

Population in England and Wales rises by most in 75 years

LONDON, July 15 (Reuters) - Record immigration caused the population of England and Wales to rise by 610,000 to 60.9 million in mid-2023, the largest annual increase in 75 years, official data showed on Monday.

What statisticians term 'natural' population growth - the difference between births and deaths - fell to just 400, the lowest since 1978, while net international migration rose to 622,000, up from 548,500 in the previous 12 months.

A net 13,800 people also moved from England and Wales to Scotland or Northern Ireland.

Britain's Office for National Statistics said the population increase in England and Wales was the largest since 1948, when a post-World War Two baby boom and the return of British military personnel serving overseas caused a rise of 1.5 million.

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