

Migrant Workers

Since the expansion of the EU in May 2004 there has been an increase in the number of migrant workers coming to the UK. Only recently has data been made available at a local level which enables us to look at the impact for Dorset.

There are two data sources which provide local level information:

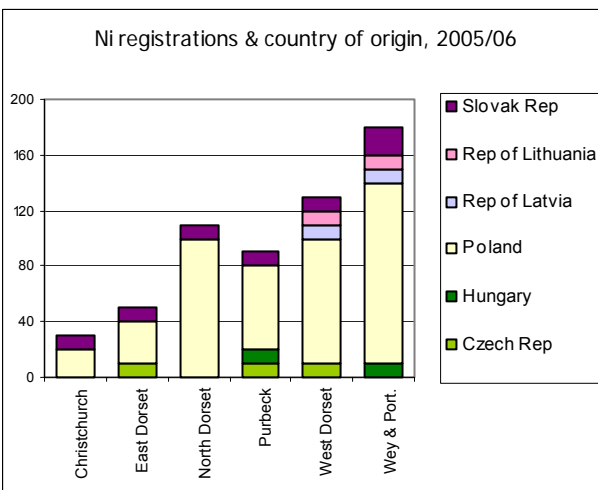
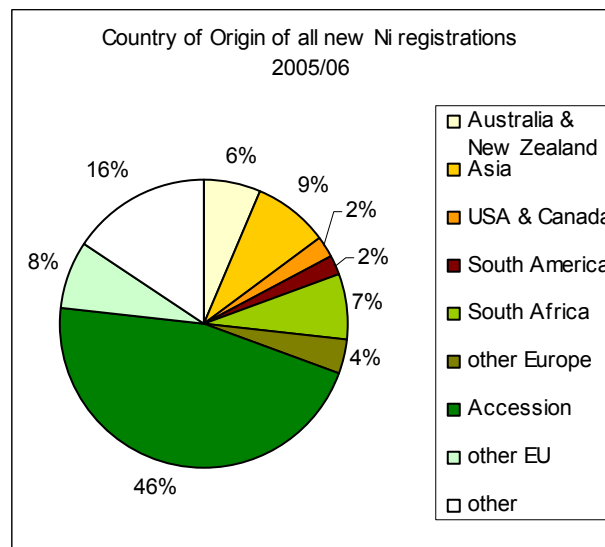
- **National insurance number registrations, (Nino)** records all new registrations of non-UK nationals in each LA area. This would normally record **where they live**.
- **Accession state workers registration scheme, (WRS)** provides information by postcode district (e.g. DT1) for workers from the A8* countries. This would normally record **where they work**.

National Insurance data

The total new National Insurance number registrations from overseas in Dorset (excluding Poole and Bournemouth) has increased steadily over the last few years from 620 in 2002/03 to 1,280 in 2005/06.

The Accession Countries accounted for almost half of the new registrations in 2005/06. The number rose from 180 in 2004/05 when they joined the EU, to 590 last year (2005/06).

There were also a significant number of new registrations of people from South Africa, Asia and other EU countries as shown on the pie chart.



Weymouth & Portland had the highest number of new registrations from the Accession Countries, 72% of which were Polish.

A similar pattern can be seen in each of the other Dorset districts, as the chart illustrates.

This high proportion of workers from Poland reflects the national figures. Last year, across the UK, 40% of new registrations were from the A8 countries, 64% of which were Polish.

