

# In-depth analysis of migration questions in population censuses

Parallel Session E.3: Leveraging Population Censuses and Inter  
Census Population Surveys as Sources of Data for International Migration Statistics:  
Emerging Lessons from the 2020 Census Round

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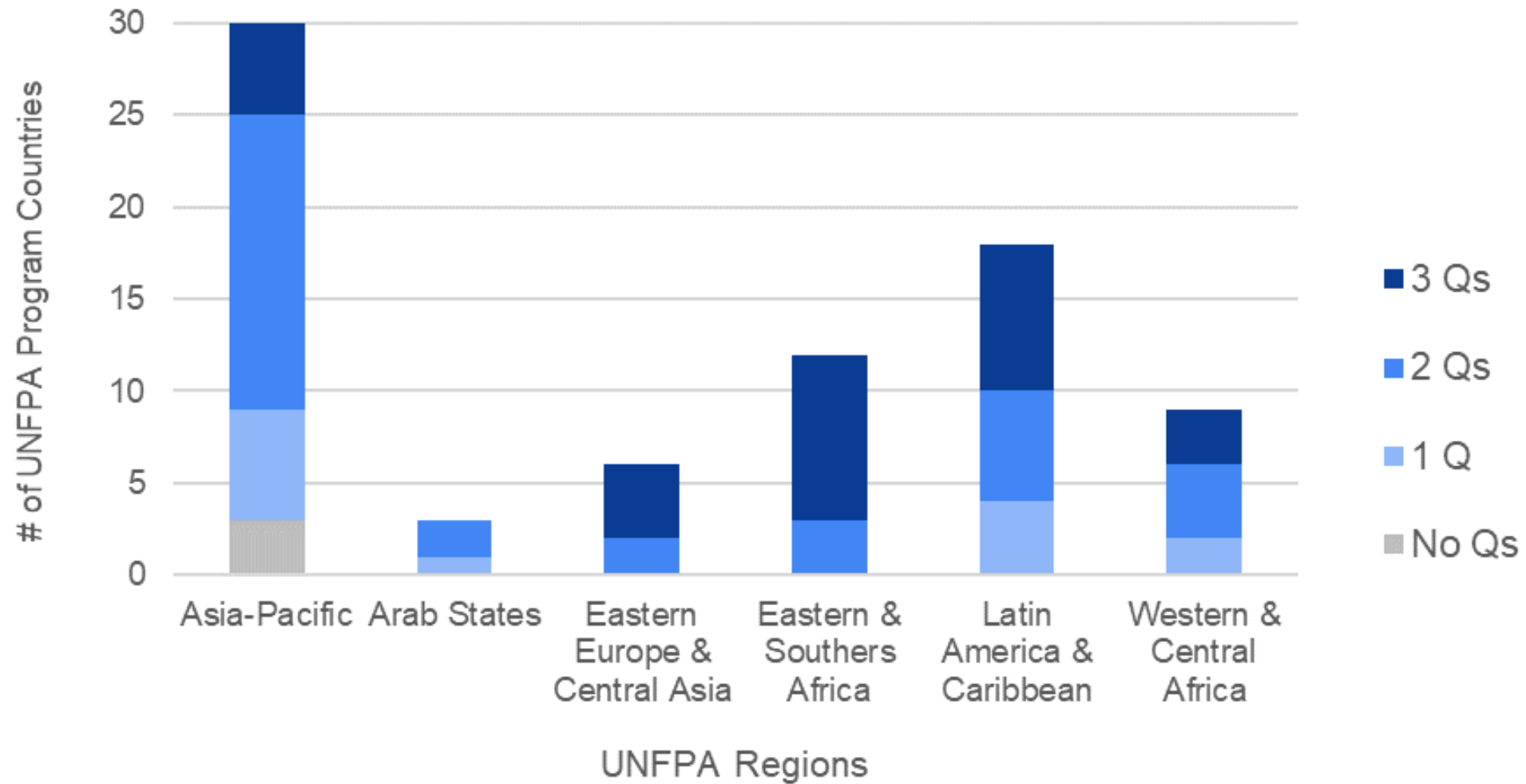
# The census as a source of migration statistics

- International migration characteristics as “core” census topics in the UN Principles and Recommendations
- Additional migration questions (e.g. reasons for migration)

However:

- Sub-optimal dissemination of census data
- Limited census data outputs featuring migration statistics

