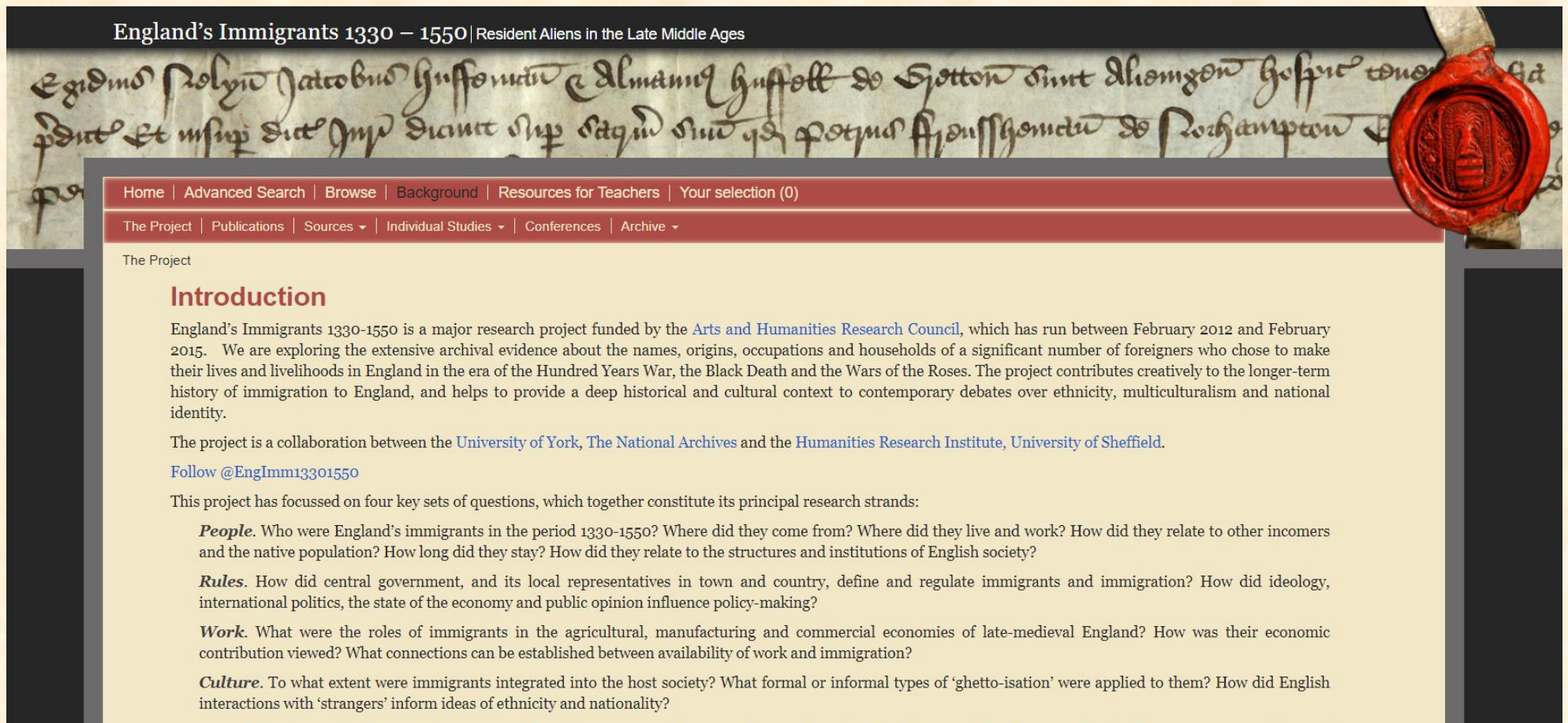


Foreigners in Medieval Suffolk:

An Introduction to the England's Immigrants Project

<https://www.englishimmigrants.com/>



England's Immigrants 1330 – 1550 | Resident Aliens in the Late Middle Ages

Home | Advanced Search | Browse | Background | Resources for Teachers | Your selection (0)

The Project | Publications | Sources ▾ | Individual Studies ▾ | Conferences | Archive ▾

The Project

Introduction

England's Immigrants 1330-1550 is a major research project funded by the [Arts and Humanities Research Council](#), which has run between February 2012 and February 2015. We are exploring the extensive archival evidence about the names, origins, occupations and households of a significant number of foreigners who chose to make their lives and livelihoods in England in the era of the Hundred Years War, the Black Death and the Wars of the Roses. The project contributes creatively to the longer-term history of immigration to England, and helps to provide a deep historical and cultural context to contemporary debates over ethnicity, multiculturalism and national identity.

The project is a collaboration between the [University of York](#), [The National Archives](#) and the [Humanities Research Institute, University of Sheffield](#).

Follow [@EngImm13301550](#)

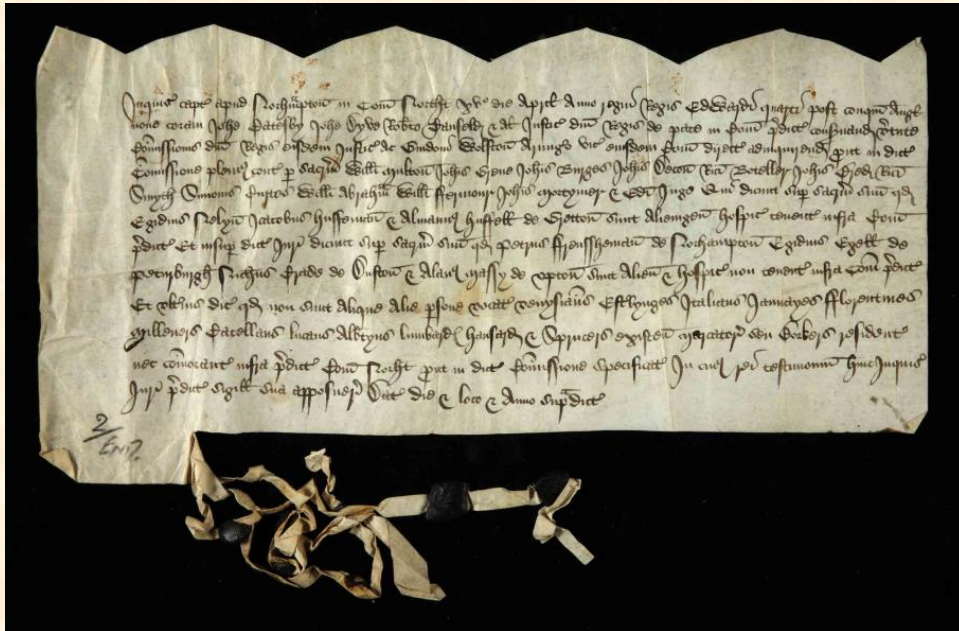
This project has focussed on four key sets of questions, which together constitute its principal research strands:

