

# U.S. Perspective: Producing Core International Migration Indicators for Policy Area 1

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# Outline

Overview of Policy Area 1

Definitions

U.S. Data sources: Census-specific and other administrative sources

Core indicators and relevant data sources with considerations

Challenges

# MIGRATION INDICATORS (MI) FOR PRODUCTION

to monitor **policy area 1 and 2**



**Policy Area 1:** Improve the measurement of international migration and temporary mobility stocks and flows



**Policy Area 2:** Address irregular cross border movements and visa overstays

## CORE MIGRATION INDICATORS

that all countries are recommended to regularly produce

## ADDITIONAL MIGRATION INDICATORS

that countries may consider producing, depending on their national priorities and circumstances

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# Definitions: Census Bureau

## Foreign-born

- The U.S. Census Bureau uses the term foreign born to refer to anyone who is not a U.S. citizen at birth. This includes naturalized U.S. citizens, lawful permanent residents (immigrants), temporary migrants (such as foreign students), humanitarian migrants (such as refugees and asylees), and unauthorized migrants.
- The Census Bureau collects data from all foreign born who participate in its censuses and surveys, regardless of legal status.

## Native-born

- The Census Bureau uses the terms native and native born to refer to anyone born in the United States, Puerto Rico, a U.S. Island Area (Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, or the U.S. Virgin Islands), or abroad of a U.S. citizen parent or parents.

# Definitions: Core Indicators

## Foreign-born

- **Foreign-born population:** all persons who reside in the country of measurement at a given time and were born in another country.
- **Foreign-born citizens:** all persons who were born in another country and hold citizenship in the country of measurement (i.e., a person who obtained citizenship via naturalization or born abroad to U.S. citizen parent or parents).
- **Foreign-born foreign citizens:** all persons who were born in another country and do not hold citizenship in the country of measurement.
- **Foreign citizens:** all persons who reside in the country of measurement at a given time and do not hold citizenship of that country. Note: For the U.S., this would be synonymous with foreign-born foreign citizen.

## Native-born

- **Native-born (native) citizens:** all persons who were born in the country of measurement and hold citizenship of that country.
- **Native-born foreign citizens:** all persons who are born in a country of measurement, but do not hold citizenship of that country. Note: This does not apply to the U.S., as all those U.S. born are automatically granted citizenship.

# U.S. Census Bureau Surveys

## American Community Survey (ACS)

- Implemented in 2005, estimates released annually
- Large sample allows for studying small levels of geography
- Relevant questions: country of birth, U.S. citizenship status, year of naturalization, year of entry, residence one year ago, race, ethnicity, language spoken at home

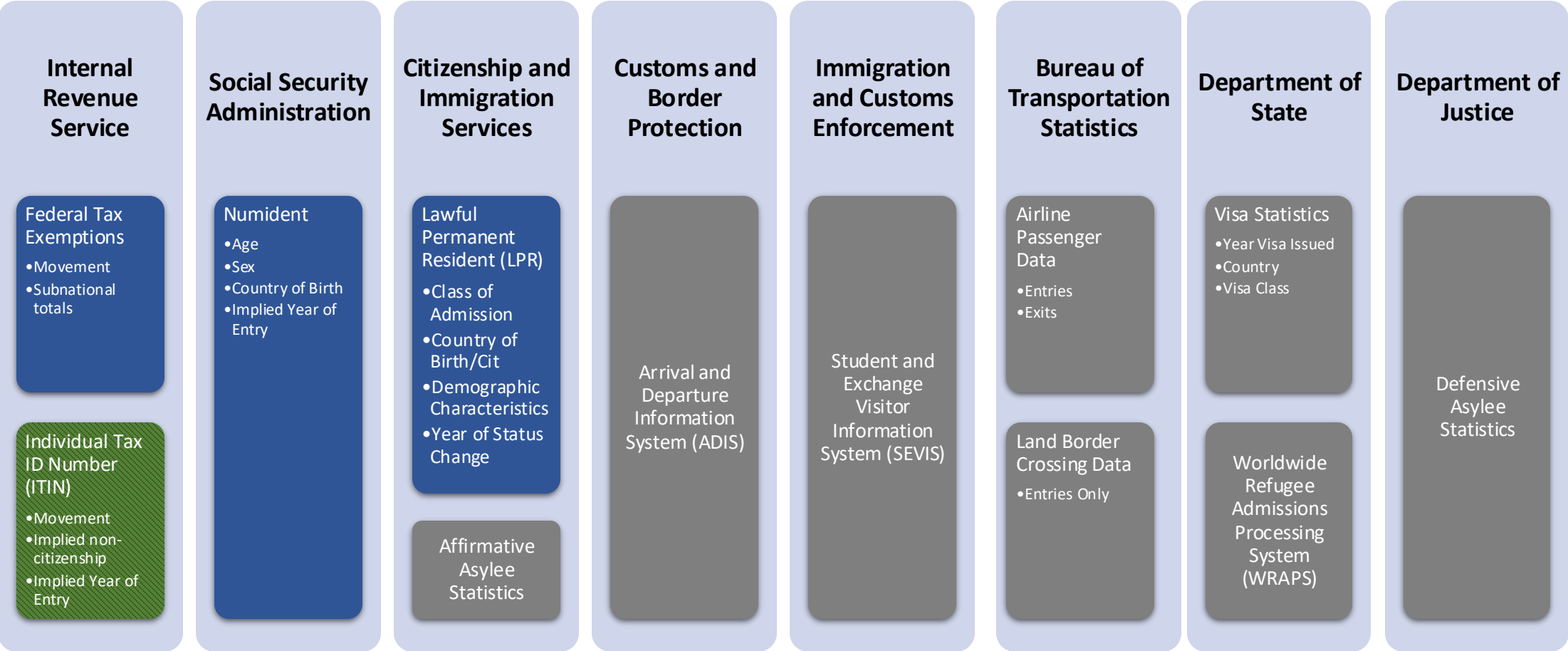
## Current Population Survey (CPS)

