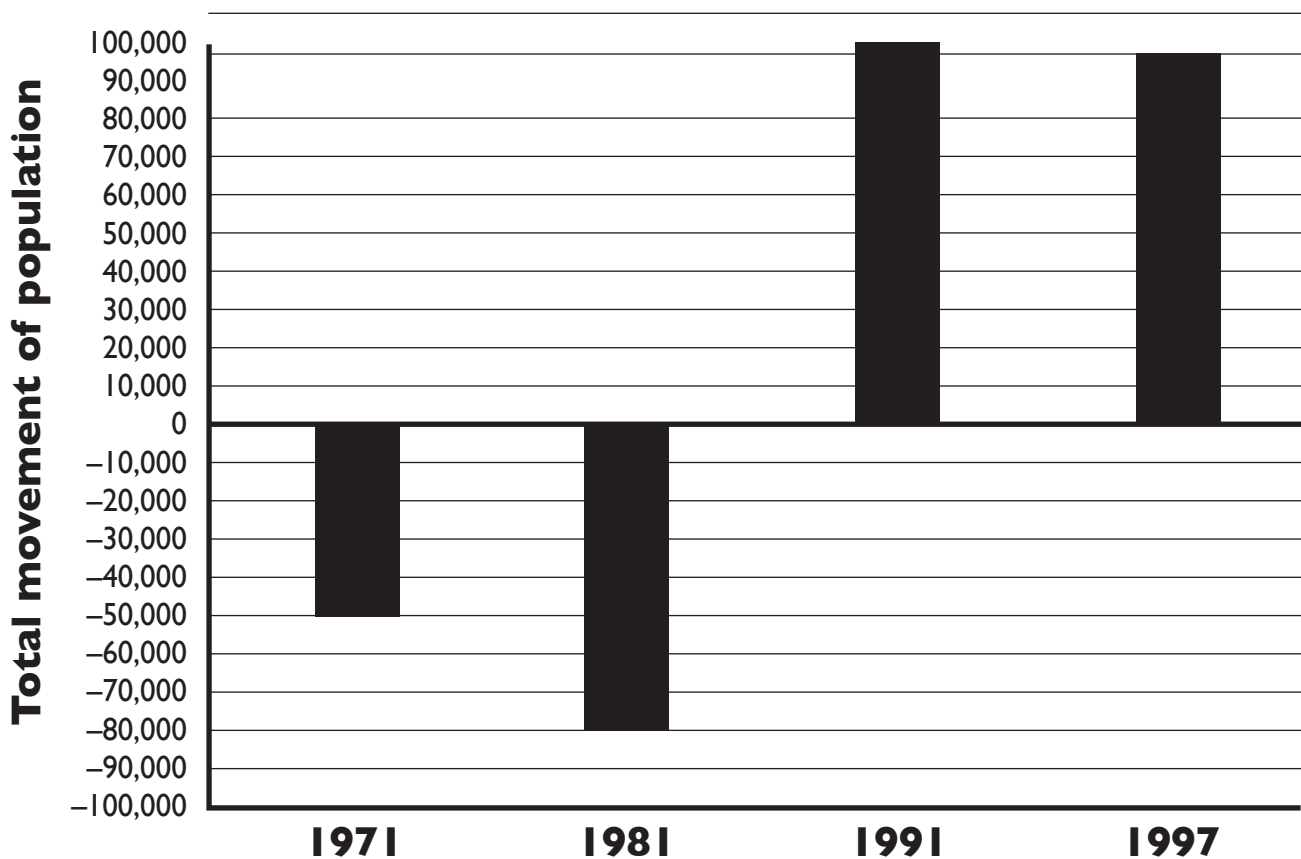


# Immigration in Britain

**Emigration is the number of people who leave a country or place. Immigration is the number of people who enter a country or place. This graph shows how many more people entered Britain than left it each year. So, if the number on the graph is negative, that means more people left the country than moved in. If the number is positive, that means more people came to Britain than moved away. For example, a number of -10,000 means that 10,000 more people left Britain than moved to Britain.**



1. In 1971 how many more people emigrated than immigrated? .....
2. In 1981 how more people emigrated than immigrated? .....
3. In 1991 how more people immigrated than emigrated? .....
4. In 1997 how more people immigrated than emigrated? .....
5. In which decade did most people immigrate into Britain? .....

## Immigration in Britain

### Age range

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

### Resources

Copies of the worksheets, graph paper, coloured pencils or pens for making graphs.

### Using the worksheet

This activity can be used in conjunction with the previous activity. You may want to have younger students do the first activity and older students work on this one. Then the two groups could share their findings with the class.

This graph is another way of showing that many people left the UK in the decade from 1971 to 1981. In fact, this period saw the largest numbers of people emigrating in recent times.

You may like to begin your study of this activity by discussing what the words immigration and emigration mean. You may also like to discuss how people often immigrate and then leave again later; so not all of the people who emigrate are British born – many of them are people who had immigrated and then changed their minds and left again later.

The graph shows that in 1971 about 50,000 more people left Britain than entered it. The total population still went up because enough people were still being born to make up the difference. In 1981, around 80,000 more people left Britain than entered it. Again, births meant that the population was still growing, although slowly.

Students can also see that in 1991, about 100,000 more people entered Britain than left, and in 1997, around 98,000 more people entered than left.

After looking at these numbers, you can ask the students why they think so many people left Britain in the 1970s, and why so many people entered Britain in the 1990s. The answer is complex, but is largely due to jobs and the economy. In the 1970s, the economy was shrinking and there were few jobs. Many British people left for Australia and other places where there was more work.

In the 1990s and 2000s, however, the economy was growing and now more people entered the UK than left.

This trend continued through the 2000s, especially as people from the EU countries were allowed to live and work in the UK without a special visa.

### Answers

1. 50,000
2. 80,000
3. 100,000
4. 98,000
5. 1990s

### Younger students

You may like to simplify this activity for younger students by showing them the graph and using it to illustrate the terms emigration and immigration.

### Outcomes

The students can:

- Find data on a graph.
- Compare immigration and emigration in the 1970s, 1980s and 1990s.
- Think about why people might have wanted to leave Britain in the 1970s and 1980s and enter Britain in the 1990s.

### Older students

The students may need some help in understanding that total population growth is the number of people born +(plus) the number of people who immigrate -(minus) the number of people who die and the number of people who emigrate.

### Outcomes

The students can:

- Find data on a graph.
- Compare immigration and emigration in the 1970s, 1980s and 1990s.
- Think about why people might have wanted to leave Britain in the 1970s and 1980s and enter Britain in the 1990s.