

Definitions of key concepts

United Nations Expert Group on Migration Statistics
Task Force 2: Key concepts and definitions related to international
migration

Overview

- Definitions of key concepts are revised based on the proposed conceptual frameworks on international migration and mobility
- Concepts are classified under following categories to:
 - Base populations
 - International migration and mobility
 - International migration: Stocks
 - International migration: Flows
 - Temporary population mobility
- Other international guidelines and recommendations related to labour mobility, circular mobility and refugees and asylum seekers are incorporated

Base populations

- Resident population
 - Individuals who spent most of the last 12 months or intended to stay for at least six months (between 6-12 months) in their primary place of residence in a particular calendar year (UN, 2017)
- Present population
 - All persons who were present in the country at a specific reference moment (census reference moment); present population include residents who were present in the country but exclude residents who were not present at the reference moment (UN, 2017)
- Temporary (non-resident) population
 - All persons who stayed or intended to stay in the country for less than minimum amount required for residency in a particular calendar year

Base populations by birthplace and citizenship

- Foreign-born population
 - All people who reside in the country at a particular time who were born in another country
- Native-born population
 - All people who reside in the country at a particular time who were born in the same country
- Foreign citizen population
 - All people who reside in the country at a particular time who do not have citizenship
- Citizen population
 - All people who reside in the country at a particular time who have citizenship

International migration and mobility

- International mobility
 - All movements that cross international borders within a given calendar
- International migration
 - All movements resulting in a change in the country of residence (a subset of international mobility) within a given calendar
- International migrant
 - A person who has changed his or her country of residence and established new residence in the country

International migration: Stocks

- Immigrant population
 - All people who reside in the country at a given point in time who are either born in another country or without citizenship
- Emigrant population
 - All citizens or people who were born in the country and are residing in another country at a given point in time
- Returned migrant population
 - Resident citizens of the country of enumeration at a given point in time who previously resided in another country

International migration: Flows

- Immigration

- All persons entering the country and becoming part of the resident population within a given calendar year

- Emigration

- All persons leaving the country to become a part of another country's resident population within a given calendar year

Temporary population mobility

- Temporary population mobility
 - All movements that cross international border that do not result in a change in the country of residence
- Cross border workers
 - All persons who are not residents of the country of measurement but have been employed on a continuous (?) basis in that country provided they depart at regular and short intervals (daily or weekly) from the country (ILO, 2018)
- Seasonal workers
 - All persons who are not residents of the country of employment, whose work by its character is dependent on seasonal conditions and is performed during part of the year (ILO, 2018)

Temporary population mobility (continued)

- Other types of temporary workers
 - All persons who are not the residents of the country of measurement but travel to the country for short periods for work-related reasons, such as itinerant workers and project-tied workers (ILO, 2018)
- Training related mobility
 - All persons who are not the resident of the country but travel to the country for attending a short-term training programme
- Circular movement
 - Non-residents who spend time in a country more than once during a year. Note, UNECE report on 'Defining and Measuring Circular Migration' (2016) suggests over 10 years

Temporary population mobility (continued)

- Forcibly displaced mobility
 - All people who are not the resident of the country and leave their country of residence involuntarily due to a variety of external causes including natural disasters, conflict, violence, ethnic cleansing, other persecution and human rights violations
- Asylum seekers in transit
 - Persons who travel to the country as a transit with the intention of travelling to another country for filling an application for asylum
- Other groups of temporary population mobility related to migration policy ?

Main changes in the current recommendations

1998 Recommendations	Revised recommendations
<p>Concepts of long-term and short-term migration</p> <p>*Country of usual residence- the country in which person lives, that is to say, the country in which he or she has a place to live where he or she normally spends the daily period of rest</p> <p>*Long-term migrant – a person who moves to his/her usual residence for a period of at least 12 months</p> <p>*Short-term migrant –a person who moves to his/her usual residence for at least 3 months but less than 12 months, except for holiday, visits, business, so on.</p>	<p>Concepts of international migration and temporary population mobility</p> <p>*Country of residence- the country in which a person spent most of the last 12 months or intended to stay at least 6 months (between 6-12)</p> <p>*International migrant- a person who has changed his or her country of residence and established new residence in the country</p> <p>*Temporary population mobility- crossing international border with no intention to change the country of residence</p>

Main changes in the current recommendations

1998 Recommendations	Revised recommendations
Base population is usual resident population for long-term and short-term migrants	Base population includes *resident population for international migrants *temporary (non-resident) population for temporary population mobility
Inconsistency between usual residence population and short-term migrants (considered to be the country of destination during the period they spend in it)	Clear link is made between resident populations and international migration flows and temporary populations and international temporary mobility
No clear guidance on transition from non-resident to resident population and from foreign citizens to national citizens	Clear guidance on changing the residence status and moving from foreign citizens to national citizens

Main changes in the current recommendations

1998 Recommendations	Revised recommendations
No clear guidance on stocks of international migrants	Stock of immigrant (emigrant) populations measured by citizenship and country of birth with subsequent demographic processes of births, deaths and emigration (immigration) included. New recommendations provide guidance on how to ensure consistency between stocks and flows of international migrants
No recommendations on non-resident mobility relevant to migration policy	Includes all temporary (non-resident) population mobility and provides guidance on types of temporary mobility relevant to migration policy