

Conceptual framework on international migration and temporary mobility statistics

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Conceptual Framework: main statistical definitions

From the conceptual framework endorsed by the UN Statistical Commission in its 52nd session

INTERNATIONAL MOBILITY

All movements that cross **international borders** within a given calendar year

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

RESIDENT POPULATION

individuals who have lived (or intend to, or have permission to live) in the country of measurement for either:

(a) most of (6 months and a day), or

(b) at least

the preceding 12 months, not including temporary absences for holidays or work assignments.

INTERNATIONAL TEMPORARY MOBILITY

All movements that cross international border and **do not result in a change in the country of residence** – stay less than 6 or 12 months within a given year

TEMPORARY POPULATION

all persons present in the country at a specific point in time who are not residents

Key features of revised conceptual framework for statistics on international migration

1. Encourages to build **stronger links** with policy data needs
2. **Distinction** between international migration and other types of mobility
3. Same measurement criterion for stocks and flows (duration of stay)

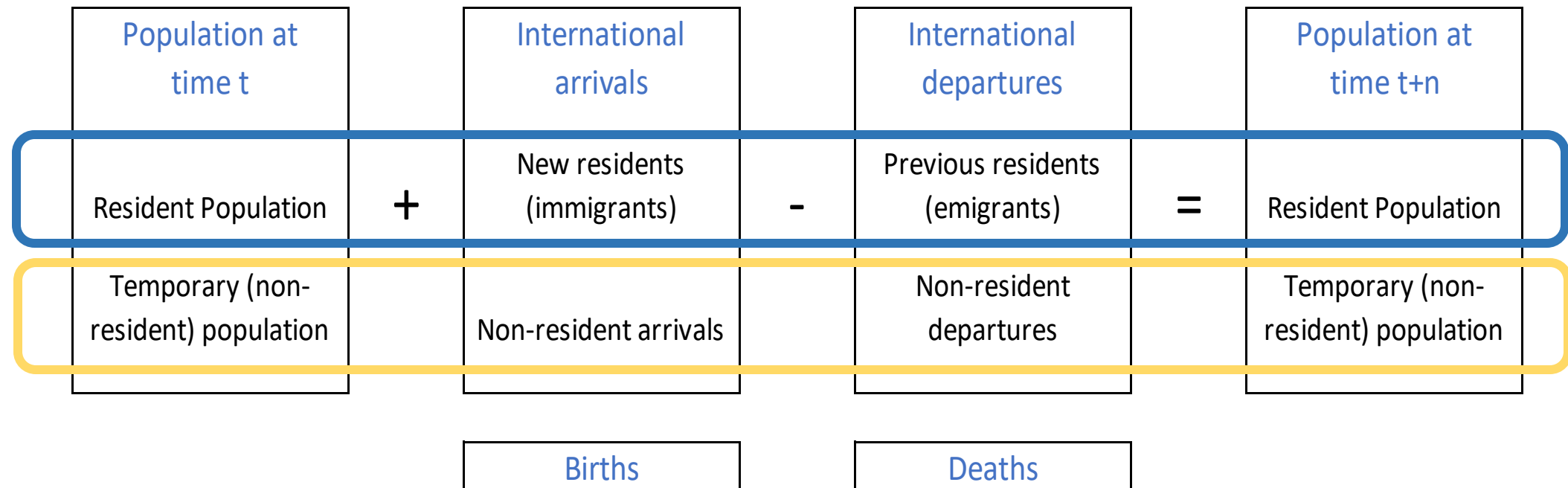


Fig. Overarching conceptual framework on international mobility statistics

Cross-tabulations of four subpopulations

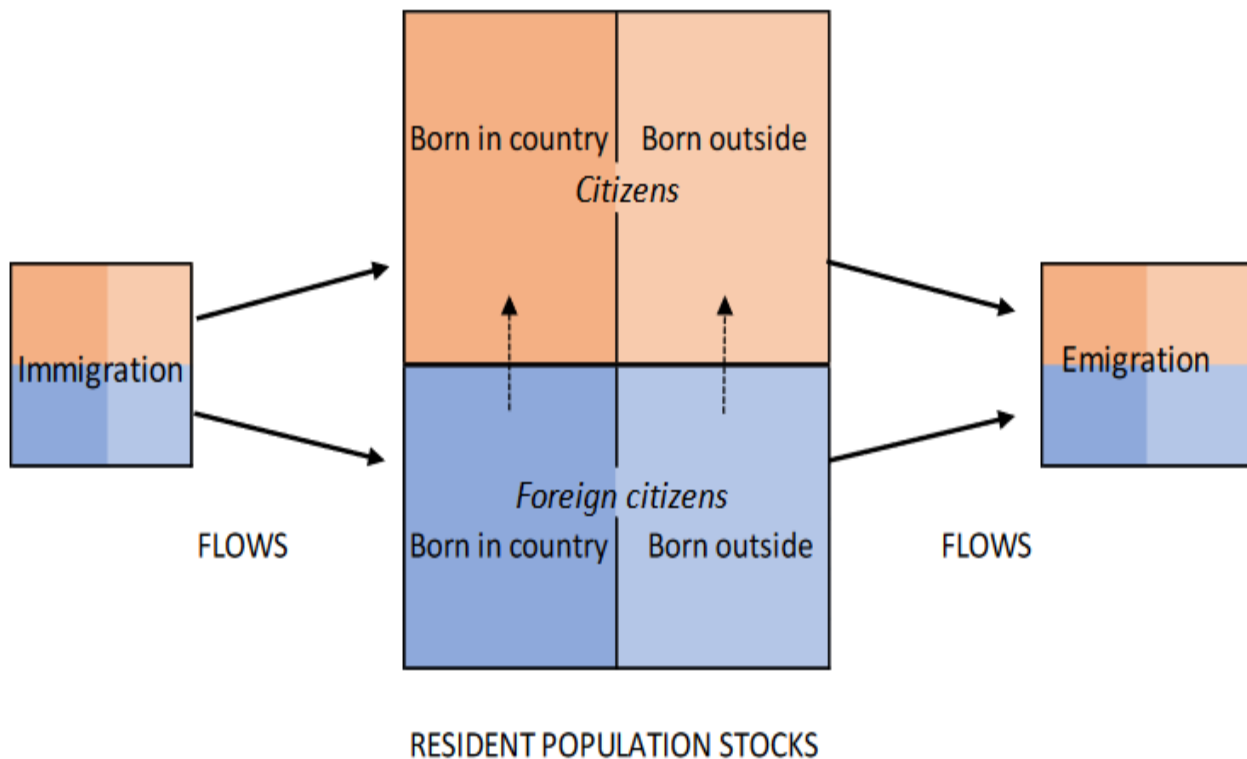


Fig. Conceptual framework on international migration and the coherence between flows and stocks

Cross-tabulations of these four subpopulations critical to understanding immigrant and emigrant populations and their international movements:

- Foreign-born citizens
- Foreign-born foreign citizens
- Native-born citizens
- Native-born foreign citizens

From a policy perspective, presenting statistics and indicators for the four subpopulations separately is highly relevant.



Cross-tabulations of four subpopulations

	Native born	Foreign born	
(National) Citizens	a	b	a+b
Foreign citizens	c	d	c+d
	a+c	b+d	T

Fig. Resident population cross-tabulated by NB/FB and citizenship status

Cross-tabulations of these four subpopulations critical to understanding immigrant and emigrant populations and their international movements:

- Foreign-born citizens
- Foreign-born foreign citizens
- Native-born citizens
- Native-born foreign citizens

If this is not possible, present statistics and indicators for the marginals:

- Foreign-born (b+d)
- Native-born (a+c)
- Citizens (a+b)
- Foreign citizens (c+d)