# Inclusion of migration questions\* in population censuses, 2015-2022

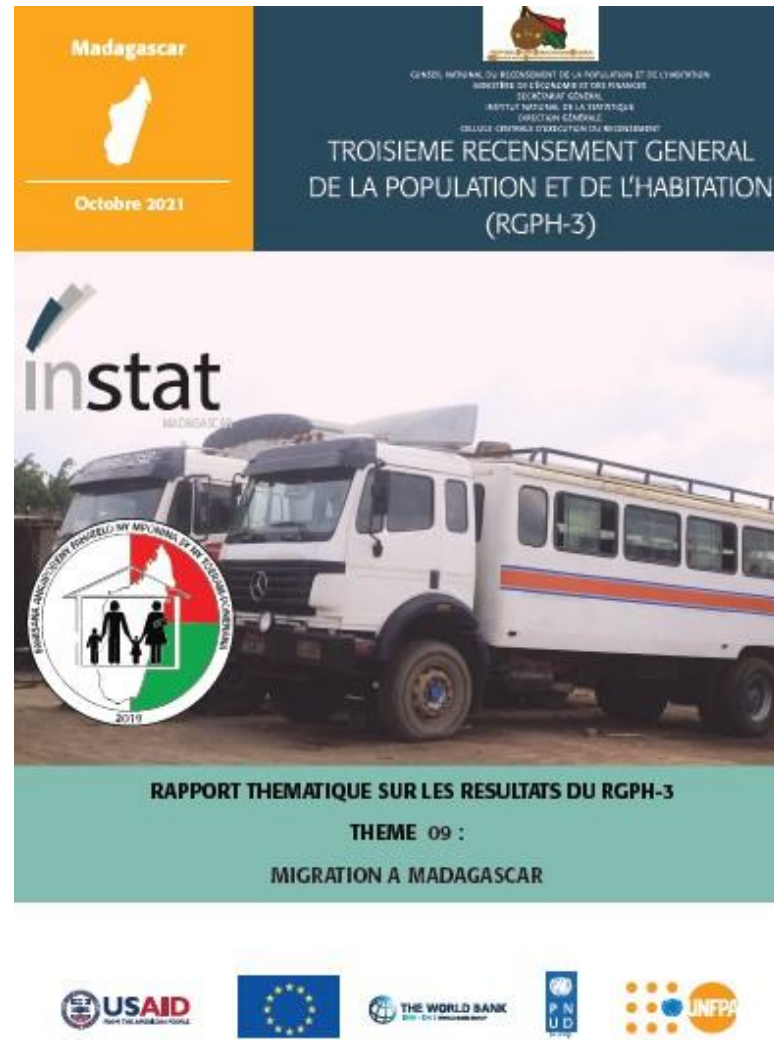
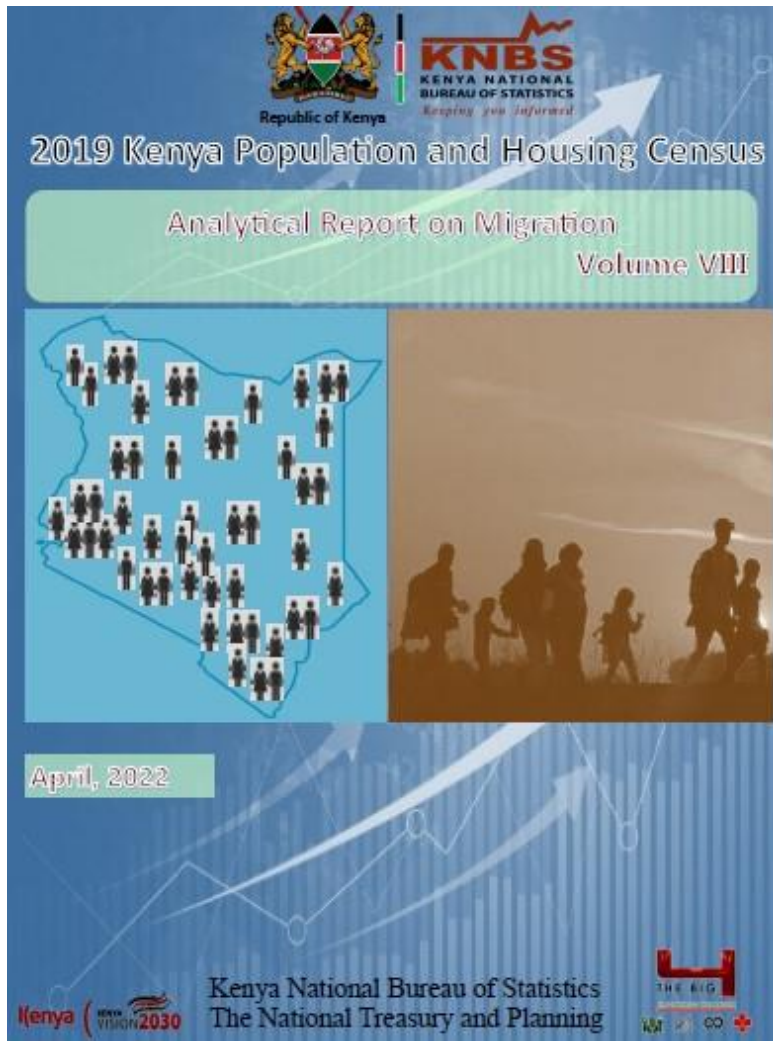


