



LAB-MIG-GOV

Which labour migration governance for a more dynamic and inclusive Europe?



The British case

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Focus of presentation

- British admission system for non-EEA workers
- The Migration Advisory Committee

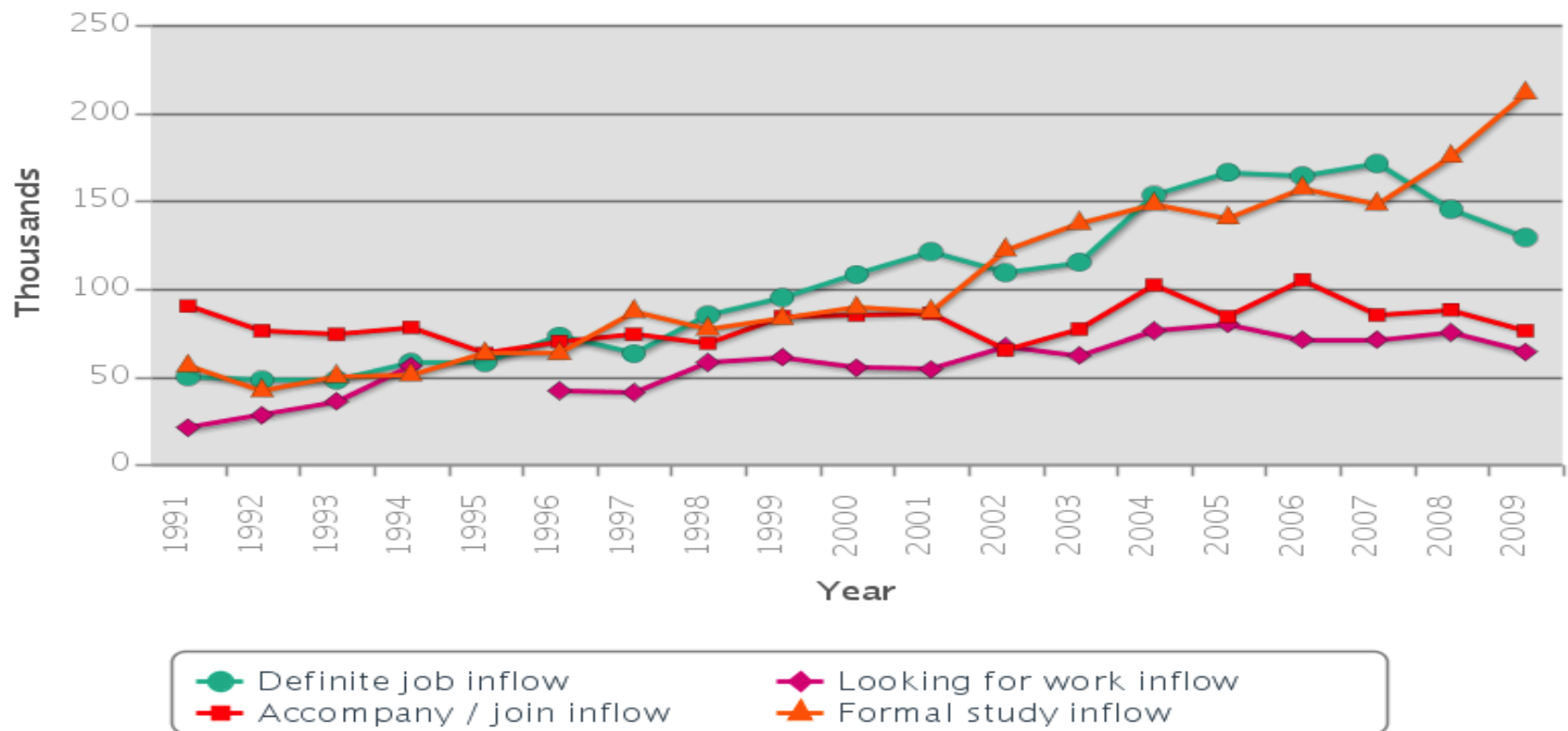


Scope of labour migration governance

Some questions for governments:

- **How to select labour migrants?**
- How many labour migrants to admit?
- How long should they stay for?
- What rights and privileges to grant them after admission?
- Should other categories of migrants (family/students etc) have the right to work?
- How to ensure migration rules are abided by?

Immigration by Reason: 1991-2009
Chart provided by www.migrationobservatory.ox.ac.uk



Source : Office for National Statistics. Long-Term International Migration (LTIM)



British admission system for skilled non-EEA workers

- Hybrid **demand & supply** model: specific *job offer* & migrant *attributes* (skills, experience)
Tier 2 of Points Based System (PBS): graduate level positions, points for sponsorship, salary, English language and maintenance
- **Supply** model - **Tier 1** of PBS: Highly skilled migrants admitted on the basis of education, high previous earnings and British work experience – *no specific job offer*
- 2011 – **Cap** (*numerical limit*) on Tier 1 & 2 entries



Migration Advisory Committee (MAC)

Five economists provide 'independent' advice to government on labour migration policy

Process transparent, government submits questions, MAC 3-6 months to respond, government decides whether to accept MAC recommendations



Shortage occupation list

Occupations which are 1) **skilled** 2) in **shortage** 3) **'sensible'** to fill with migrant workers

Top-down national indicators and **bottom-up evidence**, such as submissions from employers, unions, and government departments, visits, conferences



'Sensible' indicators:

- **Alternatives** to employing migrants e.g. recruitment efforts, pay, less labour-intensive production methods
- **Skills** acquisition
- **Investment, innovation & productivity growth**
- **Wider labour market & economic impacts**

Conclusion: Assessment of MAC & 'sensible' criteria

- Scientific, rigorous, transparent analysis
 - Tool for economic and labour market policy reform (e.g. skills acquisition)
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- Cost to employers & states of 'functional alternatives' to migrant labour
 - Beyond national remit: costs and benefits of migration for sending countries



Thank you for your attention
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