Migration Policy Areas

Six migration policy areas relevant for international migration and temporary mobility, anchored in global initiatives, most notably:



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



POLICY AREA 3

Ensure access to basic services by migrants and temporary populations vis-à-vis other population groups



POLICY AREA 4

Increase the integration and wellbeing of migrants



POLICY AREA 5

Empower labor migrants



POLICY AREA 6

Eliminate all forms of discrimination and ending violence against migrants



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MIGRATION STATISTICS

MIGRATION STATISTICS FOR PRODUCTION



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 STATISTICS

that all countries are recommended to regularly produce

ADDITIONAL

MIGRATION STATISTICS

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



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POLICY AREA 1

STOCK STATISTICS

capture the **size, characteristics, and geographic distribution** of **international migrant and temporary populations** present in the country at a particular point in time.

FLOW STATISTICS

capture movements that cross international borders within a given year.

4

CORE MIGRATION STATISTICS

for measuring stocks and flows of international **migrant** populations

CORE

all countries are recommended to regularly produce

5

ADDITIONAL TEMPORARY MOBILITY STATISTICS

for measuring stocks and flows of key **temporary** populations

ADDITIONAL

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



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POLICY AREA 1: CORE MIGRATION STATISTICS

that all countries are recommended to regularly produce



POLICY AREA 1:
Improve the measurement of international migration and temporary mobility stocks and flows

- Primary topics for disaggregation:**
- 1.Age
 - 2.Sex
 - 3.Country of birth
 - 4.Country of citizenship

Migration Statistics		
STOCKS	1.1	Number/proportion of _____ in the total resident population Foreign-born Foreign citizen Foreign-born citizen Native-born foreign citizen Foreign-born foreign citizen Native-born (native) citizens
	1.2	Number of _____ who obtained citizenship over a given year Native-born foreign citizen Foreign-born foreign citizen
FLOWS	1.3	Annual number of immigrants who are _____ Foreign-born Foreign citizen Foreign-born citizen Native-born foreign citizen Foreign-born foreign citizen Native-born (native) citizens
	1.4	Annual number of emigrants who are _____ Foreign-born population Foreign citizen Foreign-born citizen Native-born foreign citizen Foreign-born foreign citizen Native-born (native) citizens

Statistics on international temporary mobility

Focus on movements associated :

- in the labour market,
- utilising education or training services,
- seeking health or medical care services; and
- seeking asylum or protection as refugees

Cross-
border
workers

Seasonal
workers

Health-
related

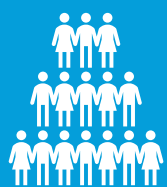
Training-
related

Asylum
seekers in
transit



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POLICY AREA 1: ADDITIONAL STATISTICS

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



POLICY AREA 1:
Improve the measurement of international migration and temporary mobility stocks and flows

Primary topics for disaggregation:

- 1.Age
- 2.Sex
- 3.Duration of stay
- 4.Country of final destination (TMI 1.9)

Migration Indicator (MI)		
FLows	MI 1.5	Total net migration over a given year ²
Temporary Mobility Indicator (TMI)		
STOCKS	TMI 1.6	Number of foreign citizens temporarily present in the country who are _____ (a) cross-border workers (b) engaged in seasonal work (c) other types of employment (d) engaged in training or education (e) seeking health-related treatments (f) asylum seekers/refugees
	TMI 1.7	Number of national citizens temporarily absent from the country who are ____ (a) cross-border workers (b) engaged in seasonal work
FLows	TMI 1.8	Annual number of foreign citizens entering the country temporarily for _____ (a) cross-border workers (b) engaged in seasonal work (c) other types of employment (d) engaged in training or education (e) seeking health-related treatments (f) asylum seekers/refugees
	TMI 1.9	Annual number of resident _____ departing the country for temporary stays abroad (a) Foreign citizen (b) Citizen population