- People.** Who were England's immigrants in the period 1330-1550? Where did they come from? Where did they live and work? How did they relate to other incomers and the native population? How long did they stay? How did they relate to the structures and institutions of English society?
- Rules.** How did central government, and its local representatives in town and country, define and regulate immigrants and immigration? How did ideology, international politics, the state of the economy and public opinion influence policy-making?
- Work.** What were the roles of immigrants in the agricultural, manufacturing and commercial economies of late-medieval England? How was their economic contribution viewed? What connections can be established between availability of work and immigration?
- Culture.** To what extent were immigrants integrated into the host society? What formal or informal types of 'ghetto-isation' were applied to them? How did English interactions with 'strangers' inform ideas of ethnicity and nationality?

= 82% of the records in EIDB

A new type of tax levied first in 1440 in response to:

- The crown's need for more funds in the final stages of the Hundred Years War
- Anxieties about the growing economic influence of foreigners (especially the Italians and Flemish)—anxieties greatest in London
- Anxieties about national security in time of possible invasion from France and its allies



Inquest into aliens resident in Northampton in 1469 (TNA, E179/79/155/94)

[illegible]

Particular account of aliens taxed in Bedfordshire , 1442-3
(TNA, E179//235/18). **Householders paid 16 pence, non-householders 6 pence**

Issues to consider with the alien subsidy evidence

- Rising number of exemptions after 1440
- Tax collection after 1440 more haphazard
- Missing returns from many counties
- Varied identification of nationalities – some counties have many unidentified
- How to interpret default payments: even in 1440 were 46% - often labelled as 'moved' to explain why they did not pay

Welsh after 1440, Channel Islanders in 1441, Irish and Manx in 1442, Normans and Gascons in 1449, etc...

County	No. in 1440	% nationality identified
Devon	675	94%
Wiltshire	477	94%
Cornwall	318	55%
Suffolk	497	50%
Kent	1129	26%
Norfolk	282	20%
London	1835	7%
All counties	16,878	30%

Figures from Table 3 in Ormrod, Lambert and Mackman, *England's Immigrants*.

Portion of 1440 alien subsidy for Devon showing Exeter householders taxed 16d and showing those who 'moved'

Exon' (Exeter)

am' = ammissi = moved

Simon de Lestracy de Vasconia
Nicholus Jon de Insula de Garnesey
Henr' Renoy Ducheman

John Spyne de Burdegalia
Dionisius Cordener de Normannia
Radulphus Poterell de eadem
Thomas Hay de Hibern'

**Prosopographical research
shows none of them moved**

1	Exon' (Exeter)	Exon' (Exeter)	Exon' (Exeter)
2	Simon de Lestracy de Vasconia	Simon de Lestracy de Vasconia	Simon de Lestracy de Vasconia
3	Nicholus Jon de Insula de Garnesey	Nicholus Jon de Insula de Garnesey	Nicholus Jon de Insula de Garnesey
4	Henr' Renoy Ducheman	Henr' Renoy Ducheman	Henr' Renoy Ducheman
5	John Spyne de Burdegalia	John Spyne de Burdegalia	John Spyne de Burdegalia
6	Dionisius Cordener de Normannia	Dionisius Cordener de Normannia	Dionisius Cordener de Normannia
7	Radulphus Poterell de eadem	Radulphus Poterell de eadem	Radulphus Poterell de eadem
8	Thomas Hay de Hibern'	Thomas Hay de Hibern'	Thomas Hay de Hibern'
9	Prosopographical research shows none of them moved	Prosopographical research shows none of them moved	Prosopographical research shows none of them moved

Issues to consider with the alien subsidy evidence

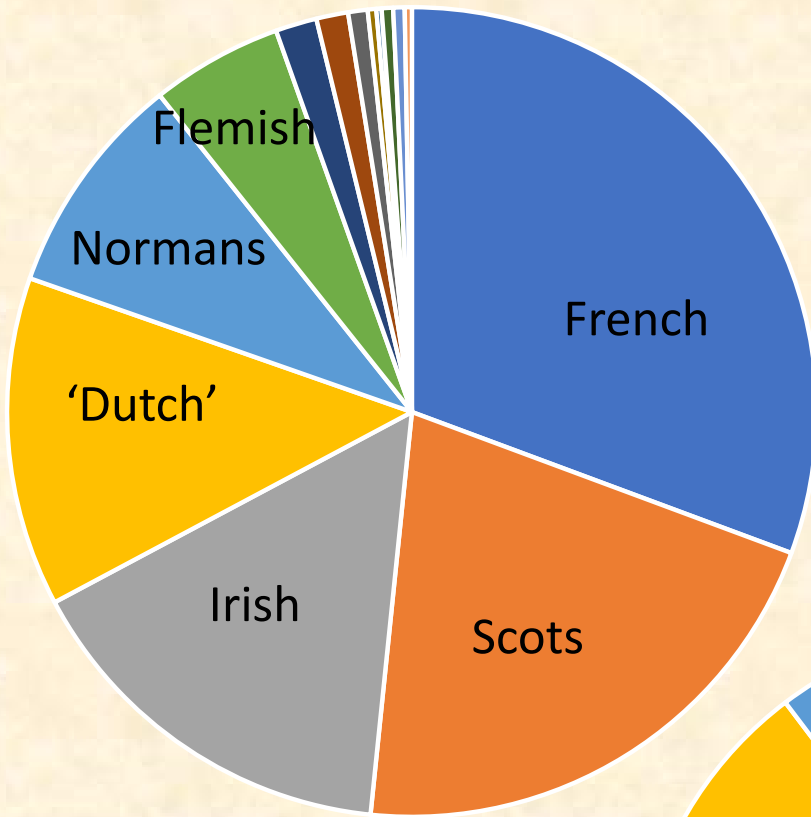
- Rising number of exemptions after 1440
- Tax collection after 1440 more haphazard
- Missing returns from many counties
- Varied identification of nationalities – some counties have many unidentified
- How to interpret default payments: even in 1440 were 46% - often labelled as 'moved' to explain why they did not pay
- **How to interpret the balance between householders and non-householders**

