ANU School of Demography

Strategies for initiating migration data systems or improving existing ones

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Aims of session

- Consider and discuss possible phases for improving migration data systems based on the revised conceptual framework
- Highlight opportunities and strategies for international migration data collection and production

Accounting table for usual resident population change by birthplace and citizenship status

	NB citizen	FB citizen	NB foreign citizen	FB foreign citizen	Emigration	Deaths	Total(t)
NB/C	$R_{NB/C}$				$E_{NB/C}$	$D_{NB/C}$	$P_{NB/C}(t)$
FB/C		$R_{FB/C}$			$E_{FB/C}$	$D_{FB/C}$	$P_{FB/C}(t)$
NB/FC	$T_{NB/FC\text{-}NB/C}$		$R_{NB/FC}$		$E_{NB/FC}$	$D_{NB/FC}$	$P_{NB/FC}(t)$
FB/FC		$T_{FB/FC\text{-}FB/C}$		$R_{FB/FC}$	$E_{FB/FC}$	$D_{FB/FC}$	$P_{FB/FC}(t)$
Immigration	$I_{NB/C}$	$I_{FB/C}$	$I_{NB/FC}$	$I_{FB/FC}$			I_+
NB births	$B_{NB/C}$		$B_{NB/FC}$				B_{NB+}
FB births	$B_{FB/C}$		$B_{FB/FC}$				B_{FB+}
Total(t+1)	$P_{NB/C}(t+1)$	$P_{FB/C}(t+1)$	$P_{NB/FC}(t+1)$	$P_{FB/FC}(t+1)$	E_+	D_+	

Accounting table for usual resident population change: Hypothetical numerical example

	NB citizen	FB citizen	NB foreign citizen	FB foreign citizen	Emigration	Deaths	Total(*t*)
NB/C							5,000
FB/C							1,000
NB/FC							100
FB/FC							500
Immigration							
NB births							
FB births							
Total(*t*+1)							

Accounting table for usual resident population change: Hypothetical numerical example

	NB citizen	FB citizen	NB foreign citizen	FB foreign citizen	Emigration	Deaths	Total(*t*)
NB/C	4,500						5,000
FB/C		950					1,000
NB/FC			50				100
FB/FC				350			500
Immigration							
NB births							
FB births							
Total(*t*+1)	4,500	950	50	350			

Accounting table for usual resident population change: Hypothetical numerical example

	NB citizen	FB citizen	NB foreign citizen	FB foreign citizen	Emigration	Deaths	Total(*t*)
NB/C	4,500						5,000
FB/C		950					1,000
NB/FC	40		50				100
FB/FC		70		350			500
Immigration							
NB births							
FB births							
Total(*t*+1)	4,540	1,020	50	350			

Accounting table for usual resident population change: Hypothetical numerical example

	NB citizen	FB citizen	NB foreign citizen	FB foreign citizen	Emigration	Deaths	Total(*t*)
NB/C	4,500				100	400	5,000
FB/C		950			30	20	1,000
NB/FC	40		50		10	0	100
FB/FC		70		350	60	20	500
Immigration							
NB births							
FB births							
Total(*t*+1)	4,540	1,020	50	350	200	440	

Accounting table for usual resident population change: Hypothetical numerical example

	NB citizen	FB citizen	NB foreign citizen	FB foreign citizen	Emigration	Deaths	Total(*t*)
NB/C	4,500				100	400	5,000
FB/C		950			30	20	1,000
NB/FC	40		50		10	0	100
FB/FC		70		350	60	20	500
Immigration	80	10	0	200			290
NB births							
FB births							
Total(*t*+1)	4,620	1,030	50	550	200	440	

Accounting table for usual resident population change: Hypothetical numerical example

	NB citizen	FB citizen	NB foreign citizen	FB foreign citizen	Emigration	Deaths	Total(*t*)
NB/C	4,500				100	400	5,000
FB/C		950			30	20	1,000
NB/FC	40		50		10	0	100
FB/FC		70		350	60	20	500
Immigration	80	10	0	200			290
NB births	600		0				600
FB births	80		50				130
Total(*t*+1)	5,300	1,030	100	550	200	440	

