Data Integration at the U.S. Census Bureau: Recent Efforts to Improve Estimates of International Migration

Jason Schachter

Chief, Net International Migration Branch

U.S. Census Bureau

United Nations Statistical Commission High-Level Panel

Panel 2: Initiatives and good practices to improve the collection and use of migration data and indicators

New York, March 4, 2019

This presentation is released to inform interested parties of ongoing research and to encourage discussion of work in progress. Any views expressed are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the U.S. Census Bureau.
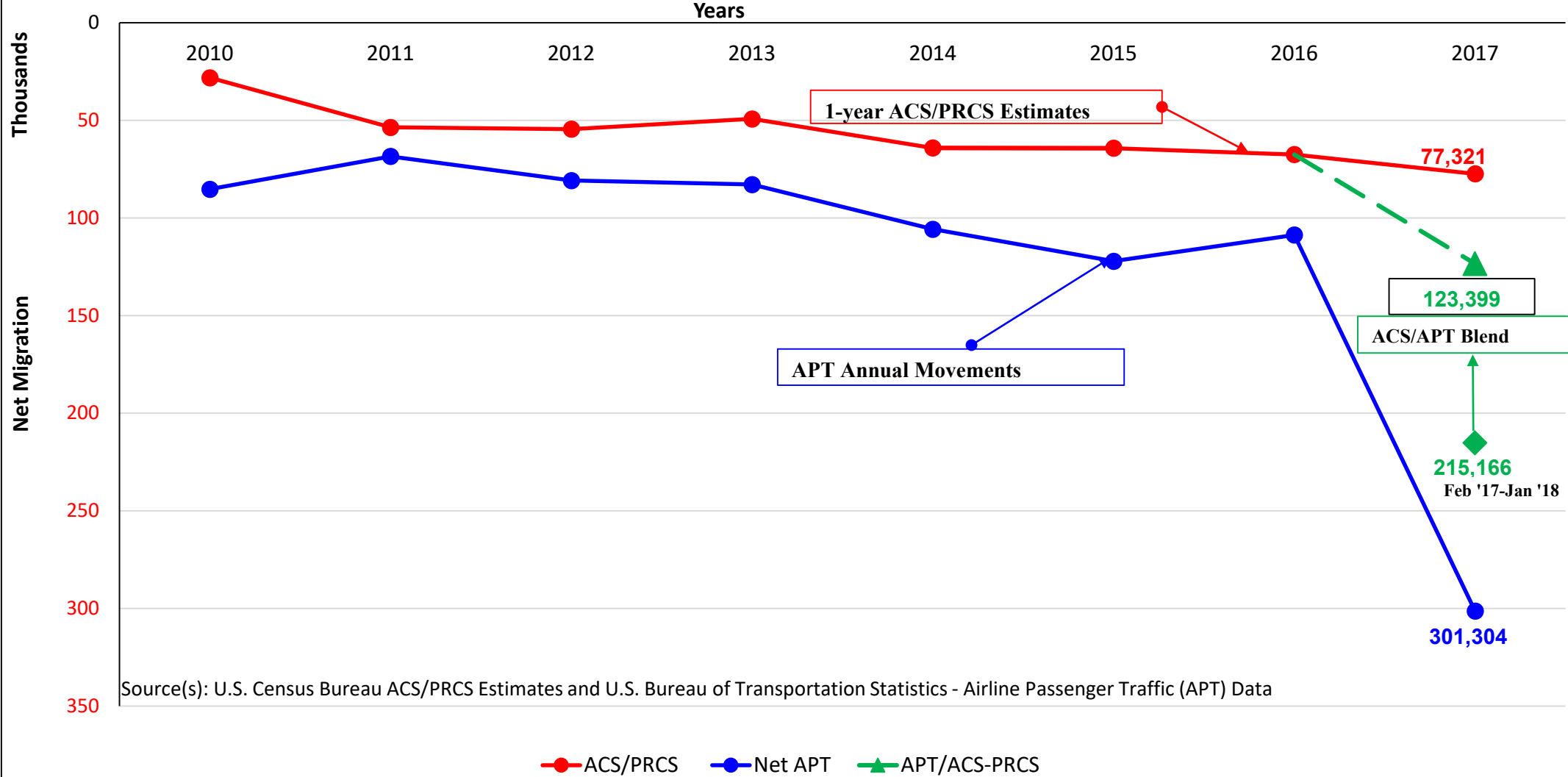
Data Integration Efforts

- Combined different data sources ("big data" and survey data) to produce a final estimate of net migration from Puerto Rico in wake of Hurricane Maria

- Linking multiple data sources to improve measurement of our subnational distribution of international migrants

  - IDCF (International Migration Demographic Characteristics File)

Measuring the Impact of Hurricane Maria on Migration between Puerto Rico and the Mainland United States

Fig. 1

Net Puerto Rico to U.S. Migration: 2010-2017

Source(s): U.S. Census Bureau ACS/PRCS Estimates and U.S. Bureau of Transportation Statistics - Airline Passenger Traffic (APT) Data

IDCF

NUMIDENT	IRS	Census 2010
• Age • Sex • Country of Birth	• Geography	• Race • Hispanic origin *Race and Hispanic origin are imputed for the foreign born who entered after 2010.

Percentage Point Difference between NIM and IDCF Data in Hispanic Immigrant Population by County

Percentage Point Difference

v2017 NIM ≥ IDCF

- 10 or more
- 5 to 9.9
- 0 to 4.9

v2017 NIM < IDCF

- -0 to -4.9
- -5 to -9.9
- -10 or less