- Primary data source for U.S. labor force statistics
- Began in 1940's so allows for time series analyses
- Contains most foreign-born items in ACS plus parental place of birth & reason for moving

## Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP)

- Longitudinal survey; each panel is about four years long
- Relevant questions: whether born in U.S., citizenship status
- Topical module contains information on immigration status upon entry to the U.S., whether and when status changed to permanent resident, country of previous home

# U.S. Administrative Data Sources on International Migration





# Core Indicators: Stock

	Migration Indicator	Primary topics for disaggregation	Source(s)	Advantages	Disadvantages
<b>MI 1.1</b>	<b>Number/proportion of _____ in the total resident population</b>	1.Age 2.Sex 3. Country of birth 4. <del>Country of</del> citizenship	- ACS Tables - ACS Public Use Micro Data (PUMS) - OHSS Immigration Yearbook (data from USCIS)	- Annual estimates - Subnational - Publicly available - Detailed demographic and socioeconomic characteristics	- Misses some migrant types (i.e., irregular, temporary) - Definition of residence is generous (2 months) - Timeliness
<b>MI 1.2</b>	<b>Number of _____ who obtained citizenship over a given year</b>	1.Age 2.Sex 3. Country of birth 4. <del>Country of</del> citizenship	- USCIS - ACS	- Annual estimates - Subnational - Publicly available - Detailed demographic and socioeconomic characteristics	- Recall bias - DHS/ USCIS tables differ from ACS in that they are by fiscal year
	Foreign-born population Foreign citizens Foreign-born citizens <del>Native-born foreign citizens</del> Foreign-born foreign citizens Native-born (native) citizens				
	<del>Native-born foreign citizens</del> Foreign-born foreign citizens				

# Core Indicators: Flow

	Migration Indicator	Primary topics for disaggregation	Source(s)	Advantages	Disadvantages
<b>MI 1.3</b>	<b>Annual number of immigrants who are</b> _____	1.Age 2.Sex 3. Country of birth 4. <del>Country of citizenship</del>	- ACS - Internal estimates from International Migration Branch (IMB)	- Annual estimates - Subnational - Publicly available - Detailed demographic and socioeconomic characteristics	- Misses some migrant types (i.e., irregular, temporary) - Definition of residence is generous (2 months) - Timeliness
	Foreign-born population Foreign citizens Foreign-born citizens <del>Native-born foreign citizens</del> Foreign-born foreign citizens Native-born (native) citizens				
<b>MI 1.4</b>	<b>Annual number of emigrants who are</b> _____	1.Age 2.Sex 3. <del>Country of birth</del> 4. <del>Country of citizenship</del>	Nothing available to the public	N/A	- Only net flows are published from population estimates program, separate in and out flows are <b>only available internally</b>
	Foreign-born population Foreign citizens Foreign-born citizens <del>Native-born foreign citizens</del> Foreign-born foreign citizens Native-born (native) citizens				

# Challenges

## Decentralized Federal statistical system

- Census Bureau, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Department of Homeland Security, State Department, Department of Justice, etc.
- Collaboration is difficult
- Legal barriers

## Privacy

- Public perception and response rates

## Definitions

- In the United States, migration is defined based on the criteria of data sources used to measure it, which may or may not meet international standards

# Thanks!

Have questions?

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