(\* ) Country of birth, nationality, duration of stay. Based on 78 census questionnaires

# In-depth census analysis of migration questions

- Census data outputs may include thematic reports focusing on migration (internal and international)
- Typically produced by the National Statistical Office in partnership with Govt sectors and/or Academia
- Standardized definitions (e.g. lifetime vs recent migration)
- Demographic and socio-economic characteristics of migrants (sex, age, education, economic activity)
- Comparison between migrant and non-migrant populations
- Subnational data - maps, statistical annexes
- May include an evaluation of data quality

# Examples of census thematic reports on migration



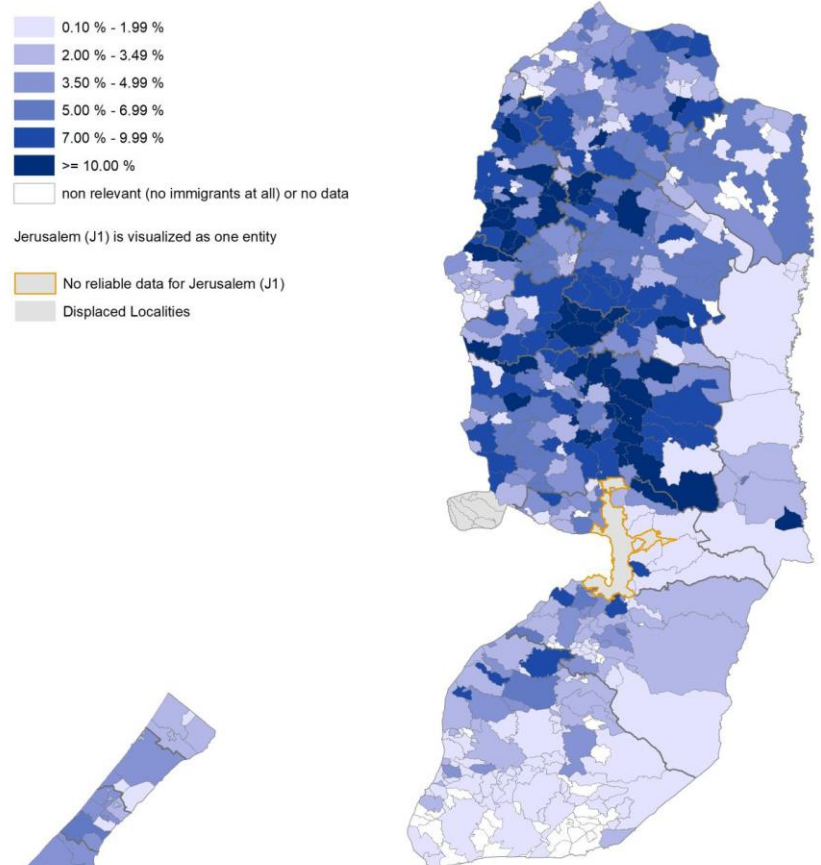
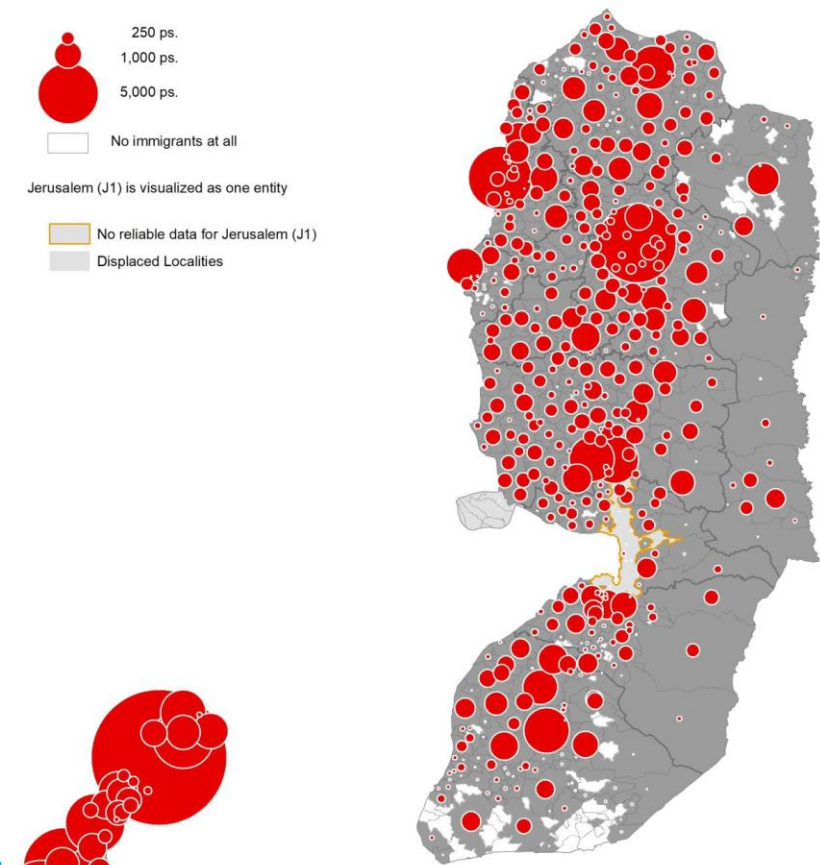
- Kenya (2019)
- Madagascar (2018)
- Guatemala (2018)
- Malawi (2018)
- Eswatini (2017)
- Palestine (2017)
- Sierra Leone (2015)
- Myanmar (2014)
- Tunisia (2014)