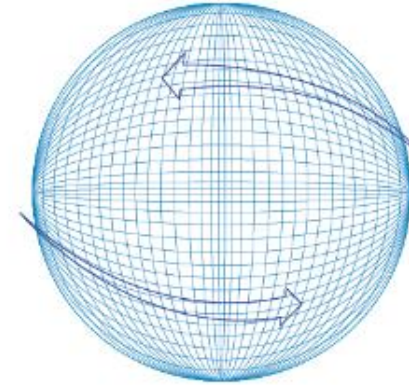
Resources



 **UNBigDataLearning**

<http://learning.officialstatistics.org>

eLearning course [“Introduction to International Migration Statistics”](#) developed by UNSD as an introductory, self-paced course consisting of five modules.



International Forum on Migration Statistics

16-18 June 2025
Malmö, Sweden
URL: oe.cd/ifms-2025



Registration open!

Thank you!



Questions?

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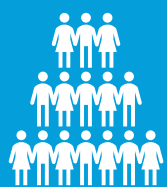
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POLICY AREA 1: CORE MIGRATION STATISTICS

that all countries are recommended to regularly produce

CORE				ADDITIONAL
Migration Statistics				Secondary topics for disaggregation
STOCKS	1.1	Number/proportion of _____ in the total resident population Foreign-born population Foreign citizen Foreign-born citizen Native-born foreign citizen Foreign-born foreign citizen Native-born (native) citizens	1.Age 2.Sex 3.Country of birth 4.Country of citizenship	Duration of stay; Educational attainment; Labour force status; Location of residence within country; Reasons for migration; NB/FB status of parents
	1.2	Number of _____ who obtained citizenship over a given year Native-born foreign citizen Foreign-born foreign citizen	1.Age 2.Sex 3.Country of birth 4.Country of citizenship	Educational attainment; Labour force status; Location of residence within country; Duration of stay; Legal grounds for obtaining citizenship (or reasons for migration); NB/FB status of parents
FLOWS	1.3	Annual number of immigrants who are _____ Foreign-born population Foreign citizen Foreign-born citizen Native-born foreign citizen Foreign-born foreign citizen Native-born (native) citizens	1.Age 2.Sex 3.Country of birth 4.Country of citizenship	Country of previous residence; Educational attainment; Reason for move; Labour force status prior to move; Location within country
	1.4	Annual number of emigrants who are _____ Foreign-born population Foreign citizen Foreign-born citizen Native-born foreign citizen Foreign-born foreign citizen Native-born (native) citizens	1.Age 2.Sex 3.Country of birth 4.Country of citizenship	Country of next residence; Educational attainment; Reason for move; Labour force status; Departure location within country



POLICY AREA 1: ADDITIONAL STATISTICS

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

ADDITIONAL			
Migration Indicator (MI)			Primary topics for disaggregation ¹
FLOWS	MI 1.5	Total net migration over a given year ²	1.Age 2.Sex
Temporary Mobility Indicator (TMI)			Primary topics for disaggregation ¹
STOCKS	TMI 1.6	Number of foreign citizens temporarily present in the country who are _____ (a) cross-border workers (b) engaged in seasonal work (c) other types of employment (d) engaged in training or education (e) seeking health-related treatments (f) asylum seekers/refugees	1.Age 2.Sex 3. Duration of stay
	TMI 1.7	Number of national citizens temporarily absent from the country who are ____ (a) cross-border workers (b) engaged in seasonal work	1.Age 2.Sex 3. Duration of stay
FLOWS	TMI 1.8	Annual number of foreign citizens entering the country temporarily for _____ (a) cross-border workers (b) engaged in seasonal work (c) other types of employment (d) engaged in training or education (e) seeking health-related treatments (f) asylum seekers/refugees	1.Age 2.Sex 3. Duration of stay
	TMI 1.9	Annual number of resident _____ departing the country for temporary stays abroad Foreign citizen Citizen population	1.Age 2.Sex 3. Expected duration of stay 4.Country of final destination