



A modern conceptual framework for statistics on international migration and mobility

Meryem Demirci and James Raymer on behalf of the United Nations Expert Group on International Migration Statistics

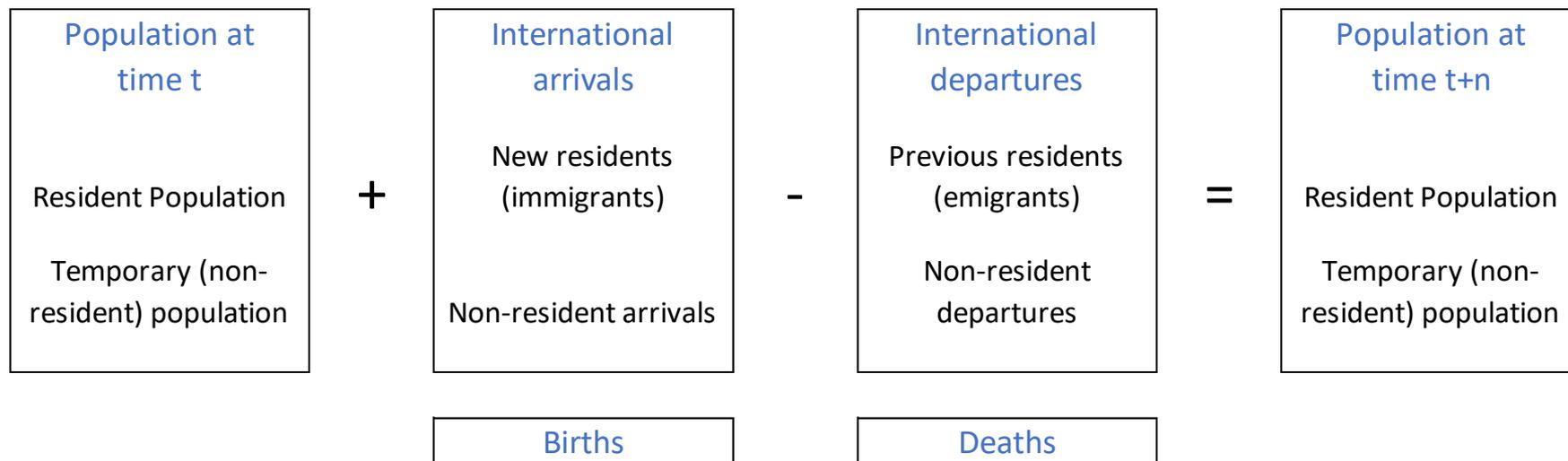
Side event at the 52nd Session of the United Nations Statistical Commission

16 February 2021

Key aspects of new conceptual framework



1. International migration is an important part of the wider concept international mobility
2. The link between migration flows and population stocks is fundamental to understanding and improving statistics on international migration
3. Four populations defined by country of birth and country of citizenship form the basis from which statistics on flows and stocks should be gathered
4. Statistics on temporary international movements and their effects on temporary populations are included