County	Householders in 1440	Total no.
Norfolk	53%	282
Cornwall	51%	318
Devon	51%	675
Suffolk	50%	497
Berkshire	44%	351
Gloucestershire	37%	958
Hampshire	26%	1121
Dorset	0	516
All counties	40%	16,878

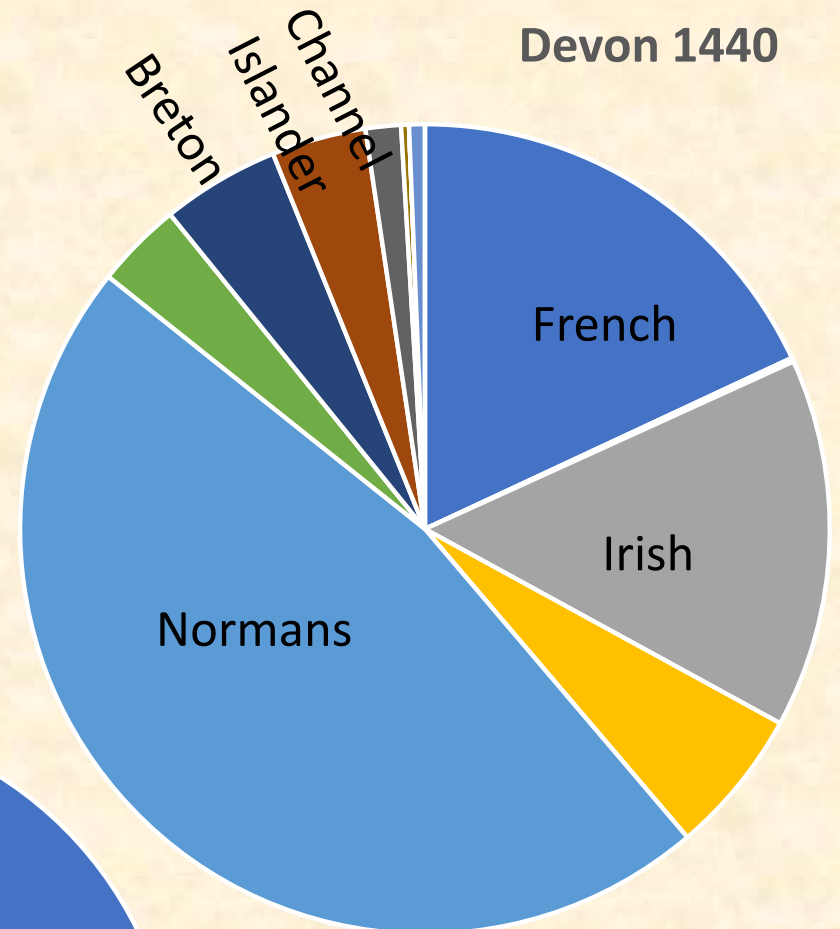
Figures for 1440 alien subsidy: from Table 1 in Ormrod, Lambert and Mackman, *England's Immigrants*.

