

Table 5 presents economically active foreign-born population by occupation, sex and age for each census between 1985 and 2004.

Description of variables: Statistics presented in this table are from population censuses. Data obtained from sample surveys are sometimes shown for those that are available. These have been footnoted. Data reported to have been based on the de facto or de jure concept are identified as such.

Data shown in this table relate to foreign-born population where foreign-born population is defined as persons born outside the country or area. The country or area of birth is based on the national boundaries existing at the time of the census.¹

Unless otherwise noted, "economically active" is defined as all persons of either sex who furnish the supply of labour for the production of economic goods and services during the time-reference period chosen for the investigation.² In brief, it comprises all persons engaged in, or actively seeking, productive work in some branch of the economy during a specified period of time.

Occupation refers to the kind of work done during the time-reference period established for data on economic characteristics by the person employed (or performed previously by the unemployed) irrespective of the industry or the status in employment in which the person should be classified.³

Occupation is classified either in "major groups" of the 1968 or the 1988 edition of the International Standard Classification of Occupations (ISCO)⁴. According to the Classification, unemployed persons with previous work experience are to be distributed according to last previous occupation. When not so distributed, the unemployed will usually be found in the "Workers not classifiable by occupation" (group X), together with an indication-if-possible-of their magnitude. In cases where it is known that the unemployed seeking work for the first time were not distributed by occupation, their number is given in footnotes wherever possible. Data that applied the ISCO68 or the ISCO88 classifications are presented in table 5a and 5b, respectively.

Age is defined as age at last birthday, that is, the difference between the date of birth and the reference date of the age distribution expressed in completed solar years.

The lower age limits of the economically active population used by various countries or areas are reflected in the table.

Reliability of data: No special reliability codes have been used in connection with this table.

Limitations: Statistics on economically active foreign born population by occupation, sex and age are subject to the same qualifications as have been set forth for population statistics in general in section 3 of the Technical Notes for the regular *Demographic Yearbook* 2002 (For reference, please see <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/demographic/products/dyb/dyb2002/Introduction.pdf> for more information).

Errors in national census data can arise at any stage of the collection, processing or presentation process, and these errors may limit the quality and international comparability of census statistics presented in the *Demographic Yearbook*. Two major types of errors in census data are often distinguished: first, coverage errors, which lead to the over-enumeration or under-enumeration of the population in the census, and second, content errors which affect the accuracy of the recorded information for the covered population.

Because coverage errors may occur more frequently among some population sub—groups than others, coverage errors may affect not only the absolute number of persons in any given category but also their relative distribution. Levels and patterns of coverage and content errors differ widely among countries and even, at times, from census to census for a specific country. Further limiting the international comparability of census statistics are variations among countries in the concepts, definitions and classifications used in their censuses.

The special limitations on comparability resulting from differences in the definition of economically active population have been set forth in the Technical Notes for table 36 of the *Demographic Yearbook* 1988. These are also the principal sources of variation in the data shown in this table. Moreover, the distribution by

¹ Recommendations on Statistics of International Migration, Revision 1, Sales No. E.98.XVII.14. Para. 146

² Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses, Revision 1, Sales No. E.98.XVII.8, Para. 2.166

³ Ibid, Para. 2.214

⁴ Ibid, Para. 2.215

occupation may be limited to the employed population for some countries or areas. A table is included indicating whether economically active population or employed population have been used in a country for a specific census, when such information is available.

Because these statistics are classified according to age, they are subject to the limitations with respect to accuracy of age reporting similar to those already discussed in connection with section 3.1.3 of the Technical Notes for the regular *Demographic Yearbook* 2002.

The implications of the variations in the age limits of the economically active population have also been discussed in the Technical Notes for table 36 of the *Demographic Yearbook* 1988.

Earlier data: The last time this table was published was in the *Demographic Yearbook* 1989.

Population Coverage in the table, when information available

Country	Year of data	Population covered	
		Economically active	Employed
Africa			
Egypt	1986		X
Ghana	2000		X
Mauritius	2000		X
America, North			
Belize	1991		X
Bermuda	1991		X
Bermuda	2000	X	
Canada	1991	X	
Canada	1996	X	
Canada	2001	X	
Cayman Islands	1989	X	
United States	2000	X	
America, South			
Brazil	2000	X	
Bolivia	1992	X	
Asia			
Bahrain	2001		X
China, Hong Kong SAR	1991		X
China, Hong Kong SAR	2001		X
China, Macao SAR	2001		X
Cyprus	1992		X
Palestine	1997	X	
Europe			
Austria	2001	X	
Bulgaria	2001	X	
Channel Island, Guernsey	1991	X	
Croatia	2001	X	
Czech	2001	X	
Estonia	2000	X	
Greece	2001	X	
Ireland	2002	X	
Latvia	2000	X	
Lithuania	2001	X	
Luxembourg	2001	X	
Norway	1990		X
Poland	2002	X	
Romania	2002	X	
Slovakia	2001	X	
Slovenia	1991	X	
Sweden	2003	X	
Switzerland	2000	X	
Oceania			
New Zealand	1986	X	
New Zealand	2001	X	
Tonga	1996		X