Overarching conceptual framework on international mobility



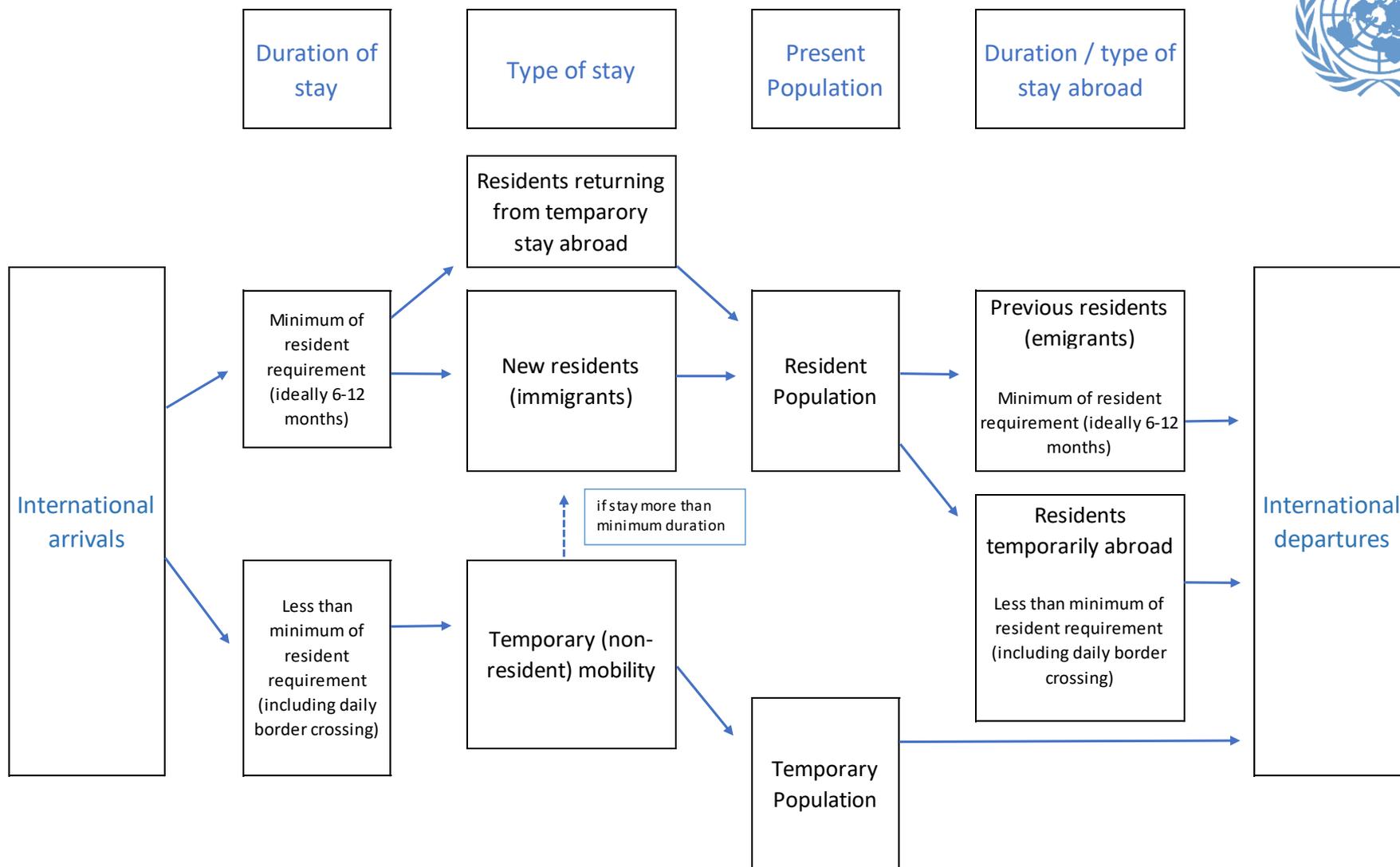
Alignment of migration flows with resident population change

Same measurement criteria

=>

Consistency in national statistics

Flows are integral for understanding **resident** population change
(main population used for international comparisons)



Conceptual framework on intersection between duration of stay and international mobility

Demographic accounting framework



Reconciliation of four resident subpopulations:

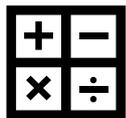
Native-born citizen

Foreign-born citizen

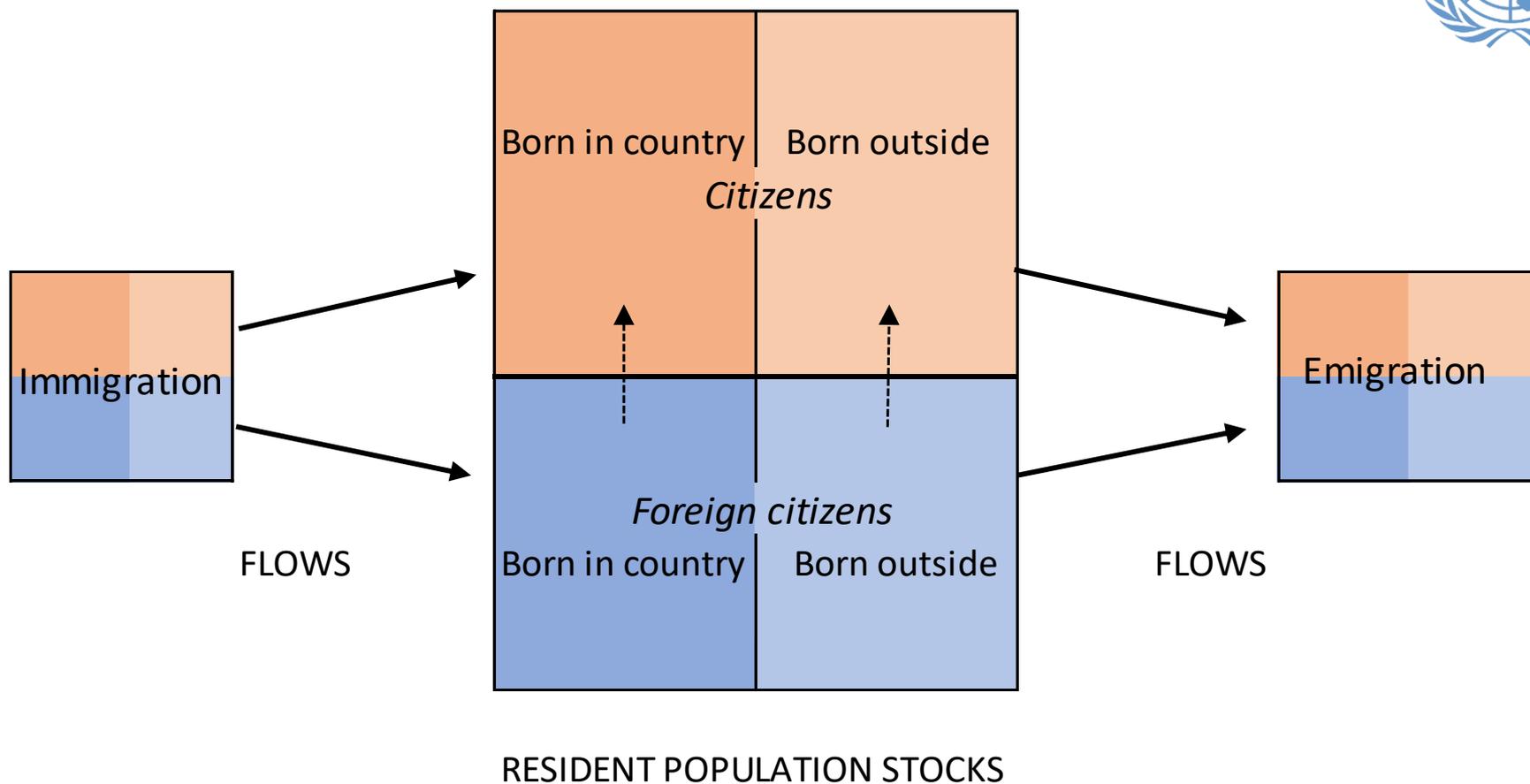
Native-born foreign citizen

Foreign-born foreign citizen

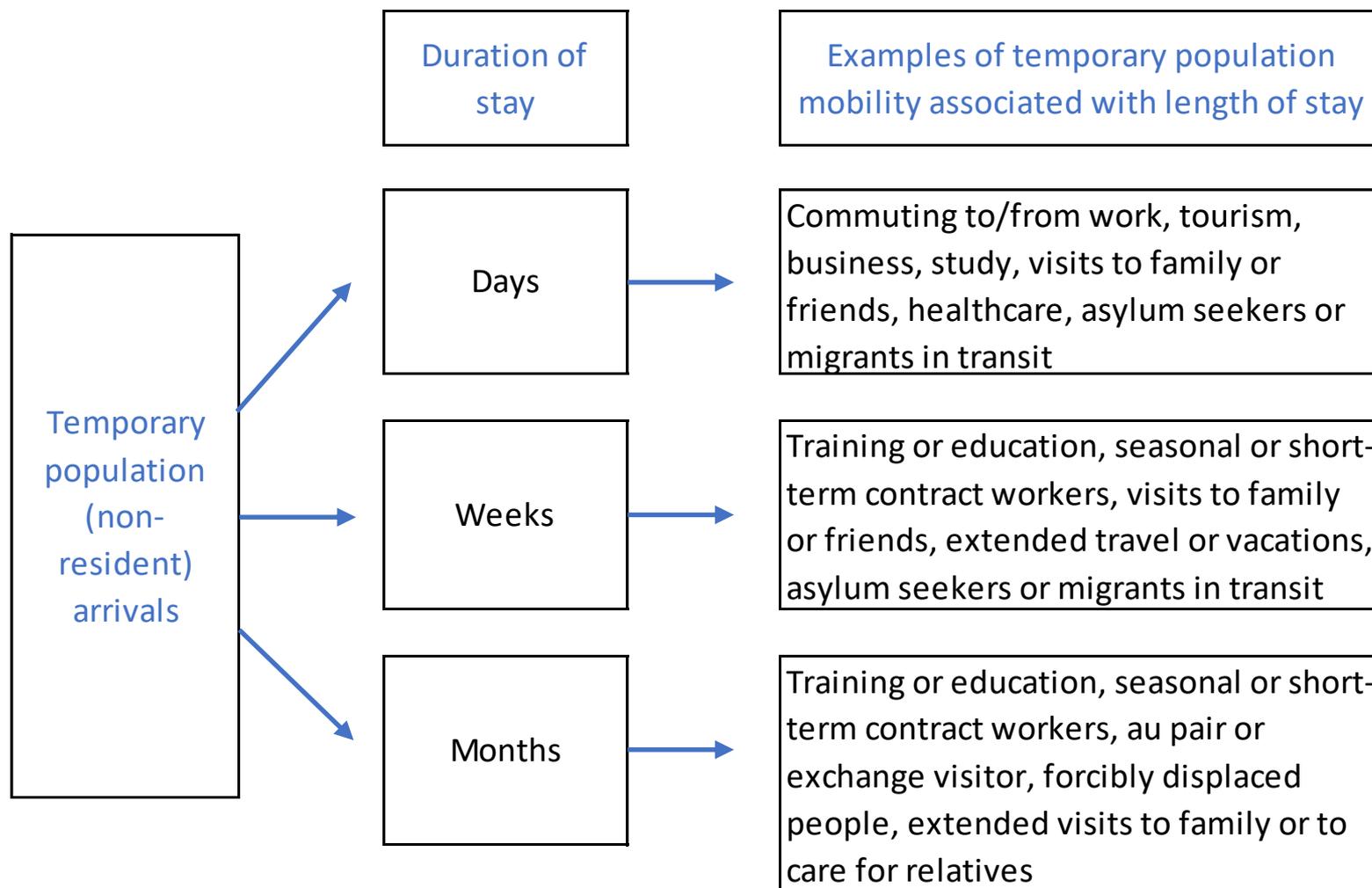
with their international migration flows and other components of population change



Population accounting approach improves accuracy and understanding