Origins of Aliens in 1440

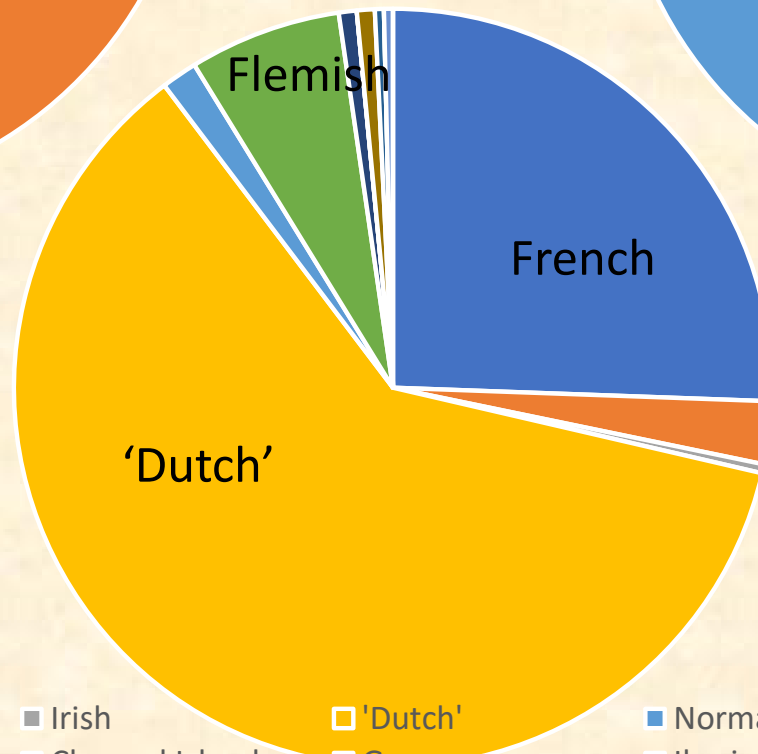
All Counties 1440



Devon 1440



Suffolk 1440

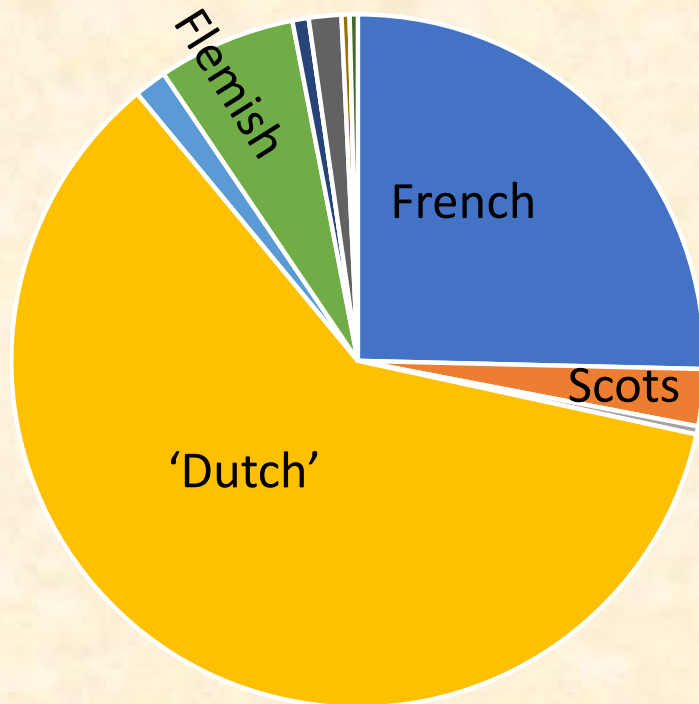


- | | | | | |
|-------------|-----------|--------------------|-----------|-----------|
| ■ French | ■ Scot | ■ Irish | ■ 'Dutch' | ■ Norman |
| ■ Fleming | ■ Breton | ■ Channel Islander | ■ Gascon | ■ Iberian |
| ■ Icelandic | ■ Italian | ■ German | ■ Other | |

Records in the England's Immigrants Database (EIDB)

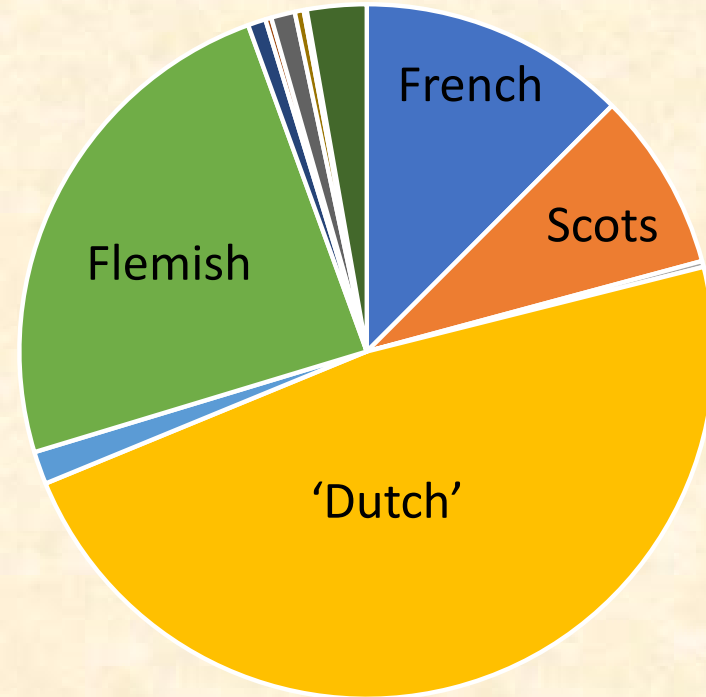
Document Type	No.	Years	Purpose
Alien subsidies	53,252	1440-89	Royal taxes on foreign-born residents (26,009 in 1440)
Letters of denization	6317	1380- 1549	Paid for legal status of denizen (4139 in 1540-49)
Oath of fealty	1858	1436-38	Almost all from the Low Countries
Licence to remain	941	1390- 1482	Paid for right to remain in England (521 Irish in 1394)
Letters of protection	450	1331- 1507	Mostly granted to French residents (300 in 1331-1349)
Tudor subsidies	1948	1523-25	Only for ten counties (including Suffolk)
Misc. other	16		Letters of naturalization, petition, licences..

Suffolk aliens in 1440



- French
- 'Dutch'
- Breton
- Icelandic
- Scot
- Norman
- Channel Islander
- Italian
- Irish
- Fleming
- Iberian
- German

Suffolk aliens 1330-1549



Known origins of resident aliens in Suffolk in 1440 (N=264) and in 1330-1550 (N=721)

Go to the Advanced Search Screen at <https://www.englishimmigrants.com/search>

To search the entire database for a particular name, place or other term, simply use the main 'Keyword' search. Enter the term or terms into the box and click 'Search'.

[Click here for help and hints on searching the database](#)

<div>Reset</div> <div>Search</div>	
Keyword: <input type="text"/>	Occupation: <div>- agriculture apothecary [medical] apprentice apprentice (former) apprentice servant [service] apprentice tailor [cloth, clothing & textiles]</div> <div>help</div>
Start Date: <input type="text"/>	<div>Clear</div>
End Date: <input type="text"/>	
Surname: <input type="text"/>	Social Status: <div>almsman bastard burgess countess of Kent duchess of Gloucester earl of Lennox</div> <div>help</div>
Forename: <input type="text"/>	<div>Clear</div>
Title: <div>Baron Brother Captain Dominus Friar Great</div> <div>help</div>	Notes: <input type="text"/>
<div>Clear</div>	Document Reference: <input type="text"/>
Relationship: <div>apprentice apprentice servant associate brother business partner children</div> <div>help</div>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Search exact phrase for document reference
<div>Clear</div>	Document Type: <div>grant of liberties grant of office letter of naturalization letters of denization letters of protection licence to acquire lands</div> <div>Clear</div>
Nationality / Place of Origin: <input type="text"/>	
Place of Residence: <input type="text" value="Suffolk"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Search exact phrase for residence	<div>Reset</div> <div>Search</div>

To find all records on Suffolk, write the name of the county in the Place of Residence field and then click on the Search button

Click on Full record to see all data fields in that record

Total of all records

Column headings can be changed or values alphabetized

Refine Your Results

Document Date [more](#) ▾

- 1440 - 1449 (723)
- 1480 - 1489 (352)
- 1450 - 1459 (140)
- 1520 - 1529 (134)
- 1430 - 1439 (117)

Origin: Nationality [more](#) ▾

- 'Dutch' (201)
- Fleming (157)
- French (90)
- Zeelander (89)
- Scot (60)

Origin: City / Town [more](#) ▾

- Cologne (7)
- Antwerp (5)
- Zierikzee (5)
- Aachen (4)
- Dordrecht (4)

