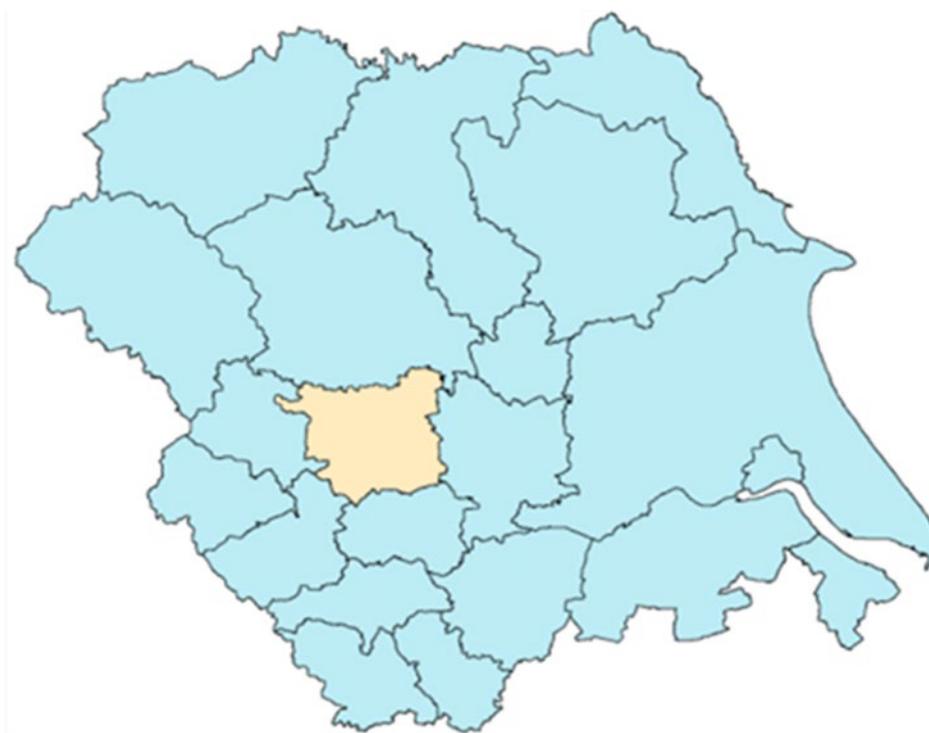


Leeds

Local Migration Profile 2020 Summary Document



This document summarises the main migration trends and latest data that we can access for Leeds. You are welcome to share this document publicly.

The full Local Migration Profile document contains information about data sources and is available at: www.migrationyorkshire.org.uk/statistics.



Migration Yorkshire
Strategic leadership, local support

Summary of migration trends in Leeds

Overall population change

Leeds has the largest population of the local authorities in Yorkshire and Humber. The **local population** was estimated at 793,100 people in 2019 [the 'mid-year estimate']; an increase of 3,900 people [0.5%] since 2018.

Population change is affected by natural change [births and deaths] and migration [international and internally within the UK]. Population change in Leeds is usually driven by a combination of natural change and international migration. Population growth would be slightly higher were it not for internal migration [i.e. people who move from Leeds to another part of the UK].

New arrivals

Different measures of immigration suggest that between 8,200-14,400 new **long-term immigrants** [immigrants who are expected to stay more than a year] arrived in Leeds in 2019. The official estimate from ONS is towards the lower end of this range.

Net migration to Leeds was around 2,300 in 2019 – a fall compared with the previous year.

Almost 3,700 **short-term immigrants** visited Leeds in 2017 to work or study for up to 12 months; three quarters of these were short term students rather than workers.

Reasons for migration

Work

The overall number of **new migrant workers** arriving in Leeds increased by over 1,100 to around 8,200 in 2019. This was due to increases in arrivals from most world regions, and despite a fall in arrivals from accession countries. The greatest change in individual nationalities compared to 2018 has been an increase of almost 340 arrivals from Ghana.

- The level of **workers from non-accession countries** arriving each year remains higher than the accession group with 6,080 arriving in 2019, an increase of around 1,440 on the previous year. This group is dominated by arrivals from India.
- The number of new migrant **workers from EU accession countries** fell slightly to around 2,160 arrivals in 2019, around 260 fewer arrivals than in 2018. This group is predominantly composed of Romanian arrivals.

Romania remains the top country of origin overall with 1,173 arrivals in 2019. India is in second place with 832 arrivals and Italy in third with 481 arrivals.

Study

There were 12,780 **international students** registered at a Higher Education institution in Leeds in the 2019-2020 academic year, an increase of almost 1,900 overseas students compared with the previous year. Almost 85% came from outside the EU.

Protection

Some **asylum seekers** are housed and supported here through the Home Office dispersal system. Published Home Office figures show that at the end of December 2020, 846 people were being supported in Leeds while awaiting a decision on their claim [known as Section 95 support]: 798 people were being accommodated, and there were 48 people receiving subsistence-only support i.e. no accommodation.

There were also around 60 **unaccompanied asylum seeking children** [UASC] being

looked after by the local authority at the end of March 2020. These are children who are in the UK without family and have claimed asylum in their own right. They are separate to the dispersal system for asylum seekers described above.

Those granted protection by the Home Office may then stay in the area as **refugees**. Other groups of refugees are resettled directly from another country, for example, through the Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme [VPRS] and the Vulnerable Children's Resettlement Scheme [VCRS]; two resettled refugees arrived in Leeds during the past year through these programmes [January – December 2020].

Indicators of diversity

The diversity of the Leeds population is suggested by several longer-term indicators:

- Leeds has 14% of the overall population in Yorkshire and Humber, but all different counts of migration show it receives more than 14% of newcomers.
- The non-British population comprises 9% of the community, compared to an average of 7% for the Yorkshire and Humber region.
- Leeds' non-UK born population is 13%, higher than the Yorkshire and Humber average of 10%; almost two thirds of these are from outside the EU.
- Around 25,900 pupils in Leeds have a first language that is not English. This is equivalent to 23% of primary and 18% of secondary pupils and higher than the Yorkshire and Humber averages of 18% and 14% respectively.
- 18 in every 1,000 new GP registrations are by people who previously lived abroad, compared with an average of 10 per 1,000 across Yorkshire and Humber.
- The general fertility rate in Leeds is on par with the Yorkshire and Humber average, with both figures falling slightly in the last year. Births to mothers who were themselves born outside the UK are among the highest across the region [second only to Bradford] at 28% of all new births in 2019 compared with a regional average of 21%.

Further indicators of migration

Research

Migration Yorkshire has an online database of migration reports covering Yorkshire and the Humber, with the option of filtering results by migrant group, theme, topic and place. Search the database at www.migrationyorkshire.org.uk/researchdatabase.

Employers

A number of organisations in the region can employ migrants from outside the EU under the Points Based System – including workers and temporary workers. Full details of the registered employers can be downloaded from:

www.gov.uk/government/publications/register-of-licensed-sponsors-workers

Education

A number of educational institutions in the region are registered to sponsor migrant students from outside the EU under the Points Based System. Full details at:

www.gov.uk/government/publications/register-of-licensed-sponsors-students

Acknowledgements

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Migration Yorkshire is a local authority-led regional migration partnership for Yorkshire and Humber, hosted by Leeds City Council. Migration Yorkshire works with national government, local government, and others to ensure that Yorkshire and Humber can deal with, and benefit from, migration.

Migration Yorkshire

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