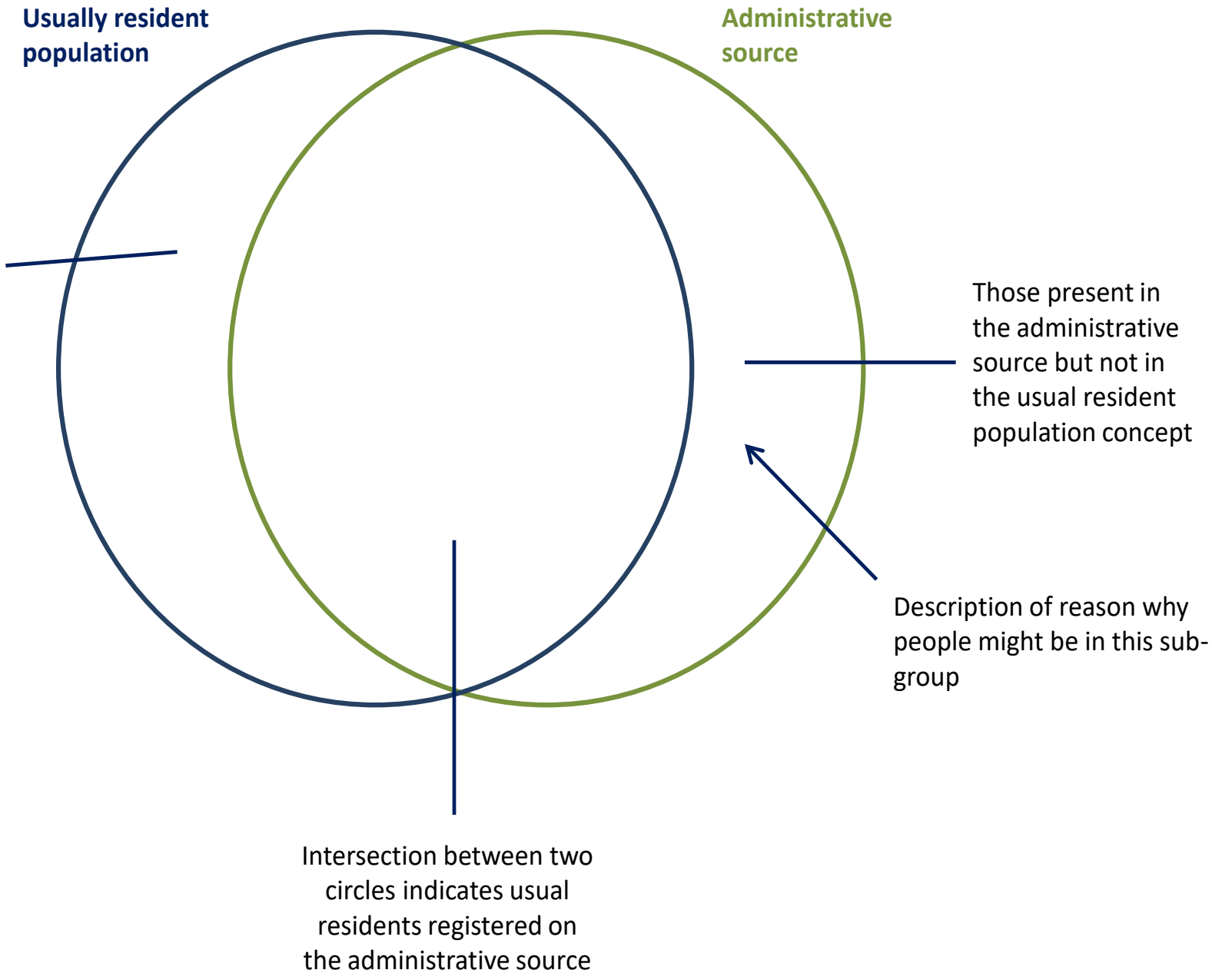
Demographic accounting tables

- Demographic accounting tables ensure the measurement of migration matches population change over time
- This makes it valuable not only for population estimation but ensuring the numbers have a solid basis for developing policies on migration
- Avoid net migration where possible
  - Unpredictable
  - Unexplainable
  - Not useful for policy

Build up the migration data system

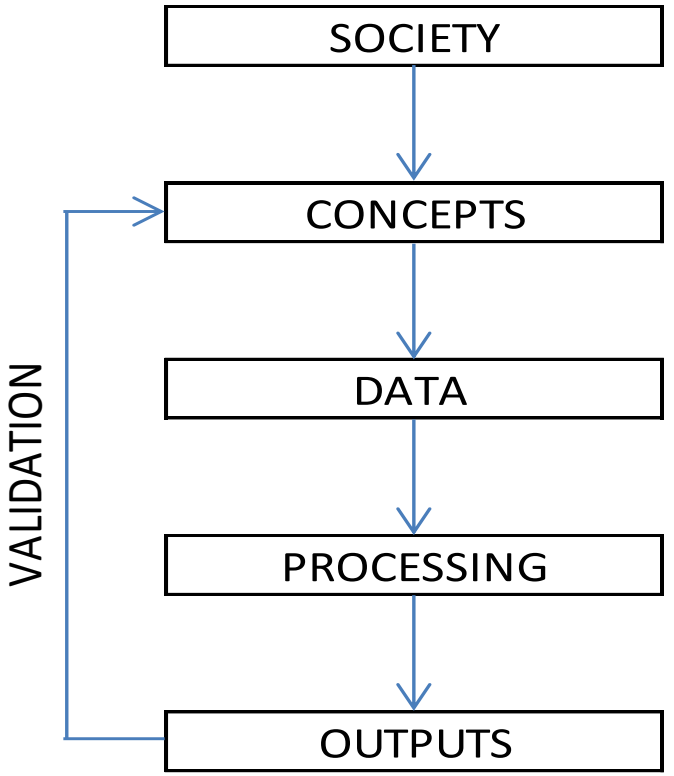
- Start with population stocks by age and sex
- Disaggregate stock data by birthplace and/or citizenship status
- Gather the available component data by birthplace and/or citizenship status
- Identify the strong points in the data and then focus on strengthening the weaker parts over time (e.g., foreign-born to foreign-born by citizenship status)
- Use indirect estimation or data integration methods to augment missing or weaker data on migration flows or stocks

Understanding the relationship between an administrative data source and the usual resident population concept



Envision the ideal data system

- What are migration data needed for?
- How would more reliable migration data improve planning and service delivery? Other benefits?
- What data systems require migration information? Can multiple data systems be integrated?



Framework for producing official statistics

Other considerations

- Staffing, resources, champions
- Data protection and trust
- Institutional or legal obstacles
- ‘experimental statistics’ (high risk) vs. ‘official statistics’ (low risk)
- Documentation of efficiencies, cost-savings and evidence for the benefits of improved migration data

Guiding questions

- **Imaging you have full control, sufficient staff and resources, and no legal or institutional constraints….**
- Based on the revised conceptual framework and statistical definitions, what would be the first practical steps to be taken in order to produce consistent international migration stocks and flows for the four subgroups in your country?
- How would an ideal migration data system look like? Feel free to use visual aides to illustrate.
- What are the preconditions needed for setting up a migration data system (enabling environment)?