

# Concepts and definitions related to international migration

## Mexico

United Nations Expert Group Meeting on Improving Migration

Data in the Context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the

Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

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**SEGOB**  
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## Definition of international migration

For statistical projects (definition from the Population Census):

**Person that has changed their habitual place of residence from a country of origin to one of destination**

It is comparable with the International recommendations:

- a) It identifies if a person changed their habitual place of residence from a country of origin to one of destination.
- b) The habitual residence is related to a specific period of time.

For the Population Census of Mexico the habitual residence period begins at six months and one day.

## Definition of international migration

To estimate the migration of foreigners with regular residence:

**"Foreign (non-Mexican) person with regular immigration status in Mexico"**

It is not comparable:

- a) It identifies the nationality of the person in legal terms (Articles 30 and 33 of the Political Constitution of the United Mexican States: foreign persons are those who do not have Mexican nationality, which is acquired by birth or by naturalization).
- b) The habitual residence is related to their residence permit authorized by migratory authorities.

It allows the calculation of the Stock and the calculation of the flow of new residents according to the reference year.

## Relevant concepts for policymaking

Classified in three main groups to estimate the new needs of information

- 1) Basic concepts**
- 2) Migration paths**
- 3) Data groups**

1a) Citizen

1b) Migrant

1c) Foreigner

1d) Vulnerability

2a) Orderly migration

2b) Return migration

2c) Forced migration

2d) Irregular migration

3a) Migration stock / flows

3b) Long-term international migrant

3c) Short-term international migrant

3d) Migratory status (regular or irregular)

## Proposed definition of international migration

**"Displacement of people between international political-administrative boundaries, regardless of their temporality, immigration status or motivation."**

It is a broad definition that includes all categories, which, based on people's characteristics, could be fine-tuned for the type of public policy required, whether it be population, tourism or migration.

In the proposal, time of residence and habitual residence would be part of the characteristics.

### **Other characteristics would include:**

- a) Sociodemographics (*country of citizenship, age, sex, schooling, marital status, intended duration of stay, expected location, among others*)
- b) Spatial and temporal references,
- c) Country of nationality and birth,
- d) Motivation of displacement

# Challenges

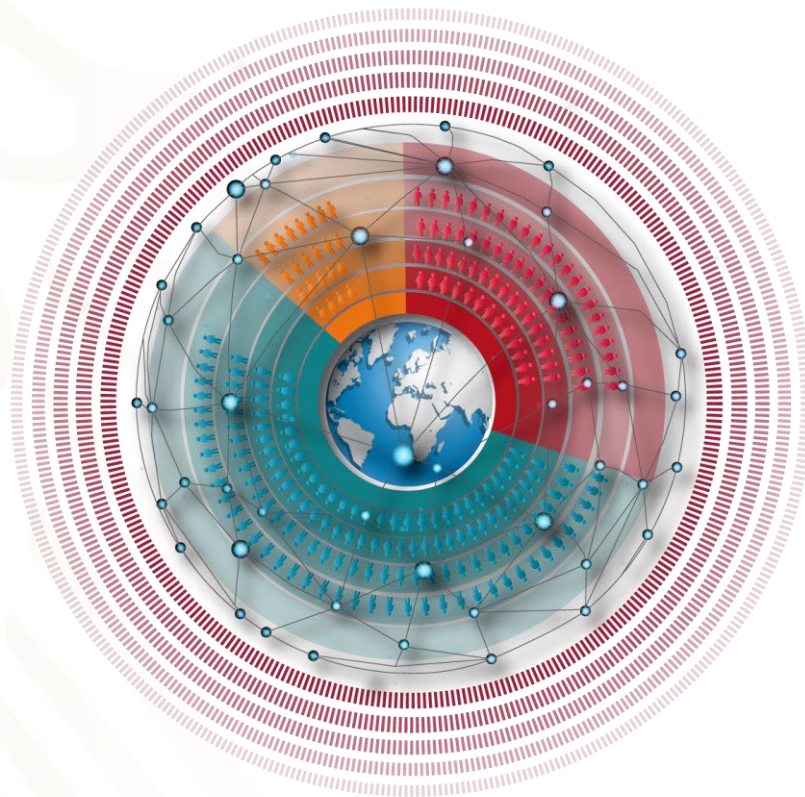
To collect, measure and estimate the new needs on information

## **Population Census / Surveys**

- Include new concepts
- Collect the information from non traditional places of stay

## **Administrative registers**

- Institutional Coordination
  - National Immigration Institute
  - Migratory Policy Unit
  - National Statistical Office
- Introduce and Standardize concepts
- Collect and register information from new migration paths



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