Origin: Region [more](#) ▾

- Flanders (157)
- France (90)
- Zeeland (89)
- Scotland (60)
- Brabant (42)

Origin: Modern State [more](#) ▾

- Netherlands (316)
- France (268)
- Belgium (202)
- Scotland (60)
- Germany (22)

Residence: County

- Suffolk (1,557)

Residence: Hundred / City [more](#) ▾

- Blything hundred (314)
- Ipswich (217)
- Lothingland hundred (104)
- Babergh hundred (73)

Search Results

Your search: Residence: [Suffolk \[x\]](#)

Results found: 1,557

Showing results 1 - 100 of 1,557

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 | Next | Last

Name ▾ ↕	Nationality ▾ ↕	Date ▾ ↕	Origin ▾ ↕	Residence ▾ ↕	
Abell, John	Brabanter	18 April 1436	Brussels	Suffolk, Ipswich	Full Record Summary
Ablon, John	-	20 January 1524	-	Suffolk, Lavenham	Full Record Summary
Adamson, Peter	Zeelander	6 April 1440	-	Suffolk, Easton Bavents	Full Record Summary
Adrian, Coyard	-	6 April 1440	-	Suffolk, Walberswick	Full Record Summary
Adrianson, Adrian	Zeelander	18 April 1436	Zierikzee	Suffolk, Brandon Ferry	Full Record Summary
Adrianson, John	-	9 July 1466	-	Suffolk	Full Record Summary
Adrianson, Lewis	-	9 July 1466	-	Suffolk	Full Record Summary
Adryan, John	-	20 January 1524	-	Suffolk, Long Melford	Full Record Summary
Akerman, Michael	Brabanter	6 August 1483	Antwerp	Suffolk, Lavenham	Full Record Summary
Alagraunt, Thomas	-	8 April 1440	-	Suffolk, Walton	Full Record Summary

Click on Full Record to see data in all fields

England's Immigrants 1330 – 1550 | Resident Aliens in the Late Middle Ages

Home | Advanced Search | Browse | Background | Resources for Teachers | Your selection (0)

Michael Akerman [18182]

Surname:	Akerman	Notes:	No Notes
Forename:	Michael	Biographical Notes:	No Notes
Gender:	Male	Relationships:	No Relationships
Place of Residence:	Lavenham , Babergh hundred , Suffolk		
Place of Origin:	Antwerp, [Brabant] [modern: Belgium]		
Origin: Nationality:	[Brabanter]		
Occupation(s):	servant with John Fuller		
Taxation Status:	non-householder		
Original Document:	E 179/180/111, rot. 4 (tax assessment, 6 August 1483)		

Click on any blue link to bring you to all records with that value:
e.g. all records for Lavenham
Or all aliens in this document



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Search Results

Your search:

Residence: Suffolk [x]

Results found: 1,557

Showing results 1 - 100 of 1,557

Name	Nationality
Abell, John	Brabanter
Ablon, John	-
Adamson, Peter	Zeelander
Adrian, Coyard	-
Adrianson, Adrian	Zeelander
Adrianson, John	-
Adrianson, Lewis	-
Adryan, John	-
Akerman, Michael	Brabanter
Alagraunt, Thomas	-

Refine Your Results

Document Date [more](#) ▾

- 1440 - 1449 (723)
- 1480 - 1489 (352)
- 1450 - 1459 (140)
- 1520 - 1529 (134)
- 1430 - 1439 (117)



Origin: Nationality [more](#) ▾

- 'Dutch' (201)
- Fleming (157)
- French (90)
- Zeelander (89)
- Scot (60)



Origin: City / Town [more](#) ▾

- Cologne (7)
- Antwerp (5)
- Zierikzee (5)
- Aachen (4)
- Dordrecht (4)



Origin: Region [more](#) ▾

- Flanders (157)
- France (90)
- Zeeland (89)
- Scotland (60)
- Brabant (42)



Origin: Modern State [more](#) ▾

- Netherlands (316)
- France (268)
- Belgium (202)
- Scotland (60)
- Germany (22)



Residence: County

- Suffolk (1,557)



Residence: Hundred / City [more](#) ▾

- Blything hundred (314)
- Ipswich (217)
- Lothingland hundred (104)
- Babergh hundred (73)

Click on 'more' to see all options (use scroll bar to see them all)

