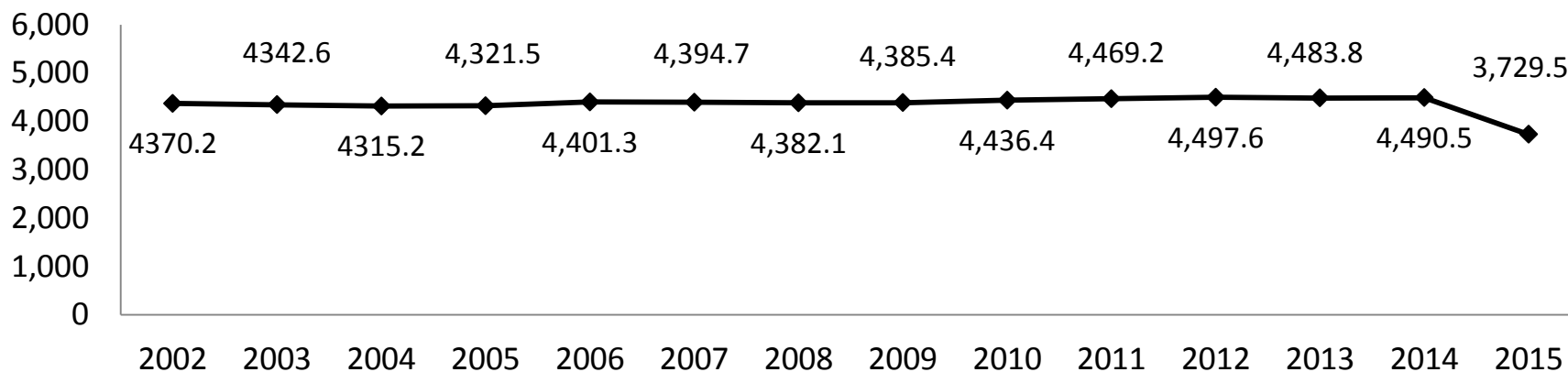


International migration: experience from border control and records matching

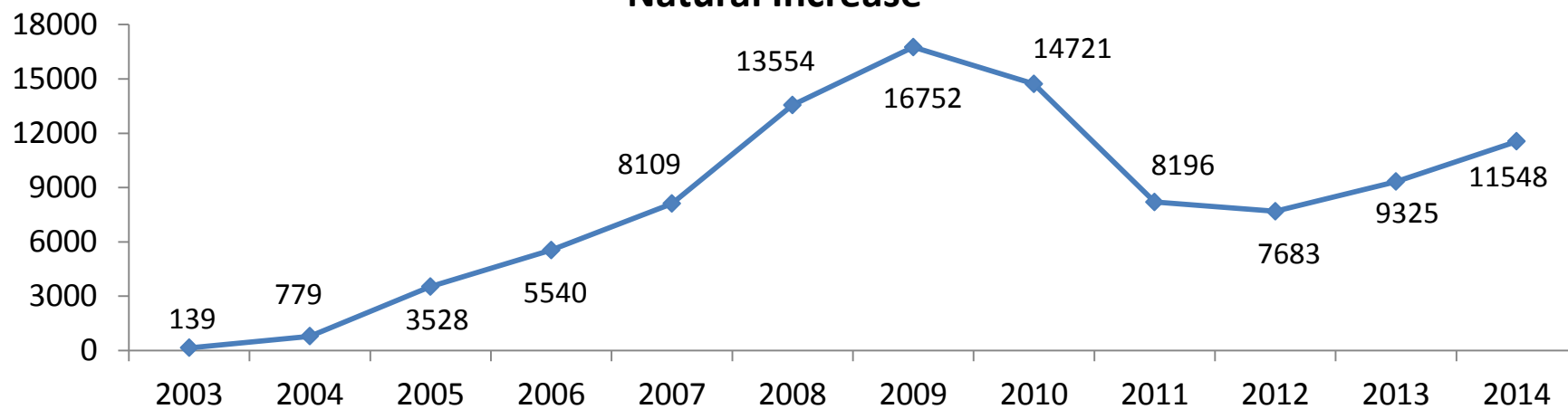
Tengiz Tsekvava
National Statistics Office of Georgia – Geostat

6th Global Forum on Gender Statistics
October 24-26, 2016, Helsinki

Population for the Beginning of the Year (Thousands)