Conceptual framework on international migration and the coherence between flows and stocks



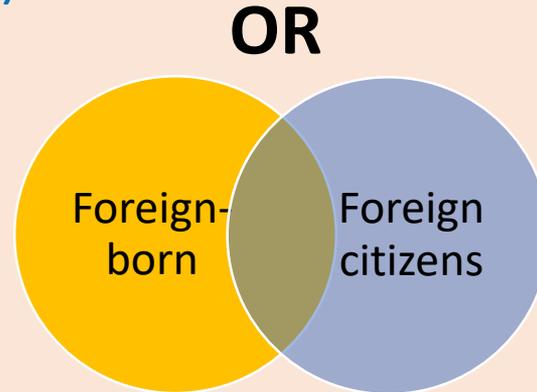
Examples of temporary population mobility associated with length of stay



Key definitions

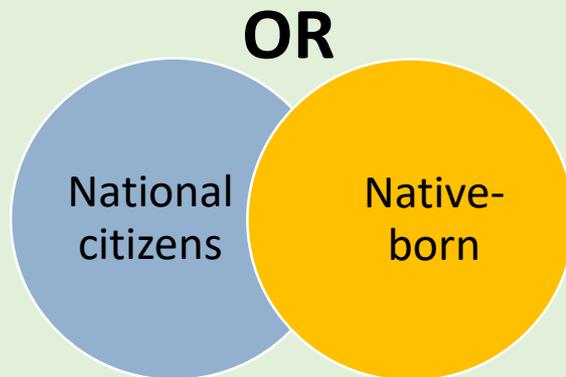
Immigrant Population (Stock)

Residents in the country at a given point in time



Changes in the size and structure of the 'stock' of migrants are determined largely by flows