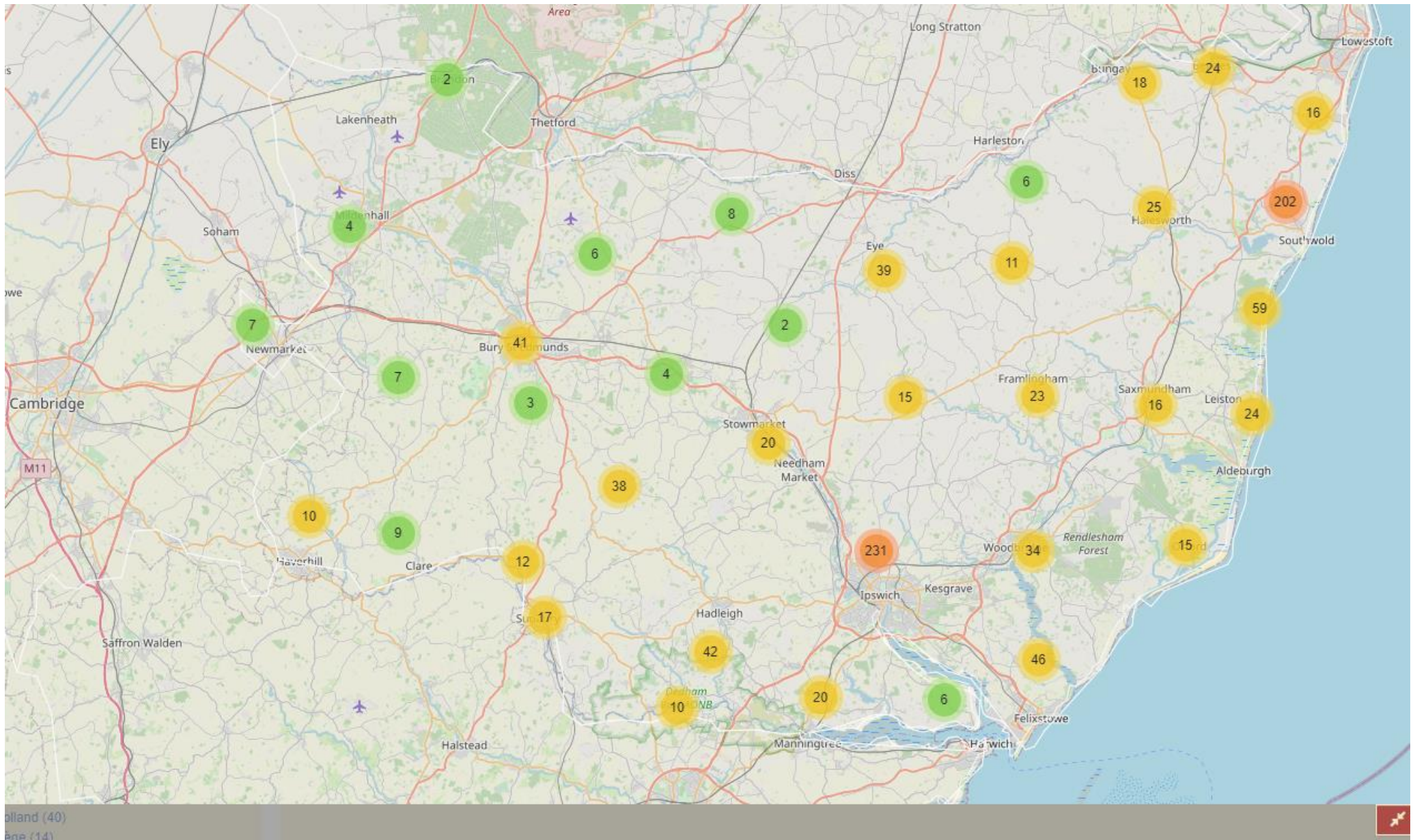
Origin: City / Town [fewer](#) ⚡

- Scot (60)
- Cologne (7)
- Antwerp (5)
- Zierikzee (5)
- Aachen (4)
- Dordrecht (4)
- Suffering (4)
- Lier (4)
- Delft (3)
- Diest (3)
- Haarlem (3)
- Maastricht (3)
- Mechlin (3)