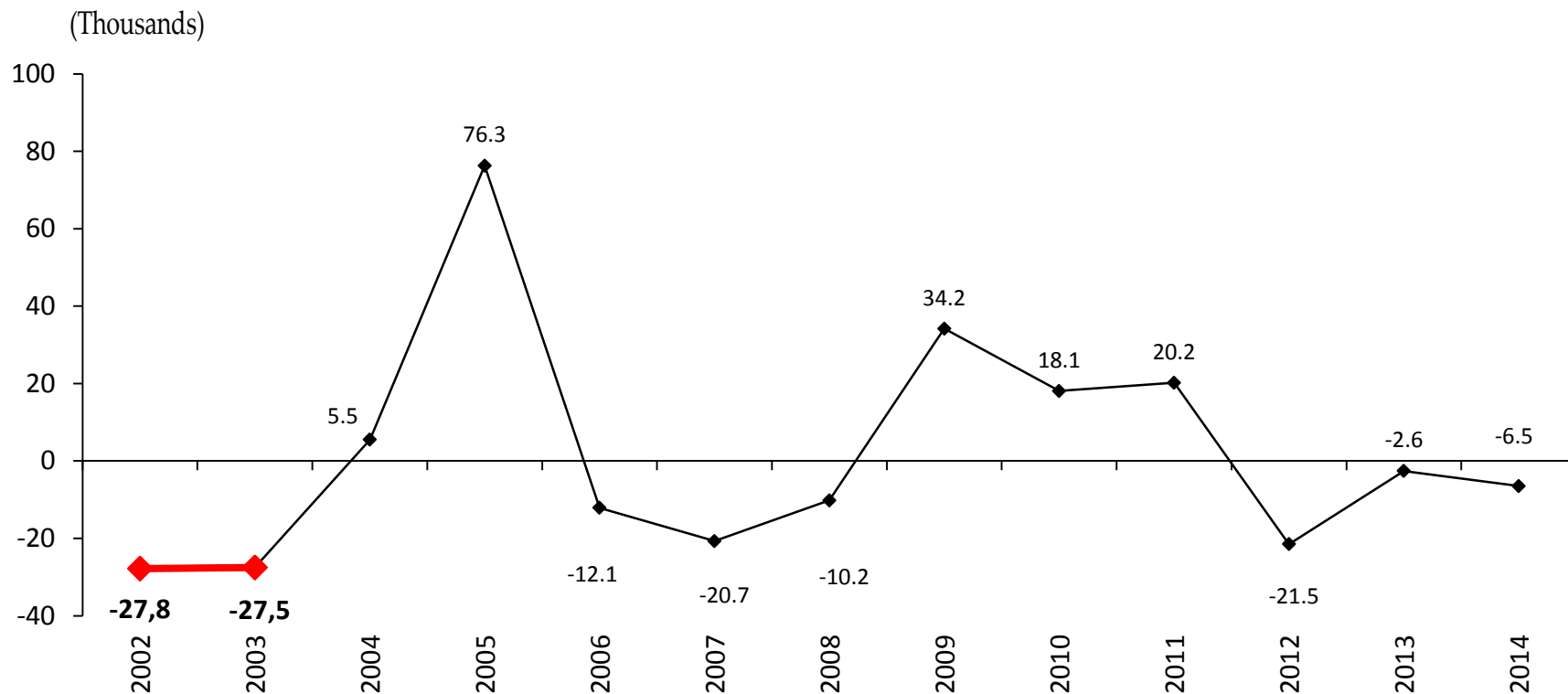
Natural Increase



Background: Reasons for Implementing the Current System

- Migration processes were critical in the country starting from 1990s after the collapse of the Soviet Union
- Civil conflicts and drastic deterioration in economic conditions forced tens of thousands of persons to go abroad
- In the Soviet Union the registration of international migration (as well as migration between Soviet Republics) was very simple: strict administrative rules within the USSR and far stricter rules for going abroad
- Already in 1990s data from civil registration on migration was not used as a large number of people did not register when leaving the country.
- Migration statistics suffered from the lack of sources and approaches.

Migration Statistics 2002-2003



Expert estimation

Only net migration published

Migration Statistics 2004-2011

Starting from 2004 it was decided to start using the data from the new source:

New DATA SOURCE - Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA)

Data included all persons by citizenship who crossed the national border (inflows and outflows).

Data was incomplete:

