101 |
| Brunei Darussalam | 58 |
| Viet Nam | 22 |
| Laos | 14 |
| East Timor (from Dec 2002) | 1 |

| Country of Last Permanent Residence | Total Migrants (Jul 92-Jul 03) |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| East Timor | 1 |
| SOUTH EAST ASIA | 1967 |
| | |
| China, People's Republic of | 1895 |
| Hong Kong (Special Administrative Region) | 980 |
| Korea, Republic of | 968 |
| Japan | 554 |
| Taiwan | 281 |
| Macau (Special Administrative Region) | 12 |
| Mongolia | 2 |
| NORTH EAST ASIA | 4692 |
| | |
| India | 671 |
| Sri Lanka | 130 |
| Bangladesh | 87 |
| Pakistan | 65 |
| Nepal | 26 |
| Afghanistan | 6 |
| Maldives | 3 |
| Kyrgyzstan | 3 |
| Kazakhstan | 1 |
| SOUTHERN AND CENTRAL ASIA | 992 |
| | |
| United States of America | 705 |
| Canada | 314 |
| Brazil | 41 |
| Chile | 22 |
| Bermuda | 11 |
| Mexico | 11 |
| Colombia | 9 |
| Jamaica | 9 |
| Guatemala | 8 |
| Bolivia | 5 |
| Paraguay | 5 |
| Venezuela | 5 |
| Argentina | 4 |
| Peru | 4 |
| Panama | 4 |
| Uruguay | 3 |
| Costa Rica | 3 |
| Dominica | 3 |
| Falkland Islands | 2 |
| Netherlands Antilles | 2 |
| United States Minor Outlying Islands | 1 |
| Guyana | 1 |
| El Salvador | 1 |
| Bahamas | 1 |
| THE AMERICAS | 1174 |
| | |
| South Africa | 839 |
| Zimbabwe | 43 |
| Zambia | 34 |
| Botswana | 22 |
| Kenya | 17 |
| Mauritius | 7 |
| Nigeria | 6 |
| Ghana | 5 |

| Country of Last Permanent Residence | Total Migrants (Jul 92-Jul 03) |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| Namibia | 5 |
| Seychelles | 5 |
| Congo, the Democratic Republic of the | 4 |
| Malawi | 4 |
| Uganda | 4 |
| Togo | 3 |
| Tanzania | 2 |
| Burkina Faso | 1 |
| Cameroon | 1 |
| Niger | 1 |
| Eritrea | 1 |
| Ethiopia | 1 |
| St Helena | 1 |
| SUBSAHARAN AFRICA | 1006 |
| | |
| Not Stated/ Not captured | 1002 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 25285 |