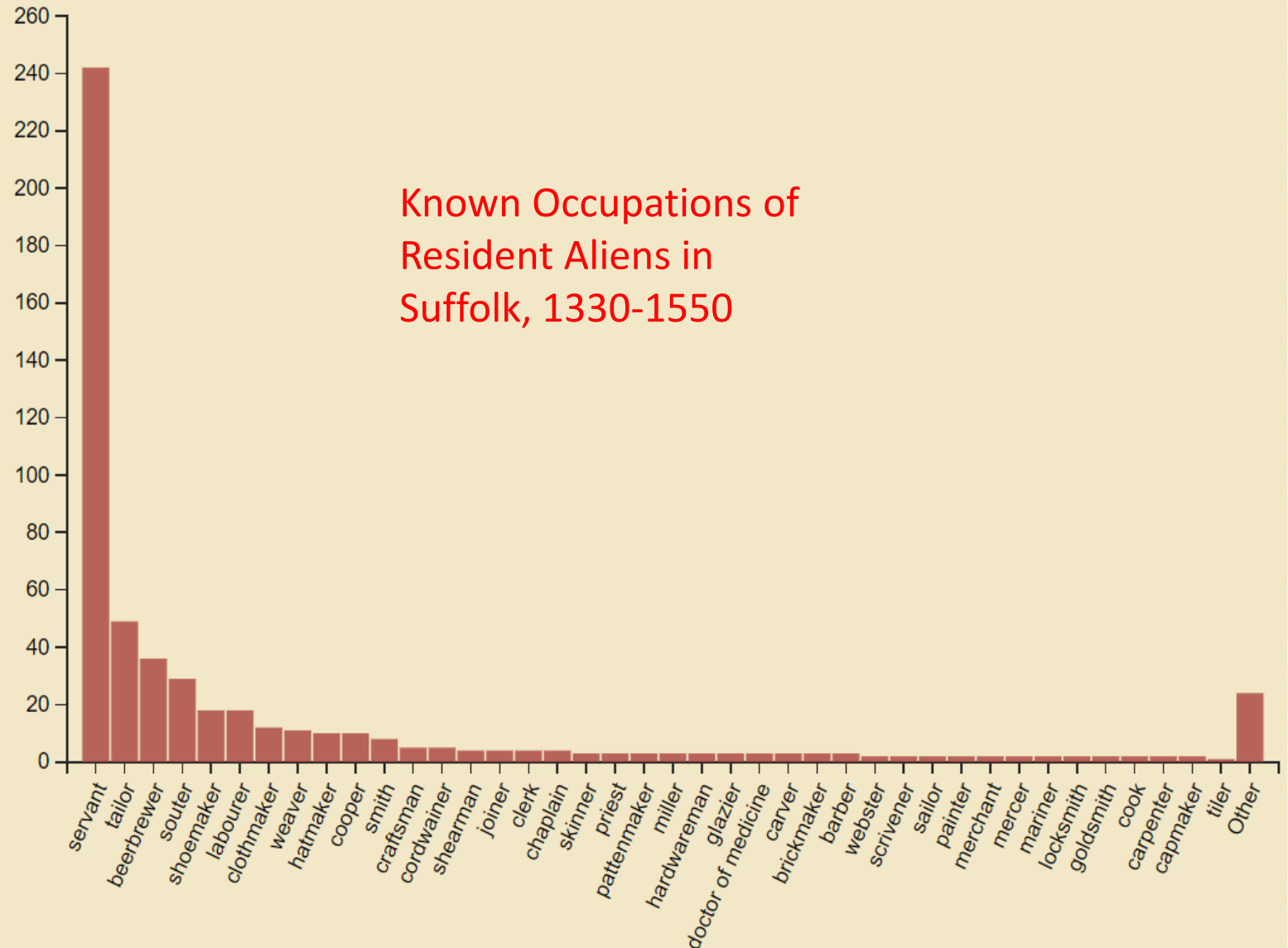
Click on compass to
see map of results


<p>Residence: Hundred / City more ▾</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Blything hundred (314) ◦ Ipswich (217) ◦ Lothingland hundred (104) ◦ Babergh hundred (73) ◦ Wangford hundred (47) <p>Residence: Town / Village fewer ⌵</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Lowestoft (66) ◦ Southwold (63) ◦ Dunwich (53) ◦ Walberswick (50) ◦ Easton Bavents (48) ◦ Beccles (22) ◦ Hadleigh (21) ◦ Woodbridge (21) ◦ Gorleston (19) ◦ Lavenham (16) ◦ Orford (14) ◦ Sudbury (14) <p>Gender</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Male (1,461) ◦ Female (77) ◦ Unknown (19) <p>Occupation more ▾</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ servant (242) ◦ tailor (49) ◦ beerbrewer (36) ◦ souter (29) ◦ labourer (18) <p>Social Status</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ widow (5) <p>Document Type more ▾</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ tax assessment (1,423) ◦ oath of fealty (117) ◦ letters of denization (10) ◦ licence to remain (4) ◦ letters of protection (3) <p>Relationship more ▾</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ same (40) ◦ husband (34) 	<p>Akerman, Michael</p> <p>Alagraunt, Thomas</p> <p>Albbryghton, Peter</p> <p>Alberd, Benedict</p> <p>Alberd, Benedict</p> <p>Albon, Nicholas</p> <p>Albright, John</p> <p>Albright, Peter</p> <p>Alcomade, Peter</p> <p>Aldewyk, John</p> <p>Alyen, Pers</p> <p>Andrew, John</p> <p>Andrewe, William</p>
--	--

Map of all aliens in Suffolk, 1330-1550 (can also search on specific range of years, tax, type of document)– can also zoom in or out



Dutch (201)
 Fleming (157)
 French (90)
 Zeelander (89)
 Scot (60)
 City / Town [more](#) 
 Cologne (7)
 Antwerp (5)
 Zierikzee (5)
 Aachen (4)
 Dordrecht (4)
 Region [more](#) 
 Flanders (157)
 France (90)
 Zeeland (89)
 Scotland (60)
 Brabant (42)
 Modern State [more](#) 
 Netherlands (316)
 France (268)
 Belgium (202)
 Scotland (60)
 Germany (22)
 Place: County
 Suffolk (1,557)
 Place: Hundred / City [more](#) 
 Blything hundred (314)
 Ipswich (217)
 Northampton hundred (104)
 Babergh hundred (73)
 Wangford hundred (47)
 Place: Town / Village [fewer](#) 
 Lowestoft (66)
 Southwold (63)
 Dunwich (53)
 Walberswick (50)

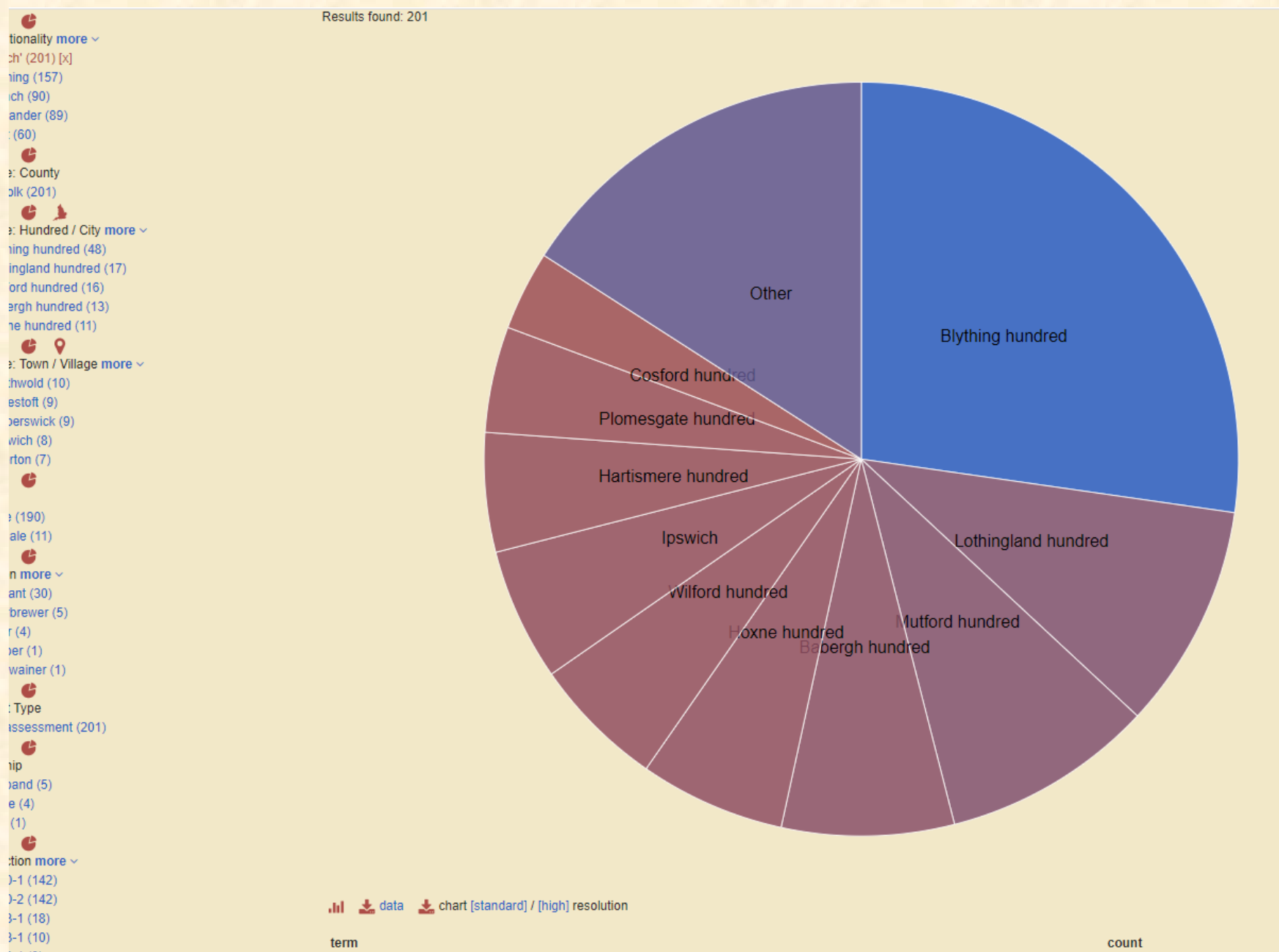


letters of denization (10)
 licence to remain (4)
 letters of protection (3)
 Relationship [more](#) 
 same (40)
 husband (34)