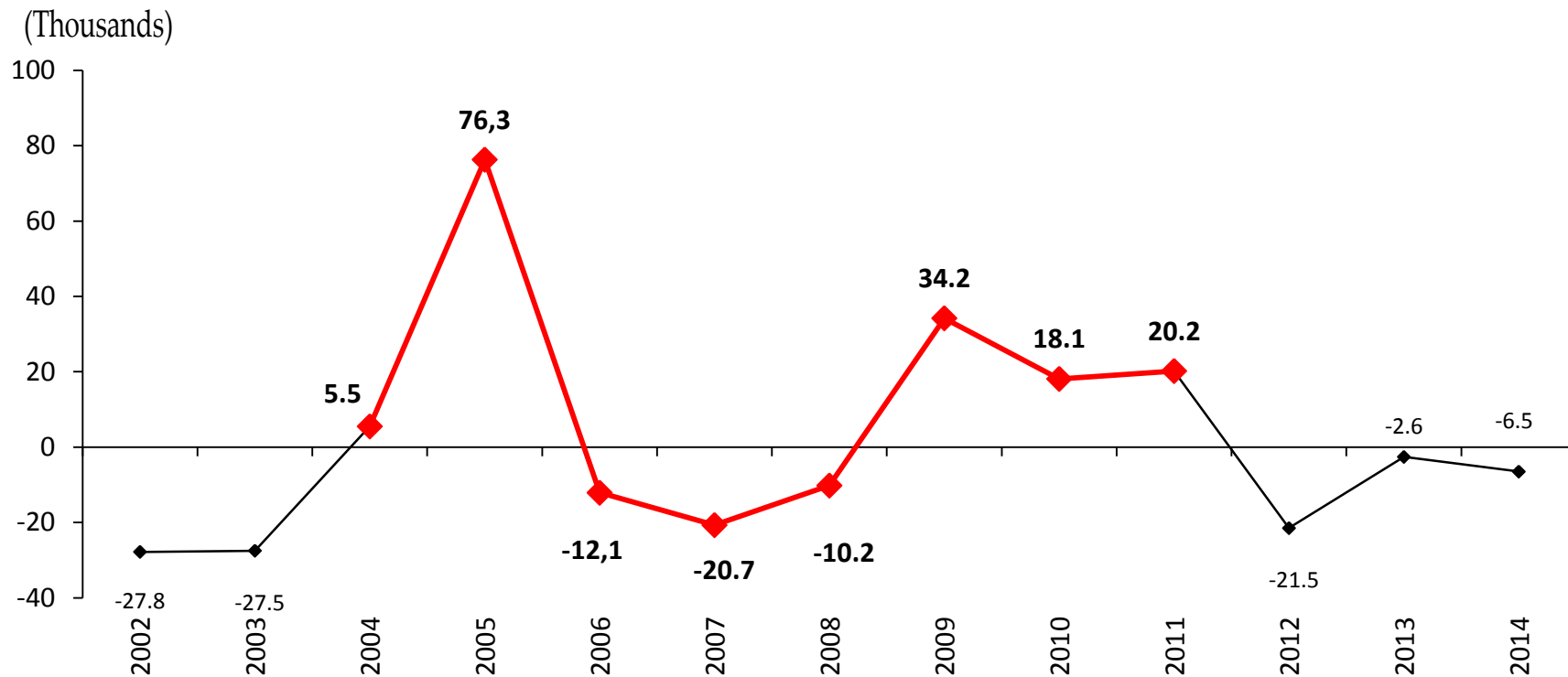
Impossible to identify visitors, short- and long-term migrants;

Data consisted of two age groups (under and over 18 year);

Breakdown by sex only for persons aged 18 and above.

Main issue: net border crossings did not allow for identification of migrants and served only as a rough proxy for international flows

Migration Statistics 2004-2011



New data source - MIA

Net migration based on Inflows and Outflows using border crossings data

Migration Statistics 2012- till present

Since 2012 Geostat introduced a new methodology of calculating external migration, based on border police data, Ministry of Internal Affairs.

The methodology takes into account the length of stay in determining the status of residents and non-residents (and thus, calculating the number of emigrants and immigrants).

International immigrants or emigrants will be counted at the time of entry or exit but their identification is only possible after a period that will vary between six and twelve months after border crossing.