# Example 1 - Highly granular disaggregated data

## Immigrants by locality (613), Palestine 2017 Census

(a) Number

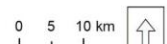
(b) Percentage of population



West Bank 116,992  
 Gaza Strip 78,267  
 Palestine 195,259

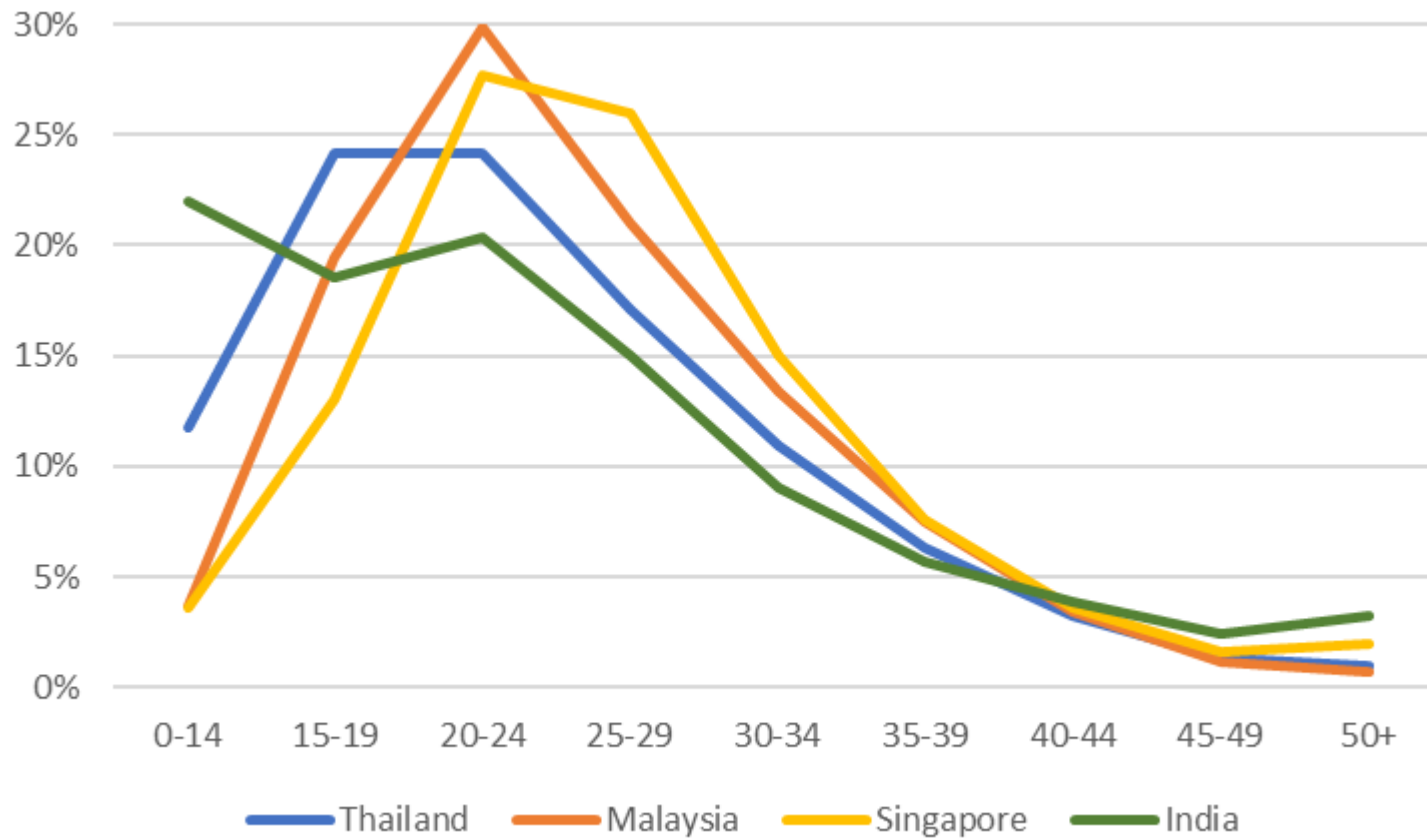


West Bank 4.7 %  
 Gaza Strip 4.2 %  
 Palestine 4.5 %



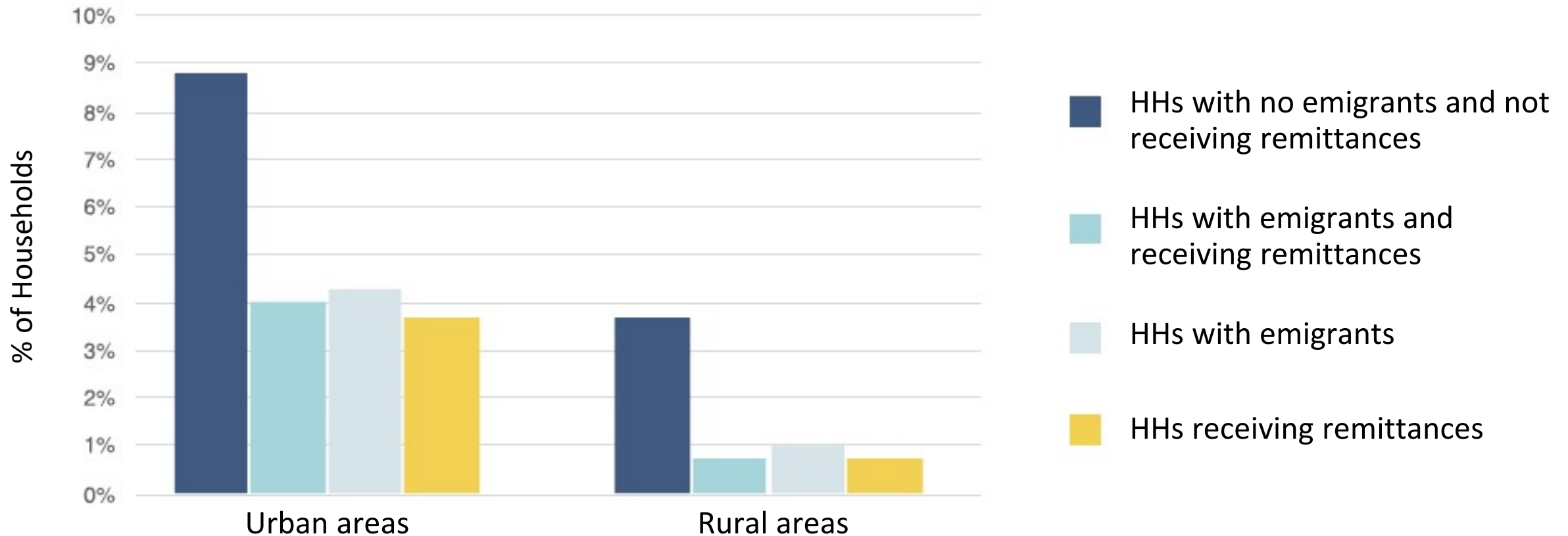
# Example 2 - Characteristics of international migrants