Andrew, John

Andrewe, William

Pie chart of the Suffolk hundreds where the 'Dutch' resided, 1330-1550



All datasets can also be downloaded into Excel

- Origin: Region
 - Zeeland (14)
 - Brabant (1)
 - Flanders (1)
- Origin: Modern State

Blayes, Nicholas	Zeelander	6 August 1483	-	Suffolk, Woodbridge	Summary	Full Record	<input type="checkbox"/>
Couperre, William	Zeelander	6 August 1483	-	Suffolk, Woodbridge	Summary	Full Record	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fauthergo, John	-	31 July 1456	-	Suffolk, Woodbridge	Summary	Full Record	<input type="checkbox"/>

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
idperson	page_num	person_re	title	forename	forename	particle	surname	surname	suffix	origin_nat	origin_nat	origin_tov	origin_tov	origin_reg	origin_reg	origin_reg	gender	household	dob	dob_type	dod	dod_type	residence	residence	wealth_tyr
1	11157			Henry			Mayho			Brabant	Mastricht			Almain	Brabant	Netherlan	Male			Exact		Exact			
3	15951			Frank			Flemmyng	Fleming							Flanders	Belgium, I	Male	No		Exact		Exact			
4	15954			Alice			Kempster	Kempster									Female	Yes		Exact		Exact			
5	17035			John			Wever	Weaver		Dutch	'Dutch'						Male	Yes		Exact		Exact			
6	17254			John			Fauthergo										Male	No		Exact		Exact			
7	17255			Anthony			Godyll										Male	No		Exact		Exact			
8	17266			Martin			Johnsone	Johnson									Male	No		Exact		Exact			
9	17671			Richard			Reymere				Zeelander			Zeeland	Zeeland	Netherlan	Male	Yes		Exact		Exact			
10	17705			Peter			Albright				Zeelander			Zeeland	Zeeland	Netherlan	Male	Yes		Exact		Exact			
11	17706			John			Parker				Zeelander			Zeeland	Zeeland	Netherlan	Male	Yes		Exact		Exact			
12	17712			Clays			Berebrew	Beerbrewer			Zeelander			Zeeland	Zeeland	Netherlan	Male	Yes		Exact		Exact			
13	17713			William			Couperre	Cooper			Zeelander			Zeeland	Zeeland	Netherlan	Male	Yes		Exact		Exact			
14	17718			Yanne			Taylour	Tailor			Zeelander			Zeeland	Zeeland	Netherlan	Male	Yes		Exact		Exact			
15	17736			John			Johnson				Zeelander			Zeeland	Zeeland	Netherlan	Male	No		Exact		Exact			
16	17739			Dirik			Yanson				Zeelander			Zeeland	Zeeland	Netherlan	Male	No		Exact		Exact			
17	17741			Henry			Goryson				Zeelander			Zeeland	Zeeland	Netherlan	Male	No		Exact		Exact			
18	17746			Malle			Johnson				Zeelander			Zeeland	Zeeland	Netherlan	Male	No		Exact		Exact			
19	17751			Nicholas			Blayes				Zeelander			Zeeland	Zeeland	Netherlan	Male	No		Exact		Exact			
20	17760			[...]			[...]				Zeelander			Zeeland	Zeeland	Netherlan	Female	No		Exact		Exact			
21	17763			Hugh			[...]				Zeelander			Zeeland	Zeeland	Netherlan	Male	No		Exact		Exact			
22	17766			Joan			[...]				Zeelander			Zeeland	Zeeland	Netherlan	Female	No		Exact		Exact			
23																									
24	England's Immigrants 1330 - 1550 (http://www.englishimmigrants.com/, version 1.0, 29 August 2020)																								
25																									
26																									
27																									
28																									
29																									
30																									

- craftsman (2)
- shoemaker (2)
- tailor (2)
- beerbrewer (1)

[...], Hugh	Zeelander	6 August 1483	-	Suffolk, Woodbridge	Summary	Full Record	<input type="checkbox"/>
[...], Joan	Zeelander	6 August 1483	-	Suffolk, Woodbridge	Summary	Full Record	<input type="checkbox"/>
[...], [...]	Zeelander	6 August 1483	-	Suffolk, Woodbridge	Summary	Full Record	<input type="checkbox"/>

- Document Type
 - tax assessment (20)
 - oath of fealty (1)
- Relationship
 - master (2)
 - servant (2)

Download all results for this search

The spreadsheet downloads to your computer-includes all fields (many of which you will not want)

Also need to scroll right to see all fields

Click on Download button

Further resources

- The Background tab on the England's Immigrants webpage
- W. M. Ormrod, B. Lambert, and J. Mackman, *Immigrant England, 1330-1550*. Manchester Univ. Press, 2019 (in paper and ebook)
- *Resident Aliens in Medieval England*. Ed. N. McDonald, W. M. Ormrod, and C. Taylor. Brepols, 2017.

M. Kowaleski, "French Immigrants and the French Language in Late-Medieval England." In *The French of England: Essays in Honour of Jocelyn Wogan Browne*. Ed T. Fenster and C. Collette. Woodbridge, 2017, pp. 207-24.

M. Kowaleski, "The Assimilation of Foreigners in Late Medieval Exeter: A Prosopographical Analysis' in *Resident Aliens in Medieval England*. Ed. N. McDonald, W. M. Ormrod, and C. Taylor. 2017, pp. 163-79

M. Kowaleski, "Breton Immigration in Late Medieval England," in *People, Power and Identity in the Late Middle Ages: A Festschrift for W. Mark Ormrod*. Ed. H. Lacey and G. Dodd, Routledge, forthcoming