Statistics on Refugees. Examples from a National Statistical Office

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Outline - Statistics on refugees in Norway

• What is the role of the statistical office?
• Definitions / Sources
• Some statistical examples
  • Demography - how many and from where?
  • Living conditions
    • How do refugees fare in the Norwegian labour market compared to other immigrant groups and to persons without an immigrant background?
Division of labour on asylum/refugee statistics

The Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (DI)
- Statistics on the number of asylum applications
- Reception of UN convention refugees
- Asylum decisions

Statistics Norway (SN)
- Statistics on reasons for immigration to Norway
- Statistics on persons with refugee background
- Living conditions of persons with a refugee background
Population and Refugee Statistics in Norway

Central Population Register (CPR) - Tax Authorities

Daily copies of events from the CPR

Data linked between different registers using an 11-digit personal pin code

Statistics Norway

Immigration Authorities / Directorate of Immigration

Annual data on detailed reason for migration: convention refugees, granted asylum, humanitarian grounds
The statistical ideal. Consistency in numbers


Immigrants in Norway 1. January 2016

Persons with a refugee background in Norway 1. January 2016
Use of data on individuals in Statistics Norway

- Crime
- Labour Market
- Education
- Income and Wealth
- National Insurance
- Economic Assistance
- Surveys
- Child Welfare
- Population Register

+ many more
Immigration to Norway. By reason for migration. 1990-2015 (Non-Nordic immigrants)
Employment rate by reason for migration. 15-74 y. 4th quarter 2015.
Employment rate by country background - selected countries. 15-74 y. 4th quarter. 2015

- Sri Lanka
- Bosnia-Hercegovina
- Kosovo
- Iran
- Afghanistan
- Refugees (avg.)
- Iraq
- Eritrea
- Somalia
To conclude

• Use of population register data linked to data from migration authorities gives huge possibilities
• Consistency in numbers - from flows to establishing stocks
• Possibility to link data to other administrative registers to say something about living conditions
• Further improve the statistics – benefit from international recommendations