UN recommendations

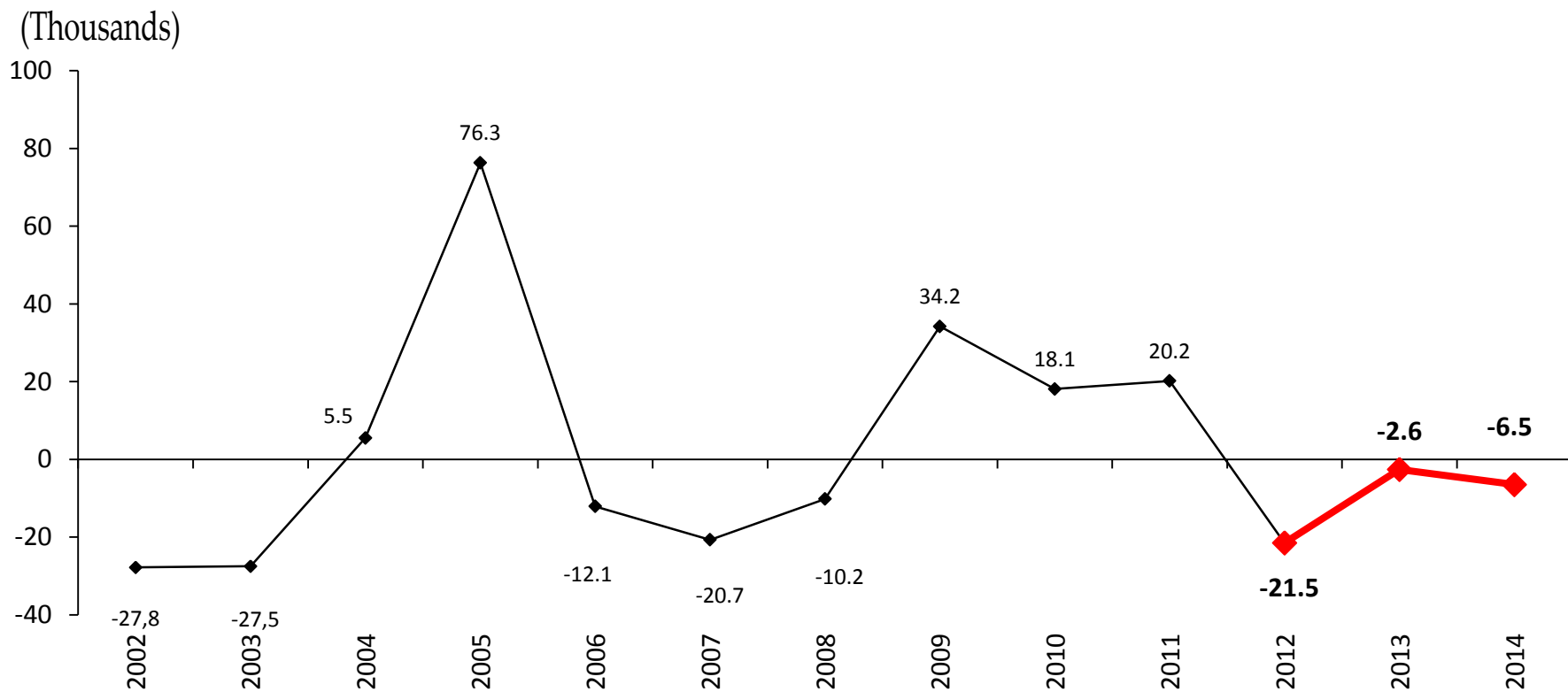
From the *Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses* (UN, 2007)

1.463. It is recommended that countries apply a threshold of 12 months when considering place of usual residence according to one of the following two criteria:

(a) the place at which the person has lived continuously for most of the last 12 months (i.e., for at least six months and one day), not including temporary absences for holidays or work assignments, or intends to live for at least six months

(b) the place at which the person has lived continuously for at least the last 12 months (not including temporary absences for holidays or work assignments), or intends to live for at least 12 months.

Migration Statistics 2012- till present



Same data source-MIA, New methodology

Migration Statistics 2012- till present

According to new methodology:

An **international immigrant** is a person recorded when crossing the National border

- who entered the country and has accumulated a minimum of 183 days of residence in the country during the following twelve months;
- who was not usual resident of the country when entering the country which means that he spent at least a cumulate duration of 183 days of residence outside the country during the twelve months before entering the country.

Similarly an **international emigrant** is a person recorded when crossing the National border

- who crossed the border and left the country and has accumulated a minimum of 183 days of residence outside the country during the following twelve months;
- who was usual resident of the country when leaving the country which means that he spent at least a cumulate duration of 183 days of residence inside the country during the twelve months before leaving the country.

Migration Statistics 2012- till present

The total number of international migrants for the year T will only be fixed at the end of the year T+1.



Net Migration 2012- till present

- Excludes diplomatic and service passport holders
- Identify international emigrants as country residents (having at least 183 days of residence in the country before the first exit) who accumulated at least 183 days of absence outside the country after the first exit
- Identify international immigrants as non-residents (having at least 183 days or residence outside the country before the first entry) who accumulated at least 183 days of presence in the country after the first entry
- Excluding cases where number of border crossings is more than 50

Migration Statistics 2012 - till present

According to the methodology, Geostat receives individual data on migrants without confidential information by:

- Citizenship
- Birth date
- Sex
- Duration stay in Georgia
- Duration stay outside Georgia.

Migration Statistics 2012- till present

Data Published: Net migration;
Emigrants and Immigrants by age and sex;
Emigrants and Immigrants by citizenship;
Average Emigrants and Immigrants by sex.

More data needed on:

Purpose of migration;
Country of Destination (for Immigrants);
Country of Origin (for Emigrants).

Plans for 2016-2017: Back calculations after 2014 Population Census
Re-estimation of international migration using Census data
and the current methodology

THANK YOU!