Accession State Workers Registration Scheme data

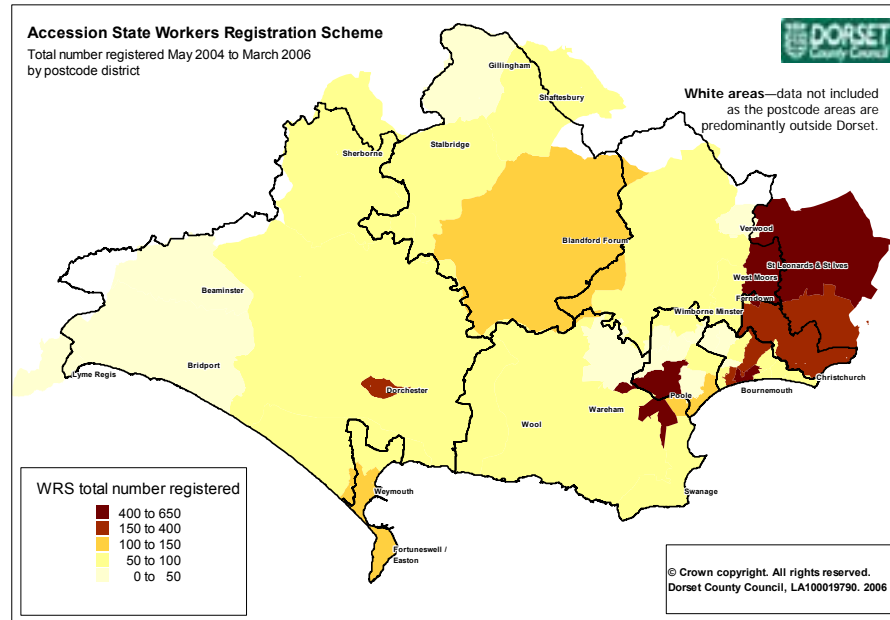
The workers registration scheme was set up by the Home Office and requires all migrants from the A8 countries to register when they take a job in the UK.

This information, therefore, relates to the number of jobs taken, rather than individuals (some may have more than one job). Also, the location relates to **where the migrant works** rather than where the migrant lives.

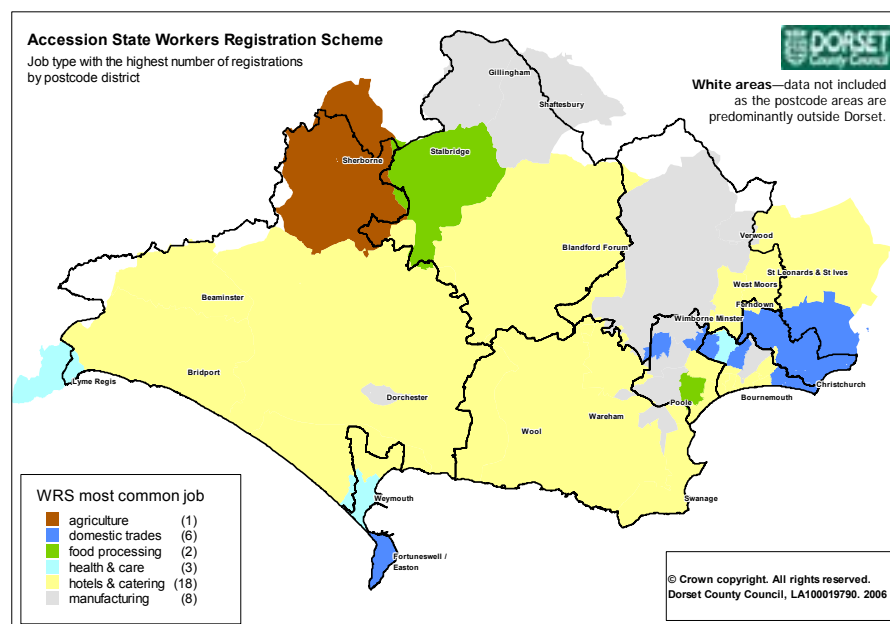
* **Accession Countries (A8):** Ten accession countries joined the EU in May 2004. They are: Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia, Malta & Cyprus. Those from Malta & Cyprus were already allowed to work in the UK, hence the data refers to the A8, for which the rules changed in May 2004.



Since May 2004, almost 2,000 jobs in Dorset have been filled by people from the A8 countries. (based on postcode districts that best fit to the County boundary). Over 60% of these jobs were filled by Polish nationals. The largest number, registered for jobs in Poole (BH15) and in the east of the County (BH24, inc. Ringwood). The map below illustrates.



Monthly totals show that the highest number of registrations were recorded in the summer months, particularly in August. Over 40% of jobs taken by A8 migrants were in hotels, catering & leisure. A further 19% were in domestic trades (such as plumbers, electricians & cleaners). A significant number took up jobs in manufacturing (16%) and in health & care (8%). The map below illustrates which job type had the highest number of registrations in each postcode district across the County.



Despite a slight rise in unemployment in Dorset over the last year, from a rate of 0.8 to 1.0 (mirroring national trends), there is currently no evidence to suggest that this has been affected by the increase in migrant workers.

With Bulgaria and Romania joining the EU in January, the Home Secretary has just announced curbs on economic migrants, including a system of work permits and quotas.

Sources: National Insurance Number registrations (NINO) 2002/03 - 2005/06
 Workers Registration Scheme, (WRS) May 2004 - March 2006