*Age at which former household members left Myanmar by current country of residence, 2014 Census*



# Example 3 - Migration & development nexus

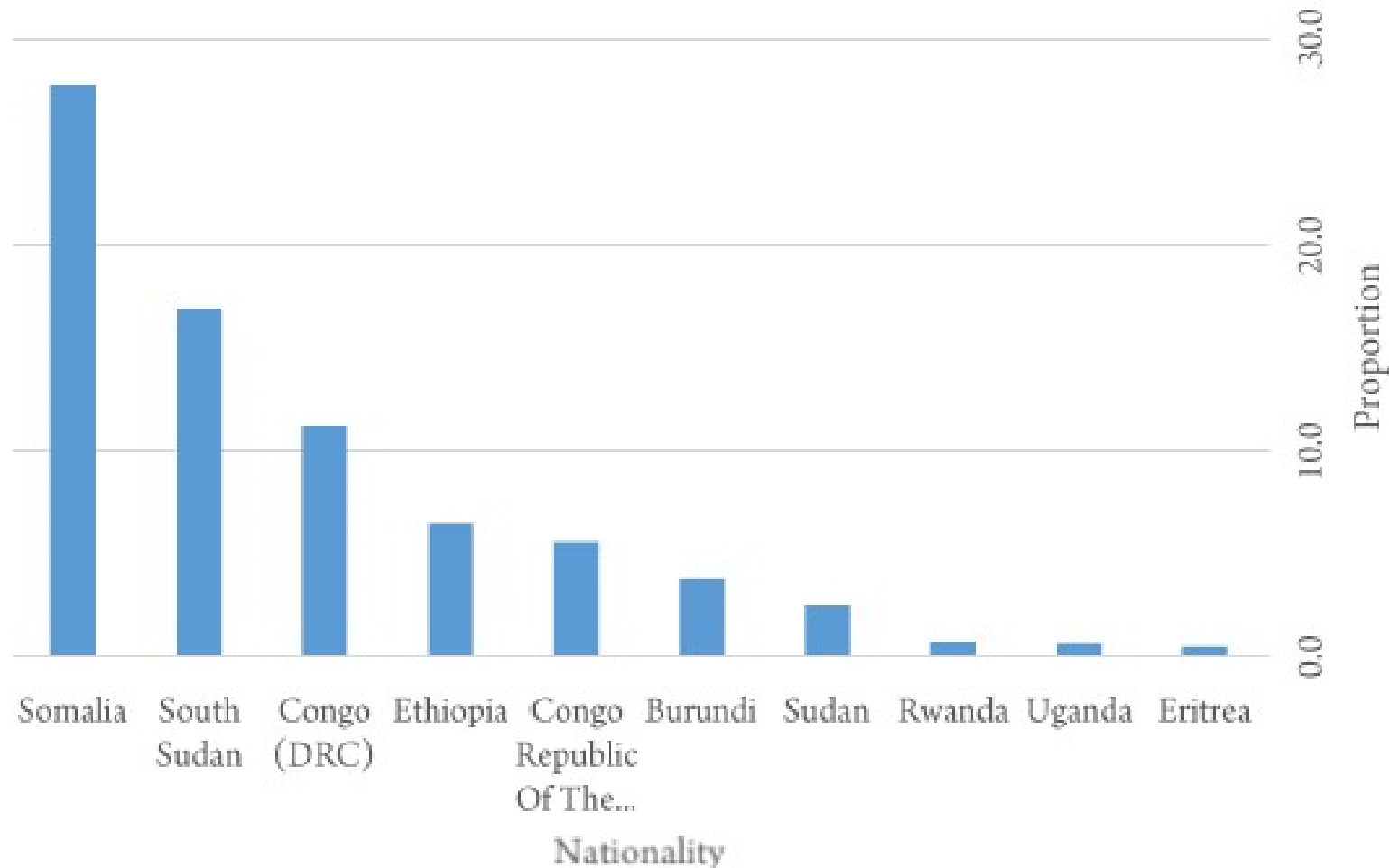
*Percentage of households reporting unsatisfied basic need for housing quality, by relationship with international migration, Guatemala 2018 Census*





# Example 4 - Refugee statistics

*Refugee population by nationality, Kenya 2019 Census*



# Conclusions

- A wealth of migration statistics can be produced through targeted analysis of the census
- Yet dissemination of migration statistics from the census remains suboptimal
- Limited use of the census in conjunction with administrative migration data for cross-validation