Emigrant population (Stock)



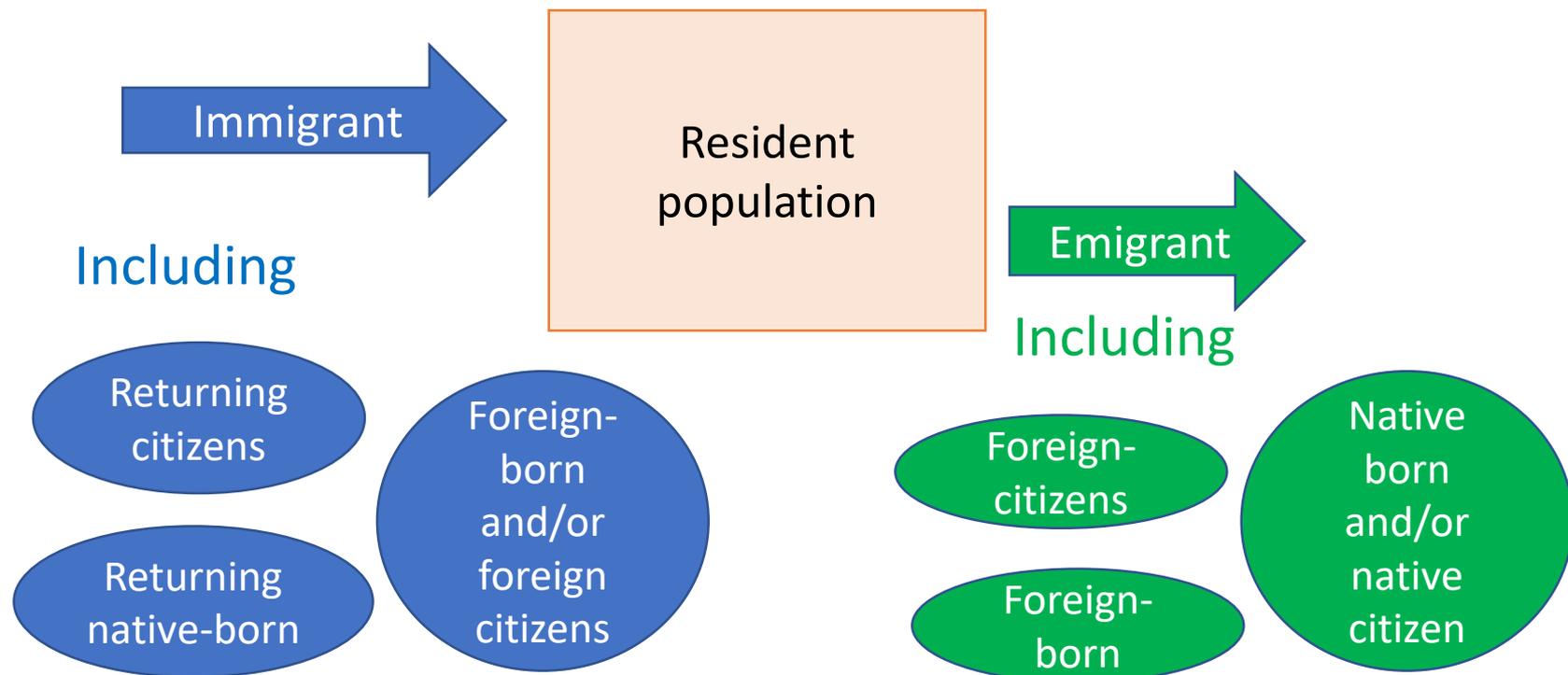
Residents in another country at a given point in time



Key definitions

International migrants (Flow)

- Persons who establish **new residence within a given year**
- Either immigrant or emigrant

