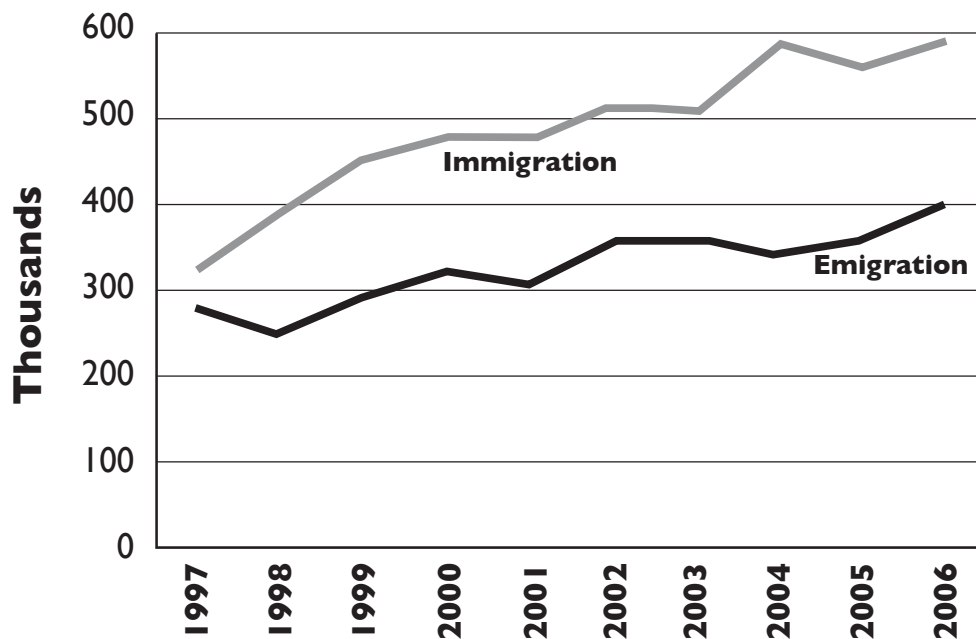


British population 2000s

Here is some information about immigration and emigration in Britain in the late 1990s and 2000s. Immigration is the number of people who move into a place. Emigration is the number of people who move out of a place.



Questions

1. In what years did more than 300,000 people immigrate to Britain?

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2. In what years did more than 300,000 people emigrate to Britain?

.....

3. In 1997, about how many people immigrated?

About how many emigrated?

4. In 2006, about how many people immigrated?

About how many emigrated?

5. Were there any years in which more people emigrated than immigrated?

6. Is immigration increasing or decreasing over time? What about emigration?
Can you think of a reason why this might be so?

.....

British population 2000s

Age range

- Years 3/4 (SP4/5).
- Years 5/6 (SP6/7).

Resources

Copies of the worksheet.

Using the worksheet

In 2006, an estimated 191,000 more people immigrated to than emigrated from the UK. This net migration (the difference between immigration and emigration) was 53,000 lower than the 2004 figures of 244,000. This decline was due to emigration increasing more than immigration. In other words, in 2006, the rate at which people left the UK was faster than the rate at which people entered.

An estimated 400,000 long-term migrants left the UK in 2006. This was the highest recorded level of emigration since these records began and was 41,000 higher than in 2005. Just over half of these emigrants (207,000) were British citizens. The rest were people who had immigrated earlier and were now leaving again.

In 2006, an estimated 591,000 long-term migrants arrived to live in the UK. This was up from the previous highest figure of 586,000 in 2004. Just over 85 per cent of immigrants (510,000) were non-British citizens.

There are many reasons why people immigrate and emigrate. Many immigrants are looking for work. This has been a lot easier to do since the EU eliminated the need for visas and work permits within member states. There are also more people in the world who are moving around to find work. The British economy was booming in the late 1990s and 2000s, so this meant there were a lot of jobs and more people immigrated.

We tend to think of immigrants as all foreigners, but the truth, as you can see from this data, is that people do move around a lot. British citizens move abroad and then back; people from other countries move to the UK to work and then go home after a few years, etc. The world, and especially the EU, has become a lot more mobile.

Immigration has also become more dispersed throughout the UK. London is still the main destination for immigrants arriving in the UK, but other areas have been increasing in popularity. After London, the South East received the greatest number of immigrants. The East of England

experienced the next largest inflow, with 60,000 immigrants arriving in 2006.

This graph shows that immigration, which is often in the news, is not that simple. More and more people are moving into Britain, but each year a great deal of people also leave Britain.

You may like to use the activity as part of a study of immigration, or as part of a maths lesson. More information can be found on the census website: www.statistics.gov.uk.

Younger students

Students may like to list some reasons why Britons might choose to emigrate, and why non-Britons might choose to immigrate.

Outcomes

The students can:

- Understand what immigration and emigration are.
- Think about immigration and emigration rates in the 2000s.
- Interpret data from a graph.

Older students

Students may like to use secondary sources or interviews to find some stories of people who have immigrated or emigrated.

Outcomes

The students can:

- Understand what immigration and emigration are.
- Think about immigration and emigration rates in the 2000s.
- Interpret data from a graph.

Answers

1. All of them (1997–2006)

2. 2000–2006

3. About 320,000. About 280,000.

4. Almost 600,000. 400,000.

5. No.

6. Increasing. Increasing. Answers will vary but might include: There are more people; more people want to move; it is cheaper to move; it is easier to move; people are looking for work.