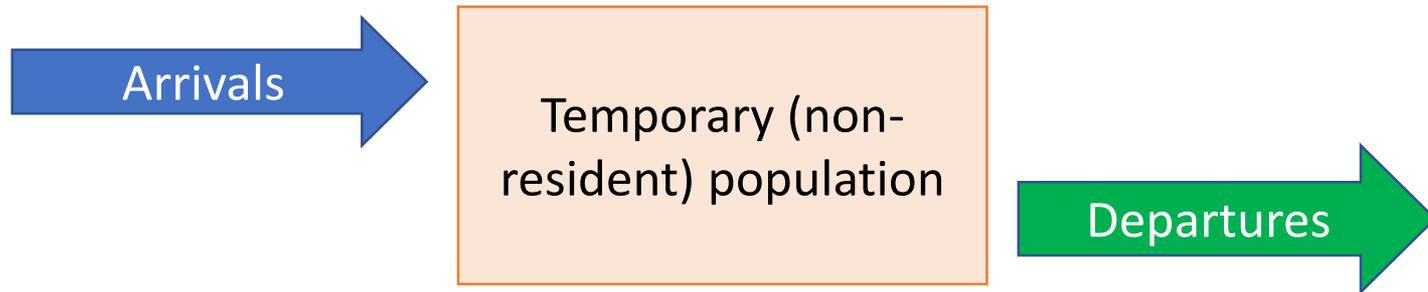




Key definitions

International temporary mobility

- All movements that cross international border and do not result in a change in the country of residence – stay less than 6 or 12 months within a given year

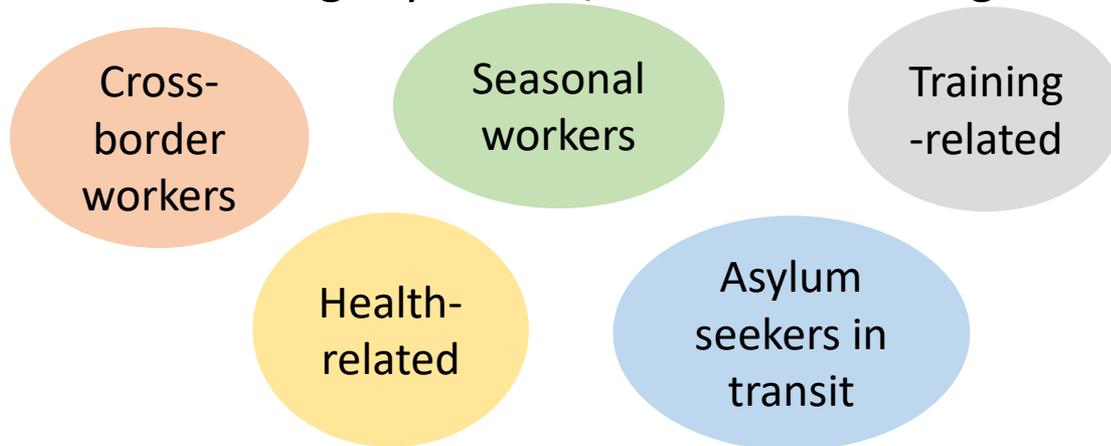




Key definitions

International temporary mobility

- Movements associated with foreign citizens:
 - in the labour market,
 - utilising education or training services,
 - seeking health or medical care services; and
 - seeking asylum or protection as refugees





Main changes in the current recommendations

	1998 Recommendations	Proposed conceptual framework
Definition of country of residence	<p>A place to live where he or she normally spends the daily period of rest</p> <p>No criteria for duration of stay</p>	<p>Residing—or intend to reside -in the country within a given year at least:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 6 months +1 day or• 12 months <p>As defined in the P&R on Censuses</p>
Definition of international migrants	<p>Long term –at least 12 months</p> <p>Short term-between 3 and 12 months</p>	<p>A person who established new residence in the country</p> <p>Same measurement criteria with the definition of usual residence</p> <p>Consistency in national statistics</p>



Main changes in the current recommendations

	1998 Recommendations	Proposed conceptual framework
Distinguishing international migration from other type of mobility	Not included	Clear distinction between international migration and temporary mobility
Coherence between international migration (flows) and immigrant population (stocks)	Not included	Reconciling the demographic components of change for the following four key subpopulations: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• native-born citizen,• foreign-born citizen,• native-born foreign citizen,• foreign-born foreign citizen.



Summary

1. The quality and availability of statistics on migration flows and temporary population movements need to improve
2. The conceptual frameworks are designed from a national statistics perspective
3. Aligning flows and stocks will improve quality at the national level and comparability at the international level
4. The four populations are important for both policy and measurement
5. Types of temporary population movements and their relative importance